



CHESTER BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
and ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS  
15 MIDDLEFIELD ROAD  
CHESTER, MASSACHUSETTS 01011

(413) 354-7760

TownofChester.net

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**Monday, May 15, 2023**

Open meeting—This meeting is held in the Blandford Town Hall in combination with the Blandford Selectboard with a virtual option.

Selectboard members present, John Baldasaro and Andy Sutton. Town Hall staff present included Town Administrator Don Humason, Administrative Assistant Terry Donovan, Police Chief Jennifer Dubiel, Finance Committee member Andy Myers, Water Commissioner Bob Daley, and Andy Fristak. Blandford Selectboard members, Cara Letendre and Jeff Allen were present. Blandford Town Administrator Chris Dunn was in attendance remotely.

Cara opened the meeting at 6:00pm, she made a motion to move to meeting with Chester Selectboard Jeff seconded it.

- **Discussion on shared Fire Chief :** Cara stated it would not be a full time position but 20 hours a week, John said Chester is not ready for that yet , he asked if we could obtain a grant to do a feasibility study on a shared Fire Chief. Eric Weiss from PVPC said he would be happy to support that and would check into a grant. Cara also mentioned a Chief and maybe two Deputy Chiefs to help with the extra things. Eric suggested the first step would be to form a committee of 2-3 people to discuss what needs to happen between the two towns. Committee could consist of current chief , a selectboard member and town admin on committee. Andy Myers said the challenge would be the budget because the dept is a volunteer dept in Chester and Blandford just raised salaries on theirs. Eric said there is funding out there we could look into.
- **Water Commissioners Report**  
Blandford commissioners were pulling out of shared services resulting in losing the grant. Bob Daley wanted to bring it to the selectman's attention. Andy Myers said they had been talking and the commissioners were favorable for discussions and to make some adjustments. Eric said adjustments would be fine it was a fairly flexible agreement and it would be unfortunate for both towns if an agreement could not be reached. Chris Dunn said he would check into and get a meeting asap.



- **Discussion on joint Police Department** - Going pretty well, no complaints. Andy Myers said 3% col raise had been accepted. Chief said she will try to get the monthly updates done. She said they responded to 89% of the calls last month. The goal had been 75% so they are doing well.

Cara thanked Chester for attending 6:30 all done.

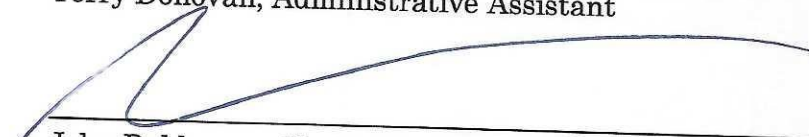


TOWN OF CHESTER BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS  
15 MIDDLEFIELD RD.  
CHESTER MA 01011

Respectfully Submitted

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Terry Donovan, Administrative Assistant

5/22/23  
Date Signed

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John Baldasaro, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Signed

\_\_\_\_\_  
Vice Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Signed

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Andy Sutton, Clerk

5/23/23  
Date Signed