

Chichester Board of Selectmen

Minutes of Meeting

Tuesday June 6, 2023

Members Present: Edward Millette, Stephen MacCleery, Richard Bouchard, and Jodi Pinard Town Administrator, Kristy Jobin Administrative Assistant

Others Present: Tom Downey, Chief Quimby, Chief Wright, Paul Sanborn, Corie St. Germain, Zach Boyijian, Malinda Weir and Girl Scout Troop, Craig Sykes, Glen Davis and other members of the public.

Call to Order: Mr. Millette called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

Girl scouts-

Ms. Weir and her girl scout troop asked for permission to build a gaga ball pit at Carpenter Park near the horseshoe pits. The girls reported that they sold cookies and fundraised and would like to donate the pit to the park as well as one to the school. The consensus of the Board was to accept the donation of the gaga pit to be built at Carpenter Park.

Lakes Region Fire-Glen Davis

Mr. Davis reported that he was before the Board to give an update on the Fire Truck that was involved in an accident. The date of loss occurred on April 5, 2023. He stated the Truck was originally ordered in 2019-20 for \$562,277.00.

He stated that now the same truck will cost between \$685,000-\$785,000. Three insurance companies are involved now. Nationwide, Westbend and EMC. NY State troopers did an investigation and held the truck for quite some time. NY State statue gives them three years to conduct investigations. The insurance company won't do anything until that is complete. He is hoping to get it resolved quickly. Mr. Davis suggested that the Town put the Town attorney on notice to be represented.

Mr. MacCleery asked what it was originally contracted at, and whatever that is should be fulfilled.

Mr. Davis stated that someone has to eat the additional cost, and everyone involved is pointing fingers. He is advocating getting the amount back that is the loss to the town because the price has risen.

Mr. Bouchard would like to have legal look at the contract.

Mr. Millette stated that the Town is at a stale mate, and we need a truck and Alexis to start building a truck. Alexis can fight with the insurance company to be made whole.

Correspondence will be forwarded to the Board.

Parks & Recreation-Field Usage

Mr. Boyijian came before the Board to discuss the scheduling of field usage.

Mrs. Pinard stated that the Board asked at the last meeting who was responsible for scheduling in the charter. After reading the charter it states the commission would be responsible.

Mr. Boyajian stated that they are looking for direction because the Commission is not going to do it any longer. He stated that there is a gap and without anyone willing to do it, then it doesn't happen, or Towns administration does it.

They looked at other Towns to see if they had a policy to modify and they found one in Hillsborough. He stated that one Selectmen should serve as ex-officio, and no one showed up. Right now, there are seven members, but it's tenuous. Boards and commissions are hard to fill. There is a gap and a need for somebody to be able to take requests and answer them. If not, CYA has preference and everything else is first come first serve.

Mr. Bouchard stated that it may be possible to put a link or tool on the website. In his opinion, the Board of Selectmen should not be responsible for the Parks and Recs fields.

Mr. Boyijian stated that they have been investigating tools and they cost money.

Mr. Bouchard stated that maybe that's something that needs to go into the budget to make scheduling possible.

Mr. Millette suggested reaching out to the web developer to see how much an interactive calendar would cost.

Mr. Boyijian stated that they have things that they are trying to get done at the park. No one else on the Board was interested enough in coming to this meeting and the Commission does not have a chairman.

Mr. Millette stated that a chairman must be appointed. He suggested a rotating schedule for the chair for a year.

Mr. Boyijian will bring back the charter and general assessment that the Board feels that Parks and Recreation is responsible for scheduling. For now, the fields will be first come first serve.

Mr. Millette stated that the Board is willing to work with the commission to make something work. He asked Mr. Boyijian to urge the rest of the commission to pick a chairperson.

The Board will pick someone as ex-officio and ask them to attend future meetings.

Mr. MacCleery asked who is in charge of scheduling the pavilion roof to be replaced.

Mr. Boyijian stated that they have someone working on that as well as the replacement of the Parks Sign.

The Town will work on obtaining bids for the repair of the roof.

Mr. MacCleery stated that we need volunteers to help out.

Parks and Recs meetings are the 2nd Wednesday of the month at the pavilion at Carpenter Park.

Mrs. St. Germain stated that there may be people who are willing to help, but they don't know help is needed. She asked what the liability of volunteers is.

Mrs. Pinard stated that the Towns liability insurance covers volunteers if a town representative is present.

Dept. Heads-

Highway-

Mr. Sykes stated that west road has been a challenge but making process. They have to flush the pipes and then will stone everything. A few more days left for digging.

Received a call that there was hole in mason road. Almost the entire width of the road was undermined. Wasn't properly installed. He has contacted to get the proper headwalls and then will be moving on to that project when west road is complete.

Mr. Sykes reported that Truck 1 can go soon to sell or auction but the oil pan gave out and a new one is \$1500. He did find one for \$400 to replace it. Once that is complete, it will be ready.

Mr. Sykes reported that the grader turn table needed to be replaced due to wear and maintenance and is extremely wobbly. The Shims also went, and the majority of parts are obsolete. He reported that it will be \$2400. alone with the parts he could find. He is trying to restore it back to working condition.

Mr. Sykes found a tree company with a crane and will be getting quotes for large trees to be removed.

Two sanders have to be rebuilt for winter.

Mr. Sykes stated that West Road is being completely redone with ditching. He reported that he is washing out the culverts to get them clear and then it will be the homeowner's responsibility to keep them clear.

Mr. Sykes stated all the gravel roads have been graded.

Mr. MacCleery asked when the Ferrin Road headwalls would be installed.

Mr. Sykes stated that they still haven't been built by the company yet.

Police Department-

Chief Wright reported that there were 108 calls of service in the month of May. Nine of those were motor vehicle accidents.

Chief Wright reported that the PD has a fresh coat of paint and new flooring installed.

The Department joined the "click" seatbelt enforcement.

Officer Wood will be going to the academy on June 12, 2023.

National night out August 1, 2023. This will lead to a conflict with the regularly scheduled Board of Selectmen meeting for Department Heads. He asked to move that meeting so he can be at the event. The Board agreed. Chief Wright is hoping to get a Blackhawk to land in the field at Carpenter Park.

Mrs. St. Germain asked if anyone has requested if a delay at Rt. 4 and Horse Corner is possible due to safety concerns. The Board stated that the D.O.T. needs to be contacted.

Fire Department-

Chief Quimby reported that the new Kubota has been lettered.

Saturday is the annual yard sale at the Fire Department.

He stated that there is progress on the new floor installation and there is a fresh coat of paint.

Chief Quimby stated that there are volunteer and membership issues in the Department. Other local departments are facing the same problem and currently there are 40 open shifts that are not covered. If things get really thin, we will try to work together with other local departments to create coverage. It is concerning him, but he has reposted requests for memberships.

Library-

Mr. Downey reported for the Library.

Programs:

- June 26th, the Summer Reading Program, “All Together Now,” begins. It will end on August 4th. This year, we are encouraging everyone to use the app, Reader Zone, to track books and get information about events. Kids will get awarded prizes for every 3 books they read & up to a total of 10 books to complete the book club. The Director will be going to the Chichester Central School to talk about the SRP.
 - The “Kick-off” Day is June 26th at 11 am at Grange Hall, with Talewise Science Center presenting, “Earth’s Heroes”, a program about Science and Earth. For Kids K-5, and they will love this interactive program. Free Pizza and drinks afterwards!
 - First Responder Storytime at the Fire station and Police Station on 7/22/23 at 10 am. Kona Ice Truck at 11 am, make and take crafts to take home, and more. Meet at Fire station first. *You must register for this event, which has a limit of 75 kids. Call 798-5613 to register.
 - UNH presents Lobsters at Grange Hall on 08/04/23 at 2 pm. Grange hall is located at 54 Main Street. This is for K-3 grades, but all are welcome. Ice Cream Social & prize raffle afterwards to celebrate end of Summer Reading.
 - Also, we will have some Special Summer Reading Events, like LEGO DERBY. Participants can find out more through the app or by calling 603-798-5613.
- The next book sale is June 24th and will include outside vendors. The theme is “Summer Beach Reads. The sale is from 9-1. Last month’s book sale brought in \$1,108, thanks to the generosity of Millican’s Nursery with their annual donation of plants to sell.
- June’s Book Club choice is The Personal Librarian, by Marie Benedict.
- The Library has new passes for cardholders enjoyment: Currier Art Museum, Children’s Museum of Dover, Discovery Museum, Shaker Village, Beauty Woods Disc Golf and See Science Center.

Statistics:

Atrium:

- Check-in’s: 515
- Check-out’s: 453
- Renewed: 84
- In-House Use: 24
- Added patrons: 10
- Deleted patrons: 0

Overdrive (Libby app):

- 122 Ebooks Checked out
- 113 Audiobooks Checked out
- 254 Kindle Books Checked out
- 19 Magazines Checked out

Hoopla:

- 50 Total Circulations—2 new patrons
- 24 Audiobooks Checked out
- 9 EBooks Checked out
- 4 Movie Checked out
- 3 Musics Checked out
- 6 Television

Planning Board-

Mrs. Jobin gave an update to the Board. She stated the Board will be working on updating the Site Plan/Subdivision Regulations this summer. There are also some potential housing developments going in on Route 4. There will be a conceptual discussion at the upcoming Planning Board meeting.

Space Needs Committee-

The Board reviewed the proposed guidelines. They will look to approve the guidelines at the next meeting. Mrs. Pinard stated that all of the department heads have reviewed and added to the document. The purpose is a time period to determine the needs of the Town. It is currently listed as 25 years.

Road Advisory Committee-

Charter as is in front of the Board with one edit. It does not exclude dirt roads. One strike through. The committee is established cooperatively to assist the eval long term planning and to improve economic impact on roads. 5 appointed members. At least one member should have engineering etc. Mrs. Pinard stated that it should be at least 2 members with experience.

Mrs. Pinard went through the meeting minutes and warrant article, amended article to establish a committee and be completed no later than October 2005. She stated the committee should have completed its duties and it's well past its purview. She stated that the Board can disband it if they choose.

Mr. Bouchard stated that the Committee has not always had the most experienced members. He doesn't see the need for the committee the way the Town operates now. If the committee does continue, there needs to be professionals.

Mr. Sykes stated that no one was showing up to RAC meetings. The town engineer, Mr. Vignale has been great, and he works well with him.

Mr. MacCleery stated that he thinks it's a good thing and a good way to communicate with Towns people. It is Disappointing only two people showed up today.

Mrs. St. Germain stated that there should be some professionals on there as well as communication.

Mr. Sykes stated that he has never refused communication and he feels that it's unfair to say.

Mr. Millette stated that the communications as far as conditions of road doesn't come from RAC.

Mrs. St. Germain would like a long-term plan for the roads and how to find out numbers for the budget. Should there be a committee to come together to review the plans.

Mr. Millette stated that is why he encouraged the room of people with concerns to come to the budget meetings where all these discussions take place. In 2005 there was a group of people that had a disconnect with the road agent that wanted a way to be involved with the road agent that they were not allowed to be otherwise. At that time, it was a good idea to help steer. Now that the Town has a hired road agent, and a professional, it's not appropriate in his opinion any longer. The Town has a lot more ability to steer and work with the road agent than they did back then when the road agent was elected. Engineers also now work with the road agent to determine needs and review.

Mrs. St. Germain asked as a resident of the town, how is she supposed to know the plan for the roads, and what does she need to attend so she can voice those concerns.

Mr. Millette stated budget presentations and meetings held during budget season. Mr. Sykes comes in with a plan and the Boards make decisions. He came in last year with projects and costs and a lot didn't make the cut and didn't make town meeting. The legislative body makes those decisions.

Mr. Sykes stated that gravel roads are four times more expensive to maintain than to pave. He would like three roads paved. Cost comes into play and also there are residents that are adamant they do not want their road paved.

Mr. Millette made a motion based on the research and the warrant article in 2005 that the Road Advisory Committee be disbanded. Mr. Bouchard seconded. Roll call vote. Millette, aye. Bouchard, aye. MacCleery, nay. **Motion passes.**

Mr. Millette stated that a meeting can be scheduled before budget season around September for communication and input.

Mr. Millette made a motion and Mr. MacCleery seconded to appoint Gordon Jones to the Conservation Commission until 4/1/26. Roll call vote. Millette, aye. Bouchard, aye. MacCleery, aye. **Motion passes.**

Approval of Minutes-

Mr. MacCleery made a motion and Mr. Millette seconded to approve the meeting minutes of May 16, 2023. Roll call vote. Millette, aye. Bouchard, aye. MacCleery, aye. **Motion passes.**

Other-

July 4, 2023 the Board of Selectmen meeting is cancelled.

July 11, 2023 is the department-heads Board of Selectmen Meeting.

August 1, 2023 the Board of Selectmen meeting is cancelled.

August 15, 2023 is the department heads Board of Selectmen Meeting.

The Board will be back to regularly scheduled meetings in September.

Mrs. Pinard stated that she is taking last year's submittals but putting them all in one document. The draft of that is coming.

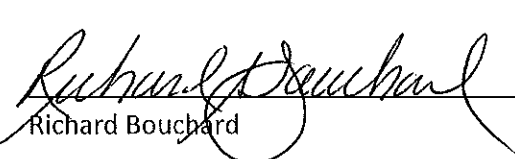
Mr. MacCleery stated that Mike Williams called him about Shaw field, and he wants to mow a pathway around the perimeter so he can ride his horses. Mr. Briggs, who previously did it, passed away.

The Board agreed Mr. Williams could mow the path but directed that a notice be put on the website that the Town is looking for someone to mow Shaw field.

Adjournment: Being no further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. MacCleery and seconded by Mr. Bouchard to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 pm. Roll call vote. MacCleery, aye. Millette, aye. Bouchard, aye. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kristy Jobin, Administrative Assistant


Richard Bouchard


Edward Millette


Stephen MacCleery

