

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

Minutes

July 27, 2015

Chairman Don Ellershaw called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present at that time: Selectmen, Ed Meecham, Gene Watters, Steve Connors, Veteran's Agent, Northampton, MA.

1. Steve Connors made a presentation regarding Chester joining their region for veterans services. He stated that the cost/services were based on population (not just veterans) and they have four full time staff members, all who will be certified, to serve. At this time they are anticipating a schedule of being in Chester the 4th Tuesday of each month, and will be in Middlefield from 9-12, and then Chester 12:30 – 3:30 to meet with veterans. He explained about the new State requirements taking effect, whereby agents have to be certified and go to mandatory schooling. Don asked if they could help us get any reimbursements back from the state due to the possibility of incorrect filing. Steve said they would check into it and work with us. If need be we could go to Rep. Kulik for help.
2. John Murray was not in attendance, but left a partial list of activities for the last two weeks. The Selectmen were concerned that there was a lot of brush/ditch work that needed to be done before the Chapter 90 roadwork begins. Pat will speak with him. Don Ellershaw suggested use of the excavator for brush cutting and ditch work. John B. agreed and also spoke of roadside mowing that needed to be done. In some places the growth is hiding road signs.
3. Letter from Hull Forestlands: The Selectboard feels this is not a town issue and Hull should be prepared to make any repairs necessary to alleviate drainage problems they are having due to access road work on their property. Pat will speak to John, and have him relay the message.
4. Water Use on Hampden St. Don entertained a motion to credit those residents of Hampden St. who had excessive water use in the first quarter of 2015 due to leaving their water running so as not to freeze the town pipes. Barbara seconded. Unanimous. The total amount of money involved is \$280.89.

5. Two late appointments for FY 2016. Barbara moved to appoint Michael Hickson to the Planning Board and Bob Thompson to the Wild and Scenic Advisory Committee
6. Town Administrator: Mainly signature file.
7. Citizens comments:

Ed Meecham spoke of the brush cutting needing to be done and also questioned why the highway department was making a turn around on Sovereign Rd when there was already one on Lyman Hill. Pat will talk to John M.

Gene Watters brought up the recent house breaks and vandalism in town. Pat informed him that the Police are aware and are working on it.

Barbara moved to adjourn at 6:50 p.m. John 2nd. Unanimous.

Next scheduled meeting will be Monday, Aug. 10th at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Carlino
Town Administrator

Donald Ellershaw, Chairman

John Baldasaro, Vice Chairman

Barbara Huntoon, Clerk