

## **WALES BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES 2/9/2016**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jeff Vannais (chair), Ed Boyce, Mike Milanese

OTHERS PRESENT: Justin Mathiau, Wales' resident

1. Chairman Vannais called the meeting to order at 7:37 p.m.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

2. M. Milanese made a motion, seconded by J. Vannais, to execute the deed to Chabot/Valle for the property on Old Stafford Road. The motion passed with two voting in favor (Milanese, Vannais) and one abstention (Boyce). Boyce also indicated that he would prefer not to sign the deed.
3. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the property at 5 Main Street, which the Town purchased last year. J. Vannais stated that he hoped there would be choices/options presented at the Annual Town Meeting that would provide final direction for the BOS to make a determination about the property. J. Mathiau indicated that the 5 Main Street Committee dismissed the majority of information in the packet he provided. He also stated that he believed the 5 Main Street Committee was leaning toward a recommendation to demolish the house with the goal of building a new structure on the site, and in his opinion, the 5 Main Street Committee is not an impartial committee. Finally, although J. Mathiau is not willing to be a part of the 5 Main Street Committee, he agreed to continue doing research on the property and to work with J. Vannais on obtaining a layered map of the property.
4. The BOS has not yet responded to the (undated) ADA letter. Jeff will meet with Amy tomorrow (2/10/16) to formulate a response.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

5. The BOS discussed the issue of the water quality at the Wales Elementary School. A lab report, provided by WES, indicated that the water possibly is not fit for human consumption. Amy sent a letter to Tantasqua Superintendent, Erin Nosek, inquiring about what actions the District has planned to rectify the water problem. To date the BOS has not received a reply. J. Vannais read a letter from Wales' resident, Allison Vilandre, regarding the water issue and other design and safety concerns at WES. E. Boyce stated that the Wales School Committee meets tomorrow night (2/10/16) to discuss these issues. Currently, the WES is using bottled water, and inquiries about water filtration systems have been made. J. Mathiau stated that he has been in touch with the DEP regarding the water testing, which occurred in August but was not submitted by the School to the DEP until October. J. Mathiau also stated his concern that although WES has numerous needs, the Town is has allocated money to other

areas rather than to the school. J. Vannais assured him that the safety of Wales' children is a priority for the BOS., and that the Town is attempting to build up both the General Stabilization Fund and the Capital Improvement Fund for future major expenses.

6. Motion was made by Milanese, seconded by Vannais, to sign the PVPC form for property in Brimfield. Motion passed unanimously.
7. Motion was made by Boyce, seconded by Vannais, to authorize J. Vannais to sign and complete the contract from the MEMA Project Management Office. Motion passed unanimously.
8. Milanese made the motion, seconded by Vannais to authorize moving forward with the Propane Contract. After discussion, the Board decided that more information was needed and the motion was withdrawn.
9. Boyce made the motion, seconded by Vannais, to declare a "Snow and Ice Emergency" because the current fund is depleted. The motion passed unanimously.
10. Vannais made the motion, seconded by Milanese, to request a summary from the Town Accountant of all the Highway Expenses to date. Ed requested to amend the motion to include sharing the information with the Finance Committee. There was a discussion, but no vote was taken.
11. Vannais made the motion, seconded by Boyce, to move to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the appointment of a new Fire Chief. The motion passed unanimously, and a roll call vote was taken: Boyce-yes; Milanese – yes; Vannais – yes. The public portion of the meeting concluded at 8:53.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: (Provided by E. Boyce)**

12. Voted to interview the sole applicant for the position of Wales Fire Chief
13. Voted unanimously by roll call to exit Executive Session.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan P. Hubbell (for Amy Bishop)

