

TOWN OF CHESTER

BOARD OF SELECTMEN/WATER COMMISSIONERS/ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

MINUTES

MARCH 28, 2016

Chairman Ellershaw called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Minutes of March 7, 2016 approved.

Warrants approved. Ms. Huntoon was not present at the opening of the meeting.

1. John Murray: Highway superintendent. John presented his schedule of goals/status of past goals. John and Ro are working on anticipated Chapter 90 projects. Lower Johnson Rd and Lyons hill mentioned. Discussion of E. River Rd, and status of the 2014 Bond Bill. Pat to contact Representative Kulick's office to see where we are with this project. Road is in terrible condition, needs to be addressed to some extent if funding is too far out.
Two projects up for discussion: "complete streets", which includes a pavement management plan.
Disaster Mitigation Plan

Discussion about the worthiness of these projects, and the cost to complete. John B. Explained he felt they all were worthwhile due to the amount of grant monies that were made available to the town over the years.
Don agreed. Motion made by John B., seconded by Don, to proceed with both projects, and place special articles on ATM for funding.
2. Finance Committee: Michael Crochiere presented the first rough draft of 2017 FinCom budget to the Selectboard. Pat to forward Free Cash Use for FY 2016 to Michael. The Fin Com is in agreement with latest school proposal. Selectboard is not, at this time. Voc Ed and transportation is still a little bit of a moving number as this is a bid year for transportation, and the numbers are just coming out for attendance. No tuition numbers as yet. The Fin Com reported that they met with all boards they felt necessary to meet with. Will keep the board apprised as the budget evolves.
3. Keith Property question: We have been informed by the lawyer of the Keith family that they would like to meet with the board at their site to discuss problems the Keith's feel were caused by the town. The board felt that they would like the Keith's to come into a regularly scheduled meeting first, to discuss their concerns, and then will go forward from there.

4. Inspector of Animals: The board reaffirmed the fact that they appointed Terry Donovan as Inspector of Animals for the FY 2017.
5. Western Mass Forest Legacy Partnership: Discussion held regarding the commitment this would mean from the town. Don asked Pat to check to obtain further details and put item on the next meeting agenda.
6. Don asked Pat to be a little more specific when transcribing minutes in the future. Pat agreed.

Town Administrator: Pat asked if the Board would publicly vote “ nunc pro tunc” to the State of Emergency called by Chairman Ellershaw on the morning of February 25th, 2016. Due to the dangerous rainstorms, wind, and horrendous road washouts, which resulted in a number of streets being inaccessible to emergency vehicles, Mr. Ellershaw declared a State of Emergency in the town of Chester at 6:00 am that morning. The SOE was lifted at 2:30 pm after accessibility to all was completed. John so moved, Don 2nd. Unanimous.

7. Citizens comments: Ed Meecham: Spoke about equipment they could use on ERR currently used by town of Southampton. Felt the Selectmen should have granted John Murray the \$2 raise he asked for at the last meeting.

John moved to adjourn at 7:10. Don seconded. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Carlino

Town Administrator

Donald Ellershaw, Chairman

John Baldasaro, V. Chairman

Barbara Huntoon, Clerk