

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

**Minutes**

**December 10, 2018**

**In attendance: Board Members, Town Administrator, Katherine Warden, and various members of the public**

1. Chairman Huntoon called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Minutes of 12/03/18 were reviewed and signed. Warrants were signed.

2019 Liquor licenses were signed. Eric Bird's held for next week for correction on open times. John B. moved. Barbara H. seconded  
Unanimous.

The Board indicated they would be able to attend a Board of Selectmen meeting in Blandford regarding the drafty study of share police services on Friday, 12/14 at 6:00 p.m. Pat to post.

2. Jason Forgue, Building Inspector, was in attendance to discuss building fees. Jason had done a comparison of surrounding towns. Chester fees are pretty much on the lower end of the scale. Discussion took place on the affect raising the fees to Jason's proposal would effect someone wanting to build a new home here. After discussion the Board asked Jason to revisit his schedule and possibly come up with something not quite so drastic the first year, maybe raising them over a 2 to 3 year period. Jason agreed and will be back with revisions. Jason then relayed to the board he had had some difficulty with an enforcement issue. The violation /fine currently stands at \$1,000 per day. Will the Board support him should it become necessary? The Board said yes.

John B. stated that at the last school committee meeting he attended the finalized agreement between towns had been vetted, updated, and should be sent to us shortly. This will have to be voted upon by town meeting.

Letter from Sarah and William Freedberg regarding their home on Round Hill Road. John B. said he is aware of the problem and should be able to address it in the spring. The Freedberg's indicated they were aware nothing could be done until spring.

John B. gave overview of Highway work: They have been cleaning ditches. All should be done soon. Still a couple left to do. Hopefully getting water off the roads. Line painters were her today. They will need to come back in the spring. Highway is continuing to work on Johnson Hill Rd. where there is an issue with a hole. Mrs. Foley suggested they need to look at Abbott Hill. John B. will check on that.

Barbara brought up rumor that no highway department members had a CDL license. John B. showed Barbara his license. Corey Sparks gave us a copy of his when he started. Eric working on his. Corey has hoisting license. John & Eric are working o getting there's. All three are working on the 4G license.

Bob said he had received feedback from residents on Hampden St. that the additional material had helped a lot.

John B. also stated that they will be addressing issues on Kinneybrook Rd. this week.

Barbara asked about deficit in Police Chief line item. Pat will check with Cheryl/Paula. Pat informed the Board that Tom Scanlon (auditor) would be here tomorrow to work with Cheryl and Paula.

The Board declined to act on a "School Choice Proclamation" that had been sent to them for enactment.

Barbara asked if anyone had responded to the "Zoning Board" vacancy. Pat said one person had mentioned it and she will follow up with that person.

Transfer Station "senior work off position". Pat to follow up with two people.

Barbara asked about electricity for the Transfer station shed? Pat responded that it was done and there was heat available.

Bob Daley noted that the town of Becket was having a Special Town Meeting to determine the fate of the Becket Spring.

There being no other business, John B. moved to adjourn. Barbara H. seconded. Unanimous to adjourn at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Carlino

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Barbara Huntoon, Chairman

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John Baldasaro, Vice Chairman