

Chester Board of Selectmen/ Water Commissioners/Zoning Board of Appeals

Minutes

July 11, 2016

John Baldasaro called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. First order of business was to reorganize. He welcomed new Selectmen Rene Senecal to the board.

John B. moved the appointment of R. Senecal to Clerk: Barbara 2nd. Unanimous. Rene abstained.

John b. moved the appointment of B. Huntoon to Vice Chairman: Rene 2nd. Unanimous. Barbara abstained.

Barbara H moved the appointment of John B. as Chairman. Rene 2nd. Unanimous. John abstained.

In attendance when meeting began: Ed Meecham, Tom Beck, Prestin Webb, Andy Myers:

1. John Murray: Highway: Gave overview of work done, mowing, cleaning storm drains and will mark where they are. Mower maintenance. All vehicles in good shape right now. The roller has some issues, but working on it. Had some washouts last Thursday on Skyline, Maynard. Replaced a culvert, found water leak on Middlefield Rd.. Discussion began on Chapter 90 roadwork and how it should be done. An overview of Mass DOT was given. After much talk and opinions about the direction to go in for ERR, whether FDR by itself would last, or did we need asphalt emulsion, or chip seal, etc., it was decided to sign the paperwork for the approval for Chapter 90 funds after adding new language regarding the final coat on the worst 1.3 miles of ERR. In addition, the town will work to apply for a Mass Works grant which could bring up to \$1,000,000 with which to use on ERR's next 4 miles. This should get up 3 – 5 years. In the meantime we will work to get us on the State CIP plan, as well as look into reclassifying ERR as eligible for the TIP program, Federal funding project. Lower Johnson Rd. request all set to go. Barb asked about funding for the culver on Old State Road. None at this time. Rene suggested contacting a firm by the way of Sureline, which the State has used. Asked about funds for tree trimming. Chapter 90 does not cover. Rene suggested asking another contractor to look at Skyline Trail (lips) other then Lane to get a second opinion on whether they are correct or not. Discussion of mowing. There is some difference in mowing techniques between the workers. John M. should decide who is the best guy for the mower and follow through with him. John M. asked for a \$1.00 raise for the two full timers, plus another \$1.00 for himself. The board asked him to do reviews on the guys as well as come back with the latest survey results for surrounding towns. They will look at both at that time.
2. Preston Webb: Mr. Webb was in to ask the board about the status of Campbell Rd. Has it been discontinued, or abandoned after a certain point, and if so, is there a way to make it active

again. The town will look through old records through the Town clerk's office to see if there was any ever official vote at town meeting. And get back to him

3. Barbara made a motion to appoint the following for 2017:

Robert Thompson, Wild & Scenic Advisory Committee

Nunziatino Cardarelli, Warden

Cynthia Mastendino, Board of Registrars

4. Andy Myers; Community Compact Agreement: Andy explained about the process he and Pat have been involved in with the other 6 towns regarding the Community Compact Grant application we agreed to. The committee involved with the process has come up with an agreement between all towns, which they are bringing to their Boards of Selectmen to sign. We will need two representatives from Chester to serve on the "Hilltown Collaborative", which will be an "advisory" committee to their respective towns. Andy will attend the "tour" being hosted on 7/14 as part of the economic development section. Andy asked that he and Pat be designated as the representatives from Chester. Barb moved that Andy and Pat be the designees from Chester, John B. seconded. Unanimous. All meetings will be open to the public and the Selectboard will be updated as we go along.
5. Barb asked about the elevator. She is concerned with the ADA accessibility. Pat reported she has been trying to get ahold of the elevator company. They were looking for a part that has not come as yet, but it has been some time since they've contacted us. Barb suggested we send them a letter from the Board. Pat will follow up. Discussion of a new elevator. Rene suggested directly calling the ADA office to see if there could be some help.
6. Barb also suggested the Board should be meeting more often, and not in this office. The suggestion to meet every Monday was made and the Board agreed. Beginning August 1, the board will meet every Monday. John B. did say he may not be able to make every meeting, but would be available by phone. In addition, although we cannot meet in the auditorium while the Theatre is active, after that we should start meeting in the auditorium, which is accessible, and allows for more people. In the meantime Pat will try and clear out the BOS office to accommodate more. Highway will help. Pat will send notices out to the departments. The BOS is not suggesting that they need to be open every Monday. John B. suggested Pat look into getting an intern from one of the colleges to help with filing.

Town Administrator: No comments

Citizens Comments:

Ed Meecham, not complaining, but the mowing needs to be looked at. Some work is needed on ERR between Skyline and Bromley.

Mr. Foley reported that Washington Mt. road is collapsing. Rene cautioned that we must begin to be more specific with contractors on our spec sheets.

Tom Beck Agrees with the new schedule, but was told by a vendor that he couldn't get paid because there was no money. He didn't have any details, but Pat suggested he tell the vendor

to call her and she will check into it. The Selectmen again requested monthly balances. Pat agreed they would have them beginning August 1st. Both 16 & 17.

Mrs. Foley had some information about the culvert on Johnson hill Rd. washing out. Needs to be fixed. John M. will look at it. Maybe Richie could blow it out. Steve can do it. Barb would like to see a priority list by the Highway. John M. responded that he has a board that everything is written on to do, but that list becomes different depending upon what's happening. Rene concurred that it worked that way. Discussion that John M. needed to learn how to prioritize.

John B. moved to adjourn at 7:55 p.m. Barbara 2nd. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia Carlino, Town Administrator

John Baldasaro, Chairman

Barbara Huntoon, Vice Chairman

Rene Senecal, Clerk