TOWN OF CHESHIRE

80 CHURCH STREET | CHESHIRE, MASSACHUSETTS 01225
PHONE (413) 743-1690 | FAX (413) 743-0389

WWW.CHESHIRE-MA.GOV

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Board of Selectmen

Meeting Minutes –November 26, 2024

Pursuant to a notice duly filed with the Town Clerk, a meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held in person at 191 Church Street (Cheshire Community House) on Tuesday November 26, 2024, at 6:00 PM.

Board of Selectmen Members Present: Shawn McGrath, Chair
Ray Killeen, Member
Ron DeAngelis, Member

Board of Selectmen Members Absent: Jason Levesque, Vice Chair
Michelle Francesconi, Member

Others Present: Jennifer Morse, Town Administrator; Corey McGrath, DPW Director; Bob Tetlow; Brian Duval, Building Commissioner/Zoning Enforcement Officer

Summary of Votes

Vote to approve one day liquor licenses for Cheshire Rod & Gun Club and Whitneys Farm Market	3-0
Vote to hire Timothy Garner as On-Call Winter Roads Driver	3-0
Vote approve the Consent Agenda as submitted	3-0
Vote to enter executive session and not to return to the regular meeting @6:20 p.m.	3-0

S. McGrath called the meeting of the Board of Selectmen to order at 6:00 p.m.

Executive Session – MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21, Reason 1
To discuss the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health, rather than professional competence, of an individual, or to discuss the discipline or dismissal of, or complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual – Zoning Enforcement Officer

The Zoning Enforcement Officer was not present at 6:30 p.m. so the board moved to the next item on the agenda.

Discussion/Decision Items
One Day Liquor Licenses – Cheshire Rod & Gun Club, Whitney Farm Market
A motion was made by S. McGrath and seconded by R. DeAngelis to approve the one-day liquor licenses for Cheshire Rod & Gun Club and Whitney's Farm Market
Roll Call Vote: R. DeAngelis – Yes; R. Killeen – Yes; S. McGrath- Yes
Motion Carries: 3-0

Winter Road Position

The on-call position has been posted both internally and on the town website since November 1, 2024, there was one applicant Timothy Garner. The DPW Director is recommending Mr. Garner for the position clarifying that this is an on-call position for extreme weather events and that Mr. Garner has the proper licensing requirements and physicals, the hourly rate will be the truck/operator/laborer current rate, he will be operating a one-ton snowplow mainly in the downtown area.

A motion was made by S. McGrath and seconded by R. Killeen to hire Timothy Garner as the on-call winter roads driver.

Roll Call Vote: R. DeAngelis – Yes; R. Killeen – Yes; S. McGrath- Yes
Motion Carries: 3-0

Consent Agenda

Minutes – October 29, November 12 (regular session and executive session), November 21
Accounts payable and Payroll warrants

A motion was made by R. DeAngelis and seconded by R. Killeen to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Roll Call Vote: R. DeAngelis – Yes; R. Killeen – Yes; S. McGrath- Yes
Motion Carries: 3-0

Town Administrator Updates

Grant Opportunities - AFG is currently open and with the Fire Chief the application for a new tanker will be submitted by the December 20 deadline. Opening soon is the Municipal Small Bridge grant, in round 1 of this program the town was awarded $136,000 for engineering of the "culvert" on West Mountain Road, the engineering is complete and the town is now eligible for the round 2 construction grant. The Town is also eligible for the Community Compact – IT grant which opens in January discussion has been happening with the Water Department on updated software and hardware for electronic meter reading devices.

Announcements from Board Members

R. Killeen noted that there may be funding available to send MS4 mailings to notify the community of the requirements of MS4. R. Killeen also shared that he has been continuing to explore the meal tax excise question at the local Dunkin Donuts and will update the board when he has a response.

Public Comment – None

Complaint Procedures

Brian Duval, Zoning Enforcement Officer joined the meeting and the board discussed the previously submitted complaint procedure document. There were questions about who can file a complaint, the ZEO stated that in his training he was told a person of standing having a direct impact from the violation. The Town Administrator was directed to send the document to counsel for input and clarification on who complaints can be taken from after R. DeAngelis mentioned the whistleblower act and state laws around reporting.

Executive Session- MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21, Reason 1

A motion was made by S. McGrath and seconded by R. DeAngelis to enter into executive session according to MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21, Reason 1 to discuss the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health, rather than professional competence, of an individual, or complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual – Zoning Enforcement Officer and to adjourn the regular meeting not to return after executive session at 6:20 p.m.

Roll Call Vote: R. DeAngelis – Yes; R. Killeen – Yes; S. McGrath- Yes
Motion Carries: 3-0

Respectfully Submitted,
Jennifer Morse
Town Administrator
December 6, 2024

Document List

1. Agenda November 26, 2024
2. How to file a complaint- building or zoning violations – DRAFT
3. Draft Minutes – October 29
4. Draft Minutes – November 12
5. Draft Minutes – November 21
6. Cheshire Highway Biweekly Report
7. Senior Center October Report
8. BOS Meeting Schedule – December – March
9. Conservation Commission Notice of Violation – Cease and Desist

Approved: 1/8/25