

**Town of Chester  
Board of Selectmen Meeting  
Thursday, July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
Municipal Complex  
Approved Minutes**

**I Preliminaries**

Call the Meeting to Order  
Roll Call  
Pledge of Allegiance  
Additions and Deletions  
Public Comment  
Approval of Minutes  
Items for Signature  
Spring Hill Farm Haying  
Landfill Post-Closure Monitoring Contract  
Edwards Mill Dam Maintenance/Finances  
Town Administrator Working Group Formation  
Town Email Addresses for Boards  
Wason Pond  
Eversource Permission to use Bridle Path  
Roundtable  
Non-Public Sessions  
Adjournment

*1.1 Call to Order*

Chairman Owens called this meeting of the Town of Chester Board of Selectmen to order at 7:12pm.

*1.2 Roll Call*

Selectmen present:

Cass Buckley  
Steve D'Angelo  
Jeremy Owens

Selectmen absent:

Joseph Hagan  
Stephen Landau

Members of the Public present, at various times:

Don Brown, Historical Society  
Kandace Knowlton, Library  
Richard LeBlanc, Spring Hill Farm  
Chuck Myette, Spring Hill Farm  
Nancy Myette  
Corinna Reishus, Recreation Director  
Tom Sullivan, Eversource  
Penny Williams, Tri-Town Times  
John Wright  
And other persons unknown to the Recording Secretary

### *1.3 Pledge of Allegiance*

Chairman Owens led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### *1.4 Chairman’s Additions and Deletions*

There were neither additions nor deletions.

### *1.5 Public Comments*

As no Members of the Public wished to be heard, Public Comment was closed at 7:13pm.

## **II. Old Business**

### *2.1 Approval of Minutes*

An approval sheet for one previous week’s meeting minutes is in the signature folder.

### *2.2 Items for Signature*

All members should review and sign items in the Signature Folder.

## **III. New Business**

### *3.1 Spring Hill Farm Haying – Chuck Myette & Rich LeBlanc*

Mr. LeBlanc and Mr. Myette appeared before the Selectmen to discuss the recent haying of Spring Hill Farm.

Mr. LeBlanc and Mr. Myette had spent one day haying, and came up with ~25 bales; Selectman D’Angelo thanked them for their hard work. The project was then turned over to Charmingfare Farm, who cut everywhere and everything that had been requested, as they are able to use all hay, even if it’s not the best quality. If the weather cooperates, they will return for the second cut. They used the Trust’s non-profit ID number, and provided them with a check for \$500. This money will be used to benefit Spring Hill Farm only.

Mr. LeBlanc noted that there were three entrances to the Lane Road fields that were blocked by large rocks; the Charmingfare hayers used equipment to move them, and they are too heavy to put back. He’d prefer to install three 14’ wide one-bar gates instead of attempting to put the rocks back. Selectman D’Angelo inquired about the cost for these gates; Mr. Myette estimates a new gate to be in the ~\$100 range. Selectman D’Angelo also asked who would install the gates; Mr. LeBlanc thought that perhaps the Maintenance Department could do so, after the 2<sup>nd</sup> cut.

Mr. Myette noted that Charmingfare had done more than expected, and Mr. LeBlanc added that they talked about fertilizing the fields to improve next year’s crop. It is hoped that haying could be done on a more timely basis next year. There was some discussion about the possibility of finding a grant that Charmingfare could apply for.

Mr. LeBlanc assisted the hayers by clearing brush, etc., to allow them access to the 10 Acre Field. He would like to continue this sort of work in the future by mowing under the apple trees, mowing around the perimeters where the hayer couldn’t see to work, and removing unneeded fence posts, as they had some difficulty cutting around them. He will save the posts in case they are needed in the future. He thought that perhaps Charmingfare would be willing to pay more for the project in the future, as they’d

be able to cut more and better hay.

**Selectman D’Angelo moved to allow the Spring Hill Farm Trustees to continue cleaning up at Spring Hill Farm and to remove unneeded fence posts for haying purposes; Vice-Chairman Buckley seconded the motion. The vote was three in favor with Selectmen Hagan and Landau absent; motion carried.**

Mr. Myette suggested having Charmingfare come to visit the BOS after the season is over to discuss how the haying went.

The Advisory Committee had arranged for a clean-up day, which was successful, although there is still some trimming to be done. With the addition of the ‘foodscaping’ areas, the property is looking nice. Mr. LeBlanc asked if it was possible to have the County Workers back to assist at the Farm. Another clean-up day may be scheduled, perhaps in August. Mr. LeBlanc also mentioned a grant for barn renovations, and an adjacent shed that might be usable as a ‘classroom’.

Selectman D’Angelo thanked Mr. LeBlanc and Mr. Myette for their dedication to Spring Hill Farm and for having its best interest in mind. Although he is waiting for the Advisory Committee’s recommendations, he likes their interest in salvaging the buildings with volunteers. He encouraged members of the community to volunteer their time improving the Farm.

Mr. LeBlanc and Mr. Myette departed the meeting table at 7:32pm.

### *3.2 Landfill Post-Closure Monitoring Contract*

The Town has received two quotes for the Landfill Post-Closure Monitoring Contract; one from Nobis Engineering and a second from Wilcox & Barton. Selectmen should review each of these and be prepared to discuss and choose one next week.

### *3.3 Edwards Mill Dam – Maintenance/Finances*

Vice-Chairman Buckley and Selectman D’Angelo attended the final inspection of the Edwards Mill Dam project on Wednesday, July 11<sup>th</sup>. There were some maintenance needs mentioned:

- The berm has been hydro-seeded, although this might need to be redone; it will need to be mowed regularly.
- A 15’ perimeter around the dam structure needs to be mowed, weed-whacked, etc. on a regular basis as well.
- It might be wise to erect an aesthetic barrier of some sort of keep people from driving across the top of the dam – perhaps a fence, rocks, or bollards.

The Maintenance Department should add these items to its ongoing list.

Dubois & King has indicated that the final invoice from Busby will run over the contract amount, but the details are unknown as of yet.

### *3.4 Town Administrator Working Group Formation*

Planning Coordinator Hadik and Town Clerk Newnan have been asked to organize the first meeting of the Town Administrator Working Group, and have tentatively scheduled it for Monday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 6:00pm. Chairman Owens plans to attend as well. This group will meet bi-weekly. Their mission is to determine what a Town Administrator’s job description would consist of, and make a recommendation to the Selectmen.

### *3.5 Town Email Addresses for Boards*

Selectman D’Angelo believes that members of the Budget Committee, the Planning Board, and the ZBA should have Town email addresses due to the fact that they exchange many documents via email and these documents should be stored on the Town’s server. He also believes that all emails amongst these board members should be archived. The cost per email address is \$5/month, which would total ~\$1,100 annually, and the email would be accessible via the Web Portal.

Vice-Chairman Buckley is not in favor of this, stating that the Web Portal is difficult and board members are unlikely to use it. He believes that the archive issue can be solved with a policy change mandating that all board members exchanging emails must copy a Town email address set up for either the Board Chair or the Board itself, which would incur a much lower maintenance cost than the quoted ~\$1,100.

Board members should be asked if they would use the Web portal, and this subject should be revisited at a later date.

### *3.6 Wason Pond*

Selectman D’Angelo opined that Wason Pond is untenable on weekends and that it is becoming a safety issue. Recreation Director Reishus added that speed is a safety concern as well. As a Town road, it is currently set at 30mph; Police Chief Berube believes that 5mph is sufficient.

**Vice-Chairman Buckley moved to set the speed limit on road in Wason Pond at 5mph and install signs; Selectman D’Angelo seconded the motion. The vote was three in favor with Selectmen Hagan and Landau absent; motion carried.**

There was some discussion about the use of permits, or installing a gate to keep it inaccessible during closed hours. It is being used as a rest stop on 102. Selectman D’Angelo suggested locking the portable toilets at 5pm and opening them up at 8am. Sports program coaches could be given a key or combination to the lock in order that children playing organized sports outside of those hours would have a toilet to use.

Recreation Director Reishus has brought in an additional portable toilet for use of the summer program participants only, and it is kept locked. The Summer Program counselors sweep the beach and playground every morning and unlock the toilet; they lock it again at the end of the day.

A non-smoking ordinance for the Town Fields (Nichols, French, and Wason Pond) was discussed again. A suggestion was made that fines for first, second, and third offenses be set at \$10, \$25, and \$100 respectively. BOS AA Doda will provide a draft ordinance for next week’s meeting; Police Chief Berube will provide proposed signage wording.

The Selectmen will host an Open Discussion on Wason Pond at the Selectmen’s meeting of Thursday, August 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

### *3.7 Eversource Permission to Use Bridle Path*

Eversource has requested permission to use Bridle Path, a Class VI road, to access the powerline corridor and replace structures there. The Selectmen had noted at the June 28<sup>th</sup> meeting that Eversource would be using a 60-ton vehicle on Harantis Lake Road, which is how they would access Bridle Path, and that they should agree to repave Harantis Lake Road. This request had been made to Eversource, but the response was in the negative.

Tom Sullivan from Eversource joined the Selectmen at the meeting table. He stated that the existing structures on the powerline are at least 50 years old and need to be replaced. The 60-ton vehicle that would be used has multiple wheels and axles, and as such the weight is spread out and there would be no more impact to any road than a regular oil delivery truck. Eversource is willing to inspect and videotape the roads and to repair any damage done. He added that they could access Bridle Path via Route 121, but that would require building a road over 800 feet of wetlands.

Selectman D'Angelo recommended that Mr. Sullivan contact Road Agent Oleson to set up a time to inspect Harantis Lake Road; BOS AA Doda will put them in touch with each other.

Mr. Sullivan departed the meeting at 8:10pm.

#### **IV. Selectmen's Business**

##### *4.1 Roundtable*

###### *Selectman D'Angelo:*

- He noted that although the Selectmen had originally discussed allowing Road Agent Oleson to sign on with the Town's health insurance provider at no cost to the Town, they had neglected to follow up by discussing it in Public session. The insurance company had approved, Town Counsel had approved and drawn up a contract, and Road Agent Oleson and Chairman Owens had signed the contract. In the future this sort of agreement should be discussed in public session.

###### *Vice-Chairman Buckley:*

- Nothing to report.

###### *Chairman Owens:*

- The Planning Board had recently agreed to release Fire Department Impact Fees to the Treasurer for the payment of an invoice to do with the planned emergency access road from 102 to the Fire Station. **Selectman D'Angelo moved to sign the Fire Department Access Road invoice; Vice-Chairman Buckley seconded the motion. The vote was three in favor with Selectmen Hagan and Landau absent; motion carried.**

##### *4.2 Non-Public Sessions*

**Vice-Chairman Buckley moved that the Board go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (a) Public Employees and (c) Reputation; Selectman D'Angelo seconded the motion. The vote was three in favor with Selectmen Hagan and Landau absent; motion carried.**

The meeting room was closed at 8:16pm. Mr. Brown, Library Director Knowlton, and Recreation Director Reishus remained in the meeting room.

Mr. Brown, Library Director Knowlton, and Recreation Director Reishus departed the meeting at 8:47pm.

The meeting room was re-opened at 9:05pm.

**Chairman Owens moved that the Board come out of non-public session; Vice-Chairman Buckley seconded the motion. The vote was three in favor with Selectmen Hagan and Landau absent; motion carried.**

**Chairman Owens moved that the minutes to the first non-public session, on Reputation, be sealed for a period of three (3) months; Selectman D'Angelo seconded the motion. The vote was three in favor with Selectmen Hagan and Landau absent; motion carried.**

**Vice-Chairman Buckley moved that the minutes to the second non-public session, on Public Employees, be sealed for a period of one (1) year; Chairman Owens seconded the motion. The vote was three in favor with Selectmen Hagan and Landau absent; motion carried.**

**Selectman D’Angelo moved that the minutes to the third non-public session, on Public Employees, be sealed for one (1) week; Chairman Owens seconded the motion. The vote was three in favor with Selectmen Hagan and Landau absent; motion carried.**

**V. Adjournment**

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be Thursday, July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

**Selectman D’Angelo moved to adjourn the meeting; Vice-Chairman Buckley seconded the motion. The vote was three in favor with Selectmen Hagan and Landau absent; motion carried.**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:07pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra H. Doda  
Recording Secretary