

TOWN OF CHESTER
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

April 3, 2019
Minutes

PRESENT: Arne Jonynas; Heather Chase; Ben Whalen; Lee Gustafson; Leigh Dakin;
David Pisha

VISITORS: Julie Hance, Shawn Cunningham; Fred Greenwell; Lauren Fierman; Bob
Miller; Lyza Gardner; Bryan Fox; Sharon Huntley; Cathy Hasbrouck;
Naomi Johnson; Nancy Davis; Steven Davis; Betsy Bosiak

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Arne Jonynas. There were no additions
or deletions to the agenda.

1. APPROVE MINUTES:

A motion was made by Lee Gustafson to approve the minutes of the March 6, 2019
Selectboard meeting as amended. Seconded by Ben Whalen. The motion passed.

Leigh Dakin asked for the correction of her name.

The February 13 minutes will be approved at the next meeting as Julie Hance now has the
motions.

2. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS:

There were no citizen's comments.

3. OLD BUSINESS:

EMS building: David Pisha stated that he has not heard back from Jim Carroll regarding
the contract with Russell Construction.

Economic Development: David Pisha stated that the Chamber of Commerce has
scheduled the Harley rally on July 20. The closing ceremony will be on The Green in
Chester. He further stated that there will be more information coming. The Harley
organization will come to a meeting to request use of The Green.

David Pisha also stated that he is working with the Chamber on marketing for the area as
well.

4. TOWN PLAN PUBLIC HEARING:

Arne Jonynas stated that the Planning Commission has been working on amendments to the Existing Town Plan. Changes presented to the Board only affect chapters 3, 5, 6 and 10.

Arne Jonynas stated that this meeting is the beginning of the review process and is an option for the community to present comments. He stated that in the meetings to follow, the Selectboard will be reviewing the document and changes in full.

Naomi Johnson stated the Reporting Form presented to the Board is very detailed in the reasoning for the changes. She stated that any substantial changes decided on will be given back to the Planning Commission for further consideration.

5. SALE ON THE GREEN:

Nancy Davis was present to provide an update on the Fall Festival. She stated that overall coordination is being taken over by Liza Gardner. The music and weekend logistics will be handled by Jeanie Wade. Promotion is being managed by Cathy Hasbrouck. Wendy Shultz will be managing the kids. Nancy Davis explained that the event is almost full with only a couple of spots left.

Nancy Davis stated that she has a few requests that she needs to have approved for:

1. Use of the Green
2. Common Street closed between 9 and 4 on Saturday and Sunday, September 21 and 22.
3. Prohibit parking along Route 11 on the North side during the weekend of the festival from 9-4.
4. Two trucks parked on the Common Street – Lazy Farm and Spring Hill Farm
5. Two parking spots designate as handicap dropoff located on School Street
6. Would like to only have the 6 groups approved by the Festival playing music
7. Selectboard write letter to The Current requesting shuttle service for the weekend.
8. Help from Police Department to enforce no parking
9. Increase Internet access on The Green. This was installed 9 years ago and equipment is outdated
10. Use of back field behind Academy Building for vendor parking on Saturday and Sunday. David Pisha will communicate with the Cemetery Department and the Historical Society
11. Use of Canal Street land for additional parking – David Pisha will have a conversation with Jeff Holden
12. Town of take on infrastructure pieces as follows: First Aid station formally set up. David Pisha will talk with Danny Cook; Arrange for porta potties which will need to be pumped on Saturday night and

monitored for supplies; Arrange for dumpster as well as locking at night and opening in the morning; Setting up cones and signage, Parking attendants on Saturday and Sunday.

Jeanie Wade would like to work with Julie at Town Hall on the logistics to make sure that all things are coordinated. Nancy Davis also asked if there could be wheelchair ramps to get onto The Green.

Ben Whalen suggested that perhaps the town property on Pleasant Street could be used if the Current is willing to shuttle people. It would need to be mowed.

Heather Chase thanked everybody for stepping up to help with the Fall Festival. She also suggested that maybe some help could come from high school students. David Pisha questioned the point of contact. Nancy Davis confirmed that Lyza Gardner is the primary point of contact for the event.

6. GREEN MOUNTAIN POWER:

Betsy Bosiak was present from Green Mountain Power to discuss the new power plan for the Pinnacle. She stated that all GMP individuals have spoken with Graham Kennedy who has given his approval. She further stated that the only thing needed from the Selectboard is approval regarding the Pinnacle Recreation area.

Arne Jonynas stated that he would like to see the power go underground beginning at the pole at the cell tower. Betsy Bosiak stated that it may be above ground at this point due to the topography of the land in this location. However, she will check with Greg Heaton.

Arne Jonynas confirmed that all underground power will be the responsibility of GMP. The service lines to the Pool and the Baseball Field will be the responsibility of the town. David Pisha stated that Steven Mancuso met with GMP regarding the access lines.

Arne Jonynas questioned if the transformer stations will be screened. Betsy Bosiak stated that screening was not planned as it was not requested. Lee Gustafson suggested that the cabinets be marked for location so that the Board can determine if screening is needed. Arne Jonynas requested that all old GMP poles be removed and old wires removed. Betsy Bosiak will talk with GMP about screening.

Heather Chase questioned timing. Betsy Bosiak stated that they would like to begin the project this summer. It is the desire to get all lines out of the woods first.

Arne Jonynas asked for the updates from Betsy Bosiak and the Board will sign at the next meeting. This will be communicated through David Pisha.

7. PAPER OF RECORD:

Arne Jonynas stated that one bid was received from the Vermont Journal. The bid is for \$11.50 per column inch with free internet advertising which is an increase of \$.50.

Robert Miller stated that he is working on a central point for legals in the state. The central point will likely be in Montpelier. He also explained that the internet presence has grown over the past 3 years. They are also now mobile friendly.

Arne Jonynas mentioned the lack of coverage of Chester meetings. Robert Miller stated that he is having trouble finding writers for the paper. Currently, they watch the meetings from the SAPA recordings and write articles from that. Sharon Huntley stated that she is scheduled to cover the Chester meetings.

Discussion ensued regarding the future of online newspapers being recognized as a paper of record. Robert Miller stated that he does not believe the Legislature will change to only online.

A motion was made by Ben Whalen to establish the Vermont Journal as the paper of record. Seconded by Lee Gustafson. The motion passed.

Ben Whalen thanked the Chester Telegraph for their attendance at every meeting. Leigh Dakin stated that she would like the Board to be proactive in changes in the Legislature regarding the paper of record.

8. ANNUAL FINANCIAL PLAN:

A motion was made by Lee Gustafson to approve the Annual Financial for 2019. Seconded by Heather Chase. The motion passed.

Leigh Dakin stated that she drove Route 35 this week. She indicated that she noticed the town installing coal patch in the largest holes.

The Board expressed their concerns about the lack of conversation with Grafton. They also discussed pursuing the State taking over Route 35. Arne Jonynas stated that he has spoken with Regional Planning who will be doing research on the process.

Lee Gustafson questioned if there is an inventory of roads, bridges and culverts. David Pisha confirmed that one exists.

9. PLANNING COMMISSION APPOINTMENT:

Arne Jonynas stated that there were three candidates for appointment to the Planning Commission; Claudio Veliz, Peter Hudkins and Robert Greenfield.

A motion was made by to Ben Whalen to appoint Peter Hudkins to the Planning commission. Seconded by Lee Gustafson. The motion passed.

Arne Jonynas thanked Claudio Veliz for his service to the town. He further stated that he is hopeful that Robert Greenfield will be interested in other positions in the town.

10. FIRST CLASS LIQUOR LICENSE:

The Board signed First Class Liquor Licenses for Pizza Stone, Heritage Deli, Stonehearth Inn, Free Range Restaurant and Fullerton Inn.

11. SECOND CLASS LIQUOR LICENSE:

The Board signed Second Class Liquor Licenses for Lisai's Chester Market, Dollar General and Meditrina Wine & Cheese.

12. OUTSIDE CONSUMPTION:

The Board signed the Outside Consumption Permits for Pizza Stone, Stonehearth Inn and Fullerton Inn.

13 ENTERTAINMENT PERMITS:

The Board signed Entertainment Permits for Pizza Stone and Stone Hearth Inn.

14. NEW BUSINESS/NEXT AGENDA:

The Board agreed that the next agenda will include the financial review, Town Plan as well as the policy list,

Lee Gustafson mentioned the Resolution voted on at Town Meeting. He stated that the resolution approved asked for the creation of an energy committee. Arne Jonynas suggested that this be discussed during the energy portion of the town plan review.

Ben Whalen stated that there were no complaints about fire hydrants this year. David Pisha stated that water/sewer took care of the hydrants this year with the help of an individual in town.

Leigh Dakin stated that she feels that the sidewalks look great and is grateful for the street sweeping program utilizing the children from the High School.

15. EXECUTIVE SESSION; SIGNAGE CONTRACT:

A motion was made by Lee Gustafson to enter Executive Session at 8:06 p.m. for the purpose of reviewing the attorney's opinion relative to the contract for signage.

Seconded by Ben Whalen. The motion passed. Julie Hance and David Pisha were invited in.

A motion was made by Ben Whalen to exit Executive Session at 8:28p.m. Seconded by Heather Chase. The motion passed.

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION; TOMASSO PROPERTY:

A motion was made by Heather Chase to enter Executive Session at 8:28 p.m. for the purpose of reviewing a Purchase and Sale Agreement for the Tomasso Property. The purpose of the P&S is to ask Tomasso to remove the property from the market for 18 months allowing the town sufficient time to determine if it is willing to purchase the property. Seconded by Lee Gustafson. The motion passed. Julie Hance and David Pisha were invited in.

A motion was made by Heather Chase to exit Executive Session at 9:24 p.m. Seconded by Lee Gustafson. The motion passed.

17. EXECUTIVE SESSION; TOWN MANAGER REVIEW

A motion was made by Ben Whalen to enter Executive Session at 9:24 p.m. for the purpose of performing the annual review of the Town Manager. Seconded by Lee Gustafson. The motion passed.

A motion was made by Ben Whalen to exit Executive Session at 9:59 p.m. Seconded by Lee Gustafson. The motion passed.

18. ADJOURN:

A motion was made by Lee Gustafson to adjourn. Seconded by Leigh Dakin. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 9:59 p.m.

Julie Hance
Secretary of the Select Board

Ben Whalen
Clerk of the Selectboard