

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

Minutes

August 27, 2018

Chairman Huntoon called the meeting to order at 6:00. R. Senecal moved to adjourn the meeting until after the board attended the public Outreach meeting being held downstairs by Keystone Bluff, LLC.

7:07 p.m. Chairman called the adjourned meeting to order.

1. The board asked Pat about her request to discuss the possibility of having a special town meeting. Pat explained there were a few items that need to be addressed: monies to pay for the East River Road short term borrowing; new Police Detail Fund; changing Town Rd. to Aldo's Way; possible transfer of monies to cover additional line item appropriation for Admin Asst.

Discussion of timing, posting, etc. John B. made a motion to hold the STM 9/17/2018 at 6:00 pm. R. Senecal seconded. Unanimous.

2. Barbara asked Pat to ask Norma McDonald to come upstairs to attend. Mr. Knickerbocker was in attendance to talk to the board about the problems he was having with getting his "D" box inspected and the issuance of the certificate. Norma explained that she could not answer many of his questions, since she was not at the inspection at the time our health agent, Dennis LaCourse made the inspection. Mr. Knickerbocker was distressed that he will have to postpone the closing on the house and feels the BOH has not answered his questions. Norma explained that as Dennis would be here on the 10th September to meet with the BOS, she could not do anything until that time. More discussion was held. Dennis will be in town on Tuesday for another inspection so the board asked Norma to ask him to respond to Mr. Knickerbocker. John B. suggested maybe we have a need for an assistant Inspector and there was someone in Middlefield that was qualified.
3. Discussion of the culvert on Smith Rd that is apparently blocked. Pat to check with Tom McFarland to determine which culvert is in question.
4. Rene had a list of questions, which he read.
 - a. International. Where do we stand? At this time we have a truck sitting at the garage and we are not sure of its use. Rene will address concerns of service/bills with Nutmeg through the Connecticut office.
 - b. Sign on Route 20? Pat will address Jeanne LeClair.
 - c. Christmas Tree? Pat awaiting estimate from Whalen Nursery, Sheffield, MA
 - d. Grader situation? What are we doing? Discussion of making repair vs renting grader a couple of months per year. Rene will address this issue. Possibly sell it?
 - e. Relocation of monuments. Pat will get hold of John Hultman for monument placement, etc.

- f. Have we received any reports from Lane as yet? Findings? Pat reported no. There may be a slight delay in the work as there is a trucking issue that has to be straightened out through All State. Rene will call. Steve will look at the new culverts on East River Rd. for recompacting if necessary.
- g. Rene also mentioned that he had given Peter Stroganow, Transfer Station Attendant, some bag stickers from the office as he ran short at the dump and forgot to get them. Question as to why the bag stickers were now in our office and not in the Board of Health. Pat to look into that.

Citizens Comments:

1. Annette LaMountain provided a petition signed by Chester residents regarding the marijuana facility proposed by Keystone Bluff for Rte. 20 (former Gauthier's garage). Annette is concerned that this is a Historic District and this would not be the right sort of business to operate there, and would we be putting the town in jeopardy in seeking Federal funding? She was upset that she did not know any discussion regarding this proposal was being talked about. Barbara pointed out that Selectboard meetings are posted publicly, there was news in the Country Journal as well as an ad. Everything has been transparent and open. Discussion continued regarding the pros and cons of the proposal, state law, town by-laws and how it would work. John B. explained that bottom line, the Board hears their concerns, and the Board would have no qualms pulling Keystone Bluff license if they do not uphold the Host Agreement.
2. John Foley had some comments on the marijuana discussion, as well as the Christmas tree??
3. Bob Daley stated that all here tonight are interested in preserving and maintaining Chester and that the BOS did all that was necessary and did it correctly regarding the Keystone Bluff proposal. He also asked about the International. He asked about a surplus sale. Rene said there should be evaluation done first to determine exactly what we have.
4. Tom Beck. Discussion of culvert on Sky Line Trail; Beck believes it is collapsing; Steve will look on Skyline and also look for dead trees Tom had complained about last week.; he needs to determine right of way for trees. Does ConCom need to get involved? Steve did remind the board that at this time they were still down one man, and they were on limited staff time with vacations taking place. And they are still working on washed out roads.
5. Steve Cooper asked if he could be put on the agenda instead of waiting throughout the whole meeting. The Board agreed.
6. Steve asked about the mowing at the ballfield. There is still some confusion over when and how it should be done. Barbara noted that she called Donald herself to ask him if he could mow on Tuesday, which he did. Steve will follow up. Unfortunately the group that left Gateway because of the cost and Steve stated he believes now the town is having to bear some of that cost. John B. suggested we keep the mowing schedule, and if more is needed, volunteers can supplement and the town will reimburse them their gas.

Their being no other business before the board, Rene moved to adjourn, John seconded. Unanimous to adjourn at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Carlino

Barbara Huntoon, Chairman

John Baldasaro, Vice Chairman

Rene Senecal, Clerk

BOS minutes 8/27/18