TOWN OF CHESHIRE

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

191 CHURCH STREET CHESHIRE, MASSACHUSETTS 01225
PHONE (413)743-1690 EXT 100 | EMAIL ADMIN@CHESHIRE-MA.GOV
WWW.CHESHIRE-MA.GOV

Board of Selectmen & Finance Committee

MEETING MINUTES May 19, 2026 6:30 P.M.

Pursuant to a notice duly filed with the Town Clerk, a joint meeting of the Board of Selectmen & Finance Committee was held in person at 191 Church Street (Cheshire Community House) on Tuesday,
May 19, 2026, at 6:31 p.m.

Board of Selectmen Present: Michelle Francesconi, Chair
Shawn McGrath, Vice-Chair
Ron DeAngelis, Member
Ray Killeen, Member
Scott McWhirt, Member

Finance Committee Present: Jeff Chaput, Chair (remote)
Kathy Levesque, Member (remote)
William McGovern, Member
Mickey Biagini, Member
Austin Alibozek, Member

Finance Committee Absent: Patrick Pettit, Member

Others Present: Jennifer Morse, Town Administrator; Corey McGrath, DPW Director; Erin Paris, Administrative Assistant; Sabrina Damms, iBerkshires; Lynn Melchiori; Whitney Flynn, Sara Lacombe, Peter Traub, Bob Tetlow

Summary of Votes:

(BOS)Vote to appoint Sara Lacombe to the Woodlands Partnership of Western MA	5-0
(Finance) Vote to recommend Special Town Meeting articles	5-0
(BOS) Vote to recommend Special Town Meeting articles	5-0
(Finance) Vote to adjourn at 6:42 p.m.	5-0
(BOS) Vote to meet bi-weekly from Annual Town Meeting to Labor Day	4-1
(BOS) Vote to approve the Summer Paving contract with LB Corp	5-0
(BOS) Vote to adjourn at 6:55 p.m.	5-0

M. Francesconi called the meeting of the Board of Selectmen to order at 6:30 p.m.

Appointment

Sara Lacombe joined the board and introduced herself stating that she had moved to Cheshire in December and wants to be involved with conservation, the environment, and economic development. She had originally reached out to volunteer for the police chief

search, spoke to the Town Administrator about other positions, and ultimately ended up speaking to the Woodland Partnership of Western Massachusetts. She looks forward to representing the Town of Cheshire.
A motion was made by S. McGrath and seconded by R. Killeen to appoint Sara Lacombe to the Woodland Partnership of Western Massachusetts.
Roll Call Vote: R. DeAngelis – Yes; R. Killeen – Yes; S. McGrath – Yes; Scott McWhirt – Yes; M. Francesconi - Yes
Motion Carries: 5-0

Joint Meeting with Finance Committee 6:37 P.M.

- **Fiscal Year 27 Annual Town Meeting Warrant and Special Town Meeting Warrant**
  The Town Administrator reviewed the Special Town Meeting warrant articles which include three articles to pay past due bills.

  Finance Committee : *A motion was made by M Biagini and seconded by A. Alibozek to recommend the Special Town Meeting warrant articles as presented.*
  Vote: 5-0

  Board of Selectmen: *A motion was made by S. McGrath and seconded by R. Killeen to recommend the Special Town Meeting warrant articles as presented.*
  Roll Call Vote: R. DeAngelis – Yes; R. Killeen – Yes; S. McGrath – Yes; Scott McWhirt – Yes; M. Francesconi – Yes
  Motion Carries: 5-0

Finance Committee Adjournment
A motion was made by M. Biagini and seconded by W. McGovern to adjourn the Finance Committee meeting at 6:42 p.m.
Vote: 5-0

Board of Selectman Discussion /Decision Items

- **Board of Selectmen – Summer Meeting Schedule**

M. Francesconi started the conversation stating that a member of the community approached her at the church saying that they watched the meetings on television and appreciate that the meetings are weekly. S. McGrath shared his opinion that will summer events , vacation plans, and non-budget season, that he did not feel like weekly meetings are necessary. M. Francesconi brought up several topics that need to be addressed including summer construction projects and the Youth Center Lease. S. McWhirt felt as if bi-weekly meetings would be good, allowing for a special meeting if something needs immediate attention, R. Killeen echoed the thought. The Town Administrator shared that the Youth Center has requested a meeting for June 9, 2026.

A motion was made by S. McGrath and seconded by R. Killeen to return to bi-weekly meetings from Annual Town Meeting to Labor Day
Vote: R. DeAngelis – Yes; R. Killeen- Yes; S. McGrath- Yes; S. McWhirt- Yes; M. Francesconi – No
Motion Carries: 4-1

.

- **Fire Department Engineering**
  No Update the DPW Director is waiting for two additional quotes for the engineering.

- **Community House Heat Engineering.**
  The drawings will be ready by the end of the day on Thursday and will be added to a future agenda. The air quality testing was moved to the end of the week.

- **West Mountain Road Project**
  A letter to residents explaining the temporary road closure of 4 hours in order to install the temporary bridge will be sent out this week. Construction is expected to begin by the end of June and last until the end of October. Arrangements have been made for fire/medical protection during the four-hour temporary closure of the bridge

Summer Paving Projects Contract – LB Corp
A motion was made by S. McGrath and seconded by R. DeAngelis to sign the contract with LB Corporation for the Summer Paving Projects.
Roll Call Vote: R. DeAngelis – Yes; R. Killeen – Yes; S. McGrath – Yes; Scott McWhirt – Yes; M. Francesconi – Yes
Motion Carries: 5-0

Public Comment
Whitney Flynn, Town Clerk asked about utilizing police officers as counters for the Annual Town Meeting. The Town Administrator suggested utilizing election workers as the interim police chief will be called upon for questions related to the police budget.

Any other business not anticipated 48 hours prior to the meeting: None

Events and Upcoming Agenda Items
- Memorial Day Parade -May 25, 2026, at 1:00 PM
- Flag Day Event -June 14, 2026, 1:00-4:00 PM
- Cheshire Hoedown- June 27, 2026, 4:00 – 8:00 PM

Any other business not anticipated 48 hours prior to the meeting; None

Adjournment
A motion was made by M. Francesconi and seconded by S. McGrath to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 p.m.
Roll Call Vote: R. DeAngelis – Yes; R. Killeen – Yes; S. McWhirt-Yes; M. Francesconi – Yes; S. McGrath-Yes
Motion Carries: 5-0

Respecfully Submitted;
Erin Paris
Administrative Assistant
June 01, 2026

DRAFT

Document List

1. Agenda - May 19, 2026
2. LB Corp Contract Summer Paving Projects
3. DRAFT Special Town Meeting Warrant
4. DRAFT Annual Town Meeting Warant

DRAFT