

**Board of Selectmen
TOWN OF CHESTERFIELD, NH
SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

May 4, 2022
6:00 PM at Town Offices and Via Zoom

Note: This meeting may be recorded

CALL TO ORDER

Gary Winn called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. In attendance were, Fran Shippee, Judy Idelkope, Alissa Thompson and Tricia Lachenal (via Zoom)

SUGGESTION BOX

The suggestion box was empty.

CORRESPONDENCE

2021 Total Equalized Valuations from DRA

Winn noted that the Town has received the 2021 Total Equalized Valuations from the DRA. Winn noted that we have 30 days to appeal if we disagree with anything.

Letter from Community Volunteer Transportation Company

Winn noted that the letter is addressed to Rick Carrier and asked if his name was still on the website anywhere. Winn read the letter thanking the Town for its contribution of \$250.00. Idelkope asked if we could request the number of Chesterfield residents using the service and if any volunteers are from Chesterfield. Thompson noted she has the number of residents in the office but does not have the number of volunteers.

Letter from Michael Frank

Winn noted that Michael Frank has resigned from his position as Town Representative to Rescue Inc. Winn noted that it is unfortunate that it was not a good fit for Frank. Winn noted that there is an important meeting at Rescue Inc on May 19th. Shippee noted she will be attending that meeting.

Letter from John Pieper

Winn read a letter from Mr. Pieper regarding the Planning Board meeting on May 2, 2022. Mr. Pieper expressed his displeasure with the behavior of Mr. Hancock at that meeting. Mr. Pieper's letter suggests the board review the recording and asks for the Board of Selectmen to consider removal of Mr. Hancock from the Planning board.

Letter from Ron Rzasa

Winn read the letter from Ron Rzasa, Chairman of the Chesterfield Economic Development Committee regarding the Planning Board meeting on May 2, 2022. Rzasa expressed his displeasure with the actions of Mr. Hancock at the meeting and encouraged the Board of Selectmen to listen to the recording.

PUBLIC COMMENT

John Pieper noted that he was doing research on the web and was looking at the Town of Walpole's website and it is not as good as Chesterfield. Pieper noted that he just wanted to let the board know that our website is superior and compliment everyone who worked on the site to make it great.

Jeff Scott noted that he sent the board an article about the Marsh House, and he would like the board to consider putting it in the Town Happenings. Scott noted that it used to be the Town Offices and believes that there is a lot of interest in Town.

Scott noted that he was at the May 2, 2022, Planning Board meeting and believes it should be a privilege to become a representative on any town board. Scott noted that Mr. Hancock has failed to be a good representative and with his disrespect of David Gale and the Planning Board, he feels he is not worthy of the privilege of serving on any town board. Scott requested that the Board of Selectmen remove him from the Planning Board.

WEEKLY REVIEW

Code Tracker

The board reviewed the code tracker. No action taken.

Building Permits

Winn noted that he looked this list over and notified the Building Inspector of a few that should be removed. The board noted that some of the fees and estimated costs are not listed. Winn will speak with Beauregard about the missing numbers.

FINANCIALS

Audit for 2020

Thompson noted that there has been no update.

OLD BUSINESS

Chesterfield Property – 18A B13, 18A B14, 20 E1 with update of D1 & C1

Winn noted that he looked at the subdivision map from 1976 creating Map 18A, Lots B13 & B14. Winn noted that it states in the subdivision that the lots cannot be used for any purpose

other than woodlots. Winn noted he is more comfortable selling them now knowing that they are not buildable lots. Winn noted that he believes the appraised values are good prices.

Gary Winn moved to sell Map 18A, Lot B13 and B14 for the appraised values. The motion was seconded by Fran Shippee and passed unanimously.

Idelkope noted that the Conservation Commission through Susan Donahue is asking that the Town consider keeping Map 20, Lot E1. Idelkope noted that the commission noted this is a wetland habitat and they would like the town to retain ownership. It was noted that the property card should indicate that the town is keeping it due to the wetland habitat so that future boards are aware.

Gary Winn moved that the Town of Chesterfield retain Map 20, Lot E1 at the advice of the Chesterfield Conservation Commission and a note be made on the property card to remind future boards. The motion was seconded by Fran Shippee and passed unanimously.

Mill Brook Dam owner – Westmoreland OEM Concerns

Winn noted that Idelkope has spoken with NHDES and the dam is not registered with them. Winn stated that they will be looking into it now that they are aware. Winn noted that the dam is privately owned and does not have water control capabilities. Winn noted that the impression was that the dam was being opened and that was causing the issue, however it could be the clearing of the beaver dam that causes the sudden flow. Idelkope noted that DES will send her the final resolution. The board discussed other places that the water could be flowing in that direction.

Thompson noted that a copy of the letter from Westmoreland was sent to the property/dam owner and a letter was sent to Westmoreland noting the owner of the dam.

ZBA Members – Not Active

Shippee noted she spoke with Casey Schnackenberg and he would like to resign from the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

Fran Shippee moved to accept the resignation of Casey Schnackenberg as an alternate on the Chesterfield Zoning Board of Adjustment. The motion was seconded by Judy Idelkope and passed unanimously.

IT CMP

The board discussed the proposed IT CMP. It was noted that the deposits should be adjusted to be more in line with each other. Thompson will adjust the deposits to be equal without allowing the fund to become negative. This information will be used for the next budget season. The board discussed making one IT line that encompasses the entire Town. Idelkope will speak with the Budget Committee at the next quarterly meeting to inquire as to their preference.

Street Lighting

Winn noted that there has been a couple of people with input on streetlights. The board received a note that the light at Route 9 and Spaulding Hill has been out for some time. The board also received a note from a resident on Route 63 noting that they would like to keep the street lights as far away as possible.

Winn noted that if unnecessary/unwanted/not working lights were removed and the Town was not paying for them, it may allow the town to upgrade the necessary working lighting. Winn noted that the Town does own the pole that is down at Route 9 and Route 9A. Winn noted that it was suggested that we move it somewhere safe to protect it until it can be put back up. Shippee noted that she received a ballpark estimate of \$1,000.00 to put the pole back up. The board discussed if the pole was hit by a state plow truck or if that was a rumor. The board is not sure how the pole was damaged. It was noted that the Police Chief stated that intersection lighting is important. Shippee will get a firmer price and Highway will be asked to pick the pole up and bring it to the garage for now. Shippee noted she adjusted Chief Chickering's list and will send it to Thompson to send to the board for more discussion at the next meeting.

TABLED UNTIL FUTURE DATE

Personnel Policy Review

Community Power

Petition for Bradley Road to Summer Cottages (notice in April, Public Hearing mid-May, Road opens April 10)

Annex Door (\$3,039.96 left in Annex CRF)

Purple Heart Communities

GUESTS

Brad Roscoe & Bayard Tracy – Watershed Committee 6:30 pm

Bayard Tracy noted that the Town has an opportunity to participate in a low-risk program that the members of the Watershed Committee believe will enhance, sustain and protect the water quality of the lake at a low cost and low risk. Tracy noted that there are funds available that are a loan/grant program. The program begins as a loan and then upon completion, becomes a grant. Tracy noted that the amount available is \$100,000.00 and the Watershed Committee proposed those funds be utilized to mitigate the storm water runoff from Pinnacle Springs. Tracy noted that last week the Watershed Committee visited the area and believe the funds will be well spent in that area. Tracy noted that the Clean Water State Revolving Fund program has been around for a while, offers up to \$100,000.00 in principal forgiveness and is currently being enhanced by ARPA funds. Tracy noted that the loan portion would require a town meeting vote, however a pre-application is due by June 1, 2022. Tracy noted that preapproval would come in the fall to allow municipalities the opportunity to get the information to Town meeting in March. Tracy noted that the engineering project planning would come in 2023 with expected construction expected in 2024. Tracy stated that the Spofford Lake Association has agreed to partner with the Town and pay the \$2,500.00 application fee with the promise of the money being returned if the grant is approved. Tracy noted that FP Environmental has agreed to write the grant proposal. Tracy stated that if the proposal is accepted, there is no obligation to take the money. Tracy noted that this is an opportunity to get more information from a professional on how to handle

the situation. Tracy noted that tonight, they are seeking approval of a concept and the payment from SLA for the \$2,500.00, not the entire project. It was noted that the grant is for the planning and completing the planning is considered completing the project.

Winn asked if the town was obligated to put this out to bid. Roscoe noted that the money is not Town money, but SLA money. Roscoe noted that the application needs to come from the town and that is why the SLA is looking to partner with the Town on this project.

Judy Idelkope moved to go forward with the preapplication for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund, accepting the Spofford Lake Associations offer to pay the application fee of \$2,500.00, with the understanding they will be reimbursed should the grant be funded. The motion was seconded by Fran Shippee and passed unanimously.

Roscoe asked if the Board of Selectmen needed to approve the application. Winn noted that the board can hold a special meeting to approve the application if necessary due to the short time schedule.

NEW BUSINESS

Road Committee

Winn noted that Adler has asked about the additional money put in for dirt roads. Adler has noted he will have trouble finding someone to do the work if it is not decided soon. Winn noted that he likes the idea of having a committee, however Winn stated that he does have a concern about meeting a timeline for that to happen. Shippee noted that a committee is needed for next year. Shippee noted that she believes the Board of Selectmen can trust in Adlers' judgment this year. Winn noted he spoke with Adler, and he recommends tackling the first portion of Atherton Hill up to the gated driveway. Adler noted that this portion of the road has not had any special attention, it is the furthest road from the shop which means more money and time each time it needs attention. Winn noted that he did not ask if there were a lot of complaints from that area or cars stuck. Winn noted that the Police Department may have some input on that as well. Idelkope asked if that area was where the most acute and frequent calls come from. Lachenal noted that complaints may not be the best way to judge as everyone has a different opinion on what constitutes an emergency. Lachenal noted that some people complain, and their road is the better than most roads in town. Winn will contact Adler. Idelkope and Shippee agreed to rely on Adler's judgment this year, and have a committee formed this year for next year. Winn noted that the committee's goals should be to identify priority areas and milage/footage figures for the solution.

Authorization of trade-in of the 2013 Dodge Charger Cruiser

Fran Shippee moved to authorize the trade in of the 2013 Dodge Charger Cruiser. The motion was seconded by Judy Idelkope and passed unanimously.

Letter from Rescue Inc

Winn noted that the board received a letter from Rescue Inc, and it is level funded for this year. Idelkope noted that she would like to wait to respond to the letter after the May 19th meeting.

Shippee noted that she spoke with Drew Hazelton (Rescue Inc's Chief) and as far as he is concerned, he can see everything staying the same. Shippee asked if Chesterfield would be interested in asking them if they are interested in taking on more of the Town. Idelkope asked if they would be willing to stage an ambulance in Chesterfield. Idelkope noted that the County is talking about staging ambulances in different areas. Winn suggested that the board ask the Fire Departments for their input.

Discussion tabled to the June 1, 2022, meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS -

Idelkope noted that there are additional properties that the Conservation Commission has requested the town retain. Idelkope noted that Map 14, Lots C15 and C16 were on the list, but the board already decided to retain those.

Idelkope noted that Map 10B, Lot A2 is down by the Spofford Post Office and people use it for walking around the lake. Winn noted that the lot is small, and he does not recall seeing cars parked there. It was noted that the Highway does utilize this lot for a sand pile in the winter season. The lot is big enough for 4-5 cars depending on how they are parked.

Idelkope noted that Map 5E, D12, D19 and D22 are on the list they would like to retain. Idelkope noted that the reason for those three (3) lots is that it is in the watershed and the land may be used later for a retention pond or work that the Town would like to get done.

Idelkope noted that the last one Map 25, Lot A12. That property abuts Madame Sherri's.

Idelkope noted that more parking is needed there and the Conservation Commission would like to hold this property for parking.

Judy Idelkope moved to rescind the Board of Selectmen's previous motion to sell Map 5E, Lots D12, D19 and D22. The motion was seconded by Fran Shippee and passed unanimously.

Winn noted that he does not have first hand knowledge of what happened at the Planning Board meeting. Shippee noted that Hancock has strong opinions and does not know how to control it. It was noted that there are three reasons the Board of Selectmen can remove someone from a board and those are malfeasance, neglect of duty and inefficiency. The board reviewed the RSA for removing a member of a board. Shippee will draft a reprimand letter from the Board of Selectmen requesting a letter for apology from James Hancock to David Gale and the Planning Board. The letter will request his resignation if he is not willing to send the letters of apology and correct his behavior. Thompson will reach out for legal advice on this issue. Shippee will get the letter to Thompson before the next Planning Board meeting.

Fran Shippee moved to accept the resignation of Mike Frank as Chesterfield Representative to Rescue Inc. The motion was seconded by Judy Idelkope and passed unanimously.

Shippee noted that if the board allows one group to put things in the Happenings, then everyone will want to be included. Shippee noted that it may make the Happenings more interesting, but it puts a burden on Lachenal. Idelkope noted that someone else could put it together so that it is not a burden on the Town. Idelkope noted that if someone else sends it out, then the Town is not censoring anyone.

Thompson noted that the Historical Society is having a soft open house on August 13, 2022 from 10 AM -4 PM. Thompson noted they would like to have parking at the Town Offices and will bus people to the site. It was noted that the café may be open by then. The farmers market will also be in full swing by then. Winn noted that the farmers market and the café should reserve spots with ribbon and the Historical Society can utilize the rest of the parking minus the reserved Fire Department parking area.

Thomson noted that Smith has been having an issue with people coming in and parking at the beach and putting their kayak in the water at the beach. Thompson noted that it is also an issue with people dropping their kayak at the boat launch, parking at the beach and walking back to the boat launch. Thompson noted that once the beach is open, that could create an issue with paying beachgoers not having a place to park. The board discussed having a booth at the beginning of the driveway requiring payment there instead of at the entrance to the beach or giving out parking passes to people to put in their cars and having the Police Department ticket people that do not have the parking passes. Thompson will ask Smith how big of an issue this is before the board makes any changes and what changes she will be able to manage with the staff she has at the beach.

Winn moved to request \$10,800 from the Town Buildings Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund approved March 12, 2022, in Article #14. The motion was seconded by Fran Shippee and passed unanimously.

Winn noted that he spoke with the office manager of the Engineering Firm that designed North Shore erosion control. Winn noted that the original engineer is no longer with the company. Winn noted that he forwarded pictures to them of a waddle on the left that is missing and the erosion by the steps.

Winn noted that the Highway Department is now down two employees. It was noted that the Town needs to start advertising. The board noted that starting pay will be \$18.00.

Idelkope noted that the Conservation Commission noted that they have an application for a dock at the cottage. Idelkope noted that Smith signed the application, but the application is from the Town as the Town owns the property. Winn noted that the board was unaware of this application and will need to speak with Smith.

Idelkope noted that the wastewater list indicates that approximately 49% of the properties are permitted or have submitted inspection reports. There was discussion about putting a reminder postcard out. The board would like the reminder to go out around July 1st and this to be put in the happenings all summer long.

Shippee noted that the shutters need to be removed from the Town Hall. Winn suggested asking the painters to remove them when they are here.

Shippee noted that the chairs have been removed from the Town Hall. Shippee noted that Chickering was speaking to her about how much work it is to clean out the swap shop each week

and mentioned closing it down for good. Winn noted that there are a lot of people in Town that enjoy the swap shop.

Shippee noted that she replaced the American Flag in front of the Town Hall as she was receiving complaints that it was too small.

PUBLIC COMMENT

John Pieper noted that he appreciates the board taking the situation with Hancock seriously. Pieper noted that Hancock spoke about how much trouble there was in Walpole with Senior Housing, but Pieper noted that there seems to be no proof that it was the failure that Hancock was stating it was. Pieper noted that it appears that the Planning Board is continuing to have issue with the zoom function as it always comes on late. Winn noted that the secretary position on the Planning Board has gone through a few changes and that may have contributed to the issue with the recording.

Girs noted that there is a bike race through Town in June and they have historically put latrines on the Marsh House property. Girs noted that they will have to place them somewhere else this year as the Town has leased the property to NE Heritage. Thompson noted that they contact Chief Chickering when the time gets close to coordinate their needs.

John Koopmann noted that he spent many years in Chesterfield and on the Planning Board and he was appalled with the comments made by Hancock. Koopmann noted that because there is not a full recording, the board should be careful and make sure that complete documentation is saved.

Koopmann noted that he was a lake host for many years and the current system works pretty well. Koopmann noted that the primary reason that people are not allowed to launch their kayaks from the beach is inspection requirements. Koopmann noted that the number of people parking at Wares Grove and walking to the boat launch has been minimal.

Jeff Scott noted that he would like to thank the board for their action with Mr. Hancock. Scott noted that he asked if the Marsh House could be in the Happenings because it used to be the Town Office. Scott noted that if the board would like, he would be happy to make signs up for Wares Grove to deter people parking there that are not utilizing the beach.

Barbara Girs noted that if the Happenings was expanded, more people might read it.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Fran Shippee moved to accept the April 6, 2022, minutes, as amended. The motion was seconded by Judy Idelkope and passed unanimously.

Judy Idelkope moved to accept the April 20, 2022, minutes, as amended. The motion was seconded by Fran Shippee and passed unanimously.

NON-PUBLIC

ADJOURN

Judy Idelkope moved to adjourn at 10:35 PM. The motion was seconded by Fran Shippee and passed unanimously.

The next meeting will be held May 18, 2022, at 6:00 pm in the Town Offices and via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,

Tricia Lachenal
Administrative Assistant

Approved by:



Gary Winn, Chairman

5/28/2022

Date



Fran Shippee

5/28/22

Date



Judy Idelkope

5. 28. 2022

Date