

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

Minutes

August 24, 2015

Attendees at meeting opening: Three selectboard members, Ed Meecham, Gene Watters, Andy Myers, John Murray, Steve Salvini, Lyle Snide.

1. Don Ellershaw called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Minutes of August 10, 2015 were accepted and signed. Warrants were signed.

2. John Murray: Highway. John presented activities over the last couple of weeks. Also showed estimates to Selectboard for the generator needed for the pole barn; insulation for salt shed, still needs estimates. And also for heat in salt shed. Mowing: CMELD has done some mowing for us as time allows.
Old State Road. There is a box culvert that is giving way near Allman Rd We will need to repair. Don felt we may need to go through Concom. Pat will check. Pat to check to see if any Chaper 90 funds still available. Need to get some estimates. Also sign needs to be replaced. Torn down. John B. moved to fix culvert, Don E. 2nd. Unanimous.

3. Zoning issue for Williams St. Discussion was held concerning the safety of Williams St. and what could be done about it. Steve Salvini explained the concept of creating a turn around at the end of the road which would be acceptable to our larger trucks, etc. Need to find out how much of a turning radius a fire truck would need. Owner would donate land. First thing to be done would be to have borings (test pits) done to see what is there. Cost would be about \$500.00. We could probably take that out of existing funds. Next step based on the results of borings would be to have engineering plans drawn up. Selectmen agreed to have test pits done. At that time we should come back together to get cost estimates, etc. of engineering, etc. This project would take a town meeting to accept donation of land, as well as costs of project. Don added that we should get permission from owner of property to do the borings. Andy Myers volunteered to make up document.

4. Water commitments for two quarters signed.

5. Cultural Council appointments; Don Ellershaw moved that the following persons be appointed to the Chester Cultural Council:

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| Patricia Carlino | 1 year |
| Susan Kucharski | 2 years |
| Bonnie Callahan | 2 years |
| Diane Dunn | 3 years |
| Hollie Jacobs | 3 years |

Barbara Huntoon 2nd. Unanimous

6. Special Town Meeting warrant for September 9, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. signed.

7. Intermunicipal Agreement for the Pursuit of legal claims concerning the attempted withdrawal of Worthington from the Gateway Regional School District. This is an agreement between the towns of Huntington and Chester, with other towns to be added onto later. Discussion of the \$ amount. After conferring with Town Counsel, Pat recommended we put in a figure of \$5,000.00, or 1/5th of bills up to \$5,000. John felt it might not be enough, but we can always come back if necessary. The \$5,000 will be used from funds carried forward in the Town Counsel account. John B. moved we sign the agreement. Barbara H. 2nd. Unanimous.

8. Letter from Cheryl Provost, Town Clerk, asking to be appointed Town Treasurer. Discussion held as to the legality of appointing a non-resident to the position, and to the point of appointing someone from within without advertising. Pat had researched this with both town counsel and the state and had found there is no requirement for advertising and no requirement for a temporary appointment to an elected position to be someone holding residency. The position of Treasurer will become available at the next election. There is no reason to appoint someone at this time. There have been no problems in the Treasurers office. Don brought up the question as to why we had to appoint Mary Ann Pease as Acting Treasurer after Linda St. Onge left. Pat will look into it, but stated that was what she was told by people in Chester. After having looked into it she found out that it was not necessary. No vote taken, but Selectmen agreed to take no action with the request.

Citizens Comments:

Ed Meecham feels we were let down with the CMELD mowing. John M. is working out as much as he can with CMELD. When Jill brought up the sharing of costs for the mower at her meeting, the Commissioner voted down our using it ourselves to mow. John M. then discussed again the possibility of

trading in the Excavator for a smaller excavator with a side mower attachment. Selectmen asked him to get some prices before any decision is made. John B. moved to adjourn at 7:20. Barbara 2nd. Unanimous.

Next regularly scheduled meeting is September 14, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Carlino
Town Administrator

Donald Ellershaw, Chairman

John Baldasaro, Vice Chairman

Barbara Huntoon, Clerk