

**Board of Trustees
Monthly Meeting Minutes
September 13, 2021**

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Chester held its monthly meeting at the Village of Chester, 47 Main Street, Chester, NY conference room at 7:00 pm, on Monday, September 13, 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 Donald Feerick, Attorney Robert Zitt, 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 7:00 pm lead with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor John Thomas Bell thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

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

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Monthly meeting minutes August 9, 2021

Mayor John Thomas Bell noted that the Monthly meeting minutes of August 9, 2021, were completed and distributed to all Board members.

A motion to approve the Monthly meeting minutes of August 9, 2021, was made by Deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato, seconded by Trustee Brian J. Boone. Motion unanimously passed.

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

CASH BALANCES ENDING August 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)	--	--	182.10	2,819,916.71
Checking (Orange Bank & Trust)	751,246.79	424,148.26	19.45	2,529,259.17
Savings (Orange Bank & Trust)	--	500,000.00	504.03	2,455,506.02
<u>Water Fund</u>				
Capital Checking (Sterling Natl Bank)	--	--	10.08	156,137.45
Checking (Orange Bank & Trust)	6,776.89	40,043.88	3.46	390,443.25
<u>Sewer Fund</u>				
Checking (Orange Bank & Trust)	2,1479.05	100.00	2.20	273,415.09

<u>Cumulative Fiscal Year Interest Earned by Fund 06/1/2021 – 05/31/2022</u>	<u>FYE 5/31/21 as of 8/31/20</u>
General Fund \$1821.54	General Fund\$1821.54
Water Fund \$ 41.36	Water Fund \$ 41.36
Sewer Fund \$9.09	Sewer Fund \$ 9.09

Treasurer's Discussion:

1. **STATEMENT OF REVENUE & EXPENDITURES:** Attached.

2. **2021-2022 TAX/SEWER COLLECTION:** Unpaid Tax Notices will be mailed on 9/20/2021. Village Property Tax Collection ends 10/31/2021. Sewer Installment #2 is due by 9/30/2021
3. **2020-2021 BUDGET MODIFICATIONS:** Budget Modification Schedule for FYE 5/31/2021 is being presented for the Board's approval. See attached.
4. **PLANNING/ZONING/VILLAGE BOARD ESCROW PROJECTS CLOSE:** Attached is a list of escrows to be closed per auditors' recommendations. Requesting Board Approval to close these inactive projects.
5. **GRANTS UPDATE:**
 - a) DASNY Accountant, Susannah Coon has advised (via email) that a payment amount of \$143,941.64 was processed 8/31/2021. As of 9/10/2021 payment has not been received. An additional request in the amount of \$6,058.36 will be submitted to DASNY for reimbursement.
 - b) DASNY 100K Grant: A preliminary budget and description for Downtown Revitalization Grant made available through Senator Skoufis' Office will be submitted later this week. Trustees Reilly and Deputy Mayor Battiato with the help of Street Superintendent Charles Bono and Michelle Deshler of The Village Community Association working on this project.

A motion to accept Budget Modification report as presented by Treasurer Angela O'Neill was made by Trustee Brian J. Boone, seconded by Trustee Elizabeth A. Reilly. Motion unanimously passed.

A motion to authorize the Treasurer Angela O'Neill to close out inactive projects was made by Trustee Elizabeth A. Reilly, seconded by Deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato. Motion unanimously passed.

A motion to authorize the Treasurer Angela O'Neill to attend the NYSGFOA conference on October 6, 2021, from 9 am to 1 pm was made by Trustee Elizabeth A. Reilly, seconded by Deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato. Motion unanimously passed.

A motion to accept Treasurer's report as read by Treasurer Angela O'Neill was made by Deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato, seconded by Trustee Brian J. Boone. Motion unanimously passed.

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

Steris – Nucifora Blvd.

- 1– Site work continues.

Clark- 5 Carpenter

- 1- Deck construction almost complete.

Noble – 4 Chester Acres Blvd

- 1- Renovation continues.

Beer World 35 Brookside Ave

- 1- Under slab plumbing in.

137 Main Street

- 1- No inspections have been requested as of today.

1 Vista Drive

- 1- Deck construction almost complete.

2 Main Street

- 1- Footings have been poured and construction started.

Questions for Village Code Enforcement Officer John Orr:

1. Deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato asked Village Code Enforcement Officer John Orr the house on Meadow Ave that had the overgrown grass last year, the grass is overgrown once again.
2. Village Code Enforcement Officer John Orr responded; you are referring to 31 Meadow Ave, it was mowed once this year. I'll have it mowed again due to the owner is unresponsive.

A motion to accept Village Code Enforcement Officer John Orr report as read, was made by Trustee Elizabeth A. Reilly, seconded by Trustee Brian J. Boone. Motion unanimously passed.

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.

2. Citizen Issues:

- No issues.

3. Public Safety Issues:

- Officers have been out enforcing the NYS Vehicle and traffic laws, 195 tickets were written for the month. 1,078 tickets have been issued for the year.

4. Facilities:

- Servers have been relocated to a more secure location in the station. A total rewiring of all the computers has been completed by New Windsor IT along with adding upgraded and new wireless access points. High Speed fiber optic internet has been connected as well as a new secure firewall for the Police Department.

5. Equipment:

- 2009 Dodge Durango, the former detective’s car, was sold on Govdeals for approximately \$2900.00 Vehicle was picked up by the winning bidder, title was signed over and the vehicle was removed from Village property.

6. Vehicles:

- 723, the 2009 Dodge Durango has been replaced with the purchase of a 2018 Hyundai Tuscan for use by the detective. The vehicle was purchased with approximately 10,000 miles on it from Suresky in Goshen. The vehicle also has 8 plus years and approximately 89,000miles left on the power train warranty.

7. Other:

- Presentation of Retirement plaque to Sgt Joseph Verbert.

8. Department Activity:

Call Type	July	2021/Year to date		
Calls for Service	182	1325		
Criminal Cases	25	227		
Arrests	11	111		
Traffic Accidents	14	73		

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

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

We poured a new section of sidewalk in front of 18 Main St., where the water dept. repaired a service line leak.

We spent a few more days blacktopping in the industrial park preparing to tar and chip.

We spent some time weed whacking along the curbs and sidewalks in Chester Acres, Vista Drive, June St., Valley Court, Grandview Terrace and the Industrial Park.

We completed our paving project on Leone Lane in which we paved the entire street from the intersection of Kings Hwy to about 100ft from the railroad tracks.

We continue with the normal weekly sweeping, mowing and picking up of bags and brush.

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

WATER REPORT: Village 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) Our quarterly testing was completed
- 6) Meter changing continues.
- 7) Backflow testing continues.
- 8) We fixed the lawn at 93 Brookside from the service line repair.
- 9) We power washed the exterior of the water filtration plant.
- 10) D&N Tanks repaired the Nancy Lane tank. It took 3 days to complete the work.
- 11) Inspected and repaired roof at the Filter plant.
- 12) Inspected and repaired roof at the shop. There was some storm damage to the rear of the building.
- 13) Weekly mowing of our facilities was completed.

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

PARK & RECREATION REPORT: no report:

OLD BUSINESS:

~~21-31 Resolution to Certify Zoning Map Tabled~~
~~Proposed Compensation Plan Tabled~~

NEW BUSINESS:

21-44 - Resolution of the Village Board for the Mayor to Execute Documents related to the Sale of 92 Main Steet, Chester.

WHEREAS the Village Board ("Village Board") for the Village of Chester ("Village") previously purchased the parcel located at Section/Block/Lot No. 111-1-28.1, 92 Main Street, Village of Chester, New York ("Property") on September 26, 2018, for the amount of Three-Hundred Thirty-Eight Thousand Eighty-Five dollars (\$338,085.00); and,

WHEREAS, the Village Board desires to convey such property and previously adopted a resolution to advertise the Property for sale and/or solicit bids for such Property to be further considered by the Village Board; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board has obtained a professional valuation supporting a sales price in or about the range of Three-Hundred Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$370,000.00) as constituting fair and adequate market value consideration for the Property; and,

WHEREAS, the Village Board has received bid(s) to purchase such Property at a sales price within ten (10) percent of the aforementioned professional valuation and one such bidder has expressed the intent to use the Property for commercial purposes, which would further benefit the Village by returning the Property to the tax rolls and bringing potential consumers and foot traffic into the Village; and,

WHEREAS the Village Board desires to negotiate and/or accept bids for the purpose of completing the transaction for the conveyance of the Property to benefit the Village as previously set forth herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is resolved by the Village Board as follows:

Section 1. All “WHEREAS” paragraphs are incorporated herein by reference as though set forth in full herein.

Section 2. The Village Board hereby determines that the Property no longer serves a municipal purpose to the Village.

Section 3. The Village hereby determines that the consideration offered for the property is adequate and fair.

Section 4. The Mayor is hereby authorized to execute any and all documents necessary to negotiate, accept bids, and/or complete the transaction relating to the Property, subject to all applicable requirements and in form approved by legal counsel.

Section 5. The Mayor, and any other officer, employee or consultant as directed by the Mayor, are authorized to take any and all necessary actions to carry out the provisions of this Resolution.

Section 6. This Resolution shall take effect 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: Trustee Brian J. Boone
Seconded By: Deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato
On a vote of 4 to 0, the resolution was adopted

Roll Call

	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato	[X]	[]	[]	[]
Trustee Brian J. Boone	[X]	[]	[]	[]
Trustee Elizabeth A. Reilly	[X]	[]	[]	[]
Mayor John Thomas Bell	[X]	[]	[]	[]
Trustee Alan Battiato	[]	[]	[]	[X]

21-45 - Resolution Authorizing Mayor to Execute Agreement Atlas Security Services .

WHEREAS, the Village Board of the Village of Chester (“Village Board”) wishes to enter an agreement with Atlas Security Services (“Atlas”) regarding the hiring of a Court Officer for the benefit of the Village and its Police Department; and

WHEREAS, the Agreement has been presented to the Village of execution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that:

Section 1. All “Whereas” clauses are hereby incorporated by reference as though set forth in full herein.

Section 2. The Mayor is hereby authorized to execute the Agreement for security services in the form approved by Village legal counsel.

Section 3. The Mayor or any other officer, employee or consultant as directed by the Mayor are authorized to take any and all necessary actions to carry out the provisions of this Resolution.

Section 4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

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

The Resolution was thereupon duly adopted

Introduced By: Trustee Brian J. Boone
Seconded By: Deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato

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

Roll Call

	Yea	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato	[X]	[]	[]	[]
Trustee Brian J. Boone	[X]	[]	[]	[]
Trustee Elizabeth A. Reilly	[X]	[]	[]	[]
Mayor John Thomas Bell	[X]	[]	[]	[]
Trustee Alan Battiato	[]	[]	[]	[X]

A motion to set a special meeting on Monday, October 18, 2021, at 7 pm, in the Village of Chester Conference room to further discuss the proposed comprehensive plan was made by Trustee Elizabeth A. Reilly, second by Deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato. Motion unanimously passed.

Calendar:

- September 2021 Sprinkler bills were mailed on September 1, 2021, E-mailed Sprinkler bills to E-bill customers.
- Music Series concert re-scheduled Jungle love for Tuesday, September 14, 2021, at 7:00 pm and Floyd Pink September 21, 2021, 12 Bank St.
- Shred Event Tuesday, September 14, 2021, from 12 pm – 3 pm. Location : 12 Bank Street.
- 28th Annual Chester Historical Society Yard Sale – Saturday, September 18, 2021, from 8:30 am – 1 pm.
- Chester Recreational Building Penny Social to benefit Historical Society – Friday, October 1, 2021, 81 Laroe Rd, from 5:45 pm – 7:00 pm.
- E-Bill service is available for water cell meter users only. If you would like to sign-up go to Village website under forms.
- Sewer 2nd installment is due by Thursday, September 30, 2021.
- Sewer and Water - to check balance online you will need account and pin number.
- “www.eyeonwater.com/signin” service to monitor water usage/consumption.

PUBLIC COMMENT :

Mayor John Thomas Bell opened the meeting up to public:

Ralph Pena - I recently purchase a home on Walton Lake, its one of the beautiful places I’ve seen in my life. I use it for recreational purposes. I’ve discovered that on the westside of the Lake, Lakes Road there has been numerous amounts of trash that is seeable from the shoreline. I’ve personally have pulled out 100 to 200 lbs. of broken bottles, cans. I pulled out a for sale sign for a home. What I would like to do is to ask the village for help. I’ve learned that the lake is a water source for the Village of Chester. Talking to my neighbors, friends, some who are here with me tonight, I like to request the village perhaps provide a dumpster for us because there are about 40 or 50 car tires in there too, which is affecting the drinking water for the village of Chester. I have my own well but I’m looking at the beauty and the safety of everyone involved, not only my neighbors and friends who use it for recreational purpose but for the village residents that use it for their primary source of water. I would like to know how we could go about requesting a dumpster be provided so we can get this stuff out. We would all volunteers to get it up to the dumpster we just need if you could cart it away.

Trustee Elizabeth Reilly suggested that Water Commissioner Gary A. Green Jr. contact the town and village’s garbage district provide 10 per year, so it would probably be best if the Water commissioner contact the Town of Chester Clerk’s Office.

Ralph Pena - the individual that owns the property where the Bocci’s restaurant use to be, Mr. Bill Brown gave us permission to put a dumpster they’re if the village will provide them.

Water Commissioner asked Mr. Pena what day would they like to schedule the clean up?

Mr. Pena said jokingly, yesterday. He said he would like to schedule it before it gets too cold and if it can’t be done before then maybe we can schedule it for Earth Day.

David Wenger of 15 June Road, I have a major problem with run-off onto my property coming from Grandview. I sent a bunch of letters to the village clerk in reference to getting some help as there is property in between, my property and Grandview. I think has originally cleaned out and hasn’t been since I’ve been there for fifteen years. I’m just looking or advise or help on how to solve the problem, so it doesn’t wash out my retaining wall and ruin my pool.

Mayor John Thomas Bell responded and stated that the Street Superintendent Charles Bono and the Village Code Enforcement Officer John Orr, were working on this. The Village does not have a right of way through the area of your property.

Mr. Wenger stated that the village could go straight through his property.

The Village does not own property behind 15 June Road, the Village Code Enforcement looked over plans and confirmed that.

Mr. Wenger was satisfied with the response from the Village. Mr. Wenger thanked the Village Board of Trustees.

Gordon Shehab asked the Village Board when will the proposed comprehensive plan be finalized.

Trustee Elizabeth A. Reilly suggested that we step up a special meeting to further discuss and the village would not take public comments as the public hearing was closed.

Mayor John Thomas Bell asked to schedule a Special Meeting on Monday, October 18, 2021, at 7: 00 p.m.

Trustee Elizabeth A. Reilly made a motion, seconded by Christopher Battiato to allow the Treasurer, Angela O'Neill to attend NYSGFOA conference Wednesday, October 6, 2021, for 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Motion unanimously passed.

As there were no more comments the Mayor asked for a motion to close the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to go into executive session at 7:54 pm with no further business was made by Deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato, seconded by Trustee Brian J. Boone. Motion unanimously passed.

Respectfully,



Rebecca Rivera
Village Clerk