

TOWN OF CHESTER
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

February 20, 2019
Minutes

PRESENT: Arne Jonynas; Heather Chase; Ben Whalen; Dan Cote; Lee Gustafson;
David Pisha

VISITORS: Julie Hance, Shawn Cunningham; Toby Charlton; Randy Miles; Michael
Merrow; Cold Paoitoiné; Conner miles; Gary Gibbs; Remus Preda; Paul
Anderson; Frank Bidwell; Jaedyn Ward; Matthew Thayer; Jacob Thayer;
Naomi Johnson; Matthew Sahliemer; Chrissy Haskins

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

1. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS:

Randy Miles was present with Boy Scout Troop 206. He stated that the boys are working
on their community badge. The boys asked the Board if there was a way they could gain
access to the records of the Boy Scouts which are stored at the Historical Society. They
would like to scan these records. Arne Jonynas asked David Pisha to be the liason
between the Historical Society and the Boy Scouts regarding access to these documents.
Scott Wunderle stated that the Boy Scouts are welcome to use his high-resolution
scanner.

2. OLD BUSINESS:

Okemo Chamber: David Pisha stated that there are 2 committees that have formed;
marketing and transportation. He indicated that he is on both and will be representing
Chester. He stated that the transportation committee discusses public transportation and
current issues.

Water/Stormwater: David Pisha stated that he met with Ashley Lucht from the water
program. She indicated that the water system is in good shape.

EMS Building: David Pisha stated that Jim Carroll will be talking with Russell
Construction about the changes requested to the Contract.

Fall Festival: Arne Jonynas would like to make sure that coordination continues with
Rotary. David Pisha indicated that he has been in contact with Steve and Nancy Davis
and they are pleased with the individuals that have stepped forward to help.

David Pisha stated that Jon Clark has reached out to him requesting assistance with the
Alumni Day Parade this year.

Arne Jonynas questioned the status of the ACT 250 application for the gravel extraction. Naomi Johnson stated that she is waiting to hear from Jim Goss and Fish & Wildlife.

David Pisha stated that he has spoken with the Elementary School principal regarding the movie. He stated that the movie requires a large contingent of kids. He will be reaching out to the movie producer again this week.

Arne Jonynas stated there may be assistance from the State regarding cleanup of hazardous sites. Julie Hance is doing additional research on the town's liability and the next steps.

3. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND UPDATE:

Remus Preda and Gary Gibbs from People's United Bank were present to provide an update on the status of the Economic Development Fund.

Gary Gibbs stated that as of yesterday, the fund balance is approximately \$360,000. He further explained the volatility of the market during 2018 and the rate of return. The rate of return has been 4.7 with a rolling CPI of 3.8. Gary Gibbs stated that the town is invested 50/50 with stocks and bonds at this time.

January 2016 the balance was \$290,000 which shows that there has been growth over the 2 year period. There is currently \$17,000 in cash available. The Board agreed that this amount would be sufficient for now. There are no large ticket items anticipated. Remus Preda indicated that money can be raised in a couple of days but that it is more efficient if there is advance notice.

4. SIDEWALK PROJECT PUBLIC HEARING:

Naomi Johnson and Christina Haskins were present from Dufresne Group to provide an update on the Sidewalk Project. The PowerPoint Presentation is attached to these minutes.

Naomi Johnson stated that conceptual plans have been prepared and viewed by VTrans. Dufresne is now working on the requested revisions. Naomi stated that the next step will be individual meetings with the property owners which is anticipated to begin in a few weeks. Following site visits, the right of way process will begin. The project will be ready to go to bid end of 2020.

Naomi Johnson described the various types of easements that will be required during this project. These include an agreement with the rail, one permanent easement and several temporary easements.

Arne Jonynas questioned if there are plans for additional planting in this project. Naomi Johnson stated that there are no plantings included in the project budget at this time. However, the town may choose to add plantings at its own cost.

Ben Whalen expressed his concern about the turn onto Depot Street that is proposed. He feels that the turn is too sharp and needs to be wider.

Heather Chase stated that she would like to see a list of the canopy items that are being removed to plan ahead for tree replacement.

Discussion ensued regarding the intersection between Depot and Maple. Julie Hance stated that the Highway Department is not happy with the intersection as shown and is concerned about traffic back up. Julie Hance questioned how wide the radius could go without having to move the utility pole. Christina indicated that she will speak with the utility company. It was noted that the only lines on this pole are VTel lines. Arne Jonynas suggested that there be a conversation with VTel about their dead lines throughout town.

Julie Hance asked the Board to approve two add-ons to the project. The first would resolve the inadequate drainage near the Park Light Inn which causes water to sheet across the road. The second is to properly collect water at the intersection of Depot and Coach Road. Christina Haskins explained the engineering of what would be required. The Board agreed to have Dufresne proceed with the drainage alternatives at this time.

5. FIRST CLASS LIQUOR LICENSE:

The Board approved and signed the First Class Liquor License for the American Legion and MacLaomainns.

6. SECOND CLASS LIQUOR LICENSE:

The Board approved and signed the Second Class Liquor License for Jiffy Mart and Sandri Sunoco.

7. OUTSIDE CONSUMPTION PERMIT:

The Board approved and signed the Outside Consumption Permit for the American Legion and MacLaomainns.

8. ENTERTAINMENT LICENSE:

The Board approved and signed the Entertainment License for the American Legion. They have indicated entertainment on Friday and Saturday from 8:00 until 1:00 a.m.

The Board approved and signed the Entertainment License for MacLaomainns. They have indicated entertainment every day of the week from 11:30 – 2:00 a.m.

9. NEW BUSINESS/NEXT AGENDA:

Arne Jonynas thanked Dan Cote for his service on the Selectboard.

Ben Whalen suggested that the new members should be invited to meet with the Town Manager and the departments to be updated on all that is happening in town.

10. ADJOURN:

A motion was made by Dan Cote to adjourn. Seconded by Heather Chase. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Julie Hance
Secretary of the Select Board

Ben Whalen
Clerk of the Selectboard