

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT THE NEXT BOS MEETING

TOWN OF CHESTER, CONNECTICUT
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, August 14, 2019
Community Meeting Room
203 Middlesex Avenue
Chester, Connecticut

CALL TO ORDER

First Selectwoman Gister called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. In attendance included: First Selectwoman Gister, Selectwoman Janecek, Selectman Grzybowski, and Joel Severance, Harbor Commission. Additional individuals were present in the Audience.

AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS - None

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS/COMMISSIONS

James Grzybowski made a motion to re-appoint the following individuals to 2-year terms on the Cedar Lake Water Shed Commission (expiration July 1, 2021), Rick Holloway, William Bernhart, Denise Learned, and Christopher Hayward. Charlene Janecek seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

HARBOR COMMISSION REQUEST FOR DREDGING

Joel Severance distributed information relative to the dredging of the mouth of Chester Creek. He reported on the need for dredging as follows:

- Periodic dredging of the creek is necessary to ensure access to marinas and to prevent boats running aground in the channel. Public safety will also be enhanced as a result of the dredging.
 - Significant revenue (restaurants, merchants, etc.) is realized from the many out of town boaters visiting Chester.
 - Dredging was last done in 2000.
- In the past grants have paid 100% for dredging projects; however, the new grant, unexpectedly, includes a 20% share from the municipality.
 - The BOS has recommended that dredging be included in the 10-year Capital Plan.
- The Harbor Commission is in the process of obtaining 2 environmental reports from DEEP and getting permits and review from appropriate Boards/Commissions. It is anticipated that all permits, etc. will be received within 60 days.
- All grant requests will be reevaluated by the CT Port Authority in September. Funds are not needed by that time; however, the Harbor Commission requests that the funding be approved by the BOS and BOF prior to Port Authority review.
- Timeline for project – late Winter/early Spring.
- Arrangements are being made for appropriate disposal of the dredged materials. Additional funding may be necessary to dispose of materials.
- Marinas may be approached to assist in funding the dredging project if the grant funding falls short or is not approved.
- A Town Meeting is necessary for final approval of funding.

James Grzybowski made a motion to approve and forward to the BOF a request for a special appropriation in the amount of \$25,000 as the required cost share for a grant to dredge the mouth of Chester Creek, contingent upon the Harbor Commission receiving all permits and reports and receiving final grant approval for the dredging project and forward to a Town Meeting for further action. Charlene Janecek seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROPRIATIONS

Lauren reported that the Town realized a greater than anticipated end of year surplus. The use of surplus to fund several projects, Skyview Brownfields study, Meetinghouse Floor, trees, Maple Street Parking lot etc., was discussed. Lauren will continue to pursue cost estimates for the various projects for future consideration by the BOS and BOF. It is anticipated that the current tree budget will be fully expended in the near future.

MAIN STREET PROJECT

A Special Main Street Committee is scheduled on 8/20/19. At that meeting, Jacobson representatives will provide a status report on the design. Full approval has been received from SHPO relative to the "void" areas.

All parties have agreed on the placement of the hydrant and the Water Company has marked the street for the water main replacement project anticipated to begin in the Fall.

Presently, the proposed phasing of the project and plan includes keeping one lane of Main Street open, including parking, going one way, for the entire project. The goal is to not close the road completely unless absolutely necessary. Lauren is currently pursuing easements from several property owners.

Lauren forwarded to the Merchants a survey requesting information regarding their businesses; i.e. hours of operation, number of employees, areas of concern relative to the Main Street Project, etc. All feedback will be collected and a spreadsheet will be developed on same.

The BOS discussed proposed parking options during the project (St. Joseph's parking lot, Maple Street parking lot). Appropriate handicap parking will need to be identified.

Lauren will follow-up with Eversource and appropriate property owners relative to electrical matters related to the project.

A meeting is being scheduled with property owners relative to necessary work on walls.

SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

Jamie updated the BOS on a recent ALICE training event that he attended (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter and Evacuate). Protocols related to emergency lockdown situations have been updated. Schools and places of worship are participating in ALICE training. Also, the new playground is being installed at CES. The Project Adventure course will be completed during the school year.

Lauren reported that the 75% (approximately \$91,000) reimbursement from FEMA has been received, for non-bridge related projects. A \$6,000 claim remains outstanding.

Public Works is currently addressing two drainage projects due to the lack of storm drains; one on Kings Highway and Story Hill.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES- July 10, 2019

Charlene Janecek made a motion to approve the minutes from the 7/10/19 BOS meeting. James Grzybowski seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

TRANSFERS

Lauren reported that several bills came in after the close as the fiscal year and offered the following transfers for BOS consideration:

James Grzybowski made a motion to approve and forward to the BOF for further action, the following transfers:

From	10-01-20-1000-270	P&Z – General Legal	\$126
To	10-01-21-1000-106	Inland Wetland – Outside Clerical	\$126
From	10-01-20-1000-270	P&Z – General Legal	\$3,684
To	10-02-30-1081-365	Highway – Tree Maint – Outside Con	\$600
To	10-02-30-1130-265	Highway – General Engineering	\$2,172
To	10-02-30-1130-445	Highway – Road Maintenance	\$912

Charlene Janecek seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion made and duly seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Suzanne Helchowski
Clerk