

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

**Minutes**

**November 5, 2018**

**In attendance: Board Members, (Rene Senacal, absent) Town Administrator, Katherine Warden, and various members of the public**

1. Chairman Huntoon opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m. Warrants signed. Minutes of 10/29 were reviewed and signed.

Zoning Board of Appeals hearing for Mr. Lewis Magnm 425 East River Rd.

Chairman Huntoon called the hearing to order. At this time we will have to adjourn the meeting to a date certain (to be determined) due to the fact there are only two members in attendance and the Zoning Board requires three. Suggestion made to advertise for a third member, after which time the Board can appoint someone. Pat will notify all parties when and if that happens.

Move to go back to public session of Selectmen's agenda. Seconded.

2. Pat requested the Board look at their calendars for availability to meet with the firm doing the Shared Police Department Feasibility Study. John B. is available during the day and Barbara asked that we give him her cell phone so that she can speak with him, as she cannot meet during the day.
3. Transfer Station discussion. There being no other candidates to fill the new position created at the transfer station, John B. moved to appoint Joan Stalcup to fill the position. Seven hours per week at \$12.00 per hr. Pat to notify her and ask that she connect with Peter and Carl.
4. John B. gave an overview of the Highway Department. The International is running, but needs some maintenance that we will do inhouse. The day was spent cutting down trees and branches down along the sides of roads. A plow needed to be fixed. Middlefield Rd. has been fixed so that it should last the winter. Tomorrow Johnson Rill Rd. will be worked on. East River Rd. is pretty much completed. There will be some repairs that will need to be attended to next spring. Snow plow vendors are lined up. Hampden St.: John will be meeting with Erica Johnson Wednesday morning to go over the issues with the road.
5. HRMC: Members of the HRMC were in to discuss what they do, and how they could help us in regards to the Transfer Station. Kathleen Casey, Director, presented information on the organization, which detailed their budget, their programs and their 10 town membership. She puts the bid out for the 10 towns hauling contracts, which should result in savings. The board asked questions of her, and then asked what the cost would be to Chester. Ms. Casey responded it would probably run somewhere around \$5,000 per year. Membership would open Chester up to receiving grants (once appropriate paperwork has been done for two years), and other grants to cover more recycling programs. The Board said they would take the proposal under advisement at time, and decide in the near future.

6. Hank Niemiec and his daughter Morgan to ask the Board if they would approve of Morgan's request to go to Smith Academy for enrollment into the Health technology. The Board asked if the budget in place was enough. Pat confirmed yes. John B. moved to approve the enrollment, Barbara seconded. Unanimous. Pat will notify Gateway of the Board's decision.

Citizens Comments:

Andy Myers asked about the status of selling the Slocum Property? John announced that they had more information in their packet tonight that they will look at for further determination of what we will do. Andy suggested that the sale of that property could fund the " possible purchase of the land across from the ballfield for parking. Mary Ann suggested that the Library might be interested in the property for their new Library. Barbara asked if they had heard from William Ivey Long as to their offer to buy the land next to the school. Mary Ann said they had, and had agreed, but now they have to put everything in writing.

John Foley: John stated he didn't understand the financial workings of the town vs the Library Trustees, and why isn't the town responsible to financially support the Library. The board explained that the Town does support the library with a yearly budget, and will continue to do so. As it was explained at an earlier meeting, the cost of a loan over a 20 year time period would add about .20 to the tax rate, and as the Library Trustees have monies that were left to the Library, they've agreed to fund whatever they can,

Bob Daley stated that the land next to the school is best place for the library. Barbara agrees.

Katherine Warden spoke up about the HRMC presentation. In Hinsdale they belong to the Northern Berkshire Solid Waste Program, and it has proved invaluable as far as contracts, training, etc. She wondered if HRMC sponsored any training for OSHA regulations.

Mary Ann asked John B. about plowing vendors. John said yes, he has a list, and has a couple of people who can fill in with our trucks as well. Richie Small and Don Ellershaw have CDL's and have said they would help out. John B. as well has his CDL license.

There being no other business, John B. moved, Barbara 2<sup>nd</sup>, to adjourn at 7:55 p.m. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Carlino

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Barbara Huntoon, Chairman

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John Baldasaro, Vice Chairman

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Rene Senecal, Clerk