

**Town of Chester
Board of Selectmen Meeting
Thursday, July 26th, 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
Fire Department Updates
Eversource Permission to use Bridle Path
Landfill Post-Closure Monitoring Contract
Town Hall Entry Modifications
Encumbrances
Non-Smoking Ordinance
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 7:04pm.

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:

Greg Bolduc, Fire Chief
Makayla Bolduc
Matt Flanders, Eversource
Nancy Myette
Michael Oleson, Road Agent
Haley Townsend
Penny Williams, Tri-Town Times
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

A discussion on the Edwards Mill Dam finances has been postponed until next week, as the final Busby invoice has yet to be received.

1.5 Public Comments

As no Members of the Public wished to be heard, Public Comment was closed at 7:05pm.

II. Old Business

2.1 Approval of Minutes

An approval sheet for previous weeks’ meeting minutes is in the signature folder.

2.2 Items for Signature

All members should review and sign items in the Signature Folder. Selectmen were reminded that this is payroll weekend and they should visit the Finance Office to sign manifests over the weekend or on Monday morning.

III. New Business

3.1 Fire Department Updates

Fire Chief Bolduc appeared before the Selectmen with Makayla Bolduc and Haley Townsend, two Chester residents who are recent additions to the Chester Fire Department.

Ms. Bolduc, a long-time Explorer, recently graduated Pinkerton Academy with her EMT Certification and will be studying Nursing at Curry College this fall. Ms. Townsend is studying Criminal Justice at Northern Essex Community College, and will be graduating this December. She will be starting Fire I this August.

New Fire Department members who are attending college work with the Fire Department during their school breaks and have specific timelines they need to meet.

The Fire Department currently consists of 28 members out of its maximum of 40.

The Selectmen thanked and welcomed the two new additions.

Fire Chief Bolduc noted that the Fire Department had recently been the recipients of a \$603k regional Assistance to Firefighters grant from FEMA, in partnership with Auburn and Sandown, to replace breathing apparatus. These items are in the CIP to be purchased next year at an estimated cost of \$230k, and as such can be removed.

The Fire Department also received a \$6k EMS in the Warm Zone grant to fund training with the Police Department in Active Shooter situations. It was explained that the area of direct and immediate threat is considered the ‘hot zone’ and the area of safety, the ‘cold zone’. Receiving this training would allow the Fire Department to enter the ‘warm zone’ along with the Police Department in order to provide aid to the injured. Along with the training, this grant funds the purchase of bulletproof vests, ballistic helmets, and belts to carry supplies.

An additional grant for an Emergency Services tower is being discussed. The Derry Fire Department was

planning to put upgraded equipment onto the tower currently used by the Fire Department; the tower’s owner required that they perform a structural test beforehand. Derry performed this test at the cost of \$5k, and the tower failed. The tower’s owner is now asking that the tower be repaired at a cost of \$30-\$40k, and the Town’s rental of the tower will increase to \$7k. As the existing tower is also a cell tower, Selectman D’Angelo asked if it met those standards. Fire Chief Bolduc is awaiting a copy of the engineering study.

Fire Chief Bolduc contacted Homeland Security, who suggested that they apply for an Emergency Services grant. As a result he is looking for a piece of Town-owned property where a tower could be erected to be shared amongst the Fire, Police, and Highway Departments, and perhaps even rented out to neighboring towns. The optimal spot is in the southwest corner of Chester, as that is the highest elevation in Town. There is another tower on private land to the west of this spot, but it would cost \$1,800-\$2,000 each month to use it. This subject is only being discussed right now; no concrete plans are in place.

The new Fire Truck is due tomorrow at about 9am. Due to it arriving later than expected, some equipment will be provided for free and a small refund is expected.

Fire Chief Bolduc, Ms. Bolduc, and Ms. Townsend departed the meeting at 7:19pm.

3.2 Eversource Permission to Use Bridle Path – Matt Flanders

Matt Flanders of Eversource appeared before the Selectmen to discuss Eversource’s request to use Bridle Path, a Class VI road, to access the powerline corridor and replace three structures there. Eversource has a hearing with the Planning Board on Wednesday, August 8th. They would like to start work once they have conditional approval from the Planning Board, and that work will last approximately two months.

The optimal access to Bridle Path is via Harantis Lake Road, but concern had been expressed that Eversource’s 60 ton vehicle might cause damage to that road. At the July 19th meeting, the Selectmen had suggested that a representative from Eversource meet with Road Agent Michael Oleson.

Mr. Flanders and Road Agent Oleson met on Monday, July 23rd, inspected Harantis Lake Road, and discussed the situation. Road Agent Oleson stated that he had no problem with Eversource using Harantis Lake Road; due to the number of axles on their vehicle, more damage would be done to the road with a three-axle, 10-wheel dump truck. Eversource has agreed to film the road on their way in and out, and will restore any deterioration.

Selectman D’Angelo is concerned that there is no guarantee that Eversource will repair any damage, and suggested that they be required to post a bond. Mr. Flanders pointed out that other large vehicles (FAA construction, loggers) are on Harantis Lake Road regularly, and Road Agent Oleson added that no other companies are being asked to post a bond. If Harantis Lake Road were newly constructed, he would be in favor of a bond, but this is not the case.

Selectman D’Angelo then inquired about culverts on Harantis Lake Road; there are a few, but they have never been compromised. The culverts on Cole Road, for example, were already compromised and the damage to them was caused by flooding, not trucks.

Vice-Chairman Buckley inquired about a map provided by Eversource that was unclear on whether or not they would stay within the easement; if they go outside, they will need to get permission from the abutting property owners. Mr. Flanders will check on this and report back.

Vice-Chairman Buckley moved to grant permission to Eversource to utilize Bridle Path; Chairman Owens **seconded the motion. The vote was two in favor with Selectman D’Angelo opposed and**

Selectmen Hagan and Landau absent; motion carried.

Mr. Flanders will notify the Selectmen when work is planned to begin. He departed the meeting at 7:35pm.

3.3 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. One of the differences between the two was the 'Limit of Liability'. As the Selectmen are unaware of what could occur that would trigger this clause, the two companies will be asked for an explanation and this subject will be put back on the agenda for August 9th.

3.4 Town Hall Entry Modifications

At the July 19th meeting of the Joint Loss Management Committee, they had asked that the Selectmen look at a proposal to assess the building for improved safety. Copies of this proposal were provided to the Selectmen for their perusal. The architect estimated that it would cost no more than \$1,000 to assess the building and make recommendations on how the building could be modified to maintain separation between Town employees in their offices and others who might enter the building for employee safety and for productivity. Some of the suggestions that had been made previously were Dutch doors and high counters.

Selectman Buckley suggested that the Selectmen meet with members of the JLMC to understand the situation before accepting any proposals. Police Chief Berube and Building Inspector Bunker will be asked to attend a meeting in the near future.

3.5 Encumbrances

Finance Director Smith has estimated that there will be ~\$22,361.67 remaining after Fiscal Year 17-18 is officially closed. This figure is pending any miscellaneous final adjustments. In June, the Selectmen had ranked the encumbrance requests in the order that they deemed most important, and as such here are the results:

Rank	Department	Item	Amount Requested	Amount Available	Amount Remaining
				\$ 22,361.67	
#1	Fire Department	Ceiling Fans	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 19,861.67
#2	Transfer Station	Dock Plates	\$ 1,300	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 18,561.67
#3	Building Inspector	Portables behind Town Hall	\$ 1,172	\$ 1,172.00	\$ 17,389.67
#4	Police Department	ID Maker	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 14,389.67
#5	Fire Department	Mobile Radios	\$ 15,330	\$ 14,389.67	\$ -
#6	Village Cemetery Trustees	Cemetery Fencing	\$ 3,000	\$ -	\$ -
#7	Village Cemetery Trustees	Rock Wall Repairs	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ -
#8	Village Cemetery Trustees	Trees	\$ 750	\$ -	\$ -
	TOTAL		\$ 29,052.00	\$22,361.67	\$ -

Items #1 through #4 were able to be funded in full; there is ~\$14,389.67 towards the \$15,330 requested for item #5. There was not enough money remaining to encumber funds for items #6 - #8.

3.6 Non-Smoking Ordinance

The non-smoking ordinance drafted by Town Counsel was reviewed, and some edits made – it will cover smoking on French Field, Nichols Field, the Wason Pond Conservation and Recreation Area, and the 84 Chester Street property.

Selectman D’Angelo moved to accept the Prohibition on Smoking and Use of Tobacco Products or Equipment ordinance as amended; Vice-Chairman Buckley seconded the motion. The vote was three in favor with Selectmen Hagan and Landau absent; motion carried.

IV. Selectmen’s Business

4.1 Roundtable

Selectman D’Angelo:

- Attorney Bennett has sent documents to be signed in order to discharge a code enforcement case and to receive court costs and attorney fees. **Selectman D’Angelo moved to sign the General Release and Discharge of Lien documents dated July 24th, 2018; Vice-Chairman Buckley seconded the motion. The vote was three in favor with Selectmen Hagan and Landau absent; motion carried.**

Vice-Chairman Buckley:

- Nothing to report.

Chairman Owens:

- FEMA has scheduled a Flood Risk Review meeting for Tuesday, August 21st, 2018 at UNH in Durham, with Chester being scheduled for 2pm – 3pm. This meeting is to review flood hazard mapping, and as such Building Inspector Bunker is interested and attending.

4.2 Non-Public Sessions

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

The meeting room was closed at 8:09pm.

The meeting room was re-opened at 8:25pm.

Selectman D’Angelo 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.

Selectman D’Angelo moved that the minutes to the non-public session on Public Employees be sealed for an indefinite period; 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, August 9th, 2018.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:26pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra H. Doda
Recording Secretary