

Chichester Board of Selectmen

Minutes of Meeting
Tuesday October 5, 2021

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

Members of the public: Chief Clarke, Chief Quimby, Craig Sykes, Kathy Doult, Stan Brehm, Tom Houle, Donna Chagnon, Zach Boyajian, and other members of the public.

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

Mr. Bouchard stated that he wanted to address something with Mr. Weir about what happened at the previous meeting. It was brought to his attention that Mr. Weir is a mortgage holder for the Chase property located at 361 Dover Road. There was a heated discussion that happened at the last meeting which Mr. Weir was involved in but should have recused himself due to his financial interest in the property. Mr. Bouchard asked that Mr. Weir to recuse himself from any future discussions regarding the property.

Mr. Weir stated he would not and that he does not hold the mortgage any longer.

Mr. Bouchard stated that as of today, October 5, 2021 it is still current in the Merrimack County Registry of Deeds that Mr. Weir holds the mortgage.

Mr. Weir stated that he would not recuse himself.

Department Heads-

Highway-

Mr. Sykes stated that Center Road has been paved by Busby.

Mr. Sykes reported that truck inspections are complete, roadside mowing is still ongoing, and crack sealing will be completed over the next few weeks. They are also working on getting the trucks and materials ready for winter. Salt is up to a 46% increase from last year.

Mr. Sykes stated that the 550 truck is still slated to arrive in December and the International truck is slated for the arrival at the beginning of the year in January.

Library-

Programs:

- There will be a special Storytime this week, meeting at the Fire Station for Fire Prevention Week. Always a popular program, the kids will meet outside this Saturday from 10 a.m.-noon. If it rains, the groups will meet inside. All the children will leave with a fire sticker, coloring book and a fire hat. Also while at the station, they will get to touch a fire truck.
- Music and Movement for kids will continue this Thursday outside at 10:45 to sing songs, dance and play a game of musical chairs. The program will be cancelled/postponed if it rains.

- October 14th at 7 p.m. at the Grange will be a rescheduled program from last year, “Case Closed on the 1873 Smuttynose Ax Murders,” presented by New Hampshire Humanities. For almost 150 years the moonlight ax murder of two Norwegian women on the rocky Isles of Shoals has haunted New England—a perfect way to get in the mood for Halloween.
- The Library will be celebrating Halloween the week of October 25th, during the times that the Library is open. Kids can come in costume and get a book and a goodie bag during these times. Also, some unusual characters are showing up on Halloween night to hand out treats and books in the foyer of the Library.
- A family program is scheduled for Wednesday, November 3rd at 7 p.m. at the Grange. “Bessie’s Story” is a book written about a blind dog named Bessie. Bessie and her human parents will be in attendance.

Other:

Last month’s book sale brought in approximately \$502.00. This month’s book sale is scheduled for October 16th.

Fire Department-

Chief Quimby stated that annual inspections are ongoing for the fire apparatus.

The Safety Complex driveway is currently being updated.

The Fire Department is working with the school on the annual inspection and fire drills.

Chief Quimby provided rear deck quotes and stated that the deck is in need of repair.

Mr. Weir made a motion and Mr. Bouchard seconded to approve the bid for \$8,000 out of the Town Facilities Capital Reserve Fund for a composite deck to Bully Construction. Roll Call Vote. Millette, aye. Weir, aye. Bouchard, aye. **Motion passes.**

Chief Quimby stated that Deputy Millette attended the Capital Area Fire Compact Meeting where the budget was approved. He reported that it was reduced by \$94.00.

Police Department-

Chief Clarke stated that the Department was approved for highway safety grants to utilize for extra patrols.

He will be attending a road safety audit with D.O.T. to discuss the Swiggy Brook and Webster Mills Road intersection.

Chief Clarke reported that Mr. Sykes helped the Police Department and created an extra gravel area for parking.

Parks and Rec-

A sign for the “OHD beans” will be placed at the sight in the park where the traditional beans are cooked every year for Old Home Day. Wording was completed by the Historical Society.

Parks and Rec will now be meeting indoors on Wednesdays.

Planning Board-

Mr. Brehm stated that the Planning Board will be having an extra work meeting this month to work on updating zoning regulations, proposal of nodes and adding to the sign ordinance to allow for directional signs for safety. The Board will also be discussing wind and solar ordinances.

Mr. Brehm and the Board discussed implementing a business certificate of occupancy in the near future.

School-

Mrs. Chivaris stated that the school started with 195 students this year.

This month is Anti bullying prevention month.

Mrs. Douglas of Chichester Central School was nominated for teacher of the year, congratulations!

Mrs. Chivaris stated that the back-to-school BBQ took place and was well attended.

The Dept. of Agriculture has made all school lunches free for any child, regardless of income for the entire year.

The Chichester School Board is looking for volunteers to sit on the school budget advisory committee. Please send a letter of interest to Heather Chivaris if interested.

Trick or Treating Times-

Mr. Millette made a motion and Mr. Weir seconded to declare October 31, 2021 from 5-8 for traditional Trick or Treating for the Town of Chichester. Roll Call Vote. Millette, aye. Weir, aye. Bouchard, aye. **Motion passes.**

Appointments-

Mr. Weir made a motion and Mr. Bouchard seconded to appoint Fred Shaw for the remainder of Dick Pratts term. Roll Call Vote. Millette, aye. Weir, aye. Bouchard, aye. **Motion passes.**

Website-

Mr. Bouchard asked if the minutes were current on the website.

Mrs. Jobin stated that due to the recent office closures due to illness and a very large workload, she was not sure if everything was up to date. She explained that there are only two people in the office and although minutes are important, there are many things that come first on the priority list. She will get the website updated as soon as possible and as always minutes can be requested anytime at the office.

Other Business-

Mrs. Pinard stated that the office is trying to catchup from the recent closure.

She is working on quotes for the Grange Hall updates and a quote for a cloud-based server for the FD and PD.

46 Dover Road/53 Cross Road violations-

The Board discussed the approaching deadlines for compliance for the two properties owned by Mr. MacKenzie. Mrs. Pinard asked the Board if they would like to streamline the compliance dates and make them both the end of the month or keep the permitting for 53 Cross Road and the Site Plan compliance for 46 separate.

The Board discussed this matter and due to the little compliance received so far, the consensus was to keep the deadlines separate. Friday, October 8th is the deadline for Site Plan Compliance for both properties, and the Building Inspector gave them until the end of October on the 31st to pull all required permits listed.

Either Mrs. Pinard or Mr. Hodge will be checking the site for compliance and reporting back to the Board.

Adjournment:

Being no further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Millette and seconded by Mr. Bouchard to adjourn the meeting at 7:18 pm. Roll call vote. Millette, aye. Bouchard, aye. Weir, aye. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,
Kristy Jobin, Administrative Assistant

Richard Bouchard

Edward Millette

Jason Weir