Wales Finance Committee Meeting Minutes – July 9, 2015

Present: Roy Lainson, Valerie Bernier, Bill Darnley

The meeting came to order at 7:00 PM

New Business:

The minutes of the last meeting were read and accepted.

A reserve request was put in for the highway department for $1,000 for engineering services on Monson Road that were not expected for work done in June. There was discussion as to the lack of information and the highway department’s current deficits. It was understood from the accountant that highway had other payroll deficits, and there was no money to transfer from other line items.

A motion was made to grant the reserve request by Valerie and seconded. The reserve request was granted.

A discussion was held on capital improvement. Bill Darley discussed the need for investigation as to what the town really needs for buildings, and what the most practical thing to do is. Everyone was in agreement that there needs to be a centralized, organized committee to study the needs and options. Currently we have different committees with different loyalties putting forth ideas that have not really been investigated thoroughly. Some ideas were discussed and Roy made a motion to appoint Bill Darnley as our representative on the capital building committee, Valerie seconded and the motion was passed.

Old Business:

Driveway permits were discussed. Roy felt the highway commissioner should be compensated for the permits as it was his expectation. The rest of the finance committee felt the highway commissioner was able to do the permits during his work hours and the fact that as a highly paid salaried employee he should not receive fees or extra compensation. It was also felt that it is not the finance committees place to increase salaries. No action was taken and it was referred back to the Selectmen.

There was discussion as to the tax recap process, and the assessor and accountant’s ability to close the gap when we try to leave extra levy capacity so taxes will not go up.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM. The Finance Committee will meet with the Selectmen at the Senior Center on July 14th at 6:30 PM.