



**Chesterfield Select Board Minutes
Tuesday, June 21, 2022 at 4:00 p.m.
Town Office Building - 422 Main Road**

The Select Board meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Mr. Fuller.

Select Board Members Present: Roger Fuller, Trish Colson-Montgomery, Don Willard

Select Board Members Participating Remotely:

Select Board Members Absent:

Town Administrator Present: Brenda Lessard

Public Officials Present: John Follet, Conservation Commission; Meg McWherter, Treasurer

Public Officials Present Via ZOOM:

General Public Present:

General Public Present Via ZOOM: Paul Fenn, Local Power

Recorder of Minutes: Brenda Lessard

Common Acronyms:

ACO-Animal Control Officer

COA: Council of Aging

DEP: Department of Environmental Protection

DHCD: Department of Housing and Community Development

DOT: Department of Transportation

EMD: Emergency Management Director

FRCOG: Franklin County Council of Governments\

HAEMS: Hilltown Ambulance Emergency Management Services

HCDC: Hilltown Community Development Corporation

IFB: Invitation for Bids

MassDOT: Massachusetts Department of Transportation

MLP: Municipal Light Plant

OSRP: Open Space & Recreation Plan

PILOT: Payment in Lieu of Taxes

PVPC: Pioneer Valley Planning Commission

RFP: Request for Proposals

RFQ: Request for Quotes

ROW: Right of Way

STM: Special Town Meeting

WG&E: Westfield Gas & Electric

Video Conference Hybrid Meeting:

Mr. Fuller stated that this Select Board meeting is being conducted in a hybrid model but with access consistent with Governor Baker's Executive Order of June 16, 2021. Governor Baker signed into law an Act Extending Certain COVID-19 Measures Adopted During the State of Emergency. This Act includes an extension, until July 15, 2022, of the remote meeting provisions of his March 12, 2020, Executive Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law. The new law has two major parts:

First, the new law allows public bodies to continue providing live "adequate, alternative means" of public access to the deliberations of the public body, instead of holding meetings in a public place that is open and physically accessible to the public. "Adequate, alternative means" may include, without limitation, providing public access through telephone, internet, or satellite enabled audio or video conferencing or any other technology that enables the public to clearly follow the proceedings of the public body in real time.

Second, the new law authorizes all members of a public body to continue participating in meetings remotely; the Open Meeting Law's requirement that a quorum of the body and the chair be physically present at the meeting location remains suspended.

PFAS and Municipal Waste:

Paul Fenn attended via ZOOM to speak with the Select Board. He introduced himself and that he was the owner of Local Power in Williamsburg. He gave a brief introduction of his company and what he does. He wanted to speak about household trash and PFAS in the waste stream. The Select Board advised Mr. Fenn to reach out to the Board of Health to get on their agenda to speak with them.

John Follet, Conservation Commission & OSRP:

John Follet asked to speak to the Select Board. He is chairing the Open Space and Recreation Plan committee which is in the process of doing a new OSRP and will be sending out a survey to the residents. The Conservation Commission asked for a reserve fund transfer to assist with printing and mailing costs of the survey. He provided a copy of the survey that will be mailed out soon. Ms. Colson-Montgomery wished to provide input but was informed the survey had already been printed. It was suggested that information be brought before the Select Board to discuss before printing. An online link to an online version of the survey will be put on the Town's website and Facebook page. Ms. Colson-Montgomery opined that most residents will not return the paper copy and doing the online survey only would be more effective. Residents who wish to fill out the survey will do it online. The last plan was done in 2003 and was never renewed. There was discussion of the need to redo the plan, who is on the current ad hoc planning committee and how the committee came to be, and appointing an Open Space Committee at some point in the future to implement the plan. There is a \$9,900 grant to fund the creation of the plan which will be done with assistance from The Conway School. There will be additional future discussion about the OSRP.

Minutes:

Ms. Colson-Montgomery made a motion, seconded by Mr. Willard and unanimously voted to accept the Minutes of 6/7/2022, as amended.

Warrants:

The Select Board reviewed and signed the warrants W22-26, WP22-26, and WBB22-26.

Additions to Agenda:**Lafayette Trail and Sign:**

This is still being researched.

Protest in Town Center:

It was reported there was a person protesting in the town center on June 19th.

Picnic Tables in Russell Park:

Mr. Willard reported that the picnic tables in Russell Park are very damaged. Ms. Lessard will contact Ron Loven about replacing boards on the damaged tables. Mr. Willard also reported that the wood on the snack shack needs to be repainted or stained. Ms. Lessard will let Mr. Loven know to do that work also. Mr. Willard reported that the tree overhanging the snack shack needs trimming and the roof needs powerwashing. There is algae on the roof. Ms. Lessard will ask Mr. Bowlby if the tree trimming is something he can do.

Reports:**Edwards Museum:**

Mr. Fuller reported that he has been speaking with Royal Renovations about the project.

Server Rack at Hut:

Entre has been notified to order the wall rack for the server and the Town will make sure it is secured to the wall in the hut. Ms. Lessard had reached out to Mike Mastroianni who verified it is okay to install the rack on the interior wall of the hut. The town is waiting on confirmation that the rack is in.

Cross Walk and Russel Park Camera Install:

Mr. Willard reported that the camera was installed to monitor the crosswalk use for a week. The data will be reviewed and potentially used in the development of a Town Walkability plan. The police reported the camera battery at the park will be used up very quickly due to use by the town for recreational purposes. There are still discussions about installing a camera as damage and inappropriate things are still being done at the park.

COA Tent:

Jan Gibeau had called the Town Administrator about the COA tent and getting people to help set it up. Highway thinks the soil at the Vets park is too loose and it is very windy there. She is willing to get longer spikes if needed. It was suggested to her to set the tent up behind town office as the soil is more compact. She would need room to store around 30 chairs in the sheds. Ms. Colson-Montgomery spoke with Ms. Gibeau who plans to purchase new stakes. It is still unclear if the plan is to put the tent up behind Town Office or at Vets Park. Ms. Lessard will follow up with Ms. Gibeau.

Letter from Finance Committee:

The Select Board received an email from the Finance Committee regarding 6 North Road. One question was about energy supply at the site. Mr. Fuller responded back to the Finance Committee.

Town Administrators Report:**Wiring for Phones:**

Winston Bancroft was at the Town Office doing the wiring on June 16th and 17th. Town Office is mainly done except installation of POE switches, which are here in my office and will be installed by Entre. Mr. Bancroft still needs to go to Fire, COA, Highway, and the Library. He will be back next week to continue the work.

Tennis Courts:

Piretti Tennis came to look at the courts after I had sent the photos. They will get a price to the town soon. Westboro Tennis is also planning to give a price.

Bids:

The bids for the Wheeled Excavator and 66,000 GVW Dump/Plow Truck have gone out. Bids for the 2023 Dump Truck are due 6/27/22 and the 2023 Wheeled Excavator are due 7/5/22.

Floor at COA:

Hampton Flooring is coming to look at the kitchen floor on 6/22 to get the town a price proposal by 6/29.

Ms. Lessard also reached out to American Rug in Holyoke who replied back in an email that they have retired and are finishing up their commercial work.

Library Hours for May 28th:

Ms. Lessard followed up with Jean Marra. Ms. Marra went to the Library at 12:30 on Saturday, May 28th and the Library was closed. She did reach out to the Librarian who said her replacement closed the Library early. Ms. Squier did meet Ms. Marra and her grandchildren at the Library on May 29th and her grandchildren took some books out.

Street Light in Town Office Parking Lot:

Ms. Lessard was copied in with Don Willard on a complaint from the Town Office neighbor, Alex Simisky, about the street light in the parking lot at Town Office. The light is still flashing like a blinking light. Ms. Lessard has reached out to Eversource to request a repair. Eversource will come out and replace the light as soon as they can. A work order has been set up.

Edwards Museum:

Ms. Lessard contacted Eversource to get the electrical wires covered at the Edwards Museum in anticipation of the renovation work. The wires have been covered.

Chimney at Library:

Ms. Lessard spoke with Sabrina McGill who said her husband had asked her to follow up with the town with a couple questions so he can get a quote to the Town for the work needed. Ms.

Lessard answered the questions and let Ms. McGill know the town needs the proposal by the end of the month so the town can encumber the funds for the work.

Federal Tax Lien on 212 East Street:

Ms. McWherter attended the meeting to speak with the Select Board about the \$30,000 the town has been carrying to cover two federal tax liens on a property which the town sold for back taxes. The auditors were in last week and were asking about the town carrying the money forward. There is a deadline for the IRS to refile the tax lien which expired on 6/13/2022 and the other expires on 12/19/22. No renewed lien is showing on the Hampshire Registry of Deeds website.

Mr. Willard would like the Registry of Deeds contacted to see if the lien has been renewed and how quickly that information would show up in the online public database. Ms. Lessard will followup on securing that information and will recheck again on 6/29/22.

Ms. Colson-Montgomery made a motion, seconded by Mr. Willard and unanimously voted to tell the accountant to release the money after 6/30/22 provided the federal tax lien that needs to be renewed by 6/13/22 has not been renewed.

Meeting Adjourned:

The meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.