TOWN OF CHESHIRE

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

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Board of Selectmen

MEETING MINUTES –NOVEMBER 25, 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 November 25, 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, DPW Director. Lynn Melchiori; Peter Traub; Sabrina Damms, IBerkshires; Heath Biddlecome; Alex Cabot; Justin Damore; James Massey, BPHA; Valerie Bird, BPHA ; Peter Willey; Kevin Tibbetts; Joe Provencher; Marcus Hillard; Kathleen Hart; Katrina Malloy; William Moreau; John Isac; Berkshire Eagle; Tim Garner, Interim Police Chief; Claude Jean-Calixte, Police Officer.

Summary of Votes:

Vote to approve one-day liquor licenses	3-0-2
Vote to approve the Consent Agenda with the edits to the minutes	5-0
Vote to approve the amendment to the Body Worn Camera Policy	5-0
Vote to approve body worn camera grant options	5-0
Vote to enter executive session not to return to the regular meeting	5-0

S. McGrath called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with one recording device (IBerkshires)

Rent Control Board – Berkshire Village MHC Update Continued from May 20, 2025
Justin Damore, engineer working with the Berkshire Village MHC ownership updated the Board stating, he has confirmed with DEP an inspection date for the new septic system of December 16, 2025, at which time the hook ups will be verified and tested, he expects the system to be complete by Christmas with seeding in the spring. He shared that this will address the DEP nonconformance document and that all remaining Title V's have been paid for and are being scheduled. Road work will on or around May 1st weather dependent.

Valerie Board, Health Inspector from the Berkshire Public Health Alliance confirmed that Title V's are scheduled including some tank only inspections. She also shared that she and James Massey, Health Inspector were in the field today looking at hookups, James will be overseeing the inspection on December 16th.

William Moreau President of the Berkshire Village Tenants Association stated that the septic issues have gotten out of control and that tenants have the potential of losing water as there is no backup generator for the system. He then shared a document titled *Rent control Board Hearing Summation* (attached) with the board. There was discussion regarding the permitting process which is handled by the Board of Health. Valerie Bird shared that all mobile home communities have been sent notice of the required permitting and inspections will be done by the end of December.

R. DeAngelis asked for a sign lease agreement, William Moreau will provide the requested document. After more discussion it was decided that Valerie and James will meet with William Moreau to address the Berkshire Village Tenants Association concerns. All in attendance were reminded that the septic project is being overseen by the DEP with the Board of Health being the onsite "boots on the ground", and that the local Board of Health does not give final approval.

Board of Selectmen Discussion/Decision Items
One Day Liquor Licenses - Whitney's; Two Sister Spirits Mobile Bar; Cheshire Rod and Gun Club and Common Table. The Town Administrator read a list of businesses and organizations including the dates for December.
A motion was made by M. Francesconi and seconded by R. Killeen to approve the one day liquor licenses as requested.
Roll Call Vote: R. DeAngelis – Yes; R. Killeen – Yes; J. Levesque- Abstain; M. Francesconi – Yes; S. McGrath – Abstain.
Motion Carries- 3-0-2

Consent Agenda
Minutes – November 14, 2025, and November 18, 2025
Accounts Payable & Payroll Warrants
A motion was made by S. McGrath and seconded by J. Levesque to approve the consent agenda with edits to the 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
Finance Team Meeting Update will be emailed to the board members.

Police Department
Police Department – Body Worn Camera Policy Update
Interim Chief, Tim Garner and Officer Claude Jean-Calixte (JC) joined the board to discuss the update to the body worn camera policy section 10, Video Recall Procedure. The policy establishes procedures for retrieval video footage from the body camera when the officer fails to activate the body worn camera during a law enforcement encounter.
A motion was made by S. McGrath and seconded by J. Levesque to approve the Body Worn Camera policy.
Roll Call Vote: R. DeAngelis – Yes; R. Killeen- Yes; J. Levesque – Yes; M. Francesconi- Yes; S. McGrath- Yes

Motion Carries: 5-0

Officer JC shared that new technology available which includes a language feature with translations, he stated that there are grants available and asked for permission to apply.

A motion was made by S. McGrath and seconded by J. Levesque to pursue funding options for the new body camera technology.
Roll Call Vote: R. DeAngelis – Yes; R. Killeen- Yes; J. Levesque – Yes; M. Francesconi- Yes; S. McGrath- Yes
Motion Carries: 5-0

Interim Police Chief Stipend
Chief Garner stated that he did not want a stipend, that he was offering his services at no cost to the town and the money should go to other needs. There was a brief discussion, S. McGrath thanked the Chief and stated that the board reserves the right to revisit this topic.

Public Comment – None

Upcoming Agenda Items & Events
J. Levesque shared that the Open Space and Recreation Committee met and would like to pursue the reconfiguration of the boat launch area. The Town Administrator will contact state entities to begin the conversations as none of the property is owned by the Town.

The Festival of Trees begins on Sunday December 7, 2025, with the tree lighting.

Executive Session – MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a), Reason 4
To discuss the deployment of security personnel or devices, or strategies with respect thereto.

A motion was made by S. McGrath and seconded by M. Francesconi to enter executive session at 7:50 p.m. according to MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21 (a), Reason 4 and not to re-enter the regular meeting
Roll Call Vote: R. DeAngelis – Yes; R. Killeen- Yes; J. Levesque – Yes; M. Francesconi- Yes; S. McGrath- Yes
Motion Carries: 5-0

Respecfully Submitted;
Jennifer Morse
Town Administrator
December 8, 2025

Approved: December 16, 2025

Document List
1. Agenda – November 25, 2025

2. Draft Minutes – November 14, November 18
3. Body Worn Camera Policy