

## Chichester Board of Selectmen

Minutes of Meeting

Tuesday November 17, 2020

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

**Members of the public:** Craig Sykes, Russell Blaney, Richard Moore, Donna Chagnon, Brady Jezewski, Allison Planchet, Zach Boyajian, Stan Brehm, Darlene Foss, and other members of the public.

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

### **Conservation Commission-**

Mr. Mann came before the Board to discuss the Spaulding forest on behalf of the Conservation Commission. It is currently 450 acres and they are looking to improve public access.

Last year at Town meeting the voters approved the request to design a parking area. They have contacted small contractors and are working on drawings. They have received two quotes so far. They would like to put together a warrant article to expend funds to create the public access parking area.

Mr. Mann gave the Board copies of the quotes and bid for review.

Mr. Millette stated that it's in the proposal that a protected species of turtle is located in this area. He was concerned that it may halt the project if they came across the turtle while building.

Mr. Mann stated that they received a special permit from the Natural Resource Bureau for this purpose and it's unlikely they would come across the turtles at this location.

They are looking to put in a parking area, a kiosk, and footpaths with bog bridges in the area.

The Board discussed what account would be used to fund this project.

Mr. Boyajian stated that they would utilize the Forest Maintenance Account, because this fund is limited as to its use so they would rather use it for the Spaulding Forest as where the Conservation Commission Fund can be used for many purposes.

### **Route 28/Kelly Corner Road discussion with Richard Moore-**

Mr. Moore provided some information regarding the future plans for the D.O.T. 10 year plan. Mr. Moore summarized all of the police reports provided by the Chichester Police Department to put together the scene of many accidents. They are classified by severity and put together on a spreadsheet. Mr. Moore would like to submit the application to submit to have Kelly Corner/Route 28 added to the 10-year plan which is due by December 21.

Mr. Moore stated that everyone would like to reduce traffic on Main St. There are some different locations that need attention. One is the 4 way stop at Main St./Canterbury Road/Center Road.

Mr. Millette asked if we could put a weight limit on Main St. to help eliminate the trucks traveling on the roads such as semi-trucks.

Mr. Weir stated that the number of accidents break down to very little a year and it will most likely not get much attention from D.O.T.

Mr. Moore will now wait to hear from the Board to see how to proceed further.

Mr. Moore brought forward that the Capital Region Program is in the talking faze of a senior bus to transport from municipalities to specific destinations such as the grocery store. It's in the very early stages, but wanted to start dialogue.

Mr. Moore will acquire more information on accident data on Main St.

The Board asked to get traffic counts for Main St. from the state of CNHRPC. Mrs. Pinard will reach out to see what is available.

#### **Tax Rate Setting-**

Mrs. Pinard stated that there is a reduction in the tax rate \$23.40 to \$23.18.

Reduction in tax rate comes from the schools return of funds.

Fund Balance is at \$277,713 for a 3.2 %. DRA recommends keeping fund balance at a minimum of 5%.

Mr. Weir stated that the valuation has gone up very small and our increase in spending is much higher, and we cannot continue to go up.

Mr. Weir made a motion and Mr. Millette seconded to set the 2020 tax rate at \$23.18. Roll Call Vote. Millette, aye. Weir, aye. Weir, aye. **Motion passes.**

#### **Former Mike's Auto Mitigation Plan for wetland violations-**

Mr. Millette stated that the plan for wetlands is very vague.

Mr. Weir stated that this should go to the engineer for his blessing. It should meet the approved site plan.

Mr. Boyajian stated that there are some unresolved questions, and it meets the intent but they need approval to go into the wetlands.

The Board felt there was some confusion on vegetation. It is unclear and they would like the wording cleaned up or a diagram on how it will transition.

Mr. Millette felt this is not an acceptable as built plan.

The consensus of the board is that this is not a complete plan and would like a more clear and concise plan. They would like a DES wetlands permit, and they would like the plan overseen by the Town Engineer.

Mrs. Pinard stated that the Town should require an as built and the Town should require it for this project.

Mr. Brehm stated that the Planning Board is working on adding this to the Site Plan Regulations.

**Abatement-**

Mr. Millette made a motion and Mr. Bouchard seconded to abate the following:

Timber Tax for Map 3 Lot 43 for \$7,933.59 due to an error on the timber tax. Roll Call Vote. Millette, aye. Weir, aye. Weir, aye. **Motion passes.**

**RAC-**

Mr. Weir stated that the new chairman of the RAC is Russell Blaney.

Mr. Blaney reported that all the work has been divided up. They will be requesting to encumber funds for the Bear Hill project.

Mrs. Pinard stated that Mrs. Taluba is not interested in serving on the RAC but thanked them for the opportunity.

The RAC will meet again next Monday.

**Shaw land**

Mr. Weir stated that he felt that this was a lot of record and did not need road frontage.

The Board discussed with Mr. Brehm on whether it is a buildable lot.

The Board previously reviewed the Town Attorney's opinion that this lot was not a buildable lot.

The consensus of the Board was that the property owner needs to prove its buildable lot and its not the Town's obligation to do the leg work.

Next meeting is December

**Adjournment:**

Being no further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Bouchard and seconded by Mr. Millette to adjourn the meeting at 8:38pm. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted

Kristy Willey, Administrative Assistant

Approved February 9, 2021

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Richard Bouchard

Edward Millette

Jason Weir