

**Village of Chester  
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes  
November 9, 2020**

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, November 9, 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, Village Treasurer Angela O'Neill, Attorney for the Village John Kolesar, Village Police Chief Peter J. Graziano Jr., , Village Water Commissioner Gary A. Green Jr. and Village Code Enforcement Officer John Orr. Street Superintendent Charles Bono was absent.

**CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER:**

Mayor John Thomas Bell opened the meeting at 7:00 pm.

Mayor John Thomas Bell asked everyone to stand for the Pledge.

Mayor John Thomas Bell thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

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

A motion to pay the audited bills of October 2020, was made by Trustee Elizabeth A. Reilly, seconded by Trustee Alan Battiato. Motion unanimously passed.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Monthly meeting minutes of October 5, 2020.

Mayor John Thomas Bell noted that the monthly meeting minutes of October 5, 2020, were completed and distributed to all Board members.

A motion to approve the monthly meeting minutes October 5, 2020, was made by Trustee Elizabeth A. Reilly, seconded by Deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato. Motion unanimously passed.

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

**CASH BALANCES ENDING September 30, 2020**

<b>Fund Account Balance</b>	<b>Deposits</b>	<b>Disbursements</b>	<b>Interest</b>	<b>Ending Balance</b>
<b>General Fund</b>				
Savings (Sterling National; Bank)	--	--	473.39	3,215,993.43
Checking (Orange County Trust)	169,868.78	431,482.62	61.38	2,854,883.14
<u>Savings (Orange County Trust)</u>	--	--	301.36	1,050,761.82
<b>Water Fund</b>				
Capital Checking	--	2,131.51	11.52	136,733.99
Checking	22,007.38	50,038.49	8.43	394,465.87
<b>Sewer Fund</b>				
Checking	70,774.44	278.47	9.19	496,065.93

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

General Fund	\$	4,173.81
Water Fund	\$	148.20
Sewer Fund	\$	85.96

**Treasurer's Discussion:**

- 1. STATEMENT OF REVENUE & EXPENDITURES:** Attached.
- 2. 2020-2021 SEWER COLLECTION:** Collection of Village Sewer continues. Sewer Installment #3 is due by 12/31/2020
- 3. UNPAID TAX:** An unpaid tax file will be submitted this week to Orange County Commissioner of Finance for the purpose of re-levying village property taxes on to the January 1, 2021 Town/County Property Tax Bill.
- 4. UTILITY A/C ADJUSTMENTS:** A schedule of water and sewer account adjustments is attached. Requesting Board Approval to adjust the accounts.

A motion to approve the schedule of water and sewer account adjustments as submitted was made by Trustee Brian J. Boone, seconded by Trustee Alan Battiato. Motion unanimously passed.

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

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

Steris – Nucifora Blvd.

- 1– Current work is for the concrete plant relocation continues
- 2- Reviewing plans for the new building.

Shoprite

Renovation and addition work continue.

Clark- 5 Carpenter

Issued permit for an addition to single family home.

I have prepared a response to the comments on the public hearing on Local Law #2 2020 for Electrical inspectors.

I have prepared a revised Fee Schedule for the Building Department. (attached to minutes)

The Village Board and Code Enforcement John Orr discussed the revised fee schedule as present by Code Enforcement Officer John Orr. Village Board stated that they require more time to review the revised fee schedule. The matter was tabled until the next monthly meeting.

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

**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.
- Officers are being scheduled for Implicit Bias Training that will be taking place over the next month.

**2. Citizen Issues:**

- No Issues.

**3. Public Safety Issues:**

- Traffic Details: Continuing.
- There were no Halloween related calls 31 October – 1 November.

**4. Facilities:**

- No Issues.

**5. Equipment:**

- No Issues.

**6. Vehicles:**

- No Issues.

**7. Other:**

**8. Department Activity YTD:**

Call Type	2020
Calls for Service	1742
Criminal Cases	200
Arrests	089
Traffic Accidents	101

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.

**STREET REPORT:** Village Street Superintendent, Charles Bono was absent no report submitted.

Mayor John Thomas Bell made mention that the Street Department garage roof has been completed. In addition, the Mayor mentioned that Street Department added a black top over the new drainage pipe that was installed on Walnut Street.

Mayor John Thomas Bell touched on Bulk Items – Mayor John Thomas Bell asked that residents call Interstate Waste Services before putting out bulk items.

**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) Quarterly samples collected and sent to lab.
- 6) The department attended a laboratory class for our license requirements.
- 7) Water meters were read.
- 8) Fire flow testing was performed at Amscan.
- 9) Clean in place procedure was completed on the membranes at the Filtration Plant.
- 10) Backflow testing continues.
- 11) Reread accounts with high consumption.
- 12) The wooden fence across from the plant by Walton Lake was struck by a car luckily the car didn't end up in the lake. The leg work to track down the police report as well as getting their insurance to pay for the damages, has been challenging to say the least.
- 13) Fixing broken meters continues.
- 14) Pine Hollows commons had a service line leak that was repaired by TAM
- 15) We replaced the rear spring perch on the 2001 Chevy Van to keep it in service.
- 16) Has the Village Board had a chance to read the letter from the National Rural Water Association in regard to the Class Action Lawsuit against PFAS manufactures. If so, what are your thoughts.

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 Deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato. Motion unanimously passed.

**PARK & RECREATION REPORT:** No report.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

### **Proposed Comprehensive Plan** set a public hearing

A motion to set a date on December 2, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. at the Chester Senior Center, 81 Laroe Rd, in the Town of Chester, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Chester, Orange County, New York to conduct a public hearing regarding the Proposed Comprehensive Plan, was made by Trustee Elizabeth A. Reilly, seconded by Deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato. Motion unanimously passed.

**Public Hearing** – continuation of discussions and questions regarding Introductory Local Law No. 2 of 2020, entitled: A LOCAL LAW ADDING CHAPTER 45, ENTITLED "ELECTRICAL INSPECTIONS," TO THE VILLAGE CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF CHESTER. This matter was tabled until the next monthly meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**20-25 Resolution Property Tax Exemption – 2022 Property Tax Exemptions on properties owned by the Village of Chester located in Town of Monroe surrounding Walton Lake.**

WHEREAS, the Village of Chester is the owner of real property in the Town of Monroe, County of Orange

<u>Section</u>	<u>Block</u>	<u>Lot</u>
18	5	11
13	1	28
8	1	78
8	1	35
8	1	77
8	1	24
8	1	23
8	1	22
8	1	21
8	1	16
8	1	14
8	1	13
8	1	12
8	1	11
8	1	10
8	1	9
8	1	8
8	1	54
8	1	53
8	1	42
8	1	44
8	1	45
8	1	46

identified on the tax map as follows:

WHEREAS, the above real property is devoted solely to public use and is part of the Village owned water system as the site for the Village's Water Filtration Plant, necessary connections and appurtenances; and

WHEREAS, the Real Property Tax Law, Section 406(3), provides the authority for each taxing district in which municipally owned property used in such manner is located to grant a whole exemption from real property taxes levied by that taxing district; and

WHEREAS, such exemption for the Village of Chester Water supply site real property would provide a direct and immediate benefit for the taxpayers and water users of the Village of Chester, which would enhance real property ownership, encourage industrial and commercial development, and exemplify a spirit of inter-municipal cooperation between the County of Orange and the Village,

NOW, THEREFORE, be it

RESOLVED, that the Village Board of the Village of Chester, on behalf of the Village of Chester, its taxpayers, water users and citizens hereby petitions the County of Orange to grant a whole exemption from Orange County real property taxes commencing for the calendar year 2022 for the parcel of real property identified as follows in the Town of Monroe:

and be it further

<u>Section</u>	<u>Block</u>	<u>Lot</u>
18	5	11
13	1	28
8	1	78
8	1	35
8	1	77
8	1	24
8	1	23
8	1	22
8	1	21
8	1	16
8	1	14
8	1	13
8	1	12
8	1	11
8	1	10
8	1	9
8	1	8
8	1	54
8	1	53
8	1	42
8	1	44
8	1	45
8	1	46

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the appropriate Orange County Government officials.

Introduced By: Trustee Alan Battiato

Seconded By: Deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato

On a vote of 5 to 0 the resolution was adopted.

## **20-26 Resolution Establishing date of the Village Board Reorganization Meeting**

WHEREAS, the Village held its general Village Election; and

WHEREAS, thereafter, the newly elected Mayor and Board of Trustees must hold a reorganization meeting.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it hereby

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Chester, New York will hold the 2020 Village Reorganization Meeting on December 7, 2020, at 7:00 p.m. at the Chester Senior Center, 81 Laroe Rd, in the Town of Chester with the regular monthly meeting to follow thereafter, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Village Clerk shall give due notice of this resolution in accordance with the Village Code and the Laws of the State of New York.

Introduced By: Deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato

Seconded By: Trustee Elizabeth A. Reilly.

On a vote of 5 to 0 the resolution was adopted.

## **20-27 Resolution Acknowledging Village Judge Annual Court Records Audit.**

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2019-a of the Uniform Justice Court Act, the Board of Trustees of the Village is required to confirm that the records and dockets of the Village Justice Court be audited, and that the fact of that auditing be reflected in the minutes of the proceedings of this Board; and

WHEREAS, the Village's auditors, RBT CPA, LLC, have performed said audit of Village Judge L. Fred VanDerMeulen and Village Judge Stephen R. Hunter's records from June 1, 2019 – May 31, 2020, and forwarded findings for review to the Village Board accordingly; and

WHEREAS, the Village Board is required, in compliance with the Uniform Justice Court Act §2019-a, to reflect in the minutes of its proceedings that such audit has occurred and that the fines therein collected have been turned over to the proper officials of the Village as required by law; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees of the Village of Chester does hereby acknowledge that the audit of the records of the Village Justice Court required under Uniform Justice Court Act § 2019-a has been conducted, and that the Justice Court Audit Report has been received by the Board and the fines therein collected have been turned over to the proper officials of the Village as required by law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Village Clerk forward to the New York State Office of Court Administration a copy of said Justice Court Audit Report and a copy of this Resolution.

Introduced By: Deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato

Seconded By:

On a vote of 5 to 0 the resolution was adopted.

62 Maple Ave - request for water agreement for November 1, 2020 water bill.

A motion to grant a water agreement to the owners of 62 Maple Ave, not to extended beyond April 30, 2021 was made by Trustee Elizabeth A. Reilly, seconded by Trustee Alan Battiato. Motion unanimously passed.

Guardian - Renewal Dental and Vision

A motion to accept the renewal of Guardian Insurance Plan for vision and dental was made by Trustee Alan Battiato, seconded by Trustee Brain J. Boone. Motion unanimously passed.

## **CALENDAR:**

- **E-Bill service** is available. If you would like to sign-up go to Village website under forms.
- **Snow Ordinance** goes into effect, beginning **November 1, 2020** thru **April 15, 2021**. No parking from 3am to 6am
- **Water Bills** were mailed on Monday, November 2, 2020, with a due date of Monday, November 30, 2020.
- **Cell Meter** - Water Customers with cell water meters have the option to create an account with "[www.eyeonwater.com/signin](http://www.eyeonwater.com/signin)" service to monitor water usage/consumption.
- **Village offices will be closed** on Wednesday, November 11, 2020 – Veteran's Day.
- **Village offices will be closed** on Thursday, November 26, 2020 due to Holiday. Thanksgiving Day.
- **Village offices will be closed** on Friday, November 27, 2020 the day after Thanksgiving Day
- **Annual Holiday Parade of Lights** has been **cancelled**.
- **Village of Chester Reorganization Meeting** will be held on Monday, December 7, 2020, at 7:00 pm
- **Village of Chester Monthly Meeting** will be held on Monday, December 7, 2020, at 7:15 pm

- **Window Painting for the Holidays** - Tuesday, December 1, 2020 and Thursday, December 3, 2020 the Village Clerk's Office and some of the Downtown Business will have their windows painted for Christmas by the talented art students from Chester Academy.

**\*Removal of Bulk Items** – residents must call Interstate Waste to schedule pick-up **1-866-342-5497**\*

**Bulk item pickup ends November 30, 2020\***

\*See our calendar for more upcoming meetings and events\*: <https://www.villageofchesterny.org>

**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 adjourn the meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion to close the monthly meeting at 7:55 pm was made by Trustee Brian J. Boone, seconded by Deputy Mayor Christopher Battiato. Motion unanimously passed.

Respectfully,

Rebecca Rivera  
Village Clerk