

**Town of Chester
Board of Selectmen’s Meeting
Thursday, March 3rd, 2016
Municipal Complex Meeting Room
Approved Minutes**

I Preliminaries

Call the Meeting to Order
Roll Call
Pledge of Allegiance
Chairman’s Additions or Deletions
Public Comment (10 Minutes)
Approval of Minutes
Appointments: Acting Town Clerk, Deputy Town Clerk
Promotional Pinning Ceremonies: Fire Department
Roundtable
Non-Public Sessions
Meeting Adjournment

1.1 Call to Order

Stephen O. Landau, Chairman, called this meeting of the Town of Chester Board of Selectmen to order at 7:03pm.

1.2 Roll Call

Selectmen Present:

Jack Cannon
Joe Castricone
Stephen O. Landau, Chairman
Dick Trask

Selectman Absent:

Joseph Hagan, Vice Chairman

Members of the Public present, at various times:

Rich Antoine, Fire Chief	Phil Gladu, Fire Captain
Richard Bellemore, Fire Lieutenant	Rev. Adam Houston, Fire Department Chaplain
Greg Bolduc, Deputy Fire Chief	Gerald ‘Buddy’ Menard Jr., Fire Lieutenant
Barbara Cannon, Deputy Town Clerk	Charlotte Lister
R.J. Child, Fire Officer	Erin Newnan, Acting Town Clerk
Ben Clark, Fire Captain	Matt Rittenhouse, Tri-Town Times
Eric Emerson, Fire Lieutenant	

Family and Friends of Fire Officers
Fire Officers & Police Officers
Other Persons Unknown to the Recording Secretary

1.3 Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Landau led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.4 Additions and Deletions

Chairman Landau announced that the meeting would begin with the appointment of Erin Newnan to Acting Town Clerk; followed by the appointment of Deputy Town Clerk and the Promotional Pinning ceremonies of Fire Department members. Non-public sessions under finance and employment would be conducted after New Business and Roundtable; meeting adjournment to follow.

II Old Business

2.1 Approval of Minutes

Minutes were not discussed this evening; however, Chairman Landau suggested the Board revisit pending minutes on a monthly basis; Recording Secretary agreed. Selectman Castricone and Selectman Trask, respectively, provided Recording Secretary with approval of February 25th, 2016 minutes.

III New Business

3.1 Public Comment

Charlotte Lister stood and was recognized. Ms. Lister expressed concern over the Board’s decision not to move forward with a warrant article proposal for road repairs; as per an article by Matt Rittenhouse, published in the February 25, 2016 Tri-Town Times.

3.2 Appointments: Acting Town Clerk & Deputy Town Clerk

Chairman Landau explained that the Board was entitled to read oaths of office for Acting Town Clerk and Deputy Town Clerk; and once installed, the Town Clerk may read oaths of office for the remainder of his/her term.

Erin Newnan stood before Chairman Landau at the podium; each Selectman remaining stood in his place, respectively, at the meeting table. Chairman Landau proceeded to swear Ms. Newnan in as the Acting Town Clerk. Ms. Newnan was applauded and congratulated in her acceptance of this appointment.

Chairman Landau noted that whomever wins the vote for Town Clerk at the May election shall be sworn in as such by the Town Moderator.

Barbara Cannon appeared before Chairman Landau; members of the Board stood, and Selectman Cannon’s abstention was noted. Ms. Cannon was applauded and congratulated as she accepted the appointment of Deputy Town Clerk in oath presented by Chairman Landau.

3.2 Promotional Pinning Ceremonies: Fire Department

Chairman Landau announced that Ms. Newnan would present appointments of one (1) Deputy Chief, two (2) Captains, and three (3) Lieutenants this evening; with an additional appointment to Lieutenant to occur at a later date, as appointee Mike Gilbert had been called out on duty.

Richard Antoine, Fire Chief, stood at the podium and was joined by Greg Bolduc, Fire Captain to be appointed to Deputy Chief. Mr. Antoine welcomed and thanked all for attending Chester Fire Department’s

first promotional pinning ceremony. Firefighting was described by Mr. Antoine as being one of the most honored yet dangerous occupations, courageously led by those who vow to lead and protect their team while serving to protect the public. Mr. Antoine expressed great pride in his team; noting that although Mr. Bolduc began serving in Chester in 2007, his career in the fire service has spanned twenty-plus (20+) years. As the owner and founder of a premiere fire service training company, Innovative Solutions; Mr. Bolduc has earned respect for his excellence and dedication on an international level. Ms. Newnan proceeded to read the oath; Mr. Bolduc accepted promotion to Deputy Chief. Mr. Bolduc was congratulated as his mother and his wife appeared; adorning his uniform with new pins. Each present member of the Board shook hands with Mr. Bolduc.

The ceremony continued as Mr. Antoine invited Captain and Lieutenant appointees to the podium; noting that Mike Gilbert had been called out on duty and would receive promotional pinning at a later date. Ben Clark and Phil Gladu both accepted promotion to rank of Captain as presented in oath by Ms. Newnan. The new Captains were applauded and received new pins from Mr. Antoine and from family members, respectively.

Ms. Newnan presented oath in promotion of officers to Lieutenant rank. All three (3) appointees were applauded as they accepted promotion and were introduced by Mr. Antoine as Lieutenant Richard Bellemore, Lieutenant Eric Emerson, and Lieutenant Gerald ‘Buddy’ Menard, Jr. Pinning was performed by a family member of each new Lieutenant, respectively.

Chairman Landau took this special opportunity to call R.J. Child, Fire Officer, before the Board. Chairman Landau congratulated Mr. Child on his career as a U.S. Navy Seabee; welcoming him home from deployment. Mr. Child received applause as Chairman Landau wished him well and to stay safe.

Adam Houston, Fire Department Chaplain, appeared at the podium. Mr. Houston shared a verse from the Bible highlighting the importance of loving one another; a prayer was led for the safety of members of the fire service—whom Mr. Houston described as “touchable heroes” to be proud of.

In conclusion, Mr. Antoine thanked all in attendance whose efforts ensured the ceremony’s success; Chairman Landau announced that the meeting would resume following a brief reception. Cake and coffee were served.

IV Selectmen’s Business

4.1 Public Comment

No members of the Public wished to comment at this time.

4.2 Roundtable

The meeting was called back to order by Chairman Landau at 8:02pm. Chairman Landau explained that concern over Zika initiated a preliminary needs assessment of mosquito control. Inquiry was made and response received via email from Dragon Mosquito Control. Although little is known now of the threat Zika may pose locally; the company provided a detailed price quote totaling five thousand four hundred dollars (\$5,400.00) to perform surveillance services from late June until mid-October. Chairman Landau noted that a recent drop in funding only allowed state-provided mosquito trapping in a town *after* an occurrence of EEE (eastern equine encephalitis) had been confirmed. Chairman Landau believed that some twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00) remained unexpended in a mosquito control fund passed by

the Town years ago—and asked the Board their thoughts on addressing mosquito control for the coming season.

Selectman Cannon preferred to reserve such funds for treatment expenses in the event that the type of mosquitoes that carry Zika are confirmed locally. Selectman Cannon also questioned whether the Town’s mosquito fund remained unexpended; and even if the full \$20,000.00 remained, it may only be enough to treat the areas surrounding Chester Academy and Wason Pond, for example. Chairman Landau noted his intent to begin conversation of this subject; much more discussion would likely follow in coming months.

Chairman Landau explained that the Board must readdress the execution of Phase II of repairs for the Edwards Mill Dam. Repairs totaling some ninety thousand dollars (\$90,000.00) had been voted down last year; and the Board agreed to revisit the subject in a year’s time. Chairman Landau felt that further delay may cause NH DES (Department of Environmental Services) to perceive this as disinterest, and may therefore proceed to find the Town. Selectman Trask asked what Phase II entailed; per Chairman Landau, the dam face pipe and trench required reconfiguration, wood bulkheads and trees on an area acting as a secondary sluiceway need removal, etc.—as a means to achieve maximum structural soundness.

Chairman Landau suggested this be approached via warrant article: Funding had been allowed for Phase I; the opportunity to consider the advice of those engineers enlisted may as well be brought to voters. Selectman Trask asked how many times this would be brought to voters; Chairman Landau felt as many times as needed to pass or be considered done by DES. Selectman Cannon questioned the stability of the original cost estimate; Chairman Landau noted that the engineer had stated the contractor agreed to honor the quote. Selectman Cannon agreed that putting this forth to voters as a warrant article demonstrated the Board’s commitment.

Selectman Castricone made a motion to put forth a warrant article for the Edwards Mill Dam project; Selectman Cannon seconded the motion. The vote was four in favor with Vice Chairman Hagan absent, so moved.

Chairman Landau announced a Public Notice by the ZBA that a hearing will take place on Tuesday, March 15th in consideration of a request made by Cornerstone Survey Associates for certain exception to be allowed relative to parcel located on Map 010, Lot 001. The public is invited to attend and written concerns will also be accepted.

Selectman Castricone mentioned that an email inquiry of Chester’s Perambulation practices had been received from the Town of Fremont. Selectman Castricone offered to perform this on-foot evaluation of the town line per Fremont’s request pending the Board’s approval; which was given.

4.3 Non-Public Sessions

Chairman Landau made a motion to enter non-public sessions, under RSA 91-A:3 II (a) on employment, and (c) reputation and finance; then to come out of non-public session, seal the minutes, and adjourn the meeting. Selectman Cannon seconded the motion. The vote was four in favor with Vice Chairman Hagan absent, so moved.

The meeting room was closed at 8:20 pm.

Chairman Landau made a motion to come out of non-public session; Selectman Castricone seconded the motion. The vote was four in favor with Vice Chairman Hagan absent, so moved.

202 Selectman Castricone made a motion to seal the minutes of the first non-public session on employment
for an indefinite period; Chairman Landau seconded the motion. The vote was four in favor with Vice
Chairman Hagan absent, so moved.

204 Selectman Castricone made a motion to seal the minutes of the second non-public session under reputation
206 on finance for a period of six months; Chairman Landau seconded the motion. The vote was four in favor
with Vice Chairman Hagan absent, so moved.

208 **V Adjournment**

210 The next meeting of the Board of Selectmen is scheduled for Thursday, March 10th, 2016 at 7pm in the
212 Meeting Room.

214 Chairman Landau made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:16pm; Selectman Castricone seconded the
motion. The vote was four in favor with Vice Chairman Hagan absent, so moved.

216 The meeting was adjourned at 9:16pm.

220 Respectfully Submitted,

222 Caroline Rose Wilson, Recording Secretary