

Town of Chester
Board of Selectmen/Water Commissioner/Zoning Board of Appeals
Meeting Minutes February 13, 2017

Chairman Baldasaro called meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Minutes of January 23, 2017 meeting were moved and approved. Warrants were signed.

John Murray / Highway Department; BOS asked for clarification for snow plow vendor call-in criteria, as previous superintendents did not call in outside vendors unless emergency circumstance. JM stated 4" or more snow fall and public safety is number 1 factor in decision, and to reduce time to clear all roads for all residents to be able to travel safely, it also reduces wear and tear on town vehicles. Zero complaints to HD for road conditions past 2 storms, received calls to compliment HD efforts. BOS request cost analysis – town employees vs. vendor. Clerk Senecal does not see value at the cost of vendor services.

BOS review of plow routes, resulted in lengthy discussion of evaluating routes to improve efficiency.

6:30 – Public Hearing – PVPC Infrastructure Improvement Program, Hampden St. grant for design and improvement. Erica Johnson present for formal public hearing, review of grant scoring criteria, town financial commitment and larger application base, grant now open to all MA town with population less than 50,000. Hampden St. does demonstrate need and feasibility and is good candidate for grant.

Chairman Baldasaro motioned to authorize PVPC to submit the proposed FY17 Chester Community Development Fund grant application to the MA Dept. of Housing and Community Development in amount not to exceed \$800,000.00 as detailed in the public hearing and to include infrastructure improvements to Hampden St., Vice-Chairman Huntoon seconded-unanimous.

Vice-Chairman Huntoon motioned to authorize Chairman Baldasaro to sign all required forms, documents and authorizations pertaining to the proposed FY17 Chester Community Development grant application, Clerk Senecal seconded.

Additional discussion regarding possible other grant funds for planning and design for Prospect St., Tufts Hill and Soisalo Rd. drainage.

Return to H.D. – discussion of possible Chapter 90 projects, Kathy Stevens noted Prospect St. retaining wall may be separate project submission. Superintendent Murray to contact MADOT engineer for additional review.

Complaint by resident regarding sidewalks not cleared, by-law requires snow removal, Superintendent to check on town snow blower and to implement procedures and to notify BOS regarding status of snow blower or need of one.

BOS decision to reject offer of land donation by C. Camp.

Water Commitment reviewed and signed.

Offer of CMELD dirt – Vice-Chairman Huntoon motioned to accept offer of dirt donation from CMELD for town ball field improvements and to allow HD to haul materials, Chairman Baldasaro seconded, unanimous.

MIIA attorney contract with Heath's re: Smith Rd for engineer to be hired to give recommendations for road improvement, BOS recommended requesting conservation commission representative to be present.

Class II license signed for A.J. Auto Sales

Town Administrator: Hazard Mitigation Plan has been accepted and approved by FEMA, town is now eligible to apply for mitigation grants when they become available.

Comcast construction may begin by June/July for build out.

Finance Committee appointments – Jason Forgue, Jonathan Glionna, Rosanne McClaflin

Proposed special articles for Annual Town Meeting were submitted to the BOS

Mr. Beck – confirmed repair of Skyline guardrails completed.

Mr. Huntoon- wondering about salt percentage in road materials

Mr. Hickson – any progress on feasibility of sale of CMELD – have we talked to Eversource? Can we do anything about section of pole hanging from lines on Brown Rd.

Mrs. McClafin – questioned BOS meeting schedule – BOS to resume weekly meetings effective March 1, 2017

Chairman Baldasaro motioned to adjourn 8:30p.m., Vice-Chairman Huntoon seconded – unanimous

Next regularly scheduled meeting March 6,2017 at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosanne McClafin Recording Secretary

John Baldasaro – Chairman

Barbara Huntoon – Vice-Chairman

Rene Senecal – Clerk