



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

(413) 354-7760

TownofChester.net

**Monday, September 8, 2025**

**MEETING MINUTES**

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

Selectboard members present were John Baldasaro and Craig Gauthier. Also present was Town Administrator Andrew Alward, Administrative Assistant Kim Fox, Town Clerk Terry Donovan, COA Director Keirsen Broman, Water Commissioners Jim Zimmerman and Bob Daley, Library Director Tammy Merenda, Finance Committee Chair Brian Forgue and members of the public.

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

**Report from Town Departments:**

- Appointment to the Council on Aging (Darlene Stone, Brenda Budreau and David Orcutt)

The board appointments are at the recommendation of COA Director Keirsen Broman. There has been previous discussion about appointing members to fill a couple of openings on the board.

*John Baldasaro made a motion to appoint the above members to the Council on Aging Board. Craig Gauthier seconded and all voted in favor.*

- Appointment to the Board of Assessors (Jonathan Williams)

John said that they will review the appointment paperwork and will table the official approval until the next BOS meeting. He said it is their policy not to make appointments on the same night they are received. Both the COA and Rec Committee appointments have been discussed in previous meetings.



the plans drawn up and wanted the board's advice on how to move forward with the process. John recommended going to the Conservation Commission and the Building Inspector. John said because the bridge would be going over a creek, they would probably need to do a wet land study. Tammy said she had met with the Wild & Scenic committee and they recommended that as well.

### **Report from Town Administrator**

- Police Chief will be moving into another office in town hall to expand their space.
- Keystone Arch Bridge Trail dog friendly bridge

Andrew Alward said residents have requested to place planks over the grated bridge at the Keyston Arches to make it more dog friendly. John said the board would be okay with it, but it does need to be run by the Wild & Scenic group. Liz Massa said that she worked with DCR for a similar project at the Sanderson Brook Falls and confirmed Wild & Scenic approval is needed.

- Atlas Groundwater monitoring Wood Waste Landfill, update

The report on the Wood Waste Landfill came back with no alerts. There is a high level of manganese but that is typical for this area and is not concerning.

- Facilities update town hall boiler and elevator phone

The town hall elevator was inspected and passed with the exception for the phone not working. The town is looking at a couple of providers to that phone up and running before a reinspection of the elevator. The Town Hall boiler passed the state inspection last week.

### **Public Comments**

Today began an invitation to bid for logging work around the water treatment plant.

Melissa McAuliffe confirmed the Halloween event will be on Saturday, October 25. Rain date is Saturday, November 1. She said majority of events will be at the ballfield. She asked if the BOS would donate \$25 toward the 2<sup>nd</sup> place winner for trunk or treat. John approved. She said they are still hoping to move forward with a one day liquor license. The Rec Committee has a plan to rope off an area, and they will have a ticketing and ID system. Andrew said that he has requested a quote from the insurance company for the liquor license. John said to let the board if it is more than \$200. Melissa said they will be donating all the proceeds from the liquor sales to the fire department.



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Respectfully Submitted,


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Kim Fox, Administrative Assistant

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Date Signed

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

  
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Date Signed

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Craig Gauthier, Clerk

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