

**Village of Chester
Board of Trustees
Monthly Meeting Minutes
February 8, 2021**

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Chester held its monthly meeting at the Chester Senior Center, 81 Laroe Rd, Chester, NY at 7:00 pm, on Monday, February 8, 2021.

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

Also, present: Village Clerk Rebecca Rivera, Treasurer Angela O'Neill, Attorney Mary E. Marzolla, Chief Timothy McGuire, Village Street Superintendent Charles Bono, Water Commissioner Gary A. Green Jr and Village Code Enforcement Officer John Orr. Attorney Brian Nugent was absent.

CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER:

Mayor John Thomas Bell called the meeting to order.

Mayor John Thomas Bell open the meeting at 7:03 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Notice of change of venue as advertised in the official paper, Times Herald Record as follows:

**VILLAGE OF CHESTER BOARD OF TRUSTEES
NOTICE OF MONTHLY MEETING**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, on February 8, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. at the Chester Senior Center, 81 Laroe Road, located in the Town of Chester, the Mayor and the Board of Trustees of the Village of Chester, Orange County, New York will conduct their monthly meeting and discuss any other business that comes before the board.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE
VILLAGE OF CHESTER, NEW YORK

Rebecca Rivera
Village Clerk

Dated: January 29, 2021

Mayor John Thomas Bell thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

AUDIT OF BILLS: Mayor John Thomas Bell noted that the audit of January 2021, Village's monthly bills for approval was complete.

A motion to pay the audited bills of January 2021, was made by Trustee Elizabeth A. Reilly, seconded by Deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato. Motion unanimously passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Monthly meeting minutes of January 11, 2021 and Public Hearing for Proposed Comprehensive Plan on January 20, 2021 .

Mayor John Thomas Bell noted that the monthly meeting minutes of January 11, 2021 and Public Hearing for Proposed Comprehensive Plan on January 20, 2021, were completed and distributed to all Board members.

A motion to approve the monthly meeting minutes of January 11, 2021 and Public Hearing for Proposed Comprehensive Plan on January 20, 2021, with editing was made by Trustee Brian J. Boone, seconded by Trustee Elizabeth A. Reilly. Motion unanimously passed.

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

CASH BALANCES ENDING JANUARY 31, 2021

<u>FUND/BANK ACCOUNT</u>	<u>DEPOSITS</u>	<u>(DISBURSMENTS)</u>	<u>INTEREST</u>	<u>ENDING BAL</u>
<u>General Fund</u>				
Savings (Sterling National Bank)	--	--	200.83	3,109,800.56
Checking (Orange Bank & Trust)	1,270,700.28	1,391,321.29	2.81	246,700.61
Savings (Orange Bank & Trust)	--	250,000.00	448.76	1,952,694.44
<u>Water Fund</u>				
Capital Checking (Sterling Natl Bank)	--	--	5.79	134,607.09
Checking (Orange Bank & Trust)	23,103.77	41,454.69	3.92	452,766.53
<u>Sewer Fund</u>				
Checking (Orange Bank & Trust)	21,054.51	3,813.50	4.10	485,252.04

Cumulative Fiscal Interest Earned by Fund 6/1/2020 – 5/31/2021

General Fund	\$ 6,953.58
Water Fund	\$ 171.20
Sewer Fund	\$ 104.88

Treasurer's Discussion:

- 1. STATEMENT OF REVENUE & EXPENDITURES:** Attached.
- 2. 2020-2021 SEWER COLLECTION:** Collection of Village Sewer continues. Sewer Installment #4 is due by 3/31/2021. Unpaid Sewer Balance notices will be mailed 1st week of March 2021. Unpaid sewer balances as of 4/1/2021 will be re-levied on to the Village Property Tax Bill to be issued 6/1/2021.
- 3. 2021-2022 VILLAGE BUDGET:** Preparation of the 2021-2022 Village Wide Budget work will begin in the next couple of weeks. A Tentative Budget will be filed at the Clerk’s Office on or about 3/22/2021.

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

BUILDING REPORT: Village Code Enforcement Officer John Orr read his report as follows:

Steris – Nucifora Blvd.

1– Site work underway for addition.

Shoprite

1- New Work started.

Clark- 5 Carpenter

1- Interior work underway.

Roof over men’s bathroom at Village Hall was replaced today by Robert’s Roofing.

I have submitted to you a list of Electrical Inspectors that have met our requirements and would ask that you authorize the list tonight. To recap:

We sent out 10 applications.

Of those 10 applications, 5 agencies did not respond:

Commonwealth Electrical Insp Service, Inc

Independent Electrical Contractors NY Chapter, Inc.

Middle Department Insp Agency, Inc

Tri-State Inspection Agency

Z-3 Consultants

One agency responded, but did not provide all the required information:

Electrical Underwriters of NY

Four agencies and six inspectors are being recommended for approval:

Inspections on Time

New York Certified Electrical Inspectors, LLC

NY Electrical Inspections & Consulting, LLC

Swanson Consulting Inc.

A motion to accept the four agencies and six electrical inspectors was made by, Deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato, seconded by Trustee Brian J. Boone. Motion unanimously passed.

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

Oath of Office

Mayor John Thomas Bell administered the oath of office and Timothy McGuire was sworn in as Village of Chester Police Chief. Mayor and Village Board of Trustees congratulated newly appointed Chief of Police.

POLICE REPORT: Chief Timothy McGuire read police report as follows:

1. Personnel:

- No Officers have tested positive for Covid in the last month and there have been no quarantine issues in the department. Seven members of the department have received the first dose of either the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine. One member has received two doses of the Pfizer vaccine.
- On January 18th, 2021 at approximately 9:20 pm, Officer Iannuzzi and Officer Tudisco were dispatched to a residence in Whispering Hills for a report of a 1yr old in cardiac arrest. As the Officers responded they were advised by Orange County 911 that the family left the residence with the child in an effort to get the baby to the hospital quicker. Both Officers located the vehicle on West Ave. Officer Iannuzzi and Officer Tudisco immediately started doing CPR on the infant in the back of the minivan. After a few heart pounding minutes the baby started to blink her eyes and breath on her own. The actions of Officer Iannuzzi and Officer Tudisco saved the life of the 1yr old baby girl.
- Department activity has increased for the month of January compared to December. Traffic tickets have gone up to 101 (previous month was 88) the number of arrests has remained the same at 12. This is due to the proactive policing being done by the Officers of the department.

2. Citizen Issues:

- No Issues.

3. Public Safety Issues:

- No Issues

4. Facilities:

- Heater in the Police garage is no longer operable, and the other heater is on its way out. Both heaters are the original heaters from the 1960's. A new heater has been ordered and should be delivered this week. The new heater is large enough to heat the garage by itself. It will be more efficient than the other two. I would like to thank Village Street Superintendent Charles Bono for advising that they can install the new heater.

5. Equipment:

- With the help of Village Treasurer Angela O'Neill, a grant was applied for through PERMA, the Villages workers comp carrier, to reimburse the department up to 50% of the cost of outer carriers for Officers in the department. The outer carriers would allow Officers to take items off of their duty belts and attach them to the Vest. Studies have shown that by doing this the claims of back injuries are greatly reduced.

6. Vehicles:

- I would like to request permission from the board to sign off on the disposal of the Old 728. The vehicle would be disposed of by Spechts Salvage in Warwick. The car has a blown transmission and

the title for the vehicle cannot be located. It is a 2007 Chevy Impala. Spechts Salvage advised we would get \$300.00 for the car.

7. Other:

- All Officers in the department were trained on January 27th in the use of a new Naloxone device. The new device is much easier to use and more potent than the previous Naloxone carried by Officers of the department.

8. Department Activity:

Call Type	January	2021/Year to Date
Calls for Service	181	181
Criminal Cases	31	31
Arrests	12	12
Traffic Accidents	9	9

A motion to authorize Chief Timothy McGuire to dispose and signoff on 2007 police vehicle No.728 was made by Deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato, seconded by Trustee Brian J. Boone. Motion unanimously passed.

A motion to appoint Timothy McGuire as Village of Chester Police Chief was made by Trustee Elizabeth A. Reilly, seconded by Trustee Brian J. Boone. Motion unanimously passed.

A motion to accept Police report as read by Chief Timothy McGuire was made by, Trustee Elizabeth A. Reilly, seconded by Deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato. Motion unanimously passed.

STREET REPORT: Village Street Superintendent, Charles Bono read the Street Department report:

In January we were called out four times during the month to deice the streets the village streets. In ranged from a dusting to 24 inches of snow. The 24 inches storm proved to be a very difficult storm. Another obstacle was Sunday into Monday.

We had a few garbage cans still being left out on the street that we had to deal with. We also a couple of break downs during the storm. One of the break downs was one of our wing trucks and it was out of service for the duration of the storm. Our second wing truck went down at 2 pm during the heart of the storm. The truck was out of service for only two hours, then it was up and running again.

Thank you to Chief McGuire for assisting us during the storm.

Thank you to the water department for helping with clearing the sidewalks and Joseph McGowan of the Town of Chester Highway department for the use of their loader and dump truck.

Lastly, I want to thank my crew for hanging in there when we had two trucks down and for the duration of the storm.

Mayor John Thomas Bell took this opportunity to address the issue with the garbage bins not being removed from the street after the garbage is collected. In addition, the Mayor addressed the matter of cars not being moved from village parking lots after the storm. The cars left in village parking lots create a problem when the Street Department is clearing the snow from the village parking lots.

Mayor John Thomas Bell read Solid Waste Warning Notice as follows:

WARNING NOTICE

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT THE GARBAGE CONTAINER PLACED ON THE SIDEWALK OR STREET IS A VIOLATION UNDER:

CHAPTER 81 SOLID WASTE

ARTICLE I STORAGE AND REMOVAL

81-1 STORAGE: PLACEMENT FOR COLLECTION

A. Any and all garbage, refuse, waste materials, and recyclable materials stored out of doors shall be stored only in watertight, odor-tight, and rodent-proof containers with the tight covers securely in place.

B. Containers must be stored entirely on private property and not on any Village street, sidewalk, or right-of-way.

C. Containers, when placed at curbside or street side for collection, shall not be in the street and shall be placed on the curb or at the edge of the street adjoining such premises.

D. No container shall be placed out for collection prior to 3:00 p.m. the day before collection, and no container may be allowed to remain after 12:00 midnight the day of collection.

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE OBSTRUCTION BE REMOVED FORTHWITH, TO FACILITATE THE SNOW REMOVAL FROM SIDE WALKS AND ROADWAYS.

YOUR COOPERATION IS GREATLY APPRECIATED. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT US AT 845-469-4192 OR streetdept@villageofchesterny.com

Thank you,
Charles Bono
Village of Chester Street Superintendent.

The Village Board of Trustees discussed options on how to get the information on the “Warning Notice” to village residents.

The Chief of Police offered to assist the Street Superintendent. The Chief will ask Officers to assist with the distribution of the “Warning Notice”.

Street Superintendent Charles Bono stated that he will also distribute the notice.

Village Clerk Rebecca Rivera mention that during water billing the clerk’s office will include the “Warning Notice” with the water bill and will add the notice to the village website.

Village Clerk mentioned for the record, that the Witz Industries company, located on 45 Leone Lane, in the Chester Industrial Park, submitted an email which read as follows:

Hi Village Clerk,

We would like to thank you for the beautiful job of cleaning the streets of the snow so fast and so nice. Please pass on the message to the ones who are so dedicated.

All the best let’s all stay safe.

Usher Schlesinger | Witz Industries

Project Manager
45 Leone Lane
Chester, NY 10918

A motion to accept Street Department as read by Street Superintendent Charles Bono was made by Trustee Brian J. Boone, seconded by Deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato. Motion unanimously passed.

WATER REPORT: Water Commissioner Gary A. Green Jr. read the Water Department 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) We fixed leak in the street near 61 Greycourt Ave.
- 6) We were on site for the install of the 3-inch ductile iron water service for the cement plant at the new Steris new addition. We also performed a pressure test and flushed the service line. We cleared some down tree on the water main right of way in the state park.
- 7) We fixed a water main break near 52 Lehigh Ave.
- 8) We shut off the service to 15 Sanford Ave. after the fire.
- 9) We worked with the contractor to disconnect the service at 7 Greycourt Ave in preparation to demolish house and barn
- 10) We completed our quarterly samples per Orange County Health Department, which included PFAAS and PFOA.
- 11) Snow removal from our facilities
- 12) Snow removal around fire hydrants.
- 13) Joseph Rosploch and Joseph Grassi cleared snow from the sidewalk's village wide

Water Commissioner Gary A. Green Jr. made mention that he has been in contact with a Monroe resident that owns two lots surrounding Walton Lake and is selling his lots. Owner is selling 25 feet of lake frontage for \$4000 for both lots. Water Commissioner stated that he would be in the Villages best interest for water shed protection.

Trustee Elizabeth A. Reilly was in favor of purchasing the two lots since over the years we have acquired other lots surrounding Walton Lake.

Village Board of Trustees authorized Water Commissioner Gary A. Green Jr. to explore the sale of the two lots surrounding Walton Lake and report back to the Village Board of Trustees and Village Attorney.

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

PARK & RECREATION REPORT: No report.

Michelle Deshler stated that the Senior Center has not been cleared by the Orange County Health Department to open.

OLD BUSINESS: No old business to report.

NEW BUSINESS:

21-4 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CHANGE IN PAYROLL CYCLE AND ONE-TIME USE OF ACCRUED TIME

WHEREAS, during the Village audit for fiscal year ending May 31, 2020, the Village Auditor’s recommended a pay in the Village’s payroll cycle in order to address a deficiency in the payroll process; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board desires to implement this recommended change without causing any financial impact on its officers and employees.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that:

Section 1. The above “WHEREAS” paragraphs are incorporated herein by reference.

Section 2. The Village Board hereby authorizes a change in the Village’s payroll cycle to be effected in the pay period from February 19, 2021 through March 2, 2021 to be paid on March 5, 2021.

Section 3. Any officer or employee of the Village, upon submission of a request in writing, may be granted a one-time accrued benefit cash out totaling 16 hours for the first payroll in which the payroll cycle change takes effect.

Section 4. All officers or employees of the Village as directed by the Mayor are hereby authorized to take any and all actions necessary to carry out the provisions of this Resolution.

Section 5. This Resolution shall be effective immediately.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call, which resulted as follows:

Introduced By: Deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato

Seconded By: Trustee Brian J. Boone

On a vote of 4 to 0, the resolution was adopted

Roll Call

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

21-5 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE SALE OF VILLAGE PROPERTY

WHEREAS, the Village previously acquired property and improvements located at 92 Main Street, Chester, New York (S/B/L 111-1-28.1) (the “Property”) in September of 2018; and

WHEREAS, the Village initially intended to move Village Hall operations to the Property; and

WHEREAS, due to budget constraints and significant project costs, the Village no longer desires to move Village Hall operations and desires to sale the Property.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that:

- Section 1. The above “WHEREAS” paragraphs are incorporated herein as though set forth in full.
- Section 2. The Village Board hereby authorizes the Mayor and any Village officer or employee as directed by the Mayor, to advertise the Property for sale and/or solicit bids for such Property to be further considered by the Village Board.
- Section 3. All Village officers and employees, as necessary, are hereby authorized to take any and all actions necessary to carry out the provisions of this Resolution.
- Section 4. This Resolution shall be effective immediately.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call, which resulted as follows:

Introduced By: Deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato
Seconded By: Trustee Brian J. Boone
On a vote of 4 to 0, the resolution was adopted

Roll Call

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

Appointment to Village Planning Board

I need a motion to appoint Simon Ziegler to the Planning Board effective 2/8/2021 to fill a vacancy with the term ending 12/1/2025, (5 years) was made by Trustee Brian J. Boone, seconded by Deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato. Motion unanimously passed.

Appointment for alternate to Planning Board.

I need a motion to appoint Bill Murray to the Zoning Board of Appeals as an alternate effective 2/8/2021 to fill a vacancy with the term ending 12/1/2021, (1 year) was made by Deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato, seconded by Trustee Brian Boone. Motion unanimously passed.

CALENDAR:

- E-Bill service is available. If you would like to sign-up go to Village website under forms.
- “www.eyeonwater.com/signin” service to monitor water usage/consumption.
- Village of Chester will be closed on Friday, February 12 and Monday, February 15, 2021 due to Holiday.
- Annual Chester Kiwanis First Friday of Lent Fish & Chips Dinner, Friday, February 19, 2021, Chester Elementary School, 2 Herbert Dr. Drive-thru, take-out ONLY from 4:00 -7:30pm. Cost per dinner is \$16 for adults, \$13 for seniors over 65 and children under 12.
- Chester Library Programs for the month of February – check out their calendar at :
(chesternypubliclibrary.com)
- Christmas Trees pick-up ended January 29, 2021

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mayor John Thomas Bell opened the meeting to the public for comments.

As there were no additional public comments Mayor John Thomas Bell asked for a motion to go into executive session with no further business to be conducted.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to go into executive session at 8:05 pm with no further business after was made by Trustee Elizabeth A. Reilly, seconded by Trustee Brian J. Boone Motion unanimously passed.

Respectfully,

Rebecca Rivera
Village Clerk