

Town of Chester
Board of Selectmen/Water Commissioners/Zoning Board of Appeals
Minutes
May 11, 2015

John Baldasaro opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Minutes of April 27, 2015 were signed.

Warrants were signed.

1. Junk permit for Barry Pease. John moved, Frank 2nd. Unanimous.
2. John Murray: John gave overview of pothole monies/work. Streets are swept downtown. Line painting will begin on Maple St. soon. Abbot Hill has had dense grade put on. Bromley Rd.E River did some unplugging. Ed Meecham said it was plugged back up. John will check. Some Beaver trapping will be taking place. John has been getting repair estimates for the flatbed, and the 350. Needs sandblasting and painting to get another 5 years out of it. Inmates coming this week to help with brush cutting on Kinne Brook Rd. discussion of using inmates for painting the cemetery fence. Jeff Dickson has called the contact and is waiting for a return call.

Frank asked about Horn Pond water pipe issue. Pat will check for next meeting. Potholes have also been filled on Skyline and Prospect St.

John moved to sign the Ch. 90 request for Johnson Hill Rd. at \$156,000 +. Frank 2nd. Unanimous.

3. Chief Ilicky: Toll Stops. The chief explained that since we are going to actually allow stops on Rte 20 that we needed to fill out paperwork for state. John moved to sign, Frank 2nd. Unanimous. Will be sent in at the Memorial Day.

Chief's contract. Chief Ilicky asked for a three year contract.7/1/15 through 6/30/18. No other changes as presented. Will do up a clean copy and have it ready for signature at the next meeting.

4. Water person to replace Art Lindberg. Frank Pero still has an interest and will follow up with Art to see what he needs to do.

5. Treasurers appointment due to vacancy in office. Pat recommended the name of Melissa Mcgovern. Melissa has been in the office since September, 2014. She is a certified Mass Collector/Treasurer and familiar with all our programs, etc. She would be the "Temporary Treasurer" until the next election in May of 2016. Pat asked if the Selectboard wanted to put the elected vs. appointed questions back on the town meeting for next year, but John felt that the people had spoken and did not want to do that. Frank agreed. John made a motion to appoint Melissa Mcgovern the temporary Treasurer until the next election. Frank 2nd. Unanimous.
6. Finance committee: Michael Crochier and John Garvey attended (also Mike Hickson and Cheryl Provost to go over their figures to date. For the most part, most departments were flat. The COA & Police had asked for increases, as well as Pat for the town custodian, all of which were denied. The special article for a \$25,000 Stabilization fund for a fire truck, while a noble goal, just wasn't able to be fit in this year. The school remains the really unknown number, but they feel that we may just get by with what we have been given for numbers at this time. We should know more in a couple of weeks as to what the mitigation numbers will be. It was discussed how we will cover the S & I deficit which is at this time around \$140,000. Although it will probably be more like \$100,000 by the end of the year, due to some underused highway accounts, nothing was decided, but we do have enough in Free Cash to cover the whole if it should be necessary. The Fin com also stated that they would recommend a 1/5% COLA across the board at this time. John indicated he would like to think about it and come back before agreeing. The next target date for numbers will be 5/26.
7. Letter of support for "Trout Unlimited" signed.
8. Approval of town Counsel. Will put on next agenda. John would like a full board here to discuss.
9. Cheryl Provost then spoke (not as a member of the Fin Com., but as the Town clerk). She had asked the Fin com for a raise of approximately 3.17% for herself and 2/4% for her assistant, due to her research of other towns salaries for Town Clerks. After some discussion, John made a motion to approve her request. Frank 2nd. Unanimous.

Town Administrator: Pat will have appointment letters ready for next meeting. Scholarship applications are coming in but we have not been notified as yet as to how much is available. Pat working on Town Report Memorial Day preparations under way. PVPC warrants signed.

John moved that we not go into Executive Session since we did not have a full board, and that it be put on for the next meeting May 26th. Frank 2nd. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Carlino
Town Administrator

John Baldasaro ,Chairman

Donald Ellershaw, Vice Chairman

Frank Pero, Jr., Clerk