

**TOWN OF CHESTER SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 29, 2015**

Moderator William E. Dakin, Jr. called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. He welcomed everyone and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Moderator Dakin introduced the Select Board, John DeBenedetti, Thomas Bock, William Lindsay, Heather Chase, Arne Jonynas, and Town Manager, David Pisha.

Moderator Dakin read the Warning.

The legal voters of the Town of Chester, Vermont, are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Town Hall in the Town of Chester on Tuesday, June 30, 2015, between the hours of nine o'clock (9:00) in the forenoon (a.m.), at which time the polls will open, and seven o'clock (7:00) in the afternoon (p.m.), at which time the polls will close, to vote by Australian ballot upon the following Article of business:

ARTICLE 1

Shall the action taken at the special town meeting of the Town of Chester held on May 19, 2015 in spite of the fact that the Warning thereof was not published in full conformity with the statutory requisites, and any act or action of Town officers or agents pursuant thereto, be readopted, ratified and confirmed?

The legal voters of the Town of Chester are further notified that voter qualification, registration and absentee voting relative to said special meeting shall be as provided in Chapters 43, 51 and 55 of Title 17, Vermont Statutes Annotated.

The legal voters of the Town of Chester are further notified that an informational meeting will be held on Monday, June 29, 2015 at the Town Hall in the Town of Chester at six o'clock (6:00) in the evening, for the purpose of explaining the proposed improvements and the financing thereof.

Adopted and approved at a regular meeting of the Selectboard of the Town of Chester duly called, noticed and held on May 28, 2015. Received for record and recorded in the records of the Town of Chester on May 29, 2015.

Moderator Dakin then turned the meeting over to Town Manager, David Pisha. Mr. Pisha welcomed everyone and explained that this informational meeting and vote is a formality to ratify the vote that was done on May 29, 2015. This ratification vote is a statement from the voters that they know there was an error in the official posting of the original meeting, but they choose to affirm their vote.

Jean Osler asked what would happen if the vote tomorrow was no. David Pisha explained that the process would start over. The State has given Chester a dead line and we could lose funding and our place in line.

Derek Suursoo advised that he would like to hear from each board member how the financing would be handled. At the last meeting the intention was that the users would pay. Arne Jonynas replied that it was his opinion that the users would be paying for the project and any monetary gain from gravel would also go to the users. William Lindsay replied that he shares Arne's view point and supports the need for the project. The Water Commissioners need to have a meeting and vote on how the project will be paid for. Mr. Lindsay also stated that he believes that purchasing the land is a good idea and would be a cost

benefit to the town. He also stated that there are two phases to this project and that this is just phase one. Derek Suursoo asked if the financing was up in the air. Mr. Lindsay replied that he feels that the financing is still up in the air. He explained that there is an income survey that has gone out to water users, that is very important to fill out and return. John DeBenedetti explained that he is 95% in agreement with the Mr. Jonynas and Mr. Lindsay. The bond borrowing has to be a general obligation of the Town, because the Water "Enterprise" Fund cannot borrow the money. Mr. DeBenedetti also stated that he believes the purchase of the land should be an obligation of the General Fund. Tom Bock stated that he believes that purchasing the land is a good idea, because the Town is saving one million dollars on the construction cost. Heather Chase stated that she believes there are a lot of unknowns and the purchase of the land should be considered as the whole town. Derek Suursoo stated that he still has concerns because there is no distinctive plan.

Deb Baker stated that she had concerns about purchasing the 139 acres.

David Pisha explained that if the General Fund paid for the land the approximate cost to the Town for 20 years would be \$27,000.00 per year and for 30 years would be \$20,000.00 per year. He also explained that the cost of the project to the water user, at the highest, would be \$67.00 per quarter, at the lowest, \$36.00 per quarter and if the potential for gravel was used the low could be \$24.00 per quarter.

Doug Summerville advised that he feels that this project is an overall town improvement and should be paid for by all. He also stated that the Board should consider a rate differentiation.

Tom Bock stated that if the gravel piece falls into place he would like to see another informational meeting. Mr. Bock also stated that right now he feels the users should be the ones to pay. If in the future he sees a different benefit that may change.

Julie Hance explained if the Town chose to have the entire tax base pay for the bond there would be a town wide vote. This is what the Town did with the Sewer Plant Bond Vote.

Larry Semones asked if the Town was going to sell gravel. David Pisha replied no.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

A true copy.

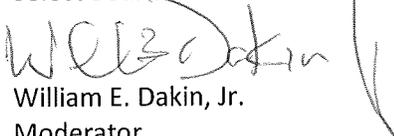


Deborah J. Aldrich

Town Clerk



John DeBenedetti
Select Board Chairman



William E. Dakin, Jr.
Moderator