

**Town of Chester
Board of Selectmen Meeting
Thursday, October 4th, 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
Appointments – Wason Pond, Conservation, and Agricultural Commissions
Turkeys at Great Hill Cemetery
Fuel Bid Opening
Transfer Station Snowplowing Bid Opening
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 7:00pm.

1.2 Roll Call

Selectmen present:

Cass Buckley
Steve D’Angelo
Joseph Hagan
Stephen Landau
Jeremy Owens

Members of the Public present, at various times:

Don Brown, Great Hill Cemetery Trustee
John Colman, Great Hill Cemetery Trustee
Andrew Hadik, Planning Coordinator
Mark Keddy, Great Hill Cemetery Trustee
Melinda Mafera
Chuck Myette
Nancy Myette
Darrell Quinn, Great Hill Cemetery Trustee
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

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 7:01pm.

II. Old Business

2.1 Approval of Minutes

An approval sheet for the 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.

III. New Business

3.1 Appointment to Wason Pond Commission – Melinda Mafera, Chuck Myette

Melinda Mafera and Chuck Myette appeared before the Selectmen to be appointed and reappointed, respectively, to the Wason Pond Commission.

Ms. Mafera will be replacing Kevin Kistler, who was previously one of the representatives from the Recreation Commission to the Wason Pond Commission. She works for a Recreation Department in another town and is interested in sharing her expertise on that subject as well as learning more about Conservation.

Mr. Myette currently is one of the representatives from the Conservation Commission to the Wason Pond Commission.

Selectman D’Angelo asked if the Wason Pond Commission was really necessary, suggesting that managing the property be turned over to the Recreation Commission. Mr. Myette disagreed, stating that Conservation Funds were used to purchase the property and there is a Conservation Easement on the back half as the Rockingham County Conservation District was concerned about overdevelopment; if the Wason Pond Commission were to be disbanded, the Conservation Commission would be the proper successor.

Selectman D’Angelo also inquired about current and potential outbuildings at Wason Pond. The Commission is in charge of repairs, events, and future uses of the property. They handle the bridge and dam maintenance. The barn is structurally sound with a relatively new roof and siding; it could potentially be used as a community center, for a Farmers’ Market, dances, an additional restroom, etc., as long as it continues to be low impact.

Selectman Hagan moved to appoint Melinda Mafera to the Wason Pond Commission for a one-year term to expire May 31st, 2019 and to reappoint Chuck Myette to the Wason Pond Commission for a three-year term to expire May 31st, 2021; Selectman Landau seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; motion carried.

Ms. Mafera departed the meeting at 7:14pm.

3.2 Appointment to Conservation Commission – Chuck Myette

Selectman Landau moved to reappoint Chuck Myette to the Conservation Commission for a three-year term to expire May 31st, 2021; Vice-Chairman Buckley seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; motion carried.

3.3 Appointment to Agricultural Commission – Chuck Myette

Selectman Landau moved to reappoint Chuck Myette to the Agricultural Commission for a three-year term to expire May 31st, 2021; Vice-Chairman Buckley seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; motion carried.

Selectman Landau thanked Mr. Myette for his service on these committees. Mr. Myette stated that he has always been interested in conservation and environmental matters, and noted that these commissions are always looking for new members. Vice-Chairman Buckley added that the Town is always looking for volunteers.

Mr. Myette departed the meeting table at 7:16pm.

3.4 Turkeys at Great Hill Cemetery – GHC Trustees

Don Brown, John Colman, Mark Keddy, and Darrell Quinn of the Great Hill Cemetery Trustees appeared before the Selectmen in order to discuss wild turkey problems at the Cemetery.

It appears that these turkeys are hunting grubs around the monuments at the Cemetery and destroying large areas of grass. This had begun in the Spring but nothing was done; now it is much worse. They have asked Groundkeeper John Dalrymple to procure quotes for treating the grass, but they are concerned with a few issues – is the treatment more expensive than they can afford? Is it toxic? And will it stain or etch the stones?

Selectman Landau stated that he had also consulted with Groundskeeper Dalrymple, and noted that the Fall treatment is indeed toxic, but in any case it is too late for that now. The Spring treatment is bio-natural, a fungus that attacks grubs before they grow. Selectman Hagan identified it as 'powdered milky spores'. This is estimated to cost ~\$500. The Trustees only have a budget of \$100, but it was reiterated that the Town has a bottom line budget.

There was some discussion about whether the Trustees are certain the problem is grubs, and if there is any other way to remove the turkeys, perhaps New Hampshire Fish & Game or hunters.

The Selectmen asked the Trustees to come back to them with details once they have them from Groundskeeper Dalrymple, and indicated that they would support this issue being addressed in the Spring.

The Great Hill Cemetery Trustees departed the meeting at 7:34pm.

3.5 Opening of Fuel Bids

The Selectmen had solicited bids for heating oil and propane for the Winter 2018-2019 season, and had received three responses.

Bidder	Fuel Oil	Propane	Comments
#1	\$2.719 for 12,500 gallons only	\$1.839 for 15,000 gallons only	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All fees included Net 15 Price becomes variable after maximum gallons purchased
#2	\$2.764 for 12,454 gallons only	\$1.696 for 14,988 gallons only	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Price valid until midnight tonight Environmental, L.U.S.T, and PERC fees of \$0.1975 per gallon not included If less than 95% of the expected amount purchased, damages to be paid A discount is available for Town employees Net 30 Price becomes variable after maximum gallons purchased
#3	\$2.849 - unlimited	\$1.809 - unlimited	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Price Assurance: pay 20¢ per gallon for first 1,000 gallons of propane and the price will not increase. No limit to gallons purchased at fixed price

One of the three is the Town’s current vendor.

Selectman Landau noted that last year fuel oil sold for \$1.949 and propane for \$1.289; prices have risen considerably. He added that the Town had switched vendors many years ago and found that there were quite a few additional costs incurred with new tanks, building inspections, etc., and that the lower price hadn’t been worth it in the long run. He recommended staying with the Town’s current vendor.

Vice-Chairman Buckley moved to award the Winter 2018-2019 fuel oil and propane contract to Bidder #3; Selectman D’Angelo seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; motion carried.

The winning bidder was Palmer Gas & Oil.

3.5 Opening of Transfer Station Snowplowing Bids

The Selectmen had solicited bids for plowing at the Transfer Station during the Winter 2018-2019 season, and had received two responses.

Bidder	Total Amount	Time Period	Comments
#1	\$6,500	Acceptance through May 15 th , 2019	\$100/hour for loader work
#2	\$6,900	October 15 th , 2018 through May 15 th , 2019	\$125/hour for loader work

Vice-Chairman Buckley moved to award the Winter 2018-2019 Transfer Station snowplowing contract to Bidder #1; Selectman Hagan seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; motion carried.

The winning bidder was Ted Scott.

IV. Selectmen’s Business

4.1 Roundtable

Selectman Landau:

- At this morning’s Department Heads meeting he had been informed that the employees would

prefer that the gate between the Town Offices and the MPR remain locked during off hours for security purposes. He suggested having an additional light, or light switch, placed on the MPR side of the gate. The other Selectmen were amenable to this suggestion.

- The Planning Board had requested that the BOS and Budget Committee attend their meeting of Wednesday, November 7th, 2018 to discuss the CIP. Planning Coordinator Andrew Hadik was asked to inquire of the Planning Board whether they were willing to move this meeting to a Thursday instead, perhaps November 8th, as the BOS meetings are much more likely to be attended or viewed by the residents than the Planning Board meetings.
- The Employee door is not always closing properly even though the closer has been adjusted; it may need to be replaced.
- He will schedule a meeting date for the persons interested in the Police Department Space Needs Working Group next week.
- The Transfer Station pavement needs to be sealed and striped, but the vendor who did it previously no longer carries the requested \$2m insurance. This is a low-risk activity and Primex allows the Selectmen to adjust the insurance amount at their discretion. **Selectman D’Angelo moved to allow the vendor to seal and stripe the Transfer Station pavement upon evidence of a \$1m insurance policy; Selectman Landau seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; motion carried.**

Selectman D’Angelo:

- He had also attended the Department Heads meeting, and had discussed working on the AEDs and potential grants with Fire Chief Greg Bolduc.
- There was an issue with the alarm system at Spring Hill Farm which should be discussed in non-public session.
- Closing for holidays and snow days was discussed. He is of the opinion that on the day before a holiday, the Town Offices should follow the Town Clerk’s schedule and close when she does. For snow events, the Fire Chief, Police Chief, and Road Agent should determine whether the building needs to open late, close early, or close entirely; this recommendation should be communicated to Chairman Owens who will make the final decision. The other Selectmen were amenable to these suggestions.

Selectman Hagan:

- He urged residents to get their flu shot, especially if their immune system is compromised due to other health problems.
- Residents who receive scam telephone calls, such as a caller purporting to be from the IRS, may report them to the Attorney General’s office – 271-3658. Selectman Landau added that residents should also be wary of the lottery scam – if you didn’t buy a ticket, you haven’t won the lottery, and in any case, the lottery would not ask you to send them money in order to send you money.

Vice-Chairman Buckley:

- He would like the opportunity to read the StreetScan contract before it is signed; BOS AA Doda will send a copy via email to each Selectman and it will be discussed next week.

Chairman Owens:

- Town Hall will be closed on Monday, October 8th, 2018 for the Columbus Day Holiday.
- Town Hall telephones have now been switched entirely over to 887-3636. Selectman D’Angelo reminded employees to be sure to edit any forms or signature blocks to reflect this new number.
- Election Day is Tuesday, November 6th, 2018 from 7am to 7pm. Both Selectmen Hagan and Landau plan to be on site all day; other Selectmen should communicate their availability to BOS AA Doda. She will arrange coverage with pro-tems for open spots.
- Neither CIP nor Impact Fees may be used to pay for the conduit at the Salt Shed. Selectman D’Angelo suggested using funds from either the 2008 *Building Improvement and Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund* or the 2012 *Town Unanticipated Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund*. Both

Warrant Articles were read and appeared suitable; both appointed the Selectmen as agents to expend from the funds. The 2008 Fund currently has \$9,600 on it; \$1,950 is needed. **Selectman D’Angelo moved to take \$1,950 from the 2008 *Building Improvement and Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund* to pay for the conduit at the Salt Shed; Vice-Chairman Buckley seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; motion carried.**

- The Budget Committee is in need of more members; these positions are elected or self-appointed. Selectman D’Angelo noted that their next meeting is on Tuesday, October 9th.

4.2 Public Comment

As no Members of the Public wished to be heard, Public Comment was closed at 8:19pm.

4.3 Non-Public Sessions

Selectman Landau moved that the Board go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (c) Reputation, (d) Property, and (i) Safety; Vice-Chairman Buckley seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; motion carried.

The meeting room was closed at 8:20pm. Mr. Myette remained in the meeting room.

Planning Coordinator Hadik entered the meeting room at 8:33pm.

Mr. Myette and Planning Coordinator Hadik departed the meeting at 9:10pm.

The meeting room was re-opened at 9:15pm.

Selectman Landau moved that the Board come out of non-public session; Selectman Hagan seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; motion carried.

Selectman Landau moved that the minutes to the first non-public session, on Safety, be sealed for an indefinite period; Vice-Chairman Buckley seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; motion carried.

Selectman Landau moved that the minutes to the second non-public session, on Property, be sealed for a period of one (1) year; Vice-Chairman Buckley seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; motion carried.

Selectman Landau moved that the minutes to the third non-public session, on Reputation, be sealed for an indefinite period; Vice-Chairman Buckley seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; motion carried.

V. Adjournment

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be Thursday, October 11th, 2018.

Selectman Landau moved to adjourn the meeting; Vice-Chairman Buckley seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative; motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:17pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Debra H. Doda, Recording Secretary