

TOWN OF CHESTER  
SELECT BOARD  
Meeting Minutes  
September 1, 2021

PRESENT: Arne Jonynas; Lee Gustafson; Heather Chase; Leigh Dakin; Jeff Holden; Julie Hance; Amie O'Brien

VISITORS: SAPATV; Chester Telegraph; Scott Kendall; Madeline Bodin; Robert Nied; Gene Pategas; Lee Whiting; Kate Matracia; Ginger Roper; Tim Roper

***Meeting was held at the Town Hall and via Zoom.***

1. APPROVE MINUTES FROM THE AUGUST 18, 2021 SELECT BOARD MEETING.

A motion was made by Lee Gustafson to approve the Minutes of the August 18, 2021, Select Board meeting as written. Seconded by Leigh Dakin. The motion passed.

Julie Hance made one correction on page 1 lines 42 and 43 the date should read September 1, 2021, not October 1, 2021

2. CITIZEN COMMENTS/ANSWERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

No citizens comment.

3. OLD BUSINESS

Gazebo on the Green: Chester Townscape paid for a new railing for the gazebo on the Green and it has been painted.

Public Safety Building: Fire and Ambulance have moved into the new building. The Police Department is moving in on September 2, 2021. An open house is scheduled for September 26, 2021, at 2 p.m. There will be a BBQ and other events during the open house. The American Legion Auxiliary donated the flags.

Police Policies: The policies have been updated per VLCT's most modern policies. New policies have been added for the additional items at the new buildings. The policies had to be in effect before the move.

Brookside Bridge: Kirby Putnam is waiting to hear from the company that will drive the piles in for the abutments and is hoping to have the bridge finished by the end of September.

47 Chester Fall Festival on the Green: Concerts will take place on the tennis court behind the  
48 Fullerton Inn. Jamie Lee Thurston will play a free concert on Sunday, September 19,  
49 2021, from 12-2 p.m. An agricultural element has been added behind the Academy  
50 Building, which will include a tractor display, fun games, shows, and other events. A food  
51 court will be located on the front lawn at the Academy Building.  
52

53 4. WHEELS IN THE FIELD; LEE WHITING  
54

55 Lee Whiting explained Wheels in the Field has continued to grow each year. The softball  
56 field has been rented for camping and a tent for food. He would like to use the Pinnacle,  
57 the forest, and other town property for the event. He would also like to close Lovers Lane  
58 Road for about 20 minutes for stunt riders to put on a show. He pointed out they will be  
59 prepared in case of an emergency. He will work with Julie Hance and Chief Rick Cloud to  
60 organize the events. Arne Jonynas thanked all involved for making this happen.  
61

62 A motion was made by Jeff Holden to allow Lee Whiting to use town property for Wheels  
63 in the Field on October 1-3, 2021. Seconded by Leigh Dakin. The motion passed.  
64

65 5. GM SCHOOL BOARD DIRECTOR  
66

67 Jeannie Wade resigned from the Green Mountain School Board because she accepted a  
68 job with the school district. The Select Board will review interested candidates to be  
69 appointed to fill the unexpired term. The candidates will be asked to attend the next  
70 Select Board meeting to introduce themselves and explain why they are interested in the  
71 position. The Select Board will give their opinion about the candidates to the School  
72 Board. Julie Hance will find out when the deadline is to apply.  
73

74 6. ANDOVER BUDGET ASSESSMENT REVIEW  
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76 Julie Hance submitted the Town of Andover three versions of formulas used to figure up  
77 charges for Chester's fire and ambulance services which have been used in the past. The  
78 formulas are not sufficient ways to figure up fees for these services. She is looking at  
79 other towns to see how they charge for their services. Madeline Bodin has been an  
80 Andover resident for 27 years and is a Select Board member. She remembers numerous  
81 discussions at Andover's Town Meetings when Chester started charging for services.  
82 Andover borders many towns that respond in emergency situations. That is why Andover  
83 does not have a contract with one specific town. Jeff Holden explained how mutual aid  
84 works. He stated Chester is toned first, then the surrounding towns are toned as well.  
85 One of the other departments may get to the scene first depending on where the  
86 emergency is located. Julie Hance explained the town must be contracted with mutual  
87 aid for insurance purposes.  
88

89 Heather Chase stated there has been a long period of time with no increase to the fees,  
90 which were supposed to be increased every year. Scott Kendall is on the Andover Select  
91 Board. He was concerned when he saw the huge numbers from the three formulas sent  
92 to the board. He fears the cost for the new Public Safety Building is being passed on to

93 Andover. Madeline Bodin stated the Andover Select Board has not discussed this matter  
94 as a board yet. Julie Hance is working toward creating a new formula for the fees and will  
95 let the Andover Select Board know when this will be on the agenda again. The Andover  
96 Select Board can contact her any time with questions or concerns.

97

98 7. HIGHWAY GARAGE CONTRACT APPROVAL

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100 The Highway Garage contract is not finalized yet. There will be a special meeting held to  
101 approve the contract when it is ready.

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103 8. VLCT VOTING DELEGATE

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105 A motion was made by Jeff Holden to delegate Heather Chase as the VLCT Voting  
106 Delegate Wednesday, September 29, 2021, at 1 p.m. in South Burlington or online.  
107 Seconded by Lee Gustafson. The motion passed.

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109 9. ERRORS & OMISSIONS

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111 The Select Board signed the Errors and Omissions submitted by the Lister for the tiny  
112 house that was located at the church on South Main Street.

113

114 10. NEW BUSINESS/NEXT AGENDA

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- 116 • Dog Ordinance
- 117 • Town Garage contract
- 118 • Candidates for the School Board
- 119 • Update from Preston on issues with trash on Route 10 and Route 103 South
- 120 • Update on speed study on Andover Road
- 121 • Municipal Parking Plan

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123 11. ADJOURN

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125 A motion was made by Lee Gustafson to adjourn. Seconded by Jeff Holden. The meeting  
126 adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

127 Amie O'Brien  
Secretary of the Select Board

Lee Gustafson  
Clerk of the Select Board