

TOWN OF CHESTER

BOARD OF SELECTMEN/ZONING BOARD/WATER COMMISSIONERS;

MINUTES

MAY 9TH, 2016

Chairman Ellershaw opened meeting at 6:00 p.m. Minutes of 4/25/16 were approved and signed.

Warrants were signed.

1. Water commitment for Jill Moretz: signed
2. Cheryl Provost attended the meeting to discuss the transition in the Treasurers office. Would like Melissa McGovern to stay on to do payroll until Cheryl acclimates herself to the office. The Selectmen agreed as long as it didn't add anything to the budget. Cheryl will speak with Missy. Cheryl also said that Joan Stalcupp and Rich Holzman had been notified of their election.
3. John Murray: Highway Discussion of chapter 90 requests. Johnson Hill, E. River Road and Johnson Rd. all approved by Selectboard. Roseann will begin paperwork request to Mass DOT. Mowing quotes: the Selectboard asked John to check with other towns around for mowing vs. CMELD mower option. And also to get more mini-excavator quotes, whether for a trade in of the large excavator, or on its own. Discussion of costs vs. trade ins? Barbara asked if pat would ask Jill Moretz to attend the next meeting. Summer help ad submitted to Country Journal. Also should put ad in for roadside mowing.

6:30 p.m. Public hearing for Chester Common Table Liquor license: Erin Patrick and Aaron Allen were in attendance to discuss their plans for the restaurant. They plan on being open 6 days per week at this time, hopefully with a May 30th opening. The restaurant will be open from 11 am to 12 midnight, with 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. the dinner hours. They will probably close for a month or two during the winter months. Barbara moved to approve the license. John 2nd. Unanimous.

Back to John Murray

Mr. Foley reported that the new highway on Skyline Trail was collapsing in on the sides/underneath pavement. Discussion was held as to who to hold responsible. As it was 10 – 12 years ago, there is probably no one to blame. It is primarily water damage. Nothing to do with the work done last year.

John M. asked if the highway department could start their summer hours of Monday thru Thursday next week. Selectmen agreed they they could go to October, provided no overtime be charged between now and July 1.

4. Hilltown Ambulance: Angela -----attended, as well as Fire chief Richie Small. Discussion was held as to satisfaction with the service to date. Other than we would like 24/7 coverage, he was satisfied with the service. Discussion also revolved around which hospitals were used, the numbers in the budget also take into consideration the fact that they will have to replace an ambulance in a few years. Barbara indicated she was attending a meeting in Huntington on Saturday in regards to the Ambulance and would report back any concerns. Mary Ann Pease asked if any of the Selectmen had spoken to someone from Becket regarding the town of Chester going out for an RFP. All said no. John B. remarked that if it's not broke, why try to fix it. Don feels Richie will let them know if there are concerns that need to be addressed. In regards to the emergency management grant, we are waiting for authorization for the regional shelter. After discussion Barbara made a motion to sign the Ambulance Agreement, John B. 2nd. Unanimously approved.
5. Generator inspection at Water treatment plant. On hold. There was confusion about whether it was a once a year or twice a year inspection. Pat will check it out and report back. The board would like Bernie to come in. Pat will also forward this request to Bernie.
6. Selectboard Resolution regarding Mass Broadband approved and signed to send to Governor Baker.
7. Letter from Ms. Lee, Hampden St. regarding her expenses from last winter. Pat to look up minutes to see Selectboard response to requests.
8. Comcast: Information was given to Board regarding certain poles on Skyline Trail and the availability of equipment. This information was not what the Board was seeking. After discussion, Tom Beck spoke up and conveyed the fact that Comcast had been up on the trail and was measuring. Pat will follow up with Eileen Leahey, Comcast representative.
9. The Selectboard asked about the status of the zoning board hearing regarding the property on Hampden St. John B. felt that if no action was taken, the application was approved. Pat will check with town counsel regarding this.

Town Administrator

Memorial Day: Coming along. Awaiting a speaker. We do have the band this year.

Citizens Comments;

Andy Myers, Steve Salvani attended the meeting to present to the Selectboard a somewhat draft plan of what could happen on William St. Pat to try to arrange a telephone conference call between town counsel and Steve to discuss possible ways of obtaining property with which to build a turn around at the end of William St., to improve safety issues.

Ed Meecham: Wondering about mowing. Doesn't Eversource mow? Did DOT ever do a Core test on Skyline to confirm paving specs. John M. will call. Rene Senecal asked was it a county bid or our bid? He also attended a CIP meeting (Capital Investment Plan) for the

state. They recommend that the MPO (Municipal Procurement officer) also attend, to get points. Many storm saver water laws have changed. Storm water drain on Emery St. may have to be changed (salt issues).

Lyle Snyder from Planning Board also stopped in to express the Planning board's feeling on the William St. proposal. They feel it would be a good idea.

John B. moved to adjourn. Barbara 2nd. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Carlino

Town Administrator

Donald Ellershaw, Chairman

John Baldasaro, Vice Chairman

Barbara Huntoon, Clerk