

**Town of Chester
Board of Selectmen Meeting
Thursday, December 12, 2019
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
Non-Public Session
Unmerging of Lots
Building Inspector Hours
5G
Roundtable
Non-Public Sessions
Adjournment

1.1 Call to Order

Vice Chairman Myette called this meeting of the Town of Chester Board of Selectmen to order at 7:00 pm.

1.2 Roll Call

Selectmen present:

Steve D’Angelo
Joseph Hagan (departed at 8:07pm)
Stephen Landau
Chuck Myette

Selectmen absent:

Jeremy Owens

Members of the Public present, at various times:

Greg Bolduc, Fire Chief
Sandy Clark
Nancy Myette
Kevin Scott
Penny Williams, Tri-Town Times
And other persons unknown to the Recording Secretary

1.3 Pledge of Allegiance

Vice-Chairman Myette led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.4 *Chairman’s Additions and Deletions*

There were neither additions nor deletions.

1.5 *Public Comment*

As no Members of the Public wished to be heard, Public Comment was closed at 7:02pm.

II. Old Business

2.1 *Approval of Minutes*

There were unapproved minutes in the Signature Folder for review.

2.2 *Items for Signature*

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

III. New Business

3.1 *Non-Public Session*

Selectman Landau moved that the Board go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (c) Reputation; Selectman Hagan seconded the motion. The vote was four in favor with Chairman Owens absent; motion carried.

The meeting room was closed at 7:04pm. Sandy Clark remained in the room.

The meeting room was reopened at 7:13pm and Mrs. Clark departed the meeting at this time.

Selectman Landau moved that the Board come out of non-public session; Selectman Hagan seconded the motion. The vote was four in favor with Chairman Owens absent; motion carried.

Selectman Landau moved that the minutes to the first non-public session, on Reputation, be sealed for an indefinite period; Selectman Hagan seconded the motion. The vote was four in favor with Chairman Owens absent; motion carried.

3.2 *Unmerging of Lots: Kevin Scott*

Resident Kevin Scott appeared before the Selectmen to receive a decision on the matter of Involuntary Merging of Lots.

Mr. Scott had written a request on November 24, 2019 to the Town of Chester Selectman RE: Regulation of Subdivision of Land; the documents were reviewed in this meeting.

Mr. Scott believes three lots of record: DEEDs Book/Page 1267 456, 1907 014, and 1780 059 were involuntarily merged into Map/Lot 1-84-0. Mr. Scott noted that the Assessor’s Office did not find any voluntary merger requested. Mr. Scott requested the Chairman approve his written request to

restore the three lots to their premerger status with all zoning and tax maps also being updated to identify the premerger boundaries of the lots. The four Selectmen present at the meeting agreed to approve Mr. Scott’s request and signed the form that Assistant Assessor Jean Packard had provided.

3.3 *Building Inspector Office Hours*

Building Inspector Myrick Bunker’s request for a change in his office hours was discussed. Building Inspector Bunker, who was not in attendance, had requested to have his business hours changed as of January 1, 2020 from Monday-Wednesday-Thursday 8am to 4pm, Tuesday 8am – 7pm, and Friday 8am – 12pm to Monday thru Thursday 8am to 5pm and Fridays 8am to 12pm. The Selectmen discussed this topic; although Selectman D’Angelo was concerned that changing one employee’s office hours might lead to others wanting the same, Selectman Hagan pointed out that no-one was soliciting Building Inspector Bunker’s help on Tuesday nights and as such those hours weren’t useful. It was suggested that it be posted that evening appointments will be available upon request.

Selectman Hagan moved to change Building Inspector Bunker’s office hours as requested with the provision that if this becomes problematic that it be revisited; Selectman Landau seconded the motion. The vote was four in favor with Chairman Owens absent; motion carried.

3.4 *5-G*

Selectman D’Angelo opened the discussion on the topic of the Town creating an ordinance for 5-G Small Cell Transmitters. He began by reading aloud to the attendees a detailed document about the subject. The Selectmen discussed the Town implementing fees for when 5-G transmitters are in place in the town such as: a Town Ordinance or a Warrant Article to serve as a means of charging fees for business “piggy-backing” leases of the cell transmitters that are projected to be put up in the future. The Selectmen discussed the potential of fees for the equipment being placed on town land and the potential use of this revenue when the technology comes to the town. They raised questions about implementation of fees by the Town for this new technology that will likely be placed on the utility pole infrastructure around town during an undetermined time, but near future. Discussed was the concern that there may be a time limit for the town to have an ordinance or warrant article in place, and that the Selectmen need to implement such before the technology is in place. The result of this 5-G discussion being that the Selectmen agreed the topic needs more research and additional discussion. Town Administrator Doda will continue research on this complicated matter and present her findings at a future meeting for further discussion. TA Doda’s research is to include but not be limited to:

1. How are other NH Towns planning to implement fees for 5-G transmitter placement and/or leases?
2. Are other NH Towns using a fee method by the method of town ordinance or town warrant?
3. How many telephone poles are in place in the Town of Chester?
4. Are any of the poles in the Town of Chester considered to be on State land?
5. Would the State of NH have rights to set fees for any utility pole leases before the Town of Chester or at all?

IV. Selectmen’s Business

4.1 *Roundtable*

Selectman Landau:

- A resident had dropped off an 18ft tall inflatable snowman (along with a check to assist with the cost of electricity) with the request to put it up at the center of Town. The Selectmen discussed this offering from the undisclosed resident as it had been requested the previous year as well. Concerns of safety were discussed pertaining to the location at this major intersection both as a driver distraction and safety hazard in windy conditions. The means of caring for the large item were also discussed. Selectman Landau suggested that perhaps the resident might be interested in having it put up by the School/Fire Department property, with the accompanying check being given to the Fire Association, or over at Wason Pond. Selectman D’Angelo suggested perhaps Busche Academy. **Selectman Hagan moved to decline the donation for the location specified with the caveat that it could be reconsidered next year if a different location was specified; Selectman Landau seconded the motion. The vote was four in favor with Chairman Owens absent; motion carried.** TA Doda will contact the resident.
- He attended the Budget Committee meeting Monday night and would like to review the Budget again next week. The Police and Fire budgets have increased by more than 10% due to an increase in personnel. PACT has put the same ~\$58k both in a Warrant Article and in the Budget; one or the other should be removed.

Selectman D’Angelo:

- He requested and received from Fire Chief Bolduc additional information on some invoices he had presented for payment.

Vice-Chairman Myette:

- Nothing to report.

Selectman Hagan departed the meeting at 8:07pm.

4.2 Non-Public Sessions

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

The meeting room was closed at 8:10pm. Fire Chief Bolduc remained in the room.

The meeting room was reopened at 8:53pm and Fire Chief Bolduc departed the meeting at this time.

Selectman Landau moved that the Board come out of non-public session; Selectman D’Angelo seconded the motion. The vote was three in favor with Chairman Owens and Selectman Hagan absent; motion carried.

Selectman Landau moved that the minutes to the second non-public session, on Public Employees, be sealed for an indefinite period; Selectman D’Angelo seconded the motion. The vote was three in favor with Chairman Owens and Selectman Hagan absent; motion carried.

V. Adjournment

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be Thursday, December 19, 2019.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tristan McGraw,
Recording Secretary