



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

(413) 354-7760

TownofChester.net

Monday, August 12, 2024

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

Selectboard members present were Craig Gauthier, Andy Sutton and John Baldasaro. Also present Terry Donovan, Andy Myers, Mary Ann Pease, Jane Sutton, Bob Daley, Rich Holzman, Brian Forgue and Darlene Stone.

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

- **Cornerstone Church discussion**

Andy Sutton wants to put the vote on the next STM, not right to make the church wait for an answer.

Johns feels it would not make good sense cost-wise for the town to accept it, he will refuse it. He feels the town cannot afford it, not fair to ask the town to support it.

Rich Holzman asked if the selectboard would think of other ideas, landmark building should not be just given away, would serve as a COA building and meeting house for the town, Police could expand into COA room, upgrade is not outrageous.

It was agreed to put it on the next STM.

- **Town Audit Review- Tony Roselli**

Tony hit on a few points

- CMELD not included in audit is unusual,

- RE taxes uncollected back to 1987, next to impossible to collect, should be cleaned up. Should have a plan in place to clean up yearly. Maryann said \$45000 outstanding has been cleaned up since the audit.

- Should do a Security audit of IT dept, there is a grant for that offered now for that.

- Tony mentioned to make sure ARPA money is obligated by end of the year

- Should have policy and procedure manuals online

- Overall, the financial health of the town is –Financially stable

- Don will send Tony the CMELD audit when we receive it

- **Don Humason Town Admin Report**

- Fire extinguishers at transfer station are all up to date

- Hazard Mitigation meeting August 20 6:00pm at the Fire Station

- Reported puddle in the building inspector's office



- Newly appointed tax collector, who also holds the Animal control officer, Inspector of animals and town clerk positions needs to be approved by the BOS to hold all the positions, per MA Ethics office and the Tiny Town Exemption.

John Baldasaro made a motion to allow Terry Donovan to hold all the above listed appointed positions in town, Andy Sutton seconded, All in favor.

- **Interviews for Admin assistant Position**

Kim Fox and Rachael Laurie interviewed; Lizzy Canedy did not show.

At the end of the interviews, the BOS discussed how wonderful both candidates were. John voted for Kim, Andy for Rachael and Craig voted for Kim.

Kim Fox has been hired as the Administrative Assistant

- **Public Comment**

-Andy Sutton wanted to schedule the STM, John said that is will probably be delayed by a couple weeks because CMELD has not gotten the audit to Eversource yet

-Craig Gauthier said they are looking for volunteers to hand out water. Brian Forgue volunteered.

- Bob Daley gave a brief water update-Filter 1 is completely redone., it went online on Monday the 5th and is the only filter working right now. Filter 2 replacement started today 8/12, should be done by Friday. They drained filter 3 and added 18" of new sand to filter 3 today.

Meeting at noon on Tuesday 8/13 with DEP to hopefully rescind the boiling order, will share outcome with Don when meeting is over.

They need a written letter from Elm Electrical that the SCADA system is in compliance

- Maryann Pease wanted to alert the Board about property in land court that is going before a judge on Thursday. That the town might need to evict. She has concerns about evicting someone that has been in tax title for several years, has made some payments but stills owes money. John said to discuss with Town council, there are new rules and options involved

John Baldasaro made a motion to adjourn; Andy seconded, all in favor.

Adjourned 7:30pm

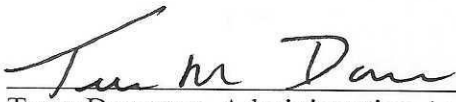


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Respectfully Submitted



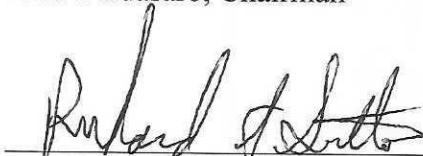
Terry Donovan, Administrative Assistant


Date Signed



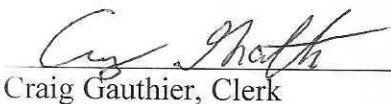
John Baldasaro, Chairman


Date Signed



Andy Sutton, Vice Chairman

Date Signed



Craig Gauthier, Clerk


Date Signed