

Select Board Meeting  
Town of Wales, Massachusetts  
**Minutes** September 18, 2018  
3 Hollow Road, Wales, MA

**Members Present:** *Chairman, Ed Boyce (EB), Vice-Chair, James Whalen, Clerk, William J Matchett III (WM)*

**Others Present:** Becky Smith (BS), Rodney Kincaid (RK), Fire Chief John Croke (JC), Brendan McCarthy (BM), Chris Clark (CC), Julie Beauchemin (JB), Richard Lisowski (RL)

EB called the meeting to order at 5:12 P.M.

The Board approved to discuss the agenda items out of order, without objection.

Old Business:

**2 Debbie Street and other properties-**

BS and RK updated the board, as to the selling of vacant or undeveloped town owned properties and asked for guidance in that regard. BS and RK also showed that the 2 Debbie Street renters had a past due rental amount of approximately \$6,950. They also spoke with the board about the eviction process that had been occurring. WJMIII was curious to know when the lease was extended and it was stated that the July minutes held those details. WJMIII wanted to have the property inspected to ascertain its current state and worried about the expense to the town to go through the process of eviction.

**\*Motion 09182018-1** JW moved to pursue with Siddall & Siddall PC to document the Town's ownership of 8 Haynes Hill Road property. **Seconded By:** WJMIII Vote: **AIF Discussion:** None

RK and BS came back to address the Board, as a continuation of their previous conversation. They both spoke about the need to ascertain the current state of the 2 Debbie Street property.

**\*Motion 09182018-2** JW moved to authorize the Town Treasurer to inspect 2 Debbie Street. **Seconded By:** WJMIII Vote: **AIF Discussion:** WJMIII added that they should be assisted in the visit by the Wales Police Department.

**Firehouse Remodeling-**

JC updated the Board as to the continuing process to renovate the firehouse. JC felt the project could be completed by the end of October and hopes to have the estimate of the work by next week. He also talked about the Knox Box project, which would require the purchase and installation of (7) seven boxes, one at each town property, and installed by a third party vendor and not the fire department.

**\*Motion 09182018-3** JW moved to encumber up to \$1,505 for the purposes of purchasing seven Knox Boxes and finding an installer. **Seconded By:** WJMII Vote: **AIF Discussion:** None

**Brimfield Ambulance Service Changes-**

Brimfield Fire Chief Brendan McCarthy briefed the Board as to the Brimfield Board of Selectmen meeting, which respect to changes occurring with the Brimfield Ambulance Service. Financial analysis, state regulations, and equipment costs are necessitating a change of the



service contract. Chief McCarthy spoke to the need to bring about a contract but BJMIII said he would not sign anything without a firm figure. JC spoke about his displeasure with the process that occurred and the lack of a contract and the lack of time to bring one about.

**\*Motion 09182018-4** WJM moved to have at least one person attend the Brimfield Association's Annual meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM at the Brimfield Firehouse. (Editor's note: Selectmen Whalen attended this meeting) **Seconded By:** JW **Vote:** AIF **Discussion:** None

#### New Business:

##### **Nexamp PILOT Agreement-**

EB recognized CC, Senior Vice President of Business Development and JB, Business Development Manager of Nexamp, both of whom were not listed on the agenda. CC noted that it had been about a year since they had last visited the idea of pursuing a PILOT agreement and went on to explain the process and answer the Board's questions. JW asked if Nexamp would use separate counsel for this and CC answered that they would be using separate counsel by the name of McCauley Lyman out of Framingham, MA. CC noted that there was also a Chapter 61 removal notification process that would have to be done.

##### **Lynch Road Tree Issue (Not Listed on Agenda)-**

RL addressed the Board about a rotted one hundred foot oak tree which is abutting the road and possibly presenting a danger to motorists or his property. RL noted that he had spoken with Charlie Smith to remove the tree and was told to wait until the start of the next fiscal year. The tree was marked but still has not heard back from the tree warden.

##### **Police Patrol Schedules (Not Listed on Agenda)-**

WJMIII briefed the Board about his conversation with the Wales Chief of Police. He noted that they are having trouble getting weekends filled. He also noted that only 2% of calls are on the weekend, that being calls routed into 911 systems. WJMIII noted the need for a full time officer relative to Wales' population size. EB pitched the idea to have the police officers mentor young teens, as a means of recruitment.

##### **Town Vacation Days Policy-**

EB stated that it seems vacation days are vested. At the present date there is no set committee to create this type of policy but rather the Finance Committee to develop vacation day policies. EB talked about the need to collaborate with the Finance Committee to better refine the employee handbook, as the policy as it stands are too generous. The Board ordered the Interim Executive Secretary to speak with the Town Clerk to clarify questions about vacation days policy.

**\*Motion 09182018-5** EB moved to send the matter to counsel if the matter remained undefined.

**Seconded By:** WJMIII **Vote:** AIF **Discussion:** None

##### **Animal Control Officers and Kennels-**

**\*Motion 09182018-6** JW moved to table the issue as the animal control officer was not able to attend the meeting. **Seconded By:** WJMIII **Vote:** AIF **Discussion:** None

### **Wales Cultural Council-**

The Board discussed missed payments to two vendors, who had provided services and had contacted the Interim Executive Secretary. The Board then signed off on the vendor vouchers to pay them.

### **Marijuana Distribution-**

The attorney who had a client who wished to set up a distribution facility in town was not present at the time of the meeting.

### **IT Issues-**

The Board spoke about issues related to the current IT service setup utilizing Tantasqua on a case by case basis and the problems therein. EB elaborated on the history of the IT systems in town. WJMII asked what the lead time is to put in a work order. EB answered that it was about a day or two depending on severity.

**\*Motion 09182018-7** WJMIII made a motion to find out other options for IT services in town  
**Seconded By:** JW Vote: **AIF Discussion:** None

### **Mail:**

JW noted that Pipeline Awareness sent a letter to town  
Lucky Duck Event Saturday, Sept 22, 2018 at the Southbridge Town Common

### **Minutes:**

**\*Motion 09182018-8** JW made a motion to accept the September 4, 2018 Meeting Minutes  
**Seconded By:** WJMIII Vote: **AIF Discussion:** None

**\*Motion 09182018-9** JW made a motion to adjourn. **Seconded By:** WJMIII Vote: **AIF Discussion:** None

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 P.M.