

**Charlestown Board of Water/Wastewater Commissioners &
Selectmen Meeting Minutes
April 21, 2021 @ 5:00 pm
Community Room and Zoom**

Selectboard present and location: Jeff Lessels, William Rescsanski, Scott Wade, Jeremy Wood, Shelly Blouin-Andrus: all present in the community room.

Staff Present: Jessica Denis- Administrative Assistant (via zoom)
Patricia Chaffee- Tax Collector/Town Clerk (via zoom)
Mark Laflam- Fire Department
Keith Weed – Highway Department

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

Mr. Wade called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm. The pledge of allegiance was recited. All meetings are recorded

Water/Wastewater: The Commissioners reviewed the draft proposal from WSO for contracted operator services for the Water/Wastewater Department. A few concerns were noted; who will do the purchasing and how that will be processed, weekend coverage, notice for termination, use of the Town contracted services and terms of payment.

Mr. Wood made a motion to enter non-public at 5:34 pm RSA 91-A:3 II (c-Reputation), Mr. Lessels seconded the motion and motion passed.

Invited guests: Rodney Rumrill and Cannon Poland – Water/Wastewater Department, Charles Damour and Joseph Damour – WSO.

The Commissioners reconvened public session at 5:57 pm. Commissioners meeting ended and Selectboard meeting began.

Ms. Blouin-Andrus made a motion to enter non-public at 5:58 pm RSA 91-A:3 II (c-Reputation), Mr. Wood seconded the motion and motion passed.

The Selectboard reconvened public session at 6:07 pm.

Public Comment:

Jeff McIver and Mike Cannon from Consolidated Communications were present to review the next steps in the broadband project. Currently there are thirteen (13) towns in the process of doing a broadband project with Consolidated. Mr. McIver noted that the next thing is to update the contract and get it the Selectboard to review and approve. Application for the bond will be completed, with the anticipated start sometime in the fall after funds are released from the bond bank. Mr. Phil Turner made a few comments on items that he would like to see included in the agreement; all Town facilities would be connected and access for no fee. Mr. Turner would like to see Consolidated administer a program to assist low income family with children for assistance to cover the cost of internet access.

Ms. Alissa Bascom commented on the timeliness of the minutes being posted on the website and asked that agendas for the workshops be posted as well.

Suzanne Prentiss, District Senator, was present to speak to the Selectboard. The Senator asked what the Board would like her to know or things that the Town is working on. Chairman Wade updated the Senator on the water interconnect project and issues that the Town has found with funding. Ms. Prentiss noted that Charlestown has the highest tax rate in District 5. Mr. Rescsanski noted his concern with the education funding from the State. Ms. Prentiss noted that there is a bill in the House to restore school funding to pre-Covid attendance so there is no gap in the budgets. She also noted that they are working on restoring the Rooms & Meals tax, which paid to communities, and could possibly be back to 40% which will help Town's revenue. There is also talk at the State level to change the way retirement is handled, which could reduce some of the expenses for the Town.

Selectboard Agenda:

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There was a discussion regarding the ambulance building and vehicles and what to do with them moving forward. It was noted that the building might be a suitable place for the food shelf, or perhaps the cemetery department, as they have been requesting a building for a few years. Ms. Blouin-Andrus asked that all department heads be notified and voice interest in the building or vehicles so the Board can look at all possibilities.

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Administrator's Reports:

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Ms. Dennis also noted that Ms. Emerson, Health Officer, a request to move forward with a trash issue on Breakneck Hill. The Board agreed to have a letter sent.

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Ex-Officio Committee Reports:

Beautification Coalition:

Mr. Lessels – nothing to report.

Conservation Commission:

Mr. Lessels reported that they had received the natural resources reports from Upper Valley Regional Planning Commission.

FM School Board:

Mr. Wood – Ms. Blouin-Andrus was voted in as the Charlestown Representative for Charlestown. The School Board discussed goal setting for the next year, however there was no discussion about the articles of agreement.

FM School Site Base:

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Finance Committee:

Mr. Rescsanski – nothing to report

Fire/EMS Committee

Mr. Wade – At the last meeting the committee reviewed the inventory and started to look at processes and procedures

Heritage Commission:

Ms. Rescsanski - nothing to report

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Mr. Wood – Last meeting dealt with more masterplan work and there was a discussion on the authority of code enforcement and who initiate its.

Recreation Committee:

Ms. Blouin-Andrus – the committee has been working at Patch Park and the snack shack is being updated. The work at Swan Common will be in May.

Town Hall Committee:

Ms. Dennis – now that it is nicer weather she will work with Dead River to remove the tank from the side of the building. It was also noted that Ms. Dennis, Ms. Chaffee and Mr. Weed has starting the work to move the safe.

Minutes:

Mr. Lessels made a motion to accept the following meeting minutes;

March 31, 2021- Workshop

March 31, 2021- Non-public #1 Hiring

March 31, 2021- Non-public #2 Personnel

April 7, 2021- Water/Wastewater Commissioners & Selectboard Meeting

April 7, 2021 – Water/Wastewater Commissioners Non-public #1 Hiring

April 7, 2021 – Non-public #1 Reputations

April 7, 2021 – Non-public #2 Hiring

April 7, 2021 – Non-public #3 Reputations

April 7, 2021 – Non-public #4 Reputations

April 7, 2021 – Non-public #5 Compensation

April 14, 2021 – Workshop

Mr. Rescsanski seconded the motion; motion passed.

Consent Agenda:

Mr. Lessels made a motion to accept the consent agenda as presented; Mr. Wood seconded the motion; motion passed.

Old Business:**New Business:**

Mr. Weed updated the Board about the single lane traffic on Acworth Road. There is a large sink hole and road is collapsing. It will have to stay single lane until the pipe comes in, which could be three to four weeks.

Mr. Laflam commented on a call he received regarding Dollar General and a customer in a wheelchair not able to get around in the store. Mr. Laflam will follow up with Ms. Emerson to see what steps should be taken to address this.

Mr. Rescsanski made a motion to enter non-public at 7:52 pm RSA 91-A:3 II (c-Reputations), Mr. Lessels seconded the motion and on a roll call; motion passed.

The Selectboard reconvened public session at 8:10 pm.

Mr. Wood made a motion to adjourn at 8:10 pm; Mr. Rescsanski seconded the motion and motion passed

Respectfully Submitted,
Patricia Chaffee, Recording Secretary

Scott Wade

Jeff Lessels

William Rescsanski

Shelly Blouin-Andrus

Jeremy Wood

(Note: these are unapproved meeting minutes. Any corrections will be made at the next Selectboard meeting on May 5, 2021)

Charlestown Water/Wastewater Commissioners
Non-Public Meeting Minutes #1
RSA 91-A:3 II (b- Hiring)
April 21, 2021 @ 5:00pm
Zoom and Community Room Meeting

Selectboard present and location: Chairman Scott Wade, Jeff Lessels, William Rescsanski
Shelly Blouin-Andrus, Jeremy Wood – all present in the community room.

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

Invited Guests: Rodney Rumrill – Water/Wastewater Department
Cannon Poland – Water/Wastewater Department
Charles Damour – WSO (via Zoom)
Joseph Damour – WSO (via Zoom)

The Commissioners reviewed the concerns in the contract the noted the changes that would need to be made. After a discussion with Mr. Damour and Mr. Damour changes were agreed to.

Mr. Lessels made a motion to approve the contract with changes. Mr. Wood seconded the motion and motion passed.

Mr. Rescsanski made a motion to reconvene public session at 5:57 pm, Mr. Lessels seconded the motion and motion passed.

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**Charlestown Selectboard
Non-Public Meeting Minutes #2
RSA 91-A:3 II (c- Reputation)
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Zoom and Community Room Meeting**

Selectboard present and location: Chairman Scott Wade, Jeff Lessels, William Rescsanski Shelly Blouin-Andrus, Jeremy Wood – all present in the community room.

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

Ms. Dennis reported that the Ambulance Association has a list of items to be returned to the Association. Further review of the list and discussion will need to take place. It was also noted there are still a couple of ambulance employees that have not returned their equipment. It was decided that Ms. Dennis will phone them to make arrangements for the items to be return.

Ms. Blouin-Andrus made a motion to reconvene public session at 6:07 pm, Mr. Lessels seconded the motion and motion passed.

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Non-Public Meeting Minutes #3
RSA 91-A:3 II (c- Reputation)
April 21, 2021 @ 5:00pm
Zoom and Community Room Meeting**

Selectboard present and location: Chairman Scott Wade, Jeff Lessels, William Rescsanski Shelly Blouin-Andrus, Jeremy Wood – all present in the community room.

Staff Present: None

The Board had a discussion related to personnel.

Mr. Rescsanski made a motion to reconvene public session at 8:10 pm, Ms. Blouin-Andrus seconded the motion and motion passed.

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Scott Wade

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