

**Board of Trustees  
Monthly Meeting Minutes  
July 10, 2023**

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Chester held its monthly meeting at the Chester Senior Center 81 Laroe Road, Chester, NY conference room at 7:00 pm, on Monday, July 10, 2023.

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

Also present: Clerk/Treasurer Angela O'Neill, Deputy Clerk Jennifer Cruz, Village Attorney, David MacCartney Jr., and Chief Timothy McGuire. Water Commissioner Gary A. Green Jr., Village Code Enforcement Officer John Orr, Village Street Superintendent Charles Bono and Village Attorney, Brian Nugent were absent.

**CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER:**

Mayor Christopher Battiato called the meeting to order at 7:02pm with the pledge of allegiance.

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

**1. Personnel:**

- Received a letter of retirement from Officer Jason Andino. The letter is attached to this report. Officer Andino's retirement date is effective July 31, 2023.

**2. Citizen Issues:**

- Nothing to report.

**3. Public Safety Issues:**

- Officers have been out enforcing the NYS Vehicle and traffic laws, 391 tickets were issued for the month. 2,600 tickets have been issued year to date.

**4. Facilities:**

- Nothing to report.

**5. Equipment:**

- Nothing to report.

**6. Vehicles:**

- Computer received through a grant from the Orange County Sheriff's Office was installed in Newest Dodge Durango, 724. The vehicle is in use as a patrol vehicle.

**7. Other:**

- Appointment of Four Full Time Police Officers.  
Officer Spencer Sutherland  
Officer Jacob Motz  
Officer Nicholas Iannuzzi  
Officer Michael Hirrel

**8. Department Activity:**

<b>Call Type</b>	<b><u>June</u></b>	<b><u>2023</u></b>		
Calls for Service	<b>212</b>	<b>1248</b>		
Criminal Cases	<b>42</b>	<b>265</b>		
Arrests	<b>27</b>	<b>171</b>		
Traffic Accidents	<b>23</b>	<b>80</b>		

A motion to accept the Police report as read submitted by Chief Timothy McGuire was made by Trustee Alan Battiato, seconded by Trustee Anthony Laspina. The motion unanimously passed.

**AUDIT OF BILLS:** Mayor Christopher Battiato noted that the audit of June 2023, Village's monthly bills for approval was complete.

A motion to pay the audited bills of June 2023 was made by Trustee Anthony Laspina, seconded by Trustee Alan Battiato. The motion unanimously passed.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Approval of Monthly Meeting Minutes June 12, 2023, meeting.

A motion to accept the approval of the monthly meeting minutes for June 12, 2023, was made by Trustee Alan Battiato, seconded by Trustee Anthony Laspina. The motion unanimously passed.

**CLERK/TREASURER'S REPORT:** Clerk/Treasurer Angela O'Neill read the Clerk/Treasurer's report as follows:

**CASH BALANCES ENDING JUNE 30, 2023:**

**FUND/BANK ACCOUNT      DEPOSITS      (DISBURSEMENTS)      INTEREST  
ENDING BAL**

**General Fund**

Savings (Sterling National Bank) 2,869,920.85	--	--	5,816.51
Checking (Orange Bank & Trust) 2,786,574.62	3,352,026.83	783,225.82	44.18
Savings (Orange Bank & Trust) 2,479,260.68	--	--	3,296.76
Savings (NY CLASS) 518,989.44	--	--	2,081.39

**Water Fund**

Checking (Orange Bank & Trust) 491,248.51	64,352.42	90,244.74	58.28
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**Sewer Fund**

Checking (Orange Bank & Trust) 343,967.54	530,862.32	411,527.39	17.32
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**Capital Projects Funds**

H01: Water (Sterling Natl Bank) 84,328.48	--	--	164.82
H02: General (Orange Bank & Trust) 328,026.21	--	33,949.83	39.41
H03: Sewer (Orange Bank & Trust) 271,577.62	--	--	--

<u>Cumulative Fiscal Year Interest Earned by Fund 06/1/2023 – 6/30/2023 FYE 5/31/23 as of 6/30/23</u>			
General Fund	\$	\$ 11,238.84	\$ 1,773.92
Water Fund	\$	58.28	4.05
Sewer Fund	\$	17.32	2.13
Capital Projects	\$	174.23	7.84

**Treasurer’s Discussion:**

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

- 2. 2023-2024 TAX/SEWER COLLECTION:** Collection of Village Property Taxes and Sewer are underway. 5% Penalty has been added to open tax balances and open sewer installment #1 balance. Sewer installment #2 is due by 9/30/2023.

**NYCOM TRAINING SCHOOL:** Requesting permission to attend the Fall 2023 training school 9/18-9/22/2023. Agenda attached.

A motion to accept Clerk/Treasurer's report as read by Clerk/Treasurer Angela O'Neill was made by Deputy Mayor Elizabeth A. Reilly seconded by Trustee Anthony Laspina. The motion unanimously passed.

A motion to approve Clerk/Treasurer to attend NYCOM training from 9/18/23-9/22/23 was made by Trustee Alan Battiato, seconded by Deputy Mayor, Elizabeth A. Reilly. The motion unanimously passed.

**BUILDING REPORT:**

None submitted.

**STREET REPORT:**

None submitted.

**WATER REPORT:** Mayor Christopher Battiato read the Water Department report as follows:

- 1) Daily filter plant & well operations.
- 2) Twice per week filter cleaning.
- 3) Monthly samples were taken to the lab.
- 4) Mark outs for dig safe NY.
- 5) Meter replacement continues.
- 6) Backflow preventer testing continues.
- 7) We attended training at Wallkill for our license.
- 8) We are working on clearing the water main easement. 7 miles of water main.
- 9) A fire flow test was completed behind Tractor Supply.
- 10) Work was performed by Frontier Communications on our telemetering line between the well and Nancy Lane tank. It took them 2 days to find and fix the problem.
- 11) The Whispering Hills Tank was power washed by C and J power washing.
- 12) Walton lake is 2.5 inches below pin level.

A motion to accept the Water Commissioner's report was made by Trustee Anthony Laspina, seconded by Deputy Mayor Elizabeth A. Reilly. The motion unanimously passed.

**PARK & RECREATION REPORT:**

- a. None submitted.

Trustee Alan Battiato wanted to mention that the Park and Recreation Department did a great job with the fireworks. Mayor Christopher Battiato also mentioned that the Street Department and Police Department from the Village and the Town also did a fantastic job. Deputy Mayor Elizabeth A. Reilly mentioned that the Street Department also did a great job after the storm.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**RESOLUTION**

A meeting of the Village Board of the Village of Chester was convened on **July 10, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.**

The following Resolution was duly offered and seconded to wit:

**23-26 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING VILLAGE COUNSEL TO SEND NOTICE OF DEFAULT TO DISH WIRELESS LLC**

**WHEREAS** the Village Board of the Village of Chester (“Village Board”) wishes to have village counsel send Notice of Default to DISH Wireless LLC for defaults of non-payment under agreement

Introduced By: Deputy Mayor, Elizabeth A. Reilly

Seconded By: Trustee, Alan Battiato

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

	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstain</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Mayor Christopher Battiato	[ X ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Deputy Mayor Elizabeth A. Reilly	[ X ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Trustee Alan Battiato	[ X ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]
Trustee Brian J. Boone	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ X ]
Trustee Anthony LaSpina	[ X ]	[ ]	[ ]	[ ]

The Resolution was thereupon duly adopted.

A motion to schedule a public hearing for August 14, 2023, at 7pm to start working on our hotel/motel extended stay definition was made by Trustee Alan Battiato, seconded by Trustee Anthony Laspina. The motion unanimously passed.

**CALENDAR:**

Nothing reported.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Michelle Hieronymi from Monroe, NY- We are asking for support from Towns and Villages throughout New York State by way of New York citizens audit resolution and their petition. We are asking you, our local representatives, to adopt this resolution with a vote of yay and to stand in support with the concerns and remedies of complete end to end audit of the New York State 2022 election.

Andy Stohll- from Monroe, NY- went over a study in deficit summary sheets. The three basic tenets of an election are 1: voter rolls must be accurate 2: votes counted must be for qualified voters 3: the number of votes must equal the number of voters and findings are as presented in the attached full report study deficits.

Maria Kowalczyk from Florida, NY- I'm also a concerned citizen and I'm here tonight for the same reason to implore you to really take this to heart. We're talking about our freedoms are at stake, our forefathers fought for our right to vote and to have this as a sacred right. This is something that has been infiltrated and yes has there been improprieties in the past but it's getting worse. It's a very, very serious issue and we need to address this lawfully.

Jose Matos- I am a concerned citizen who has become aware of the evidence of election law violations that are present in our New York state voter roll database that the New York state citizens audit has discovered, which has now been validated by cybersecurity peer review, confirming a complete cybersecurity breach in New York State Motorola database. As a citizen of America, I wholeheartedly support an audit to confirm and reassure all New Yorkers, and Americans that our election system is secure and accurate. I want to mention that the resolution is not to overturn any election, it's just to clean up the election law violations that have been found. Your opinion on this matter holds a lot of weight. By you showing support that you believe that we should have election integrity and secure elections, it's going to go a long way.

Sheila Kurn from Chester, NY-We really need to contact our county officials or federal legislators or law enforcement. Federal and state prosecutors, judges, and both state and county boards of elections because we the people want to have audits of NY state elections, otherwise this is just going to keep going on and on. We've got to put an end to it.

Emmanuel Piazza- These volunteers have been to the FBI; they've been to the troopers. They've been trying to give this information to so many people. That's what it's all about freedom, liberty, and we want a fair election system.

Frank Moore- There's a difference between individuals trying to alter votes, whether that's changing a voter roll here or there, and a systemic corruption. You guys are in a special place, just like we are, and I am amazed at the work and the numbers that this group put together. This

is your moment in the sun to make a difference. Because if it does continue, there's not going to be many elections left that are going to protect this country.

A motion to go into executive session at 7:51pm was made by Trustee Anthony Laspina, seconded by Trustee Alan Battiato.

A motion to close executive session at 8:30pm was made by Trustee Alan Battiato seconded by Deputy Mayor Elizabeth A. Reilly.

Respectfully,

Jennifer Cruz

Deputy Clerk