

Minutes of the Town of Chesterfield Public Hearing and Regular Town Board Meeting Held on Tuesday, October 10th, 2023 at the Town of Chesterfield Offices ,1 Vine Street, in Keeseville, County of Essex, State of New York, Pursuant to Due Notice.

Supervisor Barber called the Public Hearing to order at 5:45 PM

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance

Those Present:

Supervisor	Clayton Barber
Town Clerk	Bruce Bourgeois
Councilman	David Gload
Councilman	Richard Klages
Councilman	Patrick “Bill” Mitchell
Councilman	John Casey
Town Attorney	Michael McCormick
Supt. Of Highways	John “Jay” Champine

Guests Present:

Daniel Costin	Walter Chmura
Wendy Murnane	Marybeth Gillen

Town Clerk Bourgeois read the legal notice and presented the 2023 Tentative Budget to the Town Board.

Supervisor Barber informed the Board the Town budget, as stands, is 8.178% over tax cap and asked if the Board wanted to do any adjustments. He also presented the Board with a history of fund balances since 2018.

Supervisor Barber informed the Board of the need to schedule the preliminary Budget Hearing prior to the adoption of the Budget by November 20th with copies to Essex County no later than November 25th.

There was no public comment.

Upon a motion by Councilman Mitchell and seconded by Councilman Gload and unanimously carried it was

#126 Resolved: To hold a Public Hearing on the 2024 Town of Chesterfield Preliminary Budget on Thursday, November 9th at 5:45 with due notice.

Upon a motion by Councilman Klages and seconded by Councilman Casey and unanimously carried it was

#127 Resolved: To adjourn the Public Hearing and enter into the Regular Board Meeting at 6:03 PM.

Upon a motion by Councilman Klages and seconded by Councilman Gload and unanimously carried it was

#128 Resolved: That the reading of the minutes of the Regular Town Board Meeting of September 12th, 2023 be dispensed with.

Supervisor Barber welcomed everyone in attendance and opened the courtesy of the floor to the public.

Walter Chmura approached the Board that his small claims case against the Town was posted on the bulletin board at the Town Office containing his personal information. He has talked to the County Attorney. He feels it is harassment and discrimination and requested an apology from the Town Supervisor.

Councilman Gload responded the small claim was public knowledge. Councilman Mitchell added that since it was against the Town all residents should know. Supervisor Barber said Mr. Chmura was incorrect as he had spoke to the County Attorney as well and was told it was “OK” to put up.

Mr. Chmura responded that both parties were getting mixed messages and that he would contact the County Attorney again. Supervisor Barber did not apologize.

Supervisor Barber set the dates of Fall brush and leaf cleanup in the hamlets of Keeseville and Port Kent to now through November 13th.

Supervisor Barber reminded the Board that with the scale up and running at the Compaction Station, the Town should revisit composting. The Town wants to be in a good position for this in the spring.

Supervisor Barber asked Town Clerk Bourgeois to file the merger of the Port Kent Water Districts with the County. Wendy Murnane asked if that affects all Port Kent residents. Town Attorney McCormick responded there is no change in billing just clerical.

Supervisor Barber informed the Board County Attorney Manning is working on the draft for Town Law for unsafe buildings specifically looking at 1707 Front Street. Wendy Murnane asked about the house on Lake Street that has not been demolished. Supervisor Barber informed Ms. Murnane, according from Zone Officer Pray, relayed to him by Fire Marshall, the building cannot be touched due to an ongoing arson investigation.

Supervisor Barber informed the Board the Town is still waiting on another landscaping quote. Due to the lateness of the season, it will be put off until spring. Marybeth Gillen asked about the ice rink at Watson Park and was told we are at the mercy of the weather.

Supervisor Barber informed the Board the Town needs to schedule a public hearing for expansion of the Town of Chesterfield Water District.

Upon a motion by Councilman Gload and seconded by Councilman Mitchell and unanimously carried it was

#129 Resolved: To hold a Public hearing on Tuesday, November 14th at 5:45 PM on the expansion of the Town of Chesterfield Water District on Prospect Road.

Supervisor Barber informed the Board there is no update on the EV charging stations and will probably be put off until spring. The town is still waiting to hear from DEC.

Supervisor Barber informed the Board Highway Superintendent Champine would like to add another piece of equipment to the surplus list already approved. This opened up a conversation on a bid for the used nutrition bus. As the bid would concern both the Towns of Chesterfield and Ausable, there was no further progress on the nutrition bus.

Upon a motion by Councilman Mitchell and seconded by Councilman Klages and unanimously carried it was

#130 Resolved: To declare as surplus one 2014 Dodge 5500 and to advertise this item on Auctions International.

Supervisor Barber asked Highway Superintendent Champine on the progress of the vac truck. He has a \$6500 bill. Highway Superintendent Champine replied the truck is in Vermont being re-assessed with issues.

Supervisor Barber informed the Board Clerk to the Supervisor Ocasio and himself will meet with Burnham to discuss health insurance plans the Town has and approved rate increases.

Supervisor Barber noted there is no update on the Salt Shed Grant. Supervisor Barber gave the Board an update on the \$5000 grant for energy improvements. The Town is currently benchmarking and resolutions have been submitted. The Town is waiting for the customized Unified Solar Permit from Code Officer Pray.

Supervisor Barber gave the Board an update on the Compaction Station. The new process has started on October 3rd. The new punch cards have been selling quite briskly at both the Station and Town Office. Cash is now being accepted at the Station. He asked if anyone had any feedback.

Dan Costin, who works at the Station is content with the new process. There has been some negativity but as people get used to the system, they are seeing it is not much of a change financially.

Supervisor Barber presented the Board with a letter from William Lyons requesting his 2 parcels on Soper Road be combined into one large parcel. The Board had no concerns on the merger.

Upon a motion by Councilman Mitchell and seconded by Councilman Gload and unanimously carried it was

#131 Resolved: To combine adjacent properties 4.1-1-3.000 and 4.1-1-4.000 owned by William Lyons on Soper Road into a single parcel.

Supervisor Barber informed the Board the perennials planned on being planted at Veteran's Park in October has been pushed back to the spring.

Supervisor Barber presented the Board with a letter from the Essex County Fair Board requesting a \$1000 donation from each Town in Essex County. There was much discussion about funding for the fair is already included in the County Budget and the residents of Chesterfield would be taxed twice if the Board approved this request.

Upon a motion by Councilman Casey and seconded by Councilman Klages and unanimously carried it was

#132 Resolved: To not contribute \$1000 to the Essex County Fair.

Supervisor Barber presented the Board with Budget amendments for September, 2023.

Upon a motion by Councilman Klages and seconded by Councilman Casey and unanimously carried it was

#133 Resolved: To accept proposed Budget amendments for the month of September,2023.

Upon a motion by Councilman Gload and seconded by Councilman Mitchell and unanimously carried it was

#134 Resolved: To accept the completed Supervisor's Financial Report for September,2023, copies of which can be found in the Town Clerk's Office.

Upon a motion by Councilman Klages and seconded by Councilman Casey and unanimously carried it was

#122 Resolved: That all audited bills presented to the Town Board since the last Board Meeting on September 12th,2023 be paid. Bills in the amount of \$51,507.55 were audited and paid from the General Fund. Bills in the amount of \$73,458.96 were audited and paid from the Highway Fund. Bills in the amount of \$7,247.61 were audited and paid from the Town of Chesterfield Water Department. Bills in the amount of \$363.59 were audited and paid from the Port Kent Water Departments. Bills in the amount of \$2,338.90 were audited and paid from the Village Debt. Bills in the amount of 60.00 were audited and paid from the Trust & Agency. Bills in the amount of \$4,868.46 were audited and paid from the Town of Chesterfield Compact Station. Bills in the amount of \$66,588.27 were audited and paid from the TCWD Project. The total of all bills since last meeting was \$206,433.34.

Upon a motion by Councilman Casey and seconded by Councilman Klages and unanimously carried it was

#136 Resolved: That all letters brought before the Town be filed.

Supervisor Barber offered the courtesy of the floor to Town Clerk Bourgeois.

Town Clerk Bourgeois gave a presentation on a concert at Watson Park on October 1st and an update on the Holiday Celebration to be held on Saturday, December 9th.

Supervisor Barber offered the courtesy of the floor to the Councilmen.

Councilman Klages mentioned grants. Highway Superintendent Champine added, after talking with Rob Wick, the Town has to spend all \$30,000 of the Storm Water Grant to be reimbursed. Tom Easter has let the Supervisor know of more vandalism at JC Park. The Town just needs to wait for a quote from Charter Communications on the Wiifi.

Dan Costin informed the Board of bags of fish guts, dog feces and even a deer hide dropped along the road at Commerce Park.

Supervisor Barber is working on a new dog control officer.

Supervisor Barber informed the Board ROOST Funds will be cut back this year.

Upon a motion by Councilman Klages and seconded by Councilman Mitchell and unanimously carried it was

#137 Resolved: That with no further business to come before this Town Board Meeting, this meeting could be adjourned at 7:01 P.M.

Bruce Bourgeois

Town Clerk

