

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT THE NEXT BOS MEETING

CHESTER BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, June 27, 2018
203 Middlesex Ave.
Community Meeting Room
Chester, CT

CALL TO ORDER

First Selectwoman Gister called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. In attendance included First Selectwoman Gister, Selectwoman Janecek, and Selectman Grzybowski.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Charlene Janecek made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 13, 2018 BOS meeting. Jamie Grzybowski seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS – None.

2019 MUNICIPAL ELECTION REPORT

The BOS discussed and reviewed the current Chester ballot. As previously reported, the ballot is extremely lengthy and includes positions that do not necessarily need to be elected and could be appointed positions. Lauren reported that there are individuals that are willing to serve on boards/commissions but do not wish to “run” for the respective seat.

Any change to the ballot would require a Town Meeting and possibly a Public Hearing.

A special BOS meeting/Ballot Workshop was scheduled on July 17th from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. in the Selectwoman’s Office. Data on the history of changes to the ballot will be available at the meeting for BOS review.

TRAFFIC, NOISE, POLICE SERVICES AND CITATIONS

The BOS discussed items of concern regarding the increased “Summer population” in Chester including:

- Cedar Lake Road – Pattaconk Lake, Cockaponsit Park
 - Noise
 - Speeding/Running stop signs
- Cedar Lake
 - Individuals without parking passes loitering at Cedar Lake
 - Unpermitted birthday parties at beach
 - Parents drinking alcohol
 - Lauren will contact Park & Rec to ensure proper protocol is followed and lifeguards will be encouraged to call the police.
- Snack Shack – Alcohol at Sunday evening music events
 - It is clearly posted that alcohol is not permitted on the beach
 - Snack Shack operator may request a special liquor permit during their events

While individuals have been encouraged to contact the police, many are reluctant to do so. The BOS stressed the importance of informing the police when there are any concerns.

Lauren reported that she has met with the Police and the Citation Review Board to consider updating the current town issued ticket. A copy of the Town of Westbrook's town ticket and protocol for appealing same has been requested and will be reviewed by the Citation Review Board, Police Dept. and First Selectwoman. Any changes made to the ticket will be forwarded to the BOS for review, comment and approval.

The BOS discussed parking concerns (including emergency vehicle access); particularly in the North Main Street/Goose Hill parking area. This area is used regularly for Farmer's Market and Norma Terrace parking. The possible placement and parameters of "no parking" signs will be explored with John Divis and possibly Jacobson & Associates.

SHARED ASSESSOR SERVICES

A copy of the Assessor's Agreement/Contract with East Haddam was included in the BOS packet.

Lauren reported that the topic of shared services has been discussed at RiverCOG meetings.

Chester has been sharing an Assessor with the Town of East Haddam for several years. Currently, East Haddam employees the Assessor full time, including benefits, vacation, etc. and bills Chester a flat fee for the two days the Assessor is on site in Chester (approximately 14 hours per week, Mondays and Thursdays). Any time spent by the Assessor in Chester over 16 hours per week is billed at a rate of \$65.82 per hour. If a holiday, personal day, vacation day or sick day fall on a Monday or Thursday, Chester now receives a per diem reduction in billing. While in the agreement, this reduction was not received until this past fiscal year, saving the Town approximately \$12,000.

The current agreement/contract expires on June 30 and Lauren is negotiating the terms of a new contract with East Haddam's First Selectman.

VALLEY SHORE EMERGENCY SERVICES CONTRACT

A copy of the Valley Shore Emergency Services renewal was included in the BOS packet. The 5 year renewal calls for an annual fee of \$77,129.00. Valley Shore must provide 6 month notice on any increase.

Charlene Janecek made a motion authorizing First Selectwoman Gister to sign the renewal with Valley Shore Emergency Services as presented. James Grzybowski seconded the motion.

The motion passed with James Grzybowski abstaining from the vote. Lauren Gister and Charlene Janecek both voted in favor of the motion.

SELECTMAN'S REPORTS

Charlene – Update re: Main Street Project. As previously reported, the Main Street Committee members and Jacobson "walked" the outlined streetscape per the proposal and determined that the design needs adjusting slightly to serve the needs of the Town adequately (angles would hinder parking, potentially too narrow). The current design is being reviewed by the design professionals (Kent & Frost and Jacobson). They will provide overlays and options for Committee review at the July 10th meeting.

The Fire Marshal, Fire Department and Police Department will be invited to offer input on the new proposal.

The BOS discussed the location of the hydrant currently located at the flag pole. Charlene will follow-up with the Main Street Committee regarding the possible relocation of the hydrant to the other side of the street.

The July 11, 2018 BOS meeting was cancelled and the August 22, 2018 BOS meeting was moved to August 29, 2018.

The adjustments made by the BOS and forwarded to the BOF regarding the Policy Manual were discussed. In order to approve the document in a timely manner, 5 of the 18 chapters with items that the BOS deemed worthy of further discussion in conjunction with the BOF were specifically not addressed in the documentation that was forwarded to the BOF. It was the BOS's intention to address these additional items at a possible joint BOS/BOF meeting at later date so that the rest of the Manual could be updated first. Jamie requested a copy of the original documents, BOS changes to the document and BOF changes to the document.

AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS – None.

ADJOURNMENT

James Grzybowski made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. Charlene Janecek seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Suzanne Helchowski
Clerk