



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

(413) 354-7760

TownofChester.net

Monday, April 22, 2025

MEETING MINUTES

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

Selectboard members present were Andy Sutton and Craig Gauthier. Also present was Fire Chief Nate Bolduc, Town Clerk Terry Donovan, Finance Committee Chair Brian Forgue, Town Administrator Don Humason, and members of the public.

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

Town Business

- Chester Walks Map Kiosk

Liz Massa presented a walking map kiosk project to the selectboard. Funded by grants through Healthy Hampshire. Hilltown Hikers initiated a walking map brochure, funded by grants through Healthy Hampshire, in Chester, five years ago. Now surrounding towns also have walking maps for their town. This year, Chester has money left over from the grant and they are looking to use the money for a permanent kiosk to display the walking map. Liz provided specs and sample photos to the selectboard and said they believe the best display spot would be by Cornerstone Church. Liz expressed that it would be a great display for tourists to find the attractions in town and wanted to get the board's approval. Andy and Craig both said they think it's a great idea and they support it.



- Transfer Station Waste Agreement

The Board of Health has been getting bids for the transfer station and Liz recommended staying with Dave Wickles and signing off on a two-year contract. He provided a bid with small increases but is very comparable to what the town receives now.

Andy Sutton asked if they received bids from any other companies. Liz said no because there is an issue with hauling trucks fitting under the bridge and the Wickles' company truck barely fits. Liz also mentioned they've recently had the trash compactor serviced and it's in really good shape.

- RFP for Old Elementary School

Moved to the BOS 5/5 Meeting

- PVPC - Conservation Commission update

Moved to BOS 5/5 Meeting

Town Administrator report:

- Resident School Choice Request.

Andrienne Johnson requested approval for her son to attend Westfield Vocational School. The Selectboard previously agreed to for him to attend Smith Vocational but is also applying to Westfield. Brian Fogue said the deadline to apply to other schools was March 1st but, in this case, this was accounted for in budget as was brought up with the school board previously.

Andy Sutton said he was in favor of approving him to go to either school he chooses pending his acceptance. Craig seconded and all were in favor.

Nate Bolduc asked if one school was more money than the other, Brian said they are still waiting for school budgets, but his guess was that Smith may be a little more than Westfield.

- Select Board invited to Eagle Scout Court of Honor

Don will send a letter of congratulations from the Select Board in lieu of attendance.

- Town Hall Custodian position will soon be available again.

The current custodian who was recently hired is looking for full-time paramedic jobs now that he's almost done with school. The custodian position will be posted again soon.



- Previous members of the recreation committee are looking for volunteers to spearhead Memorial Day celebrations. Anyone interested in volunteering can reach out to Don Humason and/or the Selectboard.
- Blandford Road bridge was just paved last week by the Highway Department. This is the best solution for the bridge right now until the state will assist in replacing it.
- Street sweeping has started throughout town and will continue up until Chester on Track.
- There is an upcoming ADA project to narrow the corner of Main Street and Middlefield Road in front of Cornerstone Church, in addition to repainting the crosswalks. Currently, this project is being done in Pittsfield and once that is complete, the state DOT will be ready to get started in Chester. We hope it is delayed until after Chester on Track and Memorial Day, so as not to interfere with those popular town events.
- The state inspector is ready to do an inspection on the Town Hall broiler. It will cost \$100 for the inspection which needs to be prepaid before that is completed.
- Don Humason received bids for mowing and seasonal clean up services at Emery field. The town will be switching to Limited Budget, which quoted the town less than what is being paid for the same services now.

Public Comment

The Town Clerk brought up an issue about campaign signs around town. Terry Donovan said placing signs on private property is okay if the land/homeowner gives approval. Signs can be placed on public property. Signs and campaigning cannot be posted within 150 feet of the Town Hall on election day.

Veronica Marr asked about the RFP for the old school. She asked if the proposal is currently public knowledge. Andy said no, Eric Weiss would be coming from PVPC to talk about the RFP on 5/5. There are no current proposals, and the point of the RFP is to move forward in finding contractors that may be interested in purchasing the property and developing. If there is a purchase, then the town would be presented with what their intention is, and the town would move forward with proposal.

Nate Bolduc mentioned that the Littleville Fair pancake breakfast is this Sunday, 4/27



Andy Sutton made a motion to end the meeting, Craig Gauthier seconded and all were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 6:48pm.

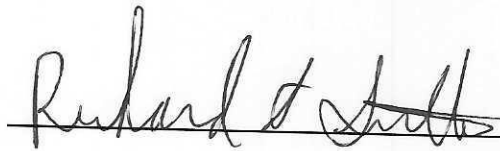
Respectfully Submitted,

Kim Fox, Administrative Assistant

Date Signed

John Baldasaro, Chairman

Date Signed



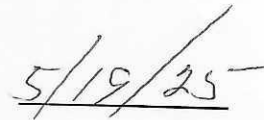
Andy Sutton, Vice Chairman



Date Signed



Craig Gauthier, Clerk



Date Signed



CHARLES "CHIP" DAZELLE, HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT
CHESTER HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
2 TOWN ROAD
CHESTER, MASSACHUSETTS 01011

(413) 354-2276

Highwaysuper@townofchester.net

4-22-25 Selectboard Report from the Highway Department

- 1] Started patching roads
- 2] Street sweeping should begin soon
- 3] Water line on Emery St. has been repaired will patch Maple and Emery
- 4] I have talked to Ron Ouimette about water running off he was not sure where to go
- 5] on Taft Road JR called me and I suggested talking to select board with John being in town and knowing just about everything going from being here, I figured this was a start. I did not want to be there and a distraction, but I will check and see the next steps. I told him it is going to be a long process.
- 6] Blandford road bridge has been milled and filled. It was the only way to fix the top.
- 7] I will be on vacation from April 21 thru May 2nd.

-Charles "Chip" Dazelle,
Chester Highway Superintendent
Cell 413-393-8946



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CHESTER SELECTBOARD MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday, April 22, 2025, 6:00PM, in the Town Hall Auditorium

This meeting will be held as a hybrid meeting, but it is at the Select Board's discretion to allow participation for those attending remotely.

-Meeting minutes and warrants may be signed.

Report from Town Departments/Town Business:

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|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| -Chester Walks map kiosk | -Liz Massa |
| -Transfer Station Waste Agreement | -Liz Massa |
| -RFP for Old Elementary School | -Eric Weiss PVPC |
| -Conservation Commission update | -Lora Wade |

Old Business:

New Business:

Town Administrator Don Humason report:

- Adrienne Johnson requests that her son Jacob be approved to attend Westfield Tech Academy. The Select Board previously approved him for Smith Vocational.
- Select Board invited to James VonDeck's Eagle Scout Court of Honor
- Town Hall Custodian position will soon be available again.



Anything that should come before the Selectboard that was unanticipated within the 48 hours of posting:

Public Comments or Questions:

Next Meeting: Monday, May 5, 2025, 6PM

Meeting Adjournment

This meeting is being held in person at the location provided on this notice.

Members of the public are welcome to attend this in-person meeting.

Please note that while an option for remote attendance and or participation is being provided as a courtesy to the public the meeting/hearing will not be suspended or terminated if technological problems interrupt the virtual broadcast, unless otherwise required by law.

Members of the public with particular interest in any specific item on this agenda should make plans for in-person vs. virtual attendance accordingly.