



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

(413) 354-7760

TownofChester.net

Monday, May 22, 2023

Open meeting—This meeting was held in the Chester Town Hall 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, Finance Committee member Andy Myers, Water Commissioners Bob Daley and Lyle Snide, Town Collector Mary Ann Pease, Avril Willimain, Jane Sutton, Jason and Brian Fogue, Highway Super Chip Dazelle. Also present was Ann Daley, Liz Massa, Nick Chuisano, Duane Pease and Charlie Kaniecki.

John opened the meeting at 6:00pm, warrants, minutes and all correspondence were signed.

- **Chip Dazelle Highway Superintendent update:**

See notes attached. Also Prospect Street is on the list for pothole fill. Need a meeting with DOT to go over bridge on Main St. Olin Ave, Morey Ave, Western View all on tap for repair or repaving. Blacktop is outrageous right now. Also, Bromley rd. cut out is scheduled to be filled.

A camper from 80 Rte 20 was stored at the town garage was picked up.

June 5th, 2 interns starting 100% reimbursed.

Will put up speed bump on Middlefield rd. and Maple St.

- **Paul Lischetti- Hilltown CDC**

School Street Commons renovation is getting ready to start construction. Have met with tenants and meeting weekly with Attorneys and State programs and contractors.

Would like part of the building fee waived because houses a library and museum. Replacing the door and making it wheelchair accessible, and redoing bathroom and replacing boiler. Fee is \$20683.00 per Jason.

Paul would like some waived if possible, to after project is done.

John B- They are helping us with the strap grant and there is value in what repairs they will be doing. He entertains a 50% fee waived.

John made a motion to wave 50% of the building application fee to the School st project, Andy seconded, passes.

Paul discussed parking during the project, where can residents park and equipment park during construction. Wants to use the lot at school. John said can't use that until Theater is done in August.



Ann Daley suggested using the sand lot near Carms. Paul L will check with owner of the store next door to see if he can use some of their lot.

Possible construction will in August.

- **Town Clerk**

The 180 signatures have been certified for the special election. With selectboards permission would like to schedule the Special Election for Saturday July 8th 8-12am Early hours due to the theater performing that afternoon. Nomination papers are in and need to be returned by June 20th.

- **Charlie Kaniecki**

664 Rte 20 -renovation -\$15,000 in fines

1 Crane – Clean out year /barn-\$52,000 in fines

Both are in receivership; the fines have to be paid before they can start work. Can the town waive fines or some of the fines , or can they pay fines after the work is done. Same receiver on both properties.

How does the board want to proceed?

Jason suggested not to defer fines on 664 rte. 20 but defer a portion of Crane rd. fines.

John- Defer a portion of Crane rd, Andy agreed deferring ½ of fees.

Charlie- 664 rte 20 has been sent letters by AG office and not responded.

Crane rd motions were filed judge told receiver to develop cost of cleanup.

John – motion we will defer fine on 664 rte 20 until sale of property, not deferring fines on 1 Crane rd.

Andy seconded.

- **Water Commissioners Report**

New MOU Chester signed, sent to Blandford for their sign off , waiting for them to respond but it looks good. On Blandford's agenda tonight.

Bob Daley-Clear Well Inspections- By Underwater solutions supposed to be done every 5 years. John said it was done 2-3 yrs ago according to Underwater solutions it has not been done since 2010

US Army Corp of Engineers coming to do a site visit because of the long-eared bat.

Jason- Gorden Avery in Blandford had reservations about the shared grant. Chester is host community.

Andy Myers addressed all of Blandford's concerns only operator shared is the intern. They should not have any concerns at this point.

- **Town Administrator Update**

Mass Dot will be put on the agenda to discuss the ADA measures that need to be taken for Middlefield Rd

- **Finance Committee**

See copy attached.

1.3% increase in overall budget

Unemployment and retirement has not gone up.

John COA sanitation expense 3000.00 extra



We already have a custodian in the building why are we having this extra charge?

Ann Daley-Floors in bathroom has to be cleaned, we signed a contract with HVES that requires the floor to be sanitized. I would rather do it myself than have Dave do it. Have to use bleach and clean. Ann claims Dave is not doing that.

John – Does he know when you need it done?

Ann- Yes but he is not doing it. Requires weekly sanitizing.

John- Don to met with Dave and give him a key.

Remove 3000.00 from budget

Ann – Highland Valley will be in this week

Don- Would like to see a copy of the contract with Highland Valley. She does not only has Covid stuff. No copy of contract.

Andy Myers- Cut town consul by 3000.00

Audit Expense should go out to bid asap RFP -Soon

Fire Chief – increased to 6hrs a week.

Ambulance- Have to do critical need

Bob Daley- hire a grant writer? Dons job

Insurance for old School – The Theater is paying insurance for their equipment. Don to look at the bill from MIIA there is a rider, get breakdown from MIIA to see what everyone is paying for and what buildings are covered

John want breakdown for all policies from MIIA

COA floor discussed will be on warrant

John accepted Budget with changes

Andy seconded.

- **Public Comments and Questions**

Jessica Sakaske—Memorial Day Parade still working on it, looking for a key note speaker.

Recreation Committee also working on a dance slated for Sept 9th.

Jason Forgue-Shirley Winer Memorial on Sunday at town hall

Just got a text , Blandford did not sign water agreement

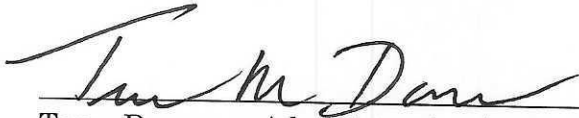
John made a motion for the meeting to adjourn, Andy seconded, all voted aye.

Meeting Adjourned 8:10pm

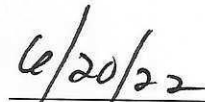


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Respectfully Submitted



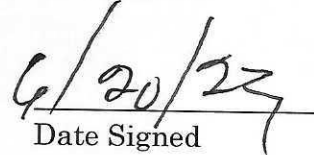
Terry Donovan, Administrative Assistant



Date Signed



John Baldasaro, Chairman



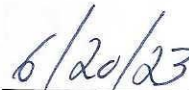
Date Signed

Vice Chairman



Andy Sutton, Clerk

Date Signed



Date Signed