

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

Minutes
March 23, 2015

1. John Baldasaro opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m.
2. Representative Stephen Kulik was in attendance to speak to the East River Road project. Rep. Kulik spoke to the \$25 million road project. He explained that the Governor needs to announce his capital pan, should be in 4-6 weeks. As East River Rd. is “shovel ready” it should be one of the first projects to go, if all goes well. John explained the needs of Chester in regards to this project and how depending upon the timetable, it would determine how Chester can respond. If it isn’t going to happen for 5 or 6 years, we may have to do something else. Rep. Kulik feels that once it clears, it should happen in the next couple of years. The Governor did pass another “pothole” appropriation (Chester 35, 432) but there are still budget deficits that need attending, such as health care, homelessness, health csre of State employees, etc.).

Worthington: The representative explained that the Governor’s budget maintains a small increase in Ch. 70 monies, and that Gateway should have mitigation funds as an aid to Chester and the other communities. Right now it is a one time deal, but going forward we will have to see. We should be looking for some answers around Memorial Day.the administration will be looking for some sharing of costs, not necessarily full regionalization, or building, but possibly administrative cost sharing. The board thanked Rep Kulik for coming in and will look forward to hearing from his office as these things progress.

6:30 p.m. Zoning Board of Appeals hearing:

John Baldasaro called the meeting to order. Andy Myers, spokesperson for Marcella Stenico, explained that the petitioners would like to build a new home on property at 32 Williams St. The property in question does not have enough frontage, and therefore requires a variance. The previous owners maintained a home, and had received a variance for the frontage shortage, but when their home burned down, nothing was ever done, and now more than two years has elapsed, so the prospective owners would have to receive a new variance. The Building Inspector sent them to the Zoning Board of Appeals. The abutters at 30 Williams St. were in attendance and were concerned with the “turn around”, explaining that currently many delivery trucks, and others use their driveway as a turn around. They also feel that they own the property at

the end of the street where the turn around is located. They have been told that the town had some type of agreement with the previous owners regarding the turn around, and yet their deed does not specify anything like that. John explained that that was an entirely different issue and that this project would not impact them. John then moved to grant the variance as presented. Don seconded. Question was asked if it needed to go to the Planning Board. Pat checked with Planning Board and it does not. Vote taken. Unanimous to grant the variance as requested.

John moved to adjourn the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting. Don 2nd. Unanimous.

3. John Murray International is in the shop, leaking fuel. Potholes: The plant opens on 4/6/15. They will try to address the worst ones until that happens. They will work to keep E. River Road passable until the bond bill monies are available for the project. Top of Johnson Hill Rd. needs to be looked at.
Highway personnel: John does not feel a 4th man is necessary. He is a working superintendent, and feels the addition of a part time administrative assistant would be more worthwhile so that he can continue to work outside with the men. Pat will put together a proposal for a part time person for next meeting. 15 hours, no benefits. In addition, Chester can continue to use part time seasonal workers to be paid from the Contract Salaries account.
John will come up with new truck specs for the Annual Town meeting to present to the Selectmen. An item for the other "smaller" truck will be on the STM for 4/27/15.
Bill to Donovan's: Pat presented a "late" bill that was for supplies from FY 2014. It either was never sent, or never paid, but Donovan's is asking for payment. Presented to Selectmen. It can be placed on the warrant for the STM 4/27 and let the voters decide.
4. Water breaks: There have been a number of water breaks this year, and Bernie needs to have someone come up and help. Selectmen approved.
5. Brandon Broga, Website designer; pat will contact him to possibly come to the 4/27/15 Selectmen's meeting to discuss what is needed on the website.
6. Appointment of Inspector of Animals: Hold for next meeting.

Citizens comments:

Ed Meecham. Does John Murray really know if we need another man, he hasn't been here that long. John explained as long as he gets the extra help I the summer, and of course the snow related help, we should be ok.

John moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m. Don 2nd. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia D. Carlino
Town Administrator

John Baldasaro, Chairman

Donald Ellershaw, Vice Chairman

Frank Pero, Jr., Clerk

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