

Town of Chester
Board of Selectmen/Water Commissioner/Zoning Board of Appeals
Meeting Minutes April 3, 2017

1. Chairman Baldasaro opened meeting at 6:00 p.m. Minutes of March 27, 2017 meeting were approved and signed. Warrants signed.

2. Tax Collector Mary Ann Pease – Tax foreclosure sale to take place end of April or early May, 4 parcels taken by Town to be sold at auction, approximately \$50,000 - \$60,000 taxes and fees owed collectively. Three auction houses submitted proposals, Sullivan & Sullivan chosen to perform auction duties. Tax collector to prepare information regarding any zoning restrictions etc.

3. Highway Dept. – John Murray- Presented 1,2, and 3 years plans to BOS for Chapter 90 projects. BOS stated plan “looks good” and it would also be helpful to know what budget funds will be used toward, Superintendent Murray noted that budget funds will be used for ongoing maintenance i.e. grading and materials, catch basin, culvert and ditch maintenance, tree removal, etc. Highway Department to pursue MASSWORKS Grant for \$1,000,000.00 for entire rehabilitation of East River Road. Pioneer Valley Planning Commission still working on grant for Hampden Street. Clerk Senecal noted additional documents that may assist in procuring MASSWORKS grant could include but would not be limited to, letters from East River Rd residents, letters of endorsement from Army Corp of Engineers, National Parks and Westfield River Wild and Scenic Commission. Superintendent Murray to meet with East River Rd resident to review road. MASSWORKS grant application portal becomes available June 3, 2017. All Chapter 90 project approvals will be noted in minutes of meetings on the date of submission, project submissions cannot be made until funds are allotted by the state.

Art Baker from Sealcoating Inc. made a comprehensive presentation regarding the advantages of performing preventative maintenance in conjunction with rehabilitation on paved roads. Mr. Baker is a Civil Engineering graduate from the University of Connecticut and was a DPW Superintendent for 12 years.

4. Rich Stone – drainage issues on Morey Ave., Superintendent Murray to meet with Mr. Stone to review options.

Town Administrator – Patricia Carlino – presented request from Jim Berry from the Green Community initiative asking the town to implement by-laws for “Stretch Code” – building code restrictions designed to enhance conservation efforts. Mr. Berry to attend April 24, 2017 meeting to provide more information.

Citizen Comments:

John Foley-Would like to know what plans the Highway Dept. has for finishing shoulder and ditch work, and if Chapter 90 projects will be published. Superintendent Murray stated work continues regarding ditch, culvert, shoulder work etc., is always a “work in progress”, multiple factors determine routine schedule of these duties. Chapter 90 plans will be noted in meeting minutes as approved.

Chairman Baldasaro motioned to adjourn meeting at 7:32 p.m., Vice-Chairman Huntoon seconded, Clerk Senecal, aye, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosanne McClafin

Recording Secretary

John Baldasaro – Chairman

Barbara Huntoon – Vice-Chairman

Rene Senecal – Clerk