

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT THE NEXT BOS MEETING

TOWN OF CHESTER, CONNECTICUT  
Board of Selectmen  
Regular Meeting  
Wednesday, December 18, 2019  
Community Room  
Chester Town Hall

CALL TO ORDER

First Selectwoman Gister called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. In attendance included: First Selectwoman Gister, Selectwoman Janecek, and Selectman Englert.

AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS – none.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Charlene Janecek made a motion to re-appoint Joel Severance to the Harbor Management Commission with a term to expire 10/3/25. Tom Englert seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

TOWN HALL ENERGY PROPOSAL

In an effort to realize energy and cost savings, Earth Light Energy has submitted 2 proposals to converting to LED lights at the Town Hall. One proposal calls for changing every fixture in the Town Hall; however, this option is cost prohibitive. The second option calls for changing out the bulbs in the Town Hall but replacing only the fixtures located in common areas. A copy of the proposal was included in the BOS packet. The proposal has been reviewed by Rick Holloway and the E-Team. Rick Holloway, E-Team, has met with Rob Ferrigno, Earth Light Energy Solutions.

Lauren updated the BOS on potential cost savings, incentives, rebates and loan options offered by Eversource. She recommended that the BOS review the proposal and develop questions that will be forwarded to the E-Team. Representatives from the E-Team and Earth Light Energy will be invited to the next BOS meeting for further discussion.

Tom Englert requested additional details on lights and fixtures that would be included in the proposal.

SELECTMAN'S REPORT

Lauren reported on the following:

- Main Street Project – the State's response to the proposal has been returned. Their response included allowable items in the grant, including the Maple Street portion of the plan. A timber guardrail will not be funded, only steel. The Spring Street portion (appx. 250 ft.) will be the Town's responsibility. We have requested clarification on non-participating costs for private property; (i.e. void areas). Because the stairs at the stone wall are not ADA compliant, the State will not pay for that portion of the project. To pursue the matter further with the State will delay the project. All temporary easements have been signed except for one and Lauren is pursuing same with the property owner.
- Private Dam – As previously reported, the privately-owned dam behind the Historic Society (Jennings Factory) is in need of repair. Due to stringent DEEP regulations, including inspections and

emergency plans regarding privately owned dams, it is onerous and expensive to maintain the dam. It is overdue for inspections and DEEP has issued an NOV. If not properly maintained, it could pose a hazard to the health and safety of the Town. Lauren is meeting with the owner on Thursday, 12/19/19 to discuss options and plans. The Nature Conservancy has access to grant funds that would assist owners in removing dams and the owner may be interested in pursuing same. Attorney Bennet is researching the rights of stakeholders and neighboring property owners in the event that the dam is removed. He has copies of deeds and maps relative to the property.

- The State Police Radio Network has been opened to municipalities in Connecticut. Lauren has asked Chief Grzybowski to update her on the needs of the Fire Department, Ambulance, etc. Chester, along with Deep River and Essex, may be interested in pursuing the Regional Performance Grant through the COG. Matching funds would be required and the grant application is due in March.

#### APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 4, 2019 MINUTES

Charlene Janecek made a motion to approve the minutes from the 12/4/19 BOS meeting. Tom Englert seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Charlene Janecek made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. Tom Englert seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Suzanne Helchowski  
Clerk