

THESE MINTUES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT THE NEXT BOS MEETING

TOWN OF CHESTER, CONNECTICUT
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, March 27, 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, Dale Kroop, Community Resource Management, and 15 audience members.

PUBLIC HEARING – Small Cities Grant Application – please see minutes from Public Hearing (filed separately).

The Public Hearing was called to collect comment on the Cherry Hill Grant Application relative to the Small Cities Block Grant.

Charlene Janecek made a motion to move agenda item 5 “Resolution of Support for Small Cities Grant to Improve Housing at Cherry Hill”. Lauren Gister seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR SMALL CITIES GRANT TO IMPROVE HOUSING AT CHERRY HILL

The following was moved by Charlene Janecek and seconded by Jamie Grzybowski. The motion passed unanimously.

WHEREAS, Federal monies are available under the Connecticut Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program, administered by the State of Connecticut, Department of Housing pursuant to Public Law 93-3 83, as amended; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 127c, and Part VI of Chapter 130 of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Commissioner of Housing is authorized to disburse such Federal monies to local municipalities; and,

WHEREAS, it is desirable and in the public interest that the Town of Chester make application to the State for \$800,000 in order to undertake a Small Cities Community Development Program and to execute an Assistance Agreement therefore, should one be offered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

1. That it is cognizant of the conditions and prerequisites for State Assistance imposed by Part VI of Chapter 130 of the Connecticut General Statutes; and,
2. That the filing of an application by the Town of Chester in an amount not to exceed \$800,000 is hereby approved, and that the First Selectwoman is hereby authorized and directed to file such application with the Commissioner of the Department of Housing, to provide such additional information, to execute such other documents as may be required by the Commissioner, to execute an Assistance Agreement with the State of Connecticut for State financial assistance if

such an Agreement is offered, to execute any amendments, rescissions, and revisions thereto, and to act as the authorized representative of the Town of Chester.

AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS – None.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Lauren reported on a request received from Andrew Landsman, U, to fill the alternate seat on P&Z vacated by Sally Murray. The term is set to expire 11/19/19. Mr. Landsman’s letter was included in the BOS packet.

Lauren explained to Mr. Landsman the protocol for seating individuals to Boards/Commissions. Ultimately, an individual appointed by the BOS to a seat on P&Z would have to run for the seat at the next election. Because Mr. Landsman is a “U”, he would need an endorsement from one of the political parties in Town.

Charlene Janecek made a motion to appoint Andrew Landsman, U, to P&Z alt. with a term to expire 11/19/19. Lauren Gister seconded the motion. Discussion followed.

Charlene Janecek withdrew the above motion.

Charlene Janecek made a motion to invite Mr. Landsman to the next BOS meeting for a discussion relative to his request for appointment to P&Z. Jamie Grzybowski seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

APPOINTMENT TO SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH COMMITTEE

As previously reported, the BOE is requesting an individual from Chester be appointed to the Superintendent Search Committee.

Lauren reported that she has two candidates interested in serving on the Committee; Mr. Bruce Watrous and Mr. Patrick Kilty.

Jamie Grzybowski made a motion to appoint Patrick Kilty to the Superintendent Search Committee. Charlene Janecek seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2020 CENSUS COMPLETE COUNT COMMITTEE

Lauren reported that the Secretary of State is developing a state wide initiative relative to the upcoming 2020 Census. The State is requesting that towns form committees for the 2020 census (4/2019 to 4/2020). The Committee will be tasked with developing appropriate outreach regarding the Census. Additional details and a template for a BOS Resolution on the initiative are forthcoming.

VETERAN’S APPRECIATION CEREMONY

Lauren reported that the Governor’s office has reinstated a campaign to honor Veterans in Connecticut. In prior years, WWII Veterans were honored but then the program was discontinued. The State would like to “pick up where they left off” and schedule ceremonies honoring Korean War and Vietnam War Veterans.

Lauren will speak to appropriate individuals (Assessor’s office, Town Clerk) to develop of list of Veterans. She will also clarify if the program is for current Chester residents or those who served from Chester.

The date for the event has not yet been determined (probably sometime in June).

REPAIR AND IMPROVEMENT NEEDS OF MAPLE STREET PARKING LOT AND WALKWAY

Lauren reported that she met with Jeff Jacobson, Bruce Sypher and John Divis regarding the conditions of the Maple Street Parking Lot and Walkway. It was agreed that the walkway and lighting are the biggest issues. A site walk will be scheduled with appropriate parties including the BOS and a list of options and costs associated with same will be developed.

DRAINAGE AND ICING ISSUES – KINGS HIGHWAY

The BOS tabled the agenda item “Drainage and Icing Issues – Kings Highway”.

MIRA MEMBERSHIP

Lauren reported that due to a catastrophic equipment failure, MIRA has increased their rates relative to trash and recycling. Lauren received a letter from MIRA regarding the status of Chester’s contract with them; currently a “Tier 3” contract. If the Town switches to a “Tier 1” contract, both the Town and All Waste Customers will realize savings (in the form of a lesser rate increase as of July 1, 2019).

Lauren Gister made a motion to convert to a Tier One Contract with MIRA contingent upon All Waste’s commitment to pass savings realized onto their customers/residents. Charlene Janecek seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

SELECTMEN REPORTS

Lauren reported that the Main Street Committee has scheduled a Public Information Session on 5/14/19 @ 7 p.m. at the Town Hall. The purpose of the Public Information Session is to receive the public’s input on the overall plan and design of the next phase of the Main Street Project.

Lauren requested that John Divis and Bruce Sypher provide information regarding damaged stone walls throughout town and to provide detailed information regarding road repairs for FEMA.

Lauren reported that she is working with representatives from the Health District (CHRAD) regarding the lack of potable water on Denlar Drive and the next steps to address same.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Charlene Janecek made a motion to approve the minutes from the 3/13/19 BOS meeting. James Grzybowski seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

James Grzybowski made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m. Charlene Janecek seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Suzanne Helchowski
Clerk