

**Charlestown Water/Wastewater Commissioner Meeting**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**March 3, 2021 @ 4:15 pm**  
**Community Room and Zoom**

Selectboard present and location: Chairman Albert St. Pierre (community room), John Streeter (community room), Jeff Lessels (community room), William Rescsanski (community room), Scott Wade (community room).

Staff Present: Jessica Dennis- Administrative Assistant (via Zoom)  
Patricia Chaffee- Tax Collector/Town Clerk (via Zoom)  
Justin Shaw- Water/Waste Water Department

Public Present: two attended in person and 4 attended via zoom

Chairman St. Pierre called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Mr. Wade recited the protocol for holding public zoom meetings due to the Covid- 19 executive order per the Governor Christopher Sununu. All meetings will be recorded and any motions will be on a roll call for the recording secretary.

**Commissioners Agenda:**

Mr. St. Pierre suggested to the Board that a three (3) member Water/Water Commission be appointed by the Selectboard and report to the Board. Mr. Robert Beaudry commented that it should be made of people with knowledge of water/wastewater or related field. Mr. Streeter asked if the decision should wait until after March 9, 2021 as the Selectboard would be a different group of people. Mr. Lessels thought that it might not be a good idea. Mr. Wade noted that more information was needed; what are the duties of the commissioners, what level of decision making do they hold, etc.

There was a discussion of the replacement for Water/Wastewater Superintendent. Mr. Rescsanski noted that not only should we post the job, but had head hunters been considered; as well continue to research possible engineering firms that could be contracted services. Mr. Rescsanski asked that the job description be sent to the Board. Mr. St. Pierre noted that future needs of the Water/Wastewater department need to be address and start to look at the twenty (20) year plan that has already been developed.

Mr. Lessels made a motion to adjourn Water/Wastewater Commissioner meeting at 5:10 pm; Mr. Wade seconded the motion and on a roll call; motion passed. Mr. St. Pierre (yes), Mr. Wade (yes), Mr. Streeter (yes), Mr. Rescsanski (yes), Mr. Lessels (yes).

The meeting was recessed until start of Selectboard meeting at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Patricia Chaffee, Recording Secretary

Jeff Lessels

Scott Wade

William Rescsanski

Shelly Andrus

Jeremy Wood

(Note: these are unapproved meeting minutes. Any corrections will be made at the next Selectboard meeting on March 17, 2021)

**Charlestown Board of Selectmen  
Meeting Minutes  
March 3, 2021 @ 6:30 pm  
Community Room and Zoom**

Selectboard present and location: Chairman Albert St. Pierre (community room), John Streeter (community room), Jeff Lessels (community room), William Rescsanski (community room), Scott Wade (community room).

Staff Present: Jessica Dennis- Administrative Assistant (via Zoom)  
Patricia Chaffee- Tax Collector/Town Clerk (via Zoom)  
Patrick Connors- Ambulance & Police Department (via Zoom)  
Keith Weed – Highway Department

Public Present: four attended in person and ten attended via zoom

Chairman St. Pierre called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. The pledge of allegiance was recited. Mr. St. Pierre noted that the COVID notice was read at the start of the meeting session and that the meeting is recorded.

**Public Comment:**

Roger Rumrill, Fire Department noted that the Fire/EMS committee would like to ask the Selectboard to send a letter to all the residents to notify them that there is no longer a Charlestown Ambulance service and that Golden Cross is handling the coverage in Town. Mr. Wade and Amy Rumrill will compile a letter to be sent out. Nancy Houghton commented that it would save money to just have it printed in the Our Town and posted on the website and Facebook page.

**Selectboard Agenda:**

Mr. St. Pierre noted that department head reviews have been completed and meetings will need to be set up to go over the review with the individuals after the budget passes.

Mr. St. Pierre asked Nancy Houghton, Supervisor of the Checklist and Ms. Chaffee, Town Clerk, if they were ready for the election on Tuesday, it was noted that everything was all set and that the Highway Department would be assisting Monday afternoon with the setup. Voting is at the Charlestown Senior Center, 8am – 7pm. Mr. Streeter noted that Ron Logerfo would be his pro tem the day of elections.

After the election a Selectboard workshop for the new board will be set up.

**Department Reports:**

**Water Wastewater Department:**

Mr. Justin Shaw was at the previous meeting and reported then.

**Town Clerk/ Tax Collector:**

Ms. Patricia Chaffee reported water bills have been mailed out and work on the lien notices will begin.

**Fire Department:**

Ms. Dennis reported that she has received the resignation from the Fire Chief. Mr. Rescsanski made a motion to accept Chief Baraly's resignation Mr. Streeter seconded the motion and on a

roll call; motion passed. Mr. St. Pierre (yes), Mr. Wade (yes), Mr. Streeter (yes), Mr. Rescsanski (yes), Mr. Lessels (yes).

Mr. St. Pierre thanked Chief Baraly for his years of service and noted that he will continue to be part of the department and handling emergency management.

Mr. Mark Laflam, Assistant Fire Chief, reported that the department accepted nominees for their officers and would be voting at the March 4, 2021 meeting. Mr. Wade and Mr. Rescsanski will attend. Mr. Laflam has worked on a new pay scale for the department and the current officers have been reviewing budget lines and the needs moving forward.

**Police Department:**

Chief Connors reported updated statistics: 20 arrests, 115 motor vehicle stops, executed 4 search warrants, 4 assaults, 13 thefts, 5 sex assaults, 2 elderly exploitation for money, 1127 calls for service, 17 drug cases, there are 20 open investigations. Chief Connors also noted that his department is still low on staff and there have not been any applicants to consider as of yet. Mr. Lessels noted that he appreciated the Police Officers assisting residents during the last storm with shoveling walkways.

**Transfer Station:**

No report

**Highway:**

Mr. Weed reported roads have been posted and it has been put on the website. The department has been doing storm related work and getting ready for mud season, and have starting getting the vehicles serviced during this period of no snow. Mr. Wade also noted that there has been some backup in the basin on Depot Street and it may need repair. Mr. Lessels asked about the status of the Borough Road Bridge. Mr. Weed reported the contract has been sent to the Contractor for approval and work will begin, precast will be made and permits still need to be completed. The start of work will be dependent on the flow of the water in that area.

**Administrator's Report:**

Ms. Dennis reported that it has been confirmed that the mason doing the work on the Library building has passed away. Judy Baraly is working with LCHIP to find a replacement. Fortunately color matched mortar was ordered for the entire project so they will not have to start from scratch.

It was also noted that HS 607 that Mr. Rescsanski noted at a previous meeting appears to not be moving forward in Concord.

Mr. Wade asked about the work on the intersection of Springfield and Old Springfield Road. Ms. Dennis that there seemed to be some confusion as to what had been originally discussed with the State and what the State is now saying. It was thought that the State was to do the engineering and assisting with the work. It now seems the State is waiting on Charlestown to do the engineering work. Mr. Streeter made a motion to move forward with plans to change the intersection. Mr. Lessels seconded the motion and on a roll call; motion passed. Mr. St. Pierre (no), Mr. Wade (yes), Mr. Streeter (yes), Mr. Rescsanski (yes), Mr. Lessels (yes).

Discussion continued about other State related projects Langdon Road, Lovers Lane Intersection and Route 12 near Hemingway's. Mr. St. Pierre commented that a letter should be drafted to send to our State Representatives and Councilor regarding these issues.

Ms. Dennis asked about scheduling a meeting with the Mobile Home Park owners where tax deeded properties are located. Recommendations from the attorney have been sent to the Board. No decision needs to be made today, but will soon if these properties are to be included in the May auction.

Ms. Dennis asked about the reopening of the Re-use hut at the Transfer station. All safety protocols would be followed. Mr. Wade made a motion to support the re-opening of the Re-use Hut as of April 1, 2021. Mr. Lessels seconded the motion and on a roll call; motion passed. Mr. St. Pierre (no), Mr. Wade (yes), Mr. Streeter (no), Mr. Rescsanski (yes), Mr. Lessels (yes). Mr. Streeter noted that he thought April 1<sup>st</sup> was too early.

Patricia Royce has asked if the Town would support Yard Sale Day this year. It was noted that this is not a Town function, however all members support the event.

Ms. Dennis asked the Board about reopening the lobby. Ms. Dennis and Ms. Chaffee have discussed this and would still adhere to all safety standards. Mr. Streeter made a motion to allow the lobby to be reopened as of March 15, 2021, per managers' recommendations. Mr. Wade seconded the motion and on a roll call; motion passed. Mr. St. Pierre (no), Mr. Wade (yes), Mr. Streeter (yes), Mr. Rescsanski (yes), Mr. Lessels (yes).

Ms. Dennis referred to a question from the Treasurer regarding the last two (2) accounts at Mascoma Bank. The Selectboard agreed that the two (2) can be left at Mascoma, these accounts are Old Home Day and a Conservation Commission CD.

### **Minutes:**

Mr. Rescsanski made a motion to accept the following meeting minutes,

February 17, 2021 - Regular Meeting

February 17, 2021 - Non Public #1 Personnel

February 17, 2021 - Non Public #2 Reputations

February 17, 2021 - Non-Public #3 Personnel

February 24, 2021 - Workshop

February 24, 2021 - Non Public #1 Dismissal

February 24, 2021 - Non Public #2 Personnel

Mr. Lessels seconded the motion and on a roll call; motion passed. Mr. St. Pierre (yes), Mr. Wade (yes), Mr. Streeter (yes), Mr. Rescsanski (yes), Mr. Lessels (yes).

### **Consent Agenda:**

Mr. Wade made a motion to accept the consent agenda as presented; Mr. Rescsanski seconded the motion and on a roll call; motion passed. Mr. St. Pierre (yes), Mr. Wade (yes), Mr. Streeter (yes), Mr. Rescsanski (yes), Mr. Lessels (yes).

### **Old Business:** None

### **New Business:**

It was noted that this would be Mr. St. Pierre last Selectboard meeting and he was thanked for all his service.

Mr. Joey Carter asked the Selectboard what their expectations were from the Fire/EMS committee. Mr. Wade noted the committee should look into doing proposals that can be presented to the Selectboard. The Ambulance Sustainability worked on three (3) different plans

then presented the best one to the Selectboard. It should include a first responder program, budget and organizational chart. Any proposal should be an overview of the department. Mr. Wade noted that the Selectboard will discuss this in more detail and it will be addressed at the next Fire/EMS meeting March 8, 2021. Mr. Rescsanski noted his concerns about costs and what the long term plan, is there an ambulance service in the future.

Mr. Wade made a motion to enter non-public at 7:35 pm RSA 91-A:3 II (c-Reputation), Mr. Rescsanski seconded the motion and on a roll call; motion passed. Mr. Wade (yes), Mr. Lessels (yes), Mr. Streeter (yes), Mr. Rescsanski (yes), Mr. St. Pierre (yes).

The Selectboard reconvened public session at 7:39 pm.

Mr. Wade made a motion to enter non-public at 7:39 pm RSA 91-A:3 II (c-Reputation), Mr. Rescsanski seconded the motion and on a roll call; motion passed. Mr. Wade (yes), Mr. Lessels (yes), Mr. Streeter (yes), Mr. Rescsanski (yes), Mr. St. Pierre (yes).

The Selectboard reconvened public session at 8:29 pm.

Mr. Rescsanski made a motion to seal the non-public minutes until March 8, 2021. Mr. Streeter seconded the motion and on a roll call; motion passed. Mr. St. Pierre (no), Mr. Wade (yes), Mr. Streeter (yes), Mr. Rescsanski (yes), Mr. Lessels (yes).

Mr. Streeter made a motion to adjourn at 8:40 pm; Mr. Wade seconded the motion and on a roll call; motion passed. Mr. St. Pierre (yes), Mr. Wade (yes), Mr. Streeter (yes), Mr. Rescsanski (yes).

Respectfully Submitted,  
Patricia Chaffee, Recording Secretary

Jeff Lessels

Scott Wade

Jeremy Wood

William Rescsanski

Shelly Blouin-Andrus

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**Charlestown Board of Selectmen  
Nonpublic Meeting Minutes  
RSA 91-A: 3 II (c-Reputation) #1  
March 3, 2021 @ 6:30 pm**

Selectboard present and location: Chairman Albert St. Pierre (community room), John Streeter (community room), Jeff Lessels (community room), William Rescsanski (community room), and Scott Wade (community room)

Staff Present: Jessica Dennis- Administrator (via Zoom)  
Patricia Chaffee – Recording Secretary (via Zoom)

Ms. Dennis received a letter from a resident asking to continue their payment plan for taxes. Ms. Chaffee noted that payment plans are not usually set up by the Selectboard until the property is in a deeding situation. This is a proactive step when the deeding process starts.

Mr. Lessels made a motion to reconvene public session at 7:39 pm; Mr. Wade seconded the motion and on a roll call; motion passed. Mr. St. Pierre (yes), Mr. Lessels (yes), Mr. Wade (yes), Mr. Streeter (yes), Mr. Rescsanski (yes).

Respectfully Submitted,  
Patricia Chaffee

Jeff Lessels

Scott Wade

William Rescsanski

Jeremy Wood

Shelly Blouin-Andrus

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**Charlestown Board of Selectmen  
Nonpublic Meeting Minutes  
RSA 91-A: 3 II (c-Reputation) #2  
March 3, 2021 @ 6:30 pm**

Selectboard present and location: Chairman Albert St. Pierre (community room), John Streeter (community room), Jeff Lessels (community room), William Rescsanski (community room), and Scott Wade (community room)

Staff Present: Jessica Dennis- Administrator (via Zoom)  
Patricia Chaffee – Recording Secretary (via Zoom)

Mr. Wade opened with a few concerns about current EMS personnel. There was a lengthy discussion about the current working of the Fire/EMS service. All previous ambulance personnel should apply to the Fire Department. Mr. Wade asked that the Fire Chief position be posted with the intention of appointing someone soon after the new Board takes office. Ms. Dennis was instructed to send a letter to all ambulance personnel with an update of no services until committee and Selectboard have decided what the new department looks like. The care and maintenance of the ambulance building should also be addressed.

Mr. Rescsanski made a motion to dissolve the ambulance department and dismiss employees. Mr. Wade seconded the motion and on a roll call; motion passed. Mr. St. Pierre (yes), Mr. Lessels (yes), Mr. Wade (yes), Mr. Streeter (yes), Mr. Rescsanski (yes).

Mr. Lessels made a motion to reconvene public session at 7:39 pm; Mr. Wade seconded the motion and on a roll call; motion passed. Mr. St. Pierre (yes), Mr. Lessels (yes), Mr. Wade (yes), Mr. Streeter (yes), Mr. Rescsanski (yes).

Respectfully Submitted,  
Patricia Chaffee

Jeff Lessels

Scott Wade

William Rescsanski

Jeremy Wood

Shelly Blouin-Andrus

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