

**Village of Chester
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
July 13, 2020**

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Chester held its monthly meeting via video/tele-conferencing at 7 pm, on Monday, July 13, 2020.

Members present: Mayor John Thomas Bell, Deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato, Trustee Alan Battiato, Trustee Elizabeth A. Reilly and Trustee Brian J. Boone.

Also, present: Village Clerk Rebecca Rivera, Treasurer Angela O'Neill, Village Attorney John Kolesar, Village Police Chief Peter J. Graziano Jr., and Village Water Commissioner Gary A. Green Jr. Village Attorney Brian Nugent, Village Street Superintendent Charles Bono and Village Code Enforcement Officer John Orr were absent.

Village of Chester Monthly Meeting notice as published in the official newspaper, Times Herald Record.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Village Board of the Village of Chester will conduct a Village Board Meeting on July 13, 2020, commencing at 7:00 PM to consider any matters that may be brought. There is no physical meeting location in order to ensure the health, safety and welfare of the Village residents, but for the purposes of compliance with the applicable law, the Meeting will be conducted via video/tele-conferencing and the Board Members as well as members of the public may participate in the Meeting by videoconferencing, access to which is shared by the weblink provided below, or by telephone, access to which is shared by the telephone number. The weblink is also available on the Village's website as a hyperlink for easier access:

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/860039776?pwd=RVcxVjhxV0I3d3ZiRXNNTDl6Nlppdz09>

Password: 398313

Or Telephone:

Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 929 205 6099

Webinar ID: 860 039 776

Password: 398313

The Meeting is being held in accordance with the New York State Public Officers Law and Executive Order 202.1 ("EO 202.1") issued on March 12, 2020, by New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo, which suspended Article 7 of the Public Officers Law, to the extent necessary to permit any public body to meet and take such actions authorized by the law without permitting in public in-person access to meetings and authorizing such meetings to be held remotely by conference call or similar service, provided that the public has the ability to view or listen to such proceeding and pursuant to Executive Order 202.15 that authorized public hearings to be held by video conferencing or similar services. For any person unable to participate at the time of the meeting, email comments may be submitted in advance to clerk@villageofchesterny.com.

Accordingly, **NO IN-PERSON ATTENDANCE IS PERMITTED FOR THE MEETING.**

BY ORDER OF THE VILLAGE BOARD OF THE VILLAGE OF CHESTER, NY

Rebecca Rivera, Village Clerk

July 7, 2020

Mayor John Thomas Bell opened the meeting at 7:01 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor John Thomas Bell thanked everyone for attending the meeting via audio/video conferencing.

AUDIT OF BILLS: Mayor John Thomas Bell noted that the audit of June 2020 Village’s monthly bills for approval was complete.

Trustee Elizabeth A. Reilly stated that she did not sign one of the June 2020 vouchers regarding the new officer Jennifer Tolentino. Trustee Elizabeth A. Reilly stated that she was under the impression that there was a cap on the amount the village was going to spend on the new officer with regards to equipment.

Mayor John Thomas Bell asked the Chief of Police what the total amount of the purchased items for officer Jennifer Tolentino.

Chief Peter J Graziano Jr. stated that he wasn’t aware that there was a cap. Chief stated that the price of the uniform doesn’t have a cap per the contract.

Trustee Elizabeth A. Reilly mentioned that she was under the impression that it was going to be around \$400.

Chief said that the vest alone for a new officer is in the range of \$700 - \$800

Deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato stated that when this was discussed he thought that the new officer had most of the items needed and the only thing we had to do is sponsor her for the academy.

Chief Peter J Graziano Jr. said the only thing we are providing is the uniform per the contract, the new officer is paying for everything else.

A motion to pay the audited bills of June 2020, was made by Trustee Alan Battiato, seconded by Trustee Brian J Boone. Motion unanimously passed.

Roll Call

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain/Absent</u>
Deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato	[x]	[]	[]
Trustee Elizabeth A. Reilly	[x]	[]	[]
Trustee Alan Battiato	[x]	[]	[]
Trustee Brian J Boone	[x]	[]	[]
Mayor John Thomas Bell	[x]	[]	[]

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Monthly meeting minutes of June 8, 2020.

Mayor John Thomas Bell noted that the Monthly meeting minutes of June 8, 2020, were completed and distributed to all Board members.

A motion to accept Monthly meeting minutes of June 8, 2020 as presented, was made by Deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato, seconded by Trustee Elizabeth A. Reilly. Motion unanimously passed.

Roll Call

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain/Absent</u>
Deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato	[x]	[]	[]
Trustee Brian J. Boone	[x]	[]	[]
Trustee Elizabeth A. Reilly	[x]	[]	[]
Trustee Alan Battiato	[x]	[]	[]
Mayor John Thomas Bell	[x]	[]	[]

TREASURER’S REPORT: Treasurer Angela O’Neill read Treasurer’s report as follows:

CASH BALANCES ENDING JUNE 30, 2020

<u>Fund/Bank Account</u>	<u>Deposits</u>	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
<u>General Fund</u>				
Savings (Sterling National; Bank)	--	--	669.47	3,214,136.03
Checking (Orange County Trust)	1,744,271.11	405,222.21	35.08	1,591,113.63
<u>Savings (Orange County Trust)</u>	--	405,222.21	311.04	1,049,536.83
<u>Water Fund</u>				
Capital Checking	--	--	17.35	138,818.12
Checking	45,280.82	38,725.81	23.68	467,811.68
<u>Sewer Fund</u>				
Checking	358,856.58	454.83	23.96	672,823.95

Cumulative Fiscal Year Interest Earned by Fund 06/1/2020 – 05/31/2021

General Fund	\$	1,015.59
Water Fund	\$	41.03
Sewer Fund	\$	23.96

Treasurer’s Discussion:

- 1. STATEMENT OF REVENUE & EXPENDITURES:** Attached.
- 2. 2020-2021 TAX/SEWER COLLECTION:** Collection of Village Property Taxes and Sewer are underway. Village Tax is due by 7/21/2020. Sewer Installment #2 is due by 9/30/2020
- 3. 2020-2021 BUDGET MODIFICATIONS:** A budget modifications schedule will be presented next month for the Board’s Approval.
- 4. 2020-2021 SEWER ADJUSTMENTS:** Requesting Board Approval to waive sewer installment #1 plus any penalties the account may have incurred to date for 1311 Whispering Hills Drive. This is another unit that was destroyed by a fire on 3/22/2019.

A motion to accept adjustment to sewer bills as noted by the Treasurer Angela O’Neill was made by Trustee Alan Battiato, seconded by Deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato. Motion unanimously passed.

Roll Call

For **Against** **Abstain/Absent**

Deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato	[x]	[]	[]
Trustee Brian J. Boone	[x]	[]	[]
Trustee Elizabeth A. Reilly	[x]	[]	[]
Trustee Alan Battiato	[x]	[]	[]
Mayor John Thomas Bell	[x]	[]	[]

A motion to accept Treasurers report as read by Treasurer Angela O’Neill was made by Trustee Elizabeth A. Reilly, seconded by Deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato. Motion unanimously passed.

Roll Call

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain/Absent</u>
Deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato	[x]	[]	[]
Trustee Elizabeth A. Reilly	[x]	[]	[]
Trustee Brian J Boone	[x]	[]	[]
Trustee Alan Battiato	[x]	[]	[]
Mayor John Thomas Bell	[x]	[]	[]

BUILDING REPORT: Village Code Enforcement Officer John Orr was absent.

POLICE REPORT: Police Village Police Chief Peter J. Graziano Jr., read his report as follows:

1. Personnel

- No officers have been infected to date by the COVID-19 or shown any symptoms.

2. Citizen Issues:

- Received a thank you card from Ms. Quinn for a drive-by birthday parade performed last month.

3. Public Safety Issues:

- Traffic Details: Continuing.
- The protest scheduled for 11 July was canceled by the organizer and rescheduled for 18 July at 3 pm. Winkler will be closed for the duration and they plan to march to CVS on Academy Ave and return to Winkler Pl. Traffic will potentially be severely impacted and drivers should seek alternate routes from 3 pm to at least 6 PM.
- Received a letter from the Orange County Commissioner of Emergency Services Brendan Casey thanking the department in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

4. Facilities:

- No Issues.

5. Equipment:

- Thanks to Sterling Manufacturing of Middletown and Mare Sturgill and Stephen Crescimanno who live in the town for a donation of 30 face shields.

6. Vehicles:

- No Issues.

7. Other:

- No Issues.

8. Department Activity YTD:

Call Type	2020
Calls for Service	1107
Criminal Cases	124
Arrests	058
Traffic Accidents	057

A motion to accept Police report as read by Village Police Chief Peter J. Graziano Jr. was made by, Trustee Elizabeth A. Reilly, seconded by Deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato. Motion unanimously passed.

Roll Call

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain/Absent</u>
Deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato	[x]	[]	[]
Trustee Elizabeth A. Reilly	[x]	[]	[]
Trustee Brian J Boone	[x]	[]	[]
Trustee Alan Battiato	[x]	[]	[]
Mayor John Thomas Bell	[x]	[]	[]

STREET REPORT: Village Street Superintendent, Charles Bono was absent.

Mayor John Thomas Bell made mention that the Street department’s Garage roof had peeled up and folded back. Street Superintendent, Charles Bono is working on getting pricing from different vendors in order to fix it.

WATER REPORT: Water Commissioner Gary A. Green, Jr., read his report as follows:

- 1) Daily filter plant & well operations
- 2) Twice per week filter cleaning
- 3) Monthly samples taken to the lab.
- 4) Mark outs for Dig Safe NY.
- 5) Weekly mowing of facilities.
- 6) Service was completed on generator at filtration plant.
- 7) Inspected and made repairs to all facility roofs.
- 8) We were onsite for service line extension for the cement plant on Nucifora Blvd.
- 9) Assisted contractor with service line leak at 10 School St.
- 10) Worked with contractor to fix broken fire hydrant behind Shoprite.

- 11) Spent a week marking out all water lines in Cherry Heights, including Hambletonian and Oakland Ave. Per Orange and Rockland Gas upgrade project.
- 12) Replace curb boxes at 3 Elm St., 33 Elm St., and 8 Highland Ave.
- 13) Replaced small roof over back door of Village Hall.

A motion to accept the Water Department’s report as read by Water Commissioner Gary A. Green Jr., was made by Trustee Brian J. Boone, seconded by Deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato. Motion unanimously passed.

Roll Call

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain/Absent</u>
Deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato	[x]	[]	[]
Trustee Elizabeth A. Reilly	[x]	[]	[]
Trustee Brian J Boone	[x]	[]	[]
Trustee Alan Battiato	[x]	[]	[]
Mayor John Thomas Bell	[x]	[]	[]

PARK& RECREATION: There was no report from the Park & Recreational Department.

OLD BUSINESS: No old business to address.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 30-day Notice waiver for Meadow Blues Coffee, LLC, located at 8 Greycourt Ave.

A motion to waive the 30-day waiver for Meadow Blues Coffee, LLC was made by Trustee Alan Battiato, seconded by deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato. Motion unanimously passed.

- Tour de Goshen

A motion to authorize the Tour de Goshen to utilize village roads for the race if that they submit a certificate of insurance naming the village as an additional insurer, was made by Trustee Elizabeth A. Reilly, seconded by Trustee Brian J. Boone.

Roll Call

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstain/Absent</u>
Deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato	[x]	[]	[]
Trustee Elizabeth A. Reilly	[x]	[]	[]
Trustee Brian J Boone	[x]	[]	[]
Trustee Alan Battiato	[x]	[]	[]
Mayor John Thomas Bell	[x]	[]	[]

Calendar:

- Village of Chester Music Series 2020 has been cancelled for the month of July.
- E-Bill service is available. If you would like to signup go to Village website under forms.
- Village Property Tax bills - Due date extension July 21, 2020.
- The Village Clerk’s Office has a Drop Box for payments.

Public Comments:

- Leslie Smith – 107 Brookside Ave, asked if there were any updates on the BT Holdings appeal. Mayor John Thomas Bell responded that at this time there are no updates.
- Leslie Smith asked if Trustee Elizabeth A. Reilly and Trustee Brian J. Boone have been able to tour the Maple Ave school. Trustee Brian J. Boone responded that they have not.
- Leslie Smith asked if the Guitars are going to be placed around the Village regardless of the status of the Chester NY Music Series. Trustee Brian J. Boone responded that he has been holding off until he can figure out if we are going to have any events in August. He doesn't want to put them up and make the public think that we are having an event if we are not. Hopefully we will be able to schedule at least two events for August.
- Leslie Smith made mention that she has been in contact with Steven Fuller, protest organizer and he did email a cancellation notice.
- Mayor John Thomas Bell made mention that on Thursday, July 16, 2020 there is a schedule compensation plan meeting at the Senior Center in the Town of Chester at 7 pm.
- Tracy Schuh mentioned that to be helpful she submitted comments on behalf of the preservation collective regarding the comprehensive plan.
- Tracy Schuh wanted to discuss continuing education for Planning and Zoning Board members. I wanted to inform the Village of the Orange County Planning Federation is scheduling webinars for the continuing education that are currently available.
- Mayor John Thomas Bell asked Tracy Schuh if she would forward the information to Sandra VanRiper, Planning Board Secretary.

Adjournment:

A motion to close the monthly meeting and go into executive session to discuss personnel matter with no further business was made by Trustee Elizabeth A. Reilly, seconded by Deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato. Motion unanimously passed.

Respectfully,

Rebecca Rivera
Village Clerk