

Minutes of the Town of Chesterfield Regular Town Board Meeting Held on Tuesday, April 14, 2026 at the Town of Chesterfield Office, 1 Vine Street, Keeseville, County of Essex and State of New York, Pursuant to Due Notice.

Supervisor Barber called the Meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Those Present:

Supervisor: Clayton Barber  
Town Clerk: Bruce Bourgeois  
Councilman: David Gload  
Councilman: Harrison Blaise  
Supt. of HW: John "Jay" Champine  
Town Attorney: Mark Cowen  
Water Supt: Dave Winter

Councilmen Mitchell and Casey were excused.

Guests Present:

Al Hachigan Walter Chmura Dan Ocasio  
Zandaleigh Ocasio Laura Ocasio Caleigh Goddeau  
Sarah Sousie John Lacy

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

#72 Resolved: To accept and waive the reading of the March 10, 2026 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

Supervisor Barber informed the Board he would like to hook up electricity in the pavilion at JC Park, especially for the Keeseville 250 Celebration. Councilman Casey has volunteered to do this and make sure it is in a locked box. Councilman Casey will also put bathroom locks with timers on the restrooms there.

Supervisor Barber introduced John Lacy representing Woodmen of the World.

Mr. Lacy announced the Woodmen, who also donates the U.S. flags for the Town of Chesterfield, as well as the first flagpole there, will donate a second flag pole for Veteran's Park to fly the P.O.W. flag.

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

#73 Resolved: To approve the raising of a second flagpole at Veteran's Park, thanking the Woodmen of the World for the generous donation of the pole and flag.

Supervisor Barber informed the Board the new Water Department hire is Jessie West. He asked that when the Councilmen see him to introduce themselves to Jessie and make him feel welcome working for the Town of Chesterfield. Supervisor Barber noted there will be employees retiring in the near future. He would like to add another full time Water Department/ Laborer for the Town of Chesterfield to be shared with all Departments.

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

#74 Resolved: To hire an additional full-time employee for the Town of Chesterfield, to be trained and available for all Departments.

Supervisor Barber opened the floor to Town officials.

Water Superintendent Winter gave an update on the issues for TCWD. The hydrant flushing continues. The water quality continues to improve. The well pump was replaced which should help further and the lab data has come back showing levels of Iron and manganese but the levels are settling down with every test result. The Water Department's skid steer is on its last legs and Superintendent Winter would like to purchase a new tracked one. The estimated repairs on the old one is at least \$11,000 with no guarantee there would not have other things wrong. He can purchase a new one at State Contract in Plattsburgh for \$85,000 with broom and snow blower attachments.

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

#75 Resolved: To purchase a tracked skid steer with attachments at State Contract pricing.

Supervisor Barber informed the Board he received a proposal from AES for the auxiliary intake for \$12,000 to \$15,000. He would like to Todd Hoskins and Hannah from Essex County to see what the Town's options are to hold Kingsbury accountable for the water issues the TCWD has suffered.

Town Clerk Bourgeois presented the Board with the March Clerk's Report. He confirmed with Town Attorney Cowen that all reports and resolutions for 93 Kent Street needs only to be filed in the Clerk's office. Town Clerk Bourgeois informed the Board he had received a request for funding for the Port Kent Easter Egg Hunt.

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

#76 Resolved: To authorize the release of ROOST Funds totaling \$176.50 for candy and supplies for the Port Kent Easter Egg Hunt.

Councilman Gload reported the Keeseville Youth Commission did not have a meeting in April. A resident had contacted him concerning the timing of the Keeseville 250 with the Arch Bridge and walking bridge closed for repairs.

Town Attorney Cowen informed the Board all paperwork is complete for the Town's purchase of 93 Kent Street and the process is complete.

Supervisor Barber informed the Board he was contacted by a company to recycle electronics with no charge to the Town.

Supervisor Barber opened the floor for public comment.

Laura Ocasio asked about the progress on the projected homes on Thompson Road. Supervisor Barber noted the Planning Board approved the initial site plan and is moving on to the next step. The site plan and footprint have been modified but there will still be no more than six homes with town waterpayers on the 20-acre parcel.

Supervisor Barber set the Spring brush and leaves clean-up for the hamlets of Chesterfield and Port Kent for April 20<sup>th</sup>- May 18, 2026.

Supervisor Barber informed the Board Dog Control Officer Hachigan has been doing a great job making sure dogs are up to date on license payments but would like to expand the program to go after unlicensed dogs. Clerk to the Supervisor Ocasio has drafted a sample doorknocker to leave if owners of perceived unlicensed dogs are not home. The cost would be 19 cents per knocker in batches of 1000. Mr. Hachigan surmised the program would pay for itself very quickly and serves as "first notice" in the citation process.

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

#77 Resolved: To purchase 1000 doorknockers at 19 cents per hanger.

Mr. Hachigan brought up the need for places to house dogs in Town of Chesterfield if all pounds are full. He suggested the old High School or to purchase one like the Town of Willsboro. Supervisor Barber reminded Mr. Hachigan of all the hoops the Town would have to jump through to satisfy NY State.

Supervisor Barber informed the Board, after talking with the Essex County Attorney, for the Keeseville 250 Celebration, the Board will not do individual resolutions but do a final tally resolution when the celebration is complete. Clerk to the Supervisor Ocasio will keep an accurate total.

Supervisor Barber informed the Board the Town of Chesterfield Planning Board has requested an authorization of Contingency Approvals. This will enable the Planning Board to act on certain requests in a more timely manner if in the public interest.

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

#78 Resolved: To empower the Town of Chesterfield Planning Board to approve on a contingency basis submissions that require Planning Board action when a limited number of items currently

necessary for said approval are yet to be completed on a discretionary basis and only when the Planning Board determines these actions are in the public interest.

Supervisor Barber presented the Board with a resolution to change the Champlain Hudson Power Express Project (CHPEP) from a Pilot Agreement to a Host Community Agreement. The project is the underline electric line going on the floor of Lake Champlain to feed electricity to New York City from Canada. The Town of Chesterfield, along with all towns that have Lake Champlain shoreline will benefit from this project. By changing from the Pilot Program, the income generated will not be included in the Town's tax cap equation, thus helping keep taxes lower.

Upon a motion by Supervisor Barber and seconded by Councilman Blaise and unanimously carried it was

#79 Resolved: To change the Champlain Hudson Power Express Project from a Pilot Agreement to a Host Community Agreement.

Supervisor Barber informed the Board of the need to re-pass a resolution to purchase a 2026 Western Star plow truck and plow. The original agreement was misplaced at the manufacturer's office when the salesman unfortunately passes away. The numbers from the original resolution will not change.

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

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

#80 Resolved: To authorize the purchase of a 2026 Western Star 49 and plow and also authorize Town Supervisor Clayton Barber to sign contracts including finance terms.

#81 Resolved: To accept the Supervisor's Financial Report for March 2026 with copies being placed in the Town Clerk's Office.

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

#82 Resolved: To accept water billing and adjustments for the period of March 9, 2026 to April 13, 2026.

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

#83 Resolved: To pay all bills , including credit card bills, received since March 10, 2026. Bills amounting to \$54, 53.14 were audited and paid from the General Fund. Bills amounting to \$38,579.59 were audited and paid from the Highway Fund. Bills amounting to \$41,621.69 were audited and paid from the TCWD. Bills amounting to \$33,451.51 were audited and paid from the Port Kent Water District. Bills amounting to \$2,273.08 were audited and paid from Village Debt. Bills amounting to \$26,003.02 were audited and paid from ROOST. Bills amounting to \$2,259.58 were audited and paid from the Compaction Station. The total of all bills received since March 10, 2026 equals \$198,241.61.

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

#84 Resolved: To accept all bank reconciliations to March 30, 2026.

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

#85 Resolved: To file all letters brought before this Board.

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

#86 Resolved: To audit and accept all budget amendments up to April 13, 2026.

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

#867 Resolved: To enter into Executive Session at 7:33 PM to discuss water issues.

The Board returned to open session at 8:06 PM.

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

#88 Resolved: To settle water issues as resolved and discussed,

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

#89 Resolved: That with no other business to come before this Board, the Regular Board Meeting of April 14, 2026 be adjourned at 8:08 PM.