



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

(413) 354-7760

TownofChester.net

Tuesday, January 2, 2024

Open meeting—This meeting was held in the Chester Town Hall Auditorium with a virtual option.

Selectboard members present, John Baldasaro, Brian Forgue, and Andy Sutton. Also present Terry Donovan, Andy Myers, Rich Holzman, Tom Bean, Bob Daley, Jane Sutton, Mary Ann Pease, Don Humason, Craig Gauthier, Duane Pease, and Terry Murphy,

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

- **Terry Donovan-Town Clerk**

Terry gave an update that Article 19- Glamping was approved by the AG, Article 18- citizens petition article, was not.

- **Henry Fristik- Fire Dept budget**

Will be over budget needs \$23000 to cover regular expenditures and hopefully unaccounted expenditures.

Andy Myers says we have reserve funds to cover budgetary expenses, What is truly necessary for capital expenditures to put on STM.

Brian Forgue asked about fees and fines the dept. collects how can the Chief get access to those? Andy Myers said would have to put in ATM for a revolving account to be set up.

Chief Fristik said they have received 174 calls, calls going up every month

- **Bob Daley- Water Dept Update**

DEP protocol accomplished, Repairing 7 leaks, all pumps recalibrated and working, improved water Liquality, switched water source from Horn Pond to Austin Brook, showing the lowest numbers for turbidity, hoping all numbers decrease with switch.

Lead pipe survey, response underwhelming, would like robo call to get more responses, Bob Daley will get the Chief the info for the call.

John B. thanked the water commissioners for their work and help on the water situation.

Bob said they are still in talks with Blandford about the shared grant.

- **Town Administrator Report**

- Liquor license renewals are all set, Jason needs to inspect Chester Village Market and Classic Pizza, and to be signed off by Fire Chief. Don is to reach out to both businesses to get their paperwork done.



-PVPC DLTA application what is priority, Shared fire dept?, Shared fire dept and Hilltown Ambulance are the priorities.

-Emergency management position- Chip to do? Or Henry Fristik?. Cannot have Jill because she is not around during the week(new job)

John to speak to Jill see if she can stay on?

Hazard Mitigation Plan, Jill was working on? Middlefield hired someone to do it, need to get quotes asap.

The meeting was interrupted at this point by Paul Benoit, Ingell Rd

Paul wants the culvert taken out in front of his house, he claims it has created a pond in his front yard and is destroying the forest and has preventing him from finishing his lawn. This has been going on for 15 years and he will be taking the town to court and suing for a million dollars. Also mentioned the pile of manure at his neighbors house and he has to shut his windows because he can't breathe because of the smell.

John replied this is not a BOS issue , we are not removing a culvert , the manure issue is a BOH and DEP issue and he doesn't like the answers from them.

Paul Benoit showed pictures to John of the manure pile.

- **Andy Sutton**

-Andy was questioning 80 rte 20 and Emery St if there was any way to handle the properties without going to court.

John replied that is was already in the works and doing anything otherwise would open a whole can of worms. Let the court handle it.

- **Chief Jen Dubiel**

Will have stats available at the end of the month

- **Public Comment**

-Andy Myers-Budget requests going out, meetings start in Feb. on Saturdays

-Rich Holzman- positive things going on in town, credit to Liz and her people(hilltown hikers), Had a new years day hike to Sandersen Brook Falls , very well attended. Also CHA and HH hosting a snow day hike, sledding and bonfire at Holzmans on Feb 24th

John Baldasaro made a motion to adjourn to executive session, 7:00 pm,

Roll call vote to executive session

John Baldasaro -yes


Andy Sutton-yes

Brian Fergie-yes



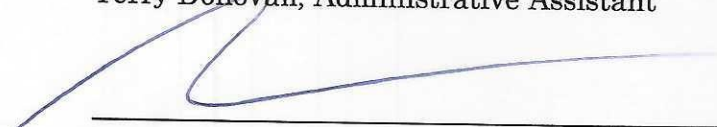
TOWN OF CHESTER BOARD OF SELECTMEN
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
15 MIDDLEFIELD RD.
CHESTER MA 01011

Respectfully Submitted




Terry Donovan, Administrative Assistant

1/24/24
Date Signed



John Baldasaro, Chairman

Date Signed



Andy Sutton, Vice Chairman

1-29-24
Date Signed



Brian Forgue, Clerk

1/29/24
Date Signed

Selectboard meeting 1-2-24

Happy new year to all

- 1] 12-18-23 got heavy rain, all dirt roads had a little damage more of just grading them and touching the ditches up. Abbott hill did not wash out we had the rip rap stone on the edge for the temp culvert and it saved the road. We are installing the runoff culvert Wednesday and Thursday.
- 2] Bromley Road and Higgins got a lot of ditch / road damage
- 3] Got all the roads touched up for the winter
- 4] Installed a new 24-inch culvert on Abbott hill above Taft Road that collapsed.
- 5] Maynard hill held up with all the work done this summer.
- 6] With the possible storm coming Sunday all the trucks are ready to go, any issues with roads please give me a call.
- 7] We received \$151,749 extra from mass dot for road work this summer from "The fair share amendment act"