

**Town of Chester Selectmen/Water Commissioners/Zoning Board of Appeals
Meeting Minutes for January 7, 2019**

Attending: Select Board, Town Administrator and various members of the public

Barbara Huntoon opens the meeting at 6:00pm, the Select Board and Country Journal are recording the meeting. Minutes of December 17,2018 were reviewed and signed. Warrants were signed.

Barbara says that it will be a short meeting due to John Baldasaro and she have to attend a joint meeting with Blandford Selectmen to discuss sharing services of a Police Chief.

Appoint to Ambulance Association: Mary Ann Pease had submitted an appointment letter for the Hilltown Ambulance Association. Barbara and John both sign it, she was officially appointed last meeting. MaryAnn also has a grant application for DLTA, for the ambulance association. Both Barbara and John sign it.

Appointment to Chester Zoning Board of Appeals – Cheryl Provost submitted a letter of interest to be on the ZBA. Barbara make a motion to appoint Cheryl, John seconds the motion, all vote aye.

Jena Day, Recap Solutions – Jena says Recap received a recommendation from DEP to contact Chester due to the recent issue with water testing. They service towns under 10,000 and deal with water and sewer issues. They receive grant funding from USDA, EPA, Health and Human Management and MA DEP. She has met with Bernie St Martin this afternoon and received all the technical information. She had met with Pat on the financial information needed. Jena says they would provide technical assistance in solving the THM issue and then help develop an asset management plan. Bob Daley asks if they would review the current disinfection program and Jena said that would be part of the plan to review treatment and storage of water. She would like to go forward and put together a community service agreement, Barbara asks her to please start on that. Jena said she would get that put together and have it back to the town.

Town Administrator- Employee Handbook review and acceptance. Barbara would like to have this continued to the next meeting due to time issue today.

Citizens Comments – Andy Meyers says there is a joint school board meeting Wednesday at 7:00pm to review the preliminary budget. There aren't any figures currently. Andy said there is a joint meeting of MARS on January 24 at Stanton Hall, Huntington at 6:30pm

Wilma Foley gives the Select Board a brochure from Gold Circuit Recycling who accepts Styrofoam. She would like the Select Board to see if a program could be started at the Transfer Station. Barbara asks Kathe to make a call and find out about it.

Bob Daley says that the Town of Charlton agreement with Valley Green Grove and he was hoping the Select Board could give them a call. Pat said she knew the Town Administrator from Charlton and would give them a call.

John B gave a brief update on highway. He hasn't had to use any independent contractors for plowing. He has Chris Bellinger as a 4th driver if necessary. He is happy with all the positive comments he has received. Its been a tough winter due to more rain and ice then snow, so the crew has put in many hours to stay on top of it. All equipment has been repaired inhouse as of

this time. He wanted to make a public Thank You to Tom Beck for his help with repairs to the backhoe.

Barbara is looking into the process of how the Assessors figure the assessments of the properties. Andy Myers is concerned about the tax rate going up as well as property evaluations going down.

Barbara says the next meeting will be on January 14 at 6:00pm followed by a joint meeting with Blandford for a public hearing about shared Police Chief services at 6:30pm.

John makes a motion to adjourn at 6:35pm, Barbara seconds the motion, all vote aye.

Respectfully submitted

Katherine Warden

Barbara Huntoon Chair

John Baldasaro Vice Chair

Vacancy – Clerk

Meeting Minutes for January 7, 2019 contain 2 pages.