

THESE MINTUES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT THE NEXT BOS MEETING

TOWN OF CHESTER, CONNECTICUT
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, March 13, 2019
Community Meeting Room
Chester Town Hall
Chester, Connecticut

CALL TO ORDER

First Selectwoman Gister called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. In attendance included First Selectwoman Gister, Selectman Grzybowski, Selectwoman Janecek and Chief Brainard.

AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS – None.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Charlene Janecek made a motion to appoint Abigail Rice – D – to a full seat on the Library Board with a term to expire 11/21/23. Lauren Gister seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Charlene Janecek made a motion to appoint Charles Greeney, Jr. – U –to the R4 Building, Grounds and Maintenance Oversight Committee with a term to expire 11/19/19. James Grzybowski seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Charlene Janecek made a motion to appoint Jenny Kitsen – D – as an alternate to the Ct. River Gateway Commission with a term to expire 7/1/20. James Grzybowski seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Lauren reported that the Superintendent of Schools has submitted her retirement letter. The Supervision District has formed a Search Committee and they are asking that each town appoint a resident to serve on the Search Committee. BOS members were encouraged to submit candidate names to the First Selectwoman. The BOS will appoint an individual to the Search Committee at their next BOS meeting.

SMALL CITIES GRANT INFORMATION

Lauren reported that Dale Kroop continues to develop the Small Cities Grant application relative to Cherry Hill. The Public Hearing announcement was advertised in The Day on 3/11/11 and will appear again on 3/19. The Public Hearing will take place at the 3/27 BOS meeting. Dale will facilitate the presentation at the BOS meeting. The grant application is due in mid-April with an award announcement expected in September.

FAIR HOUSING MONTH RESOLUTION

Lauren reported that April is Fair Housing Month; the 51st anniversary of the passing of the Fair Housing Act (part of the Civil Rights Act). Lauren developed a proclamation relative to Fair Housing Month.

James Grzybowski made a motion to declare April Fair Housing Month in Chester, Connecticut. Charlene Janecek seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

A copy of the Proclamation will be included in the Small Cities Grant application.

SELECTMEN REPORTS

Main Street Project - Jamie reported that the Main Street Committee, at their recent meeting, discussed two options (options 2 and 3) for the Main Street project. At the next Main Street Committee meeting, the Committee will make a recommendation to the BOS for their consideration. Jamie stressed to the Committee that the BOS will make the final decision on the plan.

Jamie updated the BOS on the options discussed by the Committee and the BOS discussed same. Highlights of the discussion include:

- The BOS requested a list of items that will and will not be funded via LOTCIP.
- Portions of proposed work to be done on Spring Street and Maple Street will need to be funded by the Town.
- Clarification is needed on the responsibility party to address the “void” locations.
- Clarification is needed on the decorative street lights located on private property relative to easements, responsible parties, etc.
- The status of the necessary junction box in the vicinity of Simons to provide the necessary power to Main Street merchants – an electrical engineer will be consulted regarding this project.
- Clarification is needed on the status of the proposed kiosk – who is responsible for material in/on the kiosk?
- The BOS discussed proposed plantings located on private property. Who will maintain the trees and are they really necessary for the project?
- Parking and Directional Signs – the size of the signs is dictated by the State.
- The BOS expressed concern regarding the consultant’s attendance at additional meetings that are not included in the contract and possible billing for same.
- A Public Hearing on the project will be scheduled.

BOS members will attend the next Main Street Committee meeting. Lauren will develop a list of concerns to be addressed by Jacobson and Associates and/or the Main Street Committee.

Solar at CES/Project Adventure - Jamie reported that he schedules an annual safety inspection of the Project Adventure course/equipment. As previously reported, the tree related to Project Adventure is scheduled to be removed to accommodate the solar project at CES. The intent is to replace the tree with an appropriate pole to facilitate the Project Adventure Program. Costs estimates for the pole are \$8,000 to \$9,000. Lauren will discuss the timing and funding of the project with Greenskies.

Jamie continues to regularly review all electric bills.

Lauren encouraged BOS members to submit proposed cuts to the municipal budget; understanding that the municipal budget is lean. Safety issues and tree removal, as discussed at prior BOS meetings (ash borer and gypsy moths have killed many, many trees in Chester and these dead trees must be addressed because of safety concerns) are budget drivers. The BOS will meet to discuss possible cuts to the budget.

Lauren reminded the BOS that P&Z will meet on 3/14/19 regarding the POCD. The Public Hearing is still “open”. At the meeting on 3/14, P&Z plans to close the Public Hearing and vote to adopt the POCD.

The newest draft of the document is on the website and includes all of the additions/corrections from the public hearings. Malone and McBroom will redo the maps (enlarge them) and the maps will be an addendum to the document.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Charlene Janecek made a motion to approve the minutes from the 2/27/19 BOS meeting. James Grzybowski seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

James Grzybowski made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:19 p.m. Charlene Janecek seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Suzanne Helchowski
Clerk