

## Chichester Board of Selectmen

Minutes of Meeting

Tuesday January 4, 2022

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

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

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

### Department Heads-

#### **Highway-**

Mr. Sykes stated that he received a thank you not from the Fire Department/Police Department for doing work down at the Safety Center.

Mr. Sykes wanted to thank the Town of Loudon for assisting them in plowing while they were shorthanded. They assisted with Kelly Corner Road and Pleasant St.

Mr. Sykes reported that due to the bad storms, they have gone through a large amount of salt and Sand. There have been 9 snow events the past year to date with 22 weather events total.

Mr. Sykes stated that the bucket went on the loader. He found a used replacement.

Mr. Bouchard made a motion and Mr. Millette seconded to purchase a used bucket in the amount of \$2,000.00 to be taken out of the Government Vehicle Maintenance Fund. Roll call vote. Millette, aye. Bouchard, aye. **Motion passes.**

Mr. Sykes stated that Busby checked in with him regarding the road reconstruction contracts. Busby would like to continue the contract next year for the same amount they charged in 2021.

The Board stated that was not possible, as the road reconstruction must go out to bid.

#### **Fire Department-**

Mrs. Pinard read an email from Chief Quimby as he was unable to attend the meeting.

Chief Quimby reported:

Engine 3 is still out of service; they might have found parts and be able to look at the truck later this week.

After budget presentation, we reconvened the truck committee to restart the process of replacing Engine 3 due to its unreliability. As stated at the meeting new fire apparatus far outweigh the cost of what is currently in Capital Reserve, we are focusing our energy on demo trucks that might be available on the market. At a future date, we would like to have a discussion with the board on options for future financing of fire apparatus as capital reserve funds seem to be the sacrificial lamb and Capital Reserve funds are always seem to be shortchanged.

Radio reprogramming of all department radios have been completed.

### **Library-**

Ms. Doult reported that the Library continues to manage library accessibility during COVID, while keeping the Library open to patrons. We try to respond to requests of patrons to help ensure a safe environment for all.

An ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act of 2021) round two Grant was awarded to the Library in December. The funds are to be spent during this calendar year. We were awarded \$10,702.00 to share with the Canterbury Library. We are buying a flat screen TV, seven playaway tablets\*, "sprout" learning backpacks\*\*, a Bluetooth boombox, a DVD player, a TV stand, an hdmi cord, three air purifiers and one air quality monitor.

Statistics for November:

445 items were checked out, 503 checked in, 84 renewals and 13 in-house use. We also added two patrons.

106 audiobooks and 124 e-books were selected.

There were 25 new patrons participating in HOOPLA, a subscription service, plus 102 circulations.

The Library sponsored a presentation by the Pontine Theatre attended by 25 people: "The Old Peabody Pew," by Kate Douglas Wiggin (the author of "Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm").

The Down Cellar Used Book Store will be open to the public for two hours this Saturday, from 9-11. These are not advertised and are weather-dependent. The store is "managed" by the Lovers of the Chichester Library, a group of volunteers who assist not only with the sales, but also with the programs that the Library brings to Chichester.

\*Playaway Tablets: Designed for circulation, the tablets are pre-loaded with content for kids, teens and adults. No need for wi-fi.

\*\*Sprout learning backpacks: Packed with books, toys, games and learning activities making learning fun! Developmentally appropriate backpacks for children ages. 3-8

### **Parks and Recreation-**

Mr. Boyjain stated that one of the basketball backboards needed to be replaced. They are unsure if it was vandalism, or if it was just the ball hitting it in cold weather.

There has been additional trail construction on the trails, that was not authorized. The Prickett's claimed that they had authorization to build trails from a previous Selectboard. Mr. Boyjain asked them to please contact him regarding this before they continued building. Mr. Boyjain reported that they did not contact him, and they are now working on the trails again. He will be working to contact them further.

Mr. Boyjain asked Mr. Sykes to please plow the new parking area at Spaulding Forest.

Mr. Boyjain stated that they would like to create a fund to collect money for the field use. Mrs. Pinard suggested a non-lapsing Parks Fund which would need to be a warrant article. A permit is suggested.

### **Conservation Commission-**

Mr. Boyjain stated that there may be another Milfoil treatment at Deer Meadow Pond. A resident wanted a treatment which the State did the first for free. A second one is needed, and they would like the Town to pay for a portion of the treatment. It would be 19% of the cost which would be \$1700.00. The Conservation Commission is in favor of the treatment and would use the Conservation Fund pending the contribution of Epsom. Mr. Boyjain stated that he did

speak with an Epsom Selectmen and that there are some funds that could be utilized for their portion. He wanted to make the Board of Selectmen aware and find out if there were any concerns.

Mr. Boyijian stated that there is another lawyer working on the easement on Main St. which should be ready for review next week.

#### **Police Department-**

Chief Clarke stated the new cruiser is in.

Frank Chiemlecki has retired after 20 years of service to the Town of Chichester we would like to Thank him for his many years of dedicated service.

Officers need new jackets due to the new vests. He would like to order heated jackets and gloves. This will be used for officers working at an accident scene stuck outside for hours. The detail account has over \$10,000 in it.

Mr. Millette made a motion and Mr. Bouchard seconded to approve cold weather jackets and gloves for the full-time officers to be taken out of the Police Detail Fund up to \$2,000. Roll call vote. Millette, aye. Bouchard, aye. **Motion passes.**

The Board had a discussion on cameras at the Highway Department and possibly park to watch for vandalism. No decisions were made.

#### **Planning Board-**

Mr. Brehm reported that this Thursday will be the second public hearing for the proposed zoning amendments.

There will also be a continued public hearing for DBU on Route 4.

Mr. Boyijian would like the Board to research the decibel level on the helicopter and noise contours.

Mr. Brehm stated that Chichester has no zoning for helipads or airstrips, so it is permitted. The CNHRPC did some research on the subject and found no regulations.

Mr. Bouchard stated that he has an item for discussion regarding Site Plans and use of the property before the construction begins. The Planning Board will discuss this further at the next Planning Board meeting.

#### **Elections-**

Mr. MacKinnon stated that March 8, 2022 from 10am-7pm for voting.

Town Meeting March 12, 2022, at 9am.

School Board Meeting will be held on March 5, 2022.

The Primary will be held at the beginning of September and the National Election at the beginning of November.

#### **Discussion on Bailey Road/Route 4 Intersection-**

The Board discussed the intersection located on Rt. 4 and Bailey Road due to many accidents.

The consensus of the Board was there were not enough accidents for D.O.T. to consider this intersection currently. The Board mentioned the possibility of trying to get it on a future ten-year plan.

**Expenditures-**

Mr. Millette made a motion and Mr. Bouchard seconded to authorize the expenditure from the Government Vehicle Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund in the amount of \$21,127.48 for fiscal year 2021. Roll call vote. Millette, aye. Bouchard, aye. **Motion passes.**

**Food pantry-**

Mr. Bouchard made a motion and Mr. Millette seconded to approve the following donations,

Pursuant to RSA 31:19, the Board of Selectmen shall accept and authorize the expenditure of unanticipated funds in the amount of:

**\$500.00** received from Globe, New Hampshire Charitable Foundation

**\$50.00** received from Tim Goodwin & Faith Duclos

**\$10.00** received from Ian Berkley

**\$150.00** received from Catherine Edmund-Bailey

**\$150.00** received from the Knights of Columbus

**\$150.00** received from Pamela Smith

Roll call vote. Millette, aye. Bouchard, aye. **Motion passes.**

**Resident Letter-Michelle Parent**

The Board reviewed the letter from the resident regarding Highway, questioning why there are vendors plowing, storage of POV's and tools, and sand/salt use for residents.

Mr. Sykes stated that he has been using advanced for plowing as he used them last year and he did a good job and has maintained the same price.

Mr. Sykes stated that the sign says sand for resident use only and salt is for highway use only. Every day that he can, he scrapes the frozen part off and replaces it. There has been a lot of rain and during cold weather. He doesn't mix because there is no containment and the cost. He stated that the Town has already bought enough wells on Route 28.

Mr. Sykes stated that his tools are kept at the shed because they are needed for use. Also, during winter storms personal vehicles are parked in the shed so that they can nap in them and keep them clear for staff.

Mr. Millette stated that he doesn't have an issue with any of the concerns. Salt should not be mixed due to the containment issue and the damage done to wells. Only sand is kept on the road for residents for that reason.

Mr. Brehm asked why the Town stopped offering salt to the residents.

The Board answered that in the past, people abused the salt being offered and commercial businesses would load up or people would take way too much.

**NON-PUBLIC-**

Mr. Bouchard made a motion and Mr. Millette seconded to go into **91-A:3 II (a)** – The dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee. Roll call vote. Millette, aye. Bouchard, aye. **Motion passes.**

Mr. Bouchard made a motion and Mr. Millette seconded to exit nonpublic. Roll call vote. Millette, aye. Bouchard, aye. **Motion passes.**

Mr. Bouchard made a motion and Mr. Millette seconded to seal the minutes indefinitely. Roll call vote. Millette, aye. Bouchard, aye. **Motion passes.**

**Adjournment:**

Being no further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Millette and seconded by Mr. Bouchard to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 pm. Roll call vote. Millette, aye. Bouchard, aye. Weir, aye. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Kristy Jobin, Administrative Assistant

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Richard Bouchard

Edward Millette

Jason Weir