

**Town of Chester**

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

**Minutes**

**August 15, 2016**

1. Chairman John Baldasaro opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m.
2. Highway Dept. John Murray was absent, due to vacation, but Rosanne was in attendance to answer questions.

Rosanne reported that Gorman was here today to take core samples. They stated that the portion of ERR being tested was pretty consistently around 3".

Rosanne also reported that her estimates for using 'Portland Cement' came in at over \$200,000, which we do not have available in our Chapter 90 monies. Rene felt this was way overpriced and asked for her to check into it again and make sure those numbers were correct. There followed much discussion about the process again for the area of ERR in question. It was brought up by Rene, and in the end, decided upon, to lay a 1" overlay of hot mix asphalt on the area for approximately 1000', which will be much less money, but will get us through a couple of years until a more long term solution is done. We will try to bid it out for this years work, but if not it would be first on the list next year. Ro will do up a new request for next week. Cheryl Provost felt we needed to put this out to bid under Public bidding. Rene indicated that this would be well below the \$35,000 of 30B, which it falls under. Pat to verify before going forward. In addition, this will allow us to do crack seal on Blandford Rd. and possibly Skyline.

Contracts for Lane and All States project on ERR were signed by the Board. Rene asked about police details. Ro explained she thought we could use flaggers in lieu of police, since the work was not on a state road. The contracts do not ask for details. She will check with the Hampshire county bid group.

Rosanne had a question regarding town roads and whether they were all listed on our town road inventory. Accepted roads vs. what Mass DOT has. More research needs to be done to see exactly what is listed with the State vs what is listed with the town.

E-mail from Tony Mazzafero. The board read the email. Pat reported that she spoke to Doug Noel, who took care of the fallen tree. He stated he was notified around 6:30 in the morning and he went out and took care of it. Apparently there was some confusion about who called and what time. Ro will double check with the dispatch center to make sure that have all current contact information, including the Board of Selectmen. We need to have a clear understanding when John is on vacation as to whom to call.

3. John B. asked if we had heard from Comcast as yet. Pat reported no. Pat will contact them again by letter about their fulfillment of their contract. The board feels they may be in violation of that contract and we will start proceedings if not resolved.

7:00 p.m. At this time Barbara moved to adjourn the meeting until after the Zoning Board of Appeals hearing scheduled for this time. Rene 2<sup>nd</sup>. Unanimous.

7:20 p.m.

John B. reconvened the BOS meeting.

John reported that he had spoken to Don Ellershaw about representing us as the Alternate Commissioner on PVPC, and he would like to. Pat then reported that we had appointed Richard Holzman last week, but that we were still looking for a TAC representative and maybe he would like that. Pat will check further and report back.

Barbara asked about the Campbell Rd issue that Preston Webb asked about in July. As John M. was not here, she asked that it be put on the next agenda 8/22 for discussion.

#### Town Administrator:

Pat asked about "Hampden Park" and who maintained it. John B. said it was his understanding that the groundskeeper for the parks did. Pat will contact Donald about checking it out.

Pat reported that PVPC will only do 2 traffic counts per calendar year. A third one will cost us \$300.00. Rene suggested contacting Myron Marcoulier on the turnpike or Mass DOT to see if they could help us out.

The warrant for the State primary election on 9/8/16 was signed.

#### Citizens Comments:

Ed Meecham had a comment about the placing of the counters for the traffic study, and about the potholes on Bromley Rd. The board agreed more pothole work needed to be done. It is ongoing.

Cheryl Provost asked the board about the rate to pay Melissa McGovern for helping her in the Treasurers office. Pat suggested it should be the same rate Melissa was making when she was here as interim treasurer. John B. figured it out to be \$20.25. Pat will follow up. Also there is a question of why the accountant sits at the treasurers computer instead of her own. Pat will find out. Also, John asked about back ups, licenses, etc. Pat has suggested a date that the financial team could sit down together and discuss all. Rene asked about our IT person. Currently not using anyone in particular. Pat reported that the board would receive their first monthly report from the accountant on 8/29/16. Rene suggested that all departments should also be receiving the report for their own departments at the same time.

Tom Beck: Questioning process to be used on ERR, but realized he was asking about the wrong

Section. Asked how the long the summer help is here for. While there is no specific date, they have to return to school, so Sept 1 is approximately when.

Rene brought up the subject of Pat's hours, which he had brought up last week. He has been looking at the structure of our administration and feels Pat does not have enough time to do all that is required. Should Pat work more, or should we be looking at the possibility of creating a new position or expanding on a current position, to help out with the day to day activities that take up so much time. John B. asked Rosanne if this was anything she had thought about. Pat will gather job descriptions, etc. for next meeting.

John B. moved to adjourn at 7:40 p.m. Rene seconded. Unanimous.

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John Baldasaro, Chairman

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Barbara Huntoon, Vice Chairman

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Rene Senecal, Clerk