


Citizen Advisory Committee
April 14, 2026
5:00PM
Town Hall Conference Room, Chester, VT

1. Organization:

- a. CAC Present: Frank, Vincent, and Barry
- b. Chester PD present: Chief Williams and Alicia D.
- c. Citizens: Stacy Thompson (5:50PM)
- d. Review agenda.
- e. Other organizational items -
 - i. Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair
 - ii. Frank - Chair, Barry - Vice Chair
 - iii. Approve minutes from January 13th, 2026 (not acted on)

2. Citizen's Comments:

- a. Debra Reynold's email
- b.  04/14/26.DReynoldsEmail
- c. The Chief has spoken with Julie. The SelectBoard is aware of the FB email. The FB comment function has been shut off on arrests. The concern raised seems to be about the comments. The disclaimer at the end of the email explaining the role of police vs. courts has been helpful.
- d. The VLCT policies that relate are Internet Posting/ Social Networking and Using Social Networks for Investigative Purposes. These policies were reviewed and are in place. The CAC could make and/ or revise policies for the Chester PD if needed. At this point, it was the feeling of the CAC that the VLCT policies are adequate
- e. Criminal offenses are posted. FB comments are off. Old posts can not be changed.
- f. The Chief, Sgt. Rheume, and Alicia D. are the managers of FB. Regardless of the comments made, they do not have the legal ability to remove comments or block anyone.
- g. There has been one case where an arrestee has complained about the impact of their arrest. They called the Chief and the post was taken down.
- h. Julie H. said to send the email to the CAC for a policy review and/ or communication.
- i. The Chief does have an open door policy for discussion of any matters.
- j. We'll add a FB comment about if there are questions and/ or concerns you can reach the CAC. The CAC email will be included.
- k. 03/05/26 was the last FB post with comments. There have been people since 03/05/26 who have called about not being able to comment.
- l. FK will email Debra Reynolds with a cc to Chief Williams and Julie. "Several members ..." FK will see if Debra and these folks want to meet with the Chief and/ or CAC.

3. Chester Police Department Comments and/ or Input:
 - a. \$6,000 grant for two more laser radar detectors from the Gov. Highway Safety Campaigns.
 - b. Three roadside sobriety tests (Alco) that use breath to determine alcohol were included in the grant.
 - c. 5th full time officer is still being sought. 4 potential part time officers are in the works. Chief, Sgt. Rheume, and Alicia are all part of the hiring committee. Applicants are coming in. The applicants are all cross-trained as firefighters.
 - d. Officers have different roles in the facility and it all matches well. Different areas of expertise helps.
 - e. 6th full time officer would be beneficial.
 - f. Chester, VT has the lowest recidivism in the county, and possibly in the state. More information coming.

4. Sub-Committee Updates:
 - a. Communication - CAC can be more out there about how to raise an issue with the Chester PD.
 - b. Personnel - See above
 - c. Community Awareness - See above. FK will make sure that the Town website has the accurate time for the CAC.
 - d. Policy Review - VLCT Internet Posting/ Social Networking Policy and the VLCT Using Social Networks for Investigative Purpose.

5. Other Items:
 - a. Stacy Thompson stopped by. She lives on Rt. 11 just west of town before the Stone Hearth Inn. The issue Ms. Thompson is bringing to our attention is the speeding on Rt. 11. There is no speed indicator sign or beacon on Rt. 11 west of town.
 - b. Chester PD has spoken to the officers about speeding in the area. Alicia will be reminding officers about monitoring speed in that area.
 - c. Stacy is trying to get a mirror in place so that she can see traffic coming out of town.
 - d. An attempt will be made. Alicia asked if there was a specific time of day or day of the week.
 - e. AOT may be able to get a mirror in place for the homeowner. FK and/or Barry will be available to go to AOT with Stacy if requested

6. Next Meeting:
 - a. Police Night Out?
 - b. August 11, 2026 - 5PM?
 - i. Frank is away on vacation.