

## Chichester Board of Selectmen

### Minutes of Meeting

Tuesday March 19, 2024

**Members Present:** Stephen MacCleery, Richard Bouchard, Michael Williams, Jodi Pinard Town Administrator, Kristy Jobin Administrative Assistant

**Others present:** Corie St. Germain, Justine Hayward, Nicholas Hayward, Donna Chagnon, Mike Paveglio, Ron Lesieur, Cy Aures, Evelyn Pike, Ewen MacKinnon, Dave Colbert, Doug Hall, Nancy Fraher, Lori Jewett, and other members of the public.

Mr. MacCleery called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Mr. Bouchard made a motion to elect Mr. MacCleery as the new Chairman of the Board of Selectmen Mr. Williams seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Bouchard, aye. Williams, aye. MacCleery, aye. **Motion passes.**

#### **Board Assignments-**

After some discussion, Mr. MacCleery and Mr. Bouchard stated they would like to keep their current Board assignments. Mr. Williams stated that he was willing to take open Board assignments, which are Parks and Recreation and the Heritage Commission.

#### **Appointments-**

##### **Evelyn Pike-**

Mrs. Pike came before the Board to discuss the hours posted on website for the Selectmen's Office. She stated that it says that the office is open until 7:00pm but on Board of Selectmen meeting nights, no one covers the office and she would like that to be changed or to have Ms. Jobin stay at the office until 7:00pm to keep it open.

Mrs. Pinard stated that the Building Inspector covers the office from the time her and Mrs. Jobin go to the meeting until 7:00pm. The office is cross trained and he has access to all the permits and forms and assessment cards.

Mr. MacKinnon stated that he recalled the meetings were moved over to the Fire Department due to heating and air conditioning reasons which have been resolved. Could the meetings be moved back to the Grange.

Mr. Bouchard stated it was also due to the acoustics and loud echo in the room which made it very difficult to hear.

The Board discussed moving the meeting back to the Grange, so that if Mrs. Pinard or Mrs. Jobin are needed in the office, they could go down to assist.

Mr. Williams made a motion to move the Board of Selectmen meetings back to the Grange Hall. Mr. MacCleery seconded. **Motion passes.**

##### **Ron Lesieur-**

Mr. Lesieur of 138 Kaime Road filed a zoning complaint and came before the Board to discuss it. He stated that he had mentioned this previously but did not file a written complaint.

Mr. Bouchard asked if this was the neighbor he complained about the last year.

Mr. Lesieur stated that was a different neighbor and he no longer has any issues with that property.

Mr. Lesieur asked how many cars can be on the property and if the cars in barns or buildings count towards that total. He stated that this has spoken to the property owner previously about his complaints and he did remove a dumpster but now there is scrap metal on the ground and more vehicles.

Mr. Williams stated that he took a look at this property and it is not in the commercial zone, so it cannot be considered a junkyard. He stated this would be a civil issue and he would have to hire an attorney to sue. The only way the Town could get involved is if it is a public health concern with public health issues.

Mr. Lesieur stated that it is a property value issue as well as other issues and there may be gas or oil spilling on the ground. He asked if he should get the State involved. He stated that he should not have to get an attorney to sue his neighbor.

Mr. Williams stated that he is asking the Town to act on his neighbor, but it does not meet the statutory definition of a junkyard. It is not a junkyard, but a yard full of junk.

Mr. MacCleery stated that he would like to take some time to look through zoning and RSAs to do some research on this issue.

The Board discussed if this could be considered obnoxious use.

Mr. Lesieur asked if he could park thirty cars in his yard and would anyone do anything about it then. He stated that he has skid steers and trailers. He also stated that the property owner is running an illegal business. He has seen him working on vehicles and changing windshields.

Mr. MacCleery suggested sending a letter to the property owner addressing whether or not there is a business being run out of the property.

Mr. Bouchard stated that if there is activity there, is it commercial or is it a hobby.

Mr. Williams stated that the accusation of an illegal business could change things. He stated that the Building Inspector was recently out there for an inspection and asked if he noticed anything.

Mrs. Pinard stated that if the Building Inspector sees something out of the ordinary, he typically reports that. She will ask him if he noted anything. Mrs. Pinard will invite the property owner to the next meeting on April 2, 2024.

#### **Doug Hall-**

Mr. Hall came before the Board to request that the minutes of the meetings be posted within 72 hours.

Mr. Williams stated that the RSA requires that minutes be available five business days after the meeting.

The Board discussed posting draft min for the Board of Selectmen meeting minutes.

Mr. Williams made a motion and Mr. MacCleery seconded to post draft Board of Selectmen meeting minutes in accordance with 91A:3, five business days after the meeting. **Motion passes.**

Mr. Hall reported that there was a great turnout for candidates' night, but a lousy turnout for School and Town Meetings. He would like to work to improve that. He suggested that a packet is sent out to new property owners when ownership changes hands that introduces the Town and gives important information needed. He stated that he would

be willing to help to put that together and get it started. He stated that the Town needs to find a way to communicate better than we have.

Mrs. Pinard stated that she had thought about sending out newsletters with tax bills like they do in other Towns. She could get information from the committees and commissions to add information.

Mr. Hall stated that it should not be limited to just the Town, but school and historical as well.

Mrs. Pike stated that it used to be a law that you could not send anything with the tax bills.

Mrs. Pinard will look into if that is legal to do.

Mrs. Jewitt stated that getting information out would be helpful and needed since the Suncook Sun no longer exists. She suggested connecting with the school to use their email list or texting notifications.

Ms. Fraher asked if there is a reason that the school and town meetings are held so close together.

Mrs. Pinard stated that the meeting dates are set by state statutes.

Mr. Williams stated that the change in Town meeting would require a town vote to change.

Mr. MacKinnon stated that the town election needs to be the second Tuesday of March. He stated that maybe it would be beneficial to have the school and town meetings on the same day.

Mr. Hall asked how many people are on the own email list.

Mrs. Pinard stated that she was unsure but we could encourage more residents to get on the email list.

Mr. Hayward stated that the town could send out a mass text.

Mr. Williams stated that the town would still need to have each resident's phone number to do that.

Mrs. Pinard will reach out to the school to discuss who they use for communications. She stated that this will show up under outstanding items on agenda until they are completed.

Mr. Hall stated that he will meet with Mrs. Pinard to move forward with this idea.

#### **Town Voting-**

Mr. MacKinnon thanked everyone for helping at elections and helping it run smoothly. He reported that there were 345 people that voted and it was great to be back at Grange Hall. He stated that there were twelve residents that stayed to help count votes. The primary will be back at the school. He stated that they will need more counters.

Ms. Fraher asked if the town had looking into a voting counting machine.

Mr. Paveglio stated that he would be against voting machine, that it failed the last time it was brought up and Chichester is one of the few towns that still hand count.

#### **Shaw Field Agreement-**

Mr. MacCleery reviewed the agreement.

Mr. Williams stated that he read the agreement and has no issues.

Mr. MacCleery questioned number 10-terminating with or without cause with short notice. He stated that fertilizer is expensive and it is not fair to the person to terminate without good cause.

Mr. Williams stated that they should they be able to stockpile manure or put a time limit.

Mrs. Pinard suggested that number 10 read the end of season if the Board is not happy with the maintenance.

Mr. Williams stated that it could read to terminate on Dec. 31 so it is in between seasons.

Mr. MacCleery stated that he would like a provision so that the town does not have to clean up other people's mess, so if the town has to clean it, the other party would be responsible for cost.

Mr. MacKinnon stated that there are guidelines for manure on fields, or best practices.

Mr. Williams suggested that it reads, stock piling shall conform to best management practices.

Mr. Colbert stated that the more restrictions are in the agreement, than the harder it will be to find someone. He suggested there should have a 3–4-year timeline for use so they can get the return on lime which takes years sometimes.

Mrs. St. Germain stated that the Anthonys are still interested in maintaining the field.

Mr. MacCleery suggested not changing anything as of yet and invite those who are interested to a meeting to discuss it.

Mrs. Pinard will put a notice on the website and invite Anthonys and Humphreys to discuss this at the next meeting.

Mr. Colbert stated if there are multiple people interested then the town should go with residents first or do a lottery if there is more than one resident interested.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes-**

Mr. MacCleery made a motion and Mr. Bouchard seconded to approve the meeting minutes of March 5, 2024. MacCleery, aye. Bouchard, aye. Williams, abstain. **Motion passes.**

**Abatements-**

Mr. Williams made a motion to abate the following for a total of \$487.74:

Map 1 lot 1, \$41.66 interest and penalties

Map 4 lot 156 sub 18rv, in the amount of \$238.36 for the 2020 tax year

Map 4 Lot 156 sub 66rv in the amount of \$207.72

Mr. Bouchard seconded. **Motion passes.**

**290 Dover Road-**

Mrs. Pinard stated that the court hearing was rescheduled to April 22, 2024.

Mrs. Jewett stated that this case has been going on a long time, and asked when does the Town cut its losses.

Mr. MacCleery stated that the town's people vote for zoning and it is the Selectmen's job to enforce it.

**Agendas-**

Mr. Williams asked if there is an appetite to add more detail to the agenda and if there is a current closing date for the agenda.

Mrs. Pinard stated that she just needs direction on when to close agenda. She stated that she personally would not mind closing it earlier to give more time for the Board to research. She recommended noon on the Thursday prior to the meeting to close agenda so she can post the agenda and get it out to the Board.

Mr. Williams made a motion to close the Board of Selectmen agenda Thursday at noon for the following Tuesday's meeting. Mr. Bouchard seconded. **Motion passes.**

**Other-**

Mrs. Pinard stated that the roads will be unposted on Monday March 25, 2024.

Mr. MacCleery stated that he was grateful for the dedication in the Town Report to his wife Holly MacCleery. He stated that Holly would have been honored.

Mrs. Pinard stated that she has emailed out draft employee evaluation forms which the Board has discussed previously. She asked the Board to review them and provide comments.

Ms. Jewett stated that she was interested in seeing a parade of lights on trucks through town, which she has seen in other communities. The Board and audience agreed it would be a great addition but would need someone to coordinate it.

Mr. MacCleery made a motion and Mr. Williams seconded to approve the nonpublic meeting minutes of March 5, 2024. **Motion passes.**

Mrs. St. Germain requested to be added to the agenda for the next meeting regarding Coleman Concrete.

**91-A:3 II (a)** – The dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee

Mr. MacCleery made a motion and Mr. Williams seconded to go into 91-A:3 II (a) nonpublic meeting. Roll call vote. MacCleery, aye. Bouchard, aye. Williams, aye. **Motion passes.**

Mr. Williams made a motion to come out of nonpublic, Mr. MacCleery seconded. Roll call vote. MacCleery, aye. Bouchard, aye. Williams, aye. **Motion passes.**

Mr. Williams made a motion to seal the nonpublic meeting minutes. Mr. MacCleery seconded. Roll call vote. MacCleery, aye. Bouchard, aye. Williams, aye. **Motion passes.**

**Adjournment:** Being no further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Williams and seconded by Mr. Bouchard to adjourn the meeting at 8:10pm. Roll call vote. MacCleery, aye. Bouchard, aye. Williams, aye. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kristy Jobin, Administrative Assistant

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Richard Bouchard

Stephen MacCleery

Michael Williams