TOWN OF CHESHIRE

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

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Board of Selectmen

MEETING MINUTES –SEPTEMBER 30, 2025

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 September 30, 2025, at 6:30 p.m.

Board of Selectmen Present:
Shawn McGrath, Chair
Jason Levesque, Vice Chair
Ray Killeen, Member
Michelle Francesconi, Member
Ron DeAngelis, Member

Others Present: Jennifer Morse, Town Administrator; Corey McGrath; Whitney Flynn; William Criag, Northern Berkshire Vocational School District Representative; Lynn Melchiori; Christopher Garner

Summary of Votes:

Vote to open Liquor License Amendment Hearing @ 6:30 p.m.	5-0
Vote to approve the Liquor License amendment (new location) Common Table	5-0
Vote to support the NBVRSD building project by in-action and take a debt exclusion article to Annual Town Meeting followed by a Special Election	5-0
Vote to approve the consent agenda with edits to September 16th minutes	5-0
Vote to approve One Day Liquor Licenses for the Cheshire Rod & Gun Club	3-2

S. McGrath called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Hearing – Common Table Liquor License Amendment – Change of Location- 6:30 p.m.
The Board of Selectmen under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws will hold a hearing to act on the amendment of the On-Premises All Alcoholic Beverages Liquor License by changing the location to 287 South State Road.

A motion was made by S. McGrath and seconded by J. Levesque to open the liquor license amendment hearing for Common Table Food and Drink, Inc. at 6:30 p.m.
Roll Call Vote: R. DeAngelis- Yes; R. Killeen – Yes; J. Levesque – Yes; M. Francesconi-Yes; S. McGrath-Yes
Motion Carries- 5-0

Chrisopher (CJ) Garner joined the board, sharing that the amendment request is to change locations from 41 South Street to 287 South State Road. Once Common Table is established in the new location they will be re-opening and filing for a new liquor license for the current location.

A motion was made by S. McGrath and seconded by J. Levesque to approve the liquor license amendment for Common Table.
Roll Call Vote: R. DeAngelis- Yes; R. Killeen – Yes; J. Levesque – Yes; M. Francesconi-Yes; S. McGrath-Yes
Motion Carries- 5-0

The liquor license hearing dissolved at 6:35 p.m.

Board of Selectmen Discussion/Decision Items

- **Northern Berkshire Vocational School District Project Discussion**

S. McGrath stated that after reviewing the draft minutes and reading the newspaper articles he is fully supportive of the project. Board members received correspondence earlier in the day from Superintendent Brosnan regarding an additional $541,304 in funding from the MSBA (Massachusetts School Building Authority) reducing the amount of borrowing by the school district. Discussion on the options before the board which includes foregoing a Special Town Meeting, which approves the district for borrowing through inaction after a 60-day period. Hold a Special Town meeting and Special Election, voter information was of concern as residents don't have as much opportunity to learn about the project in this format, M. Francesconi noted that comments on social media lead her to believe voters don't have enough information currently. The Town can also take the debt exclusion to the Annual Town Meeting followed by a Special Election which is the preferred path for most public participation.

William Craig, School Committee Representative, noted that the MSBA provided an additional $541,304 to the project and the Superintendent shared new 15 and 20 years projected borrowing numbers. Bill shared that he is very optimistic that the numbers will still change as the project moves forward with potential saving with interest rates and approval for students to perform work on the ADA components of the project.

J. Levesque asked about the borrowing timeline and Bill responded that he would inquire and have the Superintendent reach out to the Town Administrator with the information. R. DeAngelis stated that the future of schools is trade schools.

A motion was made by S. McGrath and seconded by M. Francesconi to approve the Northern Berkshire Vocational School District Roof, Windows and ADA Upgrade Project with a debt exclusion being put before the voters at Annual Town Meeting followed by a Special Election.
Roll Call Vote: R. DeAngelis- Yes; R. Killeen – Yes; J. Levesque – Yes; M. Francesconi-Yes; S. McGrath-Yes
Motion Carries- 5-0

Bill Craig thanked the board for their support and left the meeting.

S. McGrath shared that he had attended a meeting of the Chairs (Adams Board of Selectmen, School Committee Chair, and Superintendent) last evening and they are

also looking at a grant through the MSBA to replace the roof at Hoosac in the next couple of years. He also shared that the regionalization conversations will start in the middle of the month.

Consent Agenda

- Minutes – September 5, September 16, September 23
- Accounts payable and Payroll Warrants

A motion was made by S. McGrath and seconded by J. Levesque to approve the consent agenda with edits to the September 16, 2025 minutes.

Roll Call Vote: R. DeAngelis- Yes; R. Killeen – Yes; J. Levesque – Yes; M. Francesconi-Yes; S. McGrath-Yes

Motion Carries- 5-0

Town Administrator Updates

Cheshire Rod & Gun Club One Day Liquor Licenses 10/4, 10/11, 10/18

A motion was made by M. Francesconi and seconded by R. Killeen to approve the one-day liquor license requests for the Cheshire Rod & Gun Club.

Roll Call Vote: R. DeAngelis- Yes; R. Killeen – Yes; J. Levesque – Abstain; M. Francesconi-Yes; S. McGrath-Abstain

Motion Carries- 3-0-2

Municipal Aggregation Press Release and Information

The Town Administrator shared that the information regarding the change in energy suppliers will be mailed to every household that is currently enrolled, customers if enrolled do not need to take any action. Those not enrolled should contact Colonial Power for more information.

LEAP Request – Technical Assistance and Design for a retention pond at the Highway Garage/Transfer Station

The Town administrator shared that the Town submitted a request to the LEAP program (a division of MassDOT) for technical assistance and engineering of a retention pond at the Highway Garage which is a requirement of the MS-4 Stormwater regulations. The request was completed by Alison Dixon of BRPC.

Any other business not anticipated 48 hours prior to the meeting

The Town Administrator shared that a grant award letter was received today awarding $430,000 in funds for the full depth reclamation and resurfacing of Fred Mason Road.

Public Comment – None

Upcoming Agenda Items & Events – None

Respecfully Submitted;
Jennifer Morse

Town Administrator
October 1, 2025

Document List

1. Agenda - September 30, 2025
2. ABCC Certificate for Common Table
3. NBVRSD Updated Project Information
4. Draft Minutes 9/5/25; 9/16/25; 9/23/25
5. Public Notice Municipal Energy Supplier

Approved: 10/14/25