

TOWN OF CHESTER
SELECTBOARD MEETING

May 3, 2017
Minutes

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

VISITORS: Julie Hance; Townshend Gilbert; Neil Allen; Frank Bidwell; William
Lindsay; Steven Sykes; Rick Cloud; Shawn Cunningham; Phil Perlah;
Greg Bobar

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:

April 14, 2017:

A motion was made by Dan Cote to approve the minutes from the April 14, 2017 Special Selectboard meeting. Seconded by Lee Gustafson. The motion passed.

April 19, 2017:

A motion was made by Lee Gustafson to approve the minutes from the April 19, 2017 Selectboard meeting. Seconded by Dan Cote. The motion passed.

2. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS:

Townshend Gilbert was present to discuss Red Nose Day. The date being proposed at this time is May 25. They agreed to shorten the time this year. The money raised last year was \$1,900 which was used at Chester Andover in several ways as well to help a foster family. The Red Nose group is looking to use The Green from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. They have set a goal of \$2,000 for this year. The walking path would be the same as last, which worked well. There is no walking in the roadway.

A motion was made by Ben Whalen to approve the use of The Green for Red Nose Day on May 25, 2017 from 2:30 to 7:30 p.m. Seconded by Dan Cote. The motion passed.

Frank Bidwell stated that he has reviewed the Old Business report and finds that not everything is put on the Old Business list. He would like to see this report better managed. Frank Bidwell stated that he has made a list of the missing items and he will provide them to Lee Gustafson.

3. OLD BUSINESS:

Master Plan: David Pisha stated that a subcommittee of the Steering Committee got together to create a consolidated list of project ideas. The next Steering Committee meeting is scheduled for May 9.

Stormwater: David Pisha stated that Coach Road is close to being finished up. The transmission line is making progress.

Emergency Services Building: David Pisha stated that there will be a brief presentation at the next meeting from a local architect regarding the process that would need to be followed should this be revived. Arne Jonynas requested that Matt Wilson be invited to attend as well.

Yosemite Fire House: David Pisha stated that Jim Carroll will be writing the final Quit Claim Deed which should be presented for signature very soon. We are now waiting on the notice for heirs to run its course to ensure that there are no interested heirs. This project should be wrapped up this summer.

Dan Cote asked for an item from 2012 to be removed from the list. David Pisha stated that there are items that can be removed and he will review.

Brookside Cemetery: David Pisha stated that Deb Daniels will be at the next meeting to offer a presentation as to the status of the new cemetery project. A hurdle has been determining the best walkway location for access to the back cemetery. David Pisha explained that he is hopeful that she will be presenting a plan to the Board, with some varying options that are available.

David Pisha stated that the Board will also hear a presentation from Tom Kennedy regarding the updates to the Solid Waste Board.

Arne Jonynas questioned the status of the stormwater system in Mountain View and Kevadus Circle. Julie Hance explained that Dufresne Group is currently working on conducting an inventory of sewer connections and sump pumps.

Arne Jonynas questioned whether or not David Pisha obtained an answer from the auditor relative to the appropriate amount of debt. David Pisha stated that he will speak with the auditor next week when he is here.

4. REPORT ON THE POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Chief Cloud stated that Dutch, the new police canine, has completed his training. He has made his first drug bust this past week. Chief Cloud stated that the radar signs are in and ready. However, there is one sign located in the State right of way. We are waiting on the permit from the State for this sign. The signs will be located on North Street by Squatties, near Knockout Carpet on Route 11, and down near the American Legion.

Chief Cloud stated that the new cruiser has been ordered and should be in use within the next couple of months.

Dan Cote asked if there are tools or items needed that the Police Department does not have. Chief Cloud stated that the Department is functioning well. He discussed the new officers. Andy Brothers is from Chester and is working as the Detective. Todd Maher comes with a military background and is working out very well. Both of these officers were known prior to hiring and came with training already completed. Denise Caron is retiring this year and the town hired Julie Percell as her replacement.

Arne Jonynas asked if the dog is trained to detect marijuana. Chief Cloud stated that he is trained in marijuana. With the new law passing, there are new protocols in place for detecting marijuana.

Townshend Gilbert asked that Coffee with a Cop be reinstated. Chief Cloud indicated that they are looking to start this again.

5. OUTSIDE CONSUMPTION PERMIT:

The Selectboard signed the Outside Consumption Permit for the Fullerton Inn.

6. NEW BUSINESS FOR NEXT AGENDA:

Dan Cote would like to discuss the budget process at a future meeting, perhaps in June. He would like the Board to review the philosophy behind the budgeting process. They would like to see the Board become more proactive in the budget process instead of reactive.

Ben Whalen stated that he was contacted by the original owners of the LaFrance engine. There will be a celebration in June in Conway, MA and they would like to use the LaFrance in their 250th celebration parade. The Engine Company will be reviewing how they might be able to get it down there. Frank Bidwell stated that he spoke with Kelly Arrison who might be able to get the engine running again.

Heather Chase stated that she would like to review the Personnel Policy, Purchasing Policy and Donation Policy at future meetings.

David Pisha stated that BART Energy has begun the furnace replacement as well as the addition of a central air unit.

David Pisha stated that the Whiting Library is again running their seed swap.

Heather Chase reminded everybody that Green Up Day is this weekend.

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A motion was made by Heather Chase to enter into Executive Session for the purposes of conducting interviews for Planning Commission members. Seconded by Lee Gustafson. The motion passed. The Board entered Executive Session at 7:23 p.m.

Greg Bobar and Phil Perlah were invited into the Executive Session.

A motion was made by Heather Chase to exit the Executive Session. Seconded by Lee Gustafson. The motion passed. The Selectboard exited Executive Session at 9:15 p.m.

A motion was made by Heather Chase to enter Executive Session for the purpose of conducting a midyear review of the Town Manager. Seconded by Dan Cote. The motion passed. The Selectboard entered Executive Session at 9:15 p.m.

A motion was made by Heather Chase to exit Executive Session. Seconded by Dan Cote. The motion passed. The Selectboard exited Executive Session at 9:47 p.m.

12. ADJOURN:

A motion was made by Lee Gustafson to adjourn. Seconded by Dan Cote. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 9:47 p.m.

Julie Hance
Secretary of the Select Board

Ben Whalen
Clerk of the Select Board