

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

Minutes

September 17, 2018

1. Chairman Huntoon called the meeting to order at 6:00. Minutes of 8/27 and September 10th were reviewed. Ms. Huntoon submitted some corrections to be made to September 10th. Minutes of August 27th were signed. Warrants were signed.
739
2. Barbara asked about the monthly updates from the Treasurer and Accountant that were supposed to happen. Pat will contact both to see about their availability to come to the BOS meeting.

Barbara brought up the issue of the Transfer Station. The volunteer recyclable person currently in place (Carl) is going to retire soon. Barbara asked that the BOH come into a meeting to speak with the Board about possibly hiring a part time position in his place. Barbara also had a conversation with Norma regarding the pay scale for Dennis LaCourse renegotiating his pay to \$75.00 per hour instead of \$90.00, but hasn't heard back.

John B. spoke to Charlie Hunter from Middlefield. He had let his license expire, but is willing to go get it again. Barbara agreed he should do that.

Barbara would like the HRMC group to come in to talk about the services they can provide in regards to the Transfer Station.

Barbara thanked Steve and Doug for the mowing on East River Rd. that was accomplished so far. Please try to keep up with it to help with the project. Downed tree on East River Rd.? Steve took care of that last week.

1988 Grader? Barbara has a friend in Michigan who said we should at least drive it once per week in the Highway Dept. Drive and that should keep the brakes in order. Steve said he thought we could get parts from Park East.

Steve asked if he could call plowing vendors that were used last year? Barbara said yes. Pat has submitted advertisement.

Steve asked John B. if he had spoken to an Arborist about the tree on Middlefield Rd. John responded that he had and he asked someone to take a look at it.

Lane Construction will be back on Wednesday to continue East River Rd.

3. Library Association: Mary Ann Pease, Terry Donovan and others were present from the Library to share with the BOS what they have been working on. Mary Ann said the group is looking to purchase a piece of land next to the Old School, owned by William Ivey Long. They have made him an offer of \$15,000, and they will have to pay for a survey, as well as have engineering done regarding the septic system. Mr. Long told them he wanted \$25,000 and asked if the town would pay for new windows in the school, since they are being vandalized occasionally, as well as some type of lighting. The Board, as well as the Library Association, did not look favorably upon that request. At this time Mr. Joe Sullivan, a registered engineer, although not in Massachusetts, joined the group as their project manager, with a presentation (see sketch) of how the building and grounds would look on the parcel. To decrease impact to traffic on Route 20, access would be from Middlefield Rd. John B. asked if the group had coordinated with Jeanne LeClair, as she might have some availability to grant monies. The group said no, but will make sure and touch base with her. The group has looked at single family homes for sale, but the load bearing requirements for a library are quite different than a home, so they have decided to build a Modular building. The lot is an approximately .75 acre piece, the building will accommodate an estimated 2500-3000 sq. ft., and will have approximately 16 parking spaces. Estimated costs are between \$500,000 to \$600,000. The guesstimate for "our" part of the project would be approximately .20 on the tax rate for 20 years. The Board thanked the Association for its work, and urged them to continue with the plan. They feel the lighting would be taken care of just with the new building, but they would not be in favor of paying for any windows. Mary Ann stated they would be back in touch with Mr. Long.

Barbara asked Pat if the Heating Oil Bid had gone out to bid. Yes, only two bidders, Fuel Oil Inc. at 2.739 and O'Connell Oil at 2.799. Awarded to Fuel Oil Inc.

John B. reported that John Hultman had seen him regarding the monuments and they were in the process of looking at that.

Asplenda tree company is in town. Pat ? to check with them about Middlefield Rd. tree.

Dump issue and recyclables: Barbara said that as the "COA" donations from the recyclables wasn't in writing, she doesn't feel that it's a big thing that the recreation committee is also asking for donations. We'll have to sort it out.

John B. asked Pat to reach out to PVPC with a letter regarding 115 Lyon Hill Rd.

Citizens Comments:

John Foley: Discussed road problems with only 2 guys on the highway department. What is the Board going to do? John B. informed him that he and Rene are "babysitting" the East River Road project. John F also feels any agreement with a new Highway Superintendent should have "milestones" written into it.

Steve Cooper suggested looking into hiring independent grant writers.

Bob Daley; What about sharing highway superintendents? That is not off the table. We need a 3rd Highway laborer first. Mrs. Shedd? John B. reported everything has worked out. Shiffer Brothers? Nothing yet. Neither Barbara nor John were really impressed with the presentation. The balls in their court now. Carl at the transfer station? Cold weather is coming. The board should address this sooner rather than later.

John Foley. Roundhouse? What are they looking to do? Chop up the land? Barbara responded she wasn't quite sure at this time, but we don't own the land.
Discussion about possible train service again in Chester.

John Baldasaro made a motion to adjourn. Barbara Huntoon seconded. Unanimous to adjourn at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Carlino

Barbara Huntoon, Chairman

John Baldasaro, Vice Chairman

Rene Senecal, Clerk

BOS minutes 9/17/18