

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT THE NEXT BOS MEETING

TOWN OF CHESTER CONNECTICUT
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, December 27, 2017
Community Meeting Room
203 Middlesex Avenue
Chester, Connecticut

CALL TO ORDER

First Selectwoman Gister called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. In attendance included First Selectwoman Gister, Selectwoman Janecek, Selectman Grzybowski, John Brainerd, Jim Schaefer, and Jim Monopoli.

APPROVAL OF 11/29/17 MEETING MINUTES

Charlene Janecek made a motion to approve the minutes from the 11/29/17 BOS meeting as amended. Jamie Grzybowski seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Correction: Page 2 – correct spelling “Divis”

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Charlene Janecek made a motion to make the following appointments:

Richard Strauss, D, as a BOF alternate, Eleanor Wahlberg, D, as a full member to Inland Wetland with a term to expire 11/16/21, Steve Tiezzi, R, as a P&Z alternate, with a term to expire 11/19/19, Sally Murray, D, as a P&Z alternate with a term to expire 11/19/19, and Emily Masters, D, as a full member to the Retirement Board, with a term to expire 12/16/18. Lauren Gister seconded the motion. Discussion followed:

Jamie Grzybowski requested that appointments be made individually. Charlene Janecek withdrew the motion.

Lauren reported that all board/commissions being discussed have appropriate minority representation.

Lauren Gister made a motion to appoint Steve Tiezzi, R, as a P&Z alternate, with a term to expire 11/19/19, and Sally Murray, D, as a P&Z alternate with a term to expire 11/19/19. Charlene Janecek seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Charlene Janecek made a motion to appoint Eleanor Wahlberg, D, as a full member to the Inland Wetland Commission with a term to expire 11/16/21. James Grzybowski seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Charlene Janecek made a motion to appoint Richard Strauss, D, as a BOF alternate. Lauren Gister seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Charlene Janecek made a motion to appoint Emily Masters, D, as a full member to the Retirement Board, with a term to expire 12/16/18. Lauren Gister seconded the motion. Discussion followed:

Jamie Grzybowski requested that additional information be provided prior to appointing Emily Masters to the Retirement Board.

The motion was withdrawn.

Jamie Grzybowski made a motion to table the appointment of Emily Masters to the Retirement Board. Charlene Janecek seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Charlene Janecek made a motion to add to the agenda the interview James Schaefer for the Valley Shore Emergency Communications Board of Directors seat. Lauren Gister seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

BUDGET AND BOS MEETING SCHEDULE

The Regular BOS meeting scheduled on January 24, 2018 will begin at 6 p.m. Lauren will discuss with the BOF Chairman the scheduling conflict of the 4/19/18 BOF meeting.

The draft calendar for 2018 BOS meetings was distributed.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT OPTIONS – Health District Presentation

As previously reported, Lee Vito, Sanitarian/Health Director plans to retire on 1/1/18. Dr. Kotrady also plans to retire on 1/1/18 but will be available until 7/1/18. Lauren continued that this is an opportunity for the Town to review options for Health Department Services. In the past, the Town voted to not join the Health District. Currently, Chester does not meet the standards established in a 1998 law that require all towns to have a Health Department working at least 35 hours per week and various other parameters of that law including a Health Education Program.

Mr. Jim Monopoli- CRAD – Connecticut River Health District provided information on the Health District including:

- Ten essential public health services.
- The Health District's Annual Report.
 - \$750,000 annual budget
 - \$200,000 fund balance
- The Health District's Brochure that describes all services provided by the District.
 - Lead prevention
 - Chronic Disease management
 - Flu vaccination
 - Skin cancer prevention
 - Personal hygiene education
 - Participation in an Opioid Task Force
 - Nutrition awareness
 - Oral Health program
 - Blood pressure screenings
 - Water testing – swim areas and private well testing
 - Food inspections (restaurant inspectors will take required courses per the updated FDA codes), salon inspections
- Mr. Monopoli updated the BOS on the current staffing of the Health District
 - Chester could have a staff member on site at the Town Hall

- Towns are billed on a per capita basis; currently at approximately \$11.50. If Chester joined the District, that rate would be adjusted lower for all participating Towns and Chester's costs would be phased in over a 3- year period.
- Six-member board, based on town population, one board member per 10,000 in population. If Chester joined, they would have one board member.
- The District provides good response times to residents; i.e. septic inspections, coordination with contractors, etc.
- A Town Meeting vote is necessary to join the Health District. No contract is necessary; however, if the Town chooses to withdraw from the District, a 6-month lead time is required.
- Hoarding- the District assists the Building Official and P&Z Officials as necessary on hoarding cases. Additional coordination with clergy, family, social services, etc. is sometimes needed in these instances.

The Carmody Septic Tracking System is used by CRAD. This system provides standardized pump out records for the member towns. "Paper" documents/records can be filed at the town hall for easy access to residents.

Future projects for the District include:

- Expand the flu vaccination program
- Update the website
- Obtain an outpatient clinic license
- Utilize the "Cloud" for back-up, etc.

Mr. Monopoli encouraged the BOS to forward any further questions to him. The BOS thanked Mr. Monopoli for his presentation.

VALLEY SHORE COMMUNICATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS POSITION

Jim Schaefer reported that he is interested in representing Chester on the Valley Shore Emergency Communications Board of Directors to ensure an appropriate communications system in the event of an emergency. He reported that the Board must be progressive and move forward with updating communications. He has attended Valley Shore meetings and reported on the diversity of the group.

The Board thanked Mr. Schaefer for his comments and interest in serving on the Board.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT

Lauren reported on the following:

- The importance of residents registering/signing up for the CT Alert system to ensure communication with residents in the event of an emergency.
- The POCD survey closes on January 2. To date, 407 responses have been received. The Task Force will meet in January and it is expected that a Public Workshop will be scheduled in February.

The BOS discussed the appropriate use of sick time; particularly with part-time employees. As stated in the policy manual, sick time is not to be used for vacation. A notice will go out in paychecks reminding employees of the proper uses for sick time.

It is anticipated that our Resident State Trooper Matt Ewing will be promoted. The State will provide an interim replacement.

No further details available regarding the 20 Water Street property rental.

ADJOURNMENT

Charlene Janecek made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 p.m. Jamie Grzybowski seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Suzanne Helchowski
Clerk