

**Chichester Board of Selectmen**  
Minutes of Meeting  
Tuesday October 13, 2020

**Members Present in person:** Richard Bouchard, Ed Millette, Jason Weir and Jodi Pinard Town Administrator, Kristy Willey Administrative Assistant

**Present in person:** Bonnie Potter, Evelyn Pike, Russell Blaney, Brady Jewzenski and other members of the public.

**Call to Order:** Mr. Bouchard called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

Mr. Bouchard read a letter from Bette Bogdan into the minutes. They will be attached to the copy of the minutes.

Mr. Bouchard stated that the Town has received an update from legal regarding the Town Clerk position. He stated that the Deputy takes on the responsibility of Town Clerk but remains the Deputy Town Clerk until the next election takes place.

The Board discussed hiring someone at the request of Mrs. Pike and the outcomes that could occur if they do hire another employee such as possibly having an additional employee depending on how the election results.

Mr. Millette asked Mrs. Pike what the office is like from January to March.

Mrs. Pike stated that the office is very busy, and it is difficult to keep up, and wanted to hire someone else as soon as possible.

Mrs. Pinard stated that they are very busy currently due to absentee ballots, but that will not be for much longer.

Mrs. Pike explained that for someone to be certified with the DMV they must sit in the office for 30 days before they can do the training, then must complete online training.

Mrs. Potter stated that its been very busy due to elections and that she would like an assistant for 15-20 hours a week.

The Town Clerk and Tax Collector and Deputy for both have always been held by the same people so this is a new situation.

Mr. Weir recommended that the Town Clerk have one window and the Tax Collector have the other.

Mr. Millette stated that he does not feel right putting a good employee in a bad employment position.

Ms. Willey stated that she would be willing to help cover the Town Clerks office until the election since she was previously certified through the DMV. This would help prevent putting anyone's employment at risk.

Mrs. Pike stated that if they had Ms. Willey fill in that she would take all her vacation time until December 31<sup>st</sup>.

The Board asked if it was possible to use a temp to fill in until the election.

Mrs. Pike stated that there are some Town Clerks who fill in and she could obtain a list of available people.

The Board asked Mrs. Pike to bring forward candidates at the next meeting.

The Board discussed the Tax Collector/Town Clerk fees that are supplemental to the positions pay. Mrs. Pinard will get a list put together for the Board.

The Board discussed that salaries and work loads will have to be evaluated for the Town Clerk/Tax Collector salaries.

#### **Highway Update-**

Mr. Sykes is waiting for the quote for the well to be drilled.

The Board asked for Mr. Sykes to attend the next meeting with quotes for the loader and the well.

Mr. Weir stated that the Highway Department should just use the backhoe as they have for years.

Mr. Millette stated he is not interested in putting a lot of money into a piece of machinery that isn't worth it.

#### **Adjournment:**

Being no further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Millette and seconded by Mr. Bouchard to adjourn the meeting at 7:44pm. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted

Kristy Willey, Administrative Assistant

Not approved until signed

Letter from Bette Bogdan:

**From:** bette bogdan <[bettebogdanphd@gmail.com](mailto:bettebogdanphd@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Monday, October 12, 2020 7:11:38 PM

**To:** Evelyn Pike <[townclerk@chichesternh.org](mailto:townclerk@chichesternh.org)>; Selectmen <[selectmen@chichesternh.org](mailto:selectmen@chichesternh.org)>

**Subject:** Selectman Meeting 10/13/2020

I am requesting that this letter be read and entered into the minutes during the Selectmen's meeting on October 13th, 2020.

First, I would like the Board to consider my request that meetings be live streamed during the COVID pandemic.

Second, being a citizen of Chichester, I wish to express my thoughts on the resignation of Evelyn Pike. I want to thank her for all that she has done for the Town throughout the years, and let her know that she will be sorely missed. Her attention to detail, sense of caring, common sense, and sense of humor has been much appreciated. She can never be replaced, as she is an icon.

As far as backfilling the TC (Bonnie's) position, please consider posting it to allow folks with a similar skill set as Ms Pike to apply instead of adding the duties to that of another Town employee. As far as a suggested skill set I think that you would be looking to hire someone who has a proven track record of accuracy, ability to work with technology, numbers, and possess exceptional communication skills.

The person hired for that position will need time to train with Ms Pike ahead of 12/31/2020. Posting now, and setting a hiring goal and start date of November 2nd would allow for that to happen within a realistic time frame. Funds for that position could come from the unused funds from the former Road Agent and Crew budget perhaps?

I would also suggest that Ms. Pike be invited to be part of the interview process, as she is legally required to approve of this appointment if I am correct in reading the Regs.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my thoughts. I would have loved to be present in person to express them, however my education and background in Public Health has me doing my best to limit my exposure during the COVID pandemic.

***Warmest Regards, Dr. Bette Bogdan***

***Bette Bogdan PhD, RN-BC, CCM, PHN, COATS, CAPS  
6 Granny Howe Rd  
Chichester, NH 03258***