

**SELECT BOARD MEETING
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
Friday, July 31, 2020
Office of the Select Board, 1st Floor
3 Hollow Road, Wales, MA**

Members Present: Chairman William Matchett III (remotely); Vice Chairman Michael Valanzola (remotely); Clerk John Grasso (remotely)

Others Present: Bruce Cadieux, Road Commissioner (remotely); Keith Davis, Finance Committee Chairman (remotely); Pamela Leduc, Executive Secretary (remotely)

Chairman Matchett called the meeting to order at 10:02 am.

CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

"Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitation on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Wales Board of Selectmen is being conducted via remote participation. **No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted**, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time. In the event that we are unable to do so, despite best efforts, we will post on the Town of Wales website an audio or video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting."

NEW BUSINESS

Vote to appoint Michael Valanzola as liaison to KP Law, P.C.

Motion 073120-01 by Chairman Matchett; seconded by Selectman Valanzola; to appoint Michael Valanzola as liaison to KP Law, P.C.. The motion passed unanimously.

Vote to appoint Christopher Ryan to the position of Acting Highway Superintendent effective August 1, 2020: Mr. Cadieux advises the Board that they are unable to replace him because he is an elected official. Selectman Valanzola explains that the Board is not attempting to replace Mr. Cadieux or remove/change the position of Road Commissioner; however, the Board does have the ability to create and appoint an individual to the position of Highway Superintendent. The lack of communication between Mr. Cadieux and the Board of Selectmen is discussed. Mr. Cadieux agrees to provide notice to the Executive Secretary when he is out of the office on vacation and advises the Board that the highway department's senior employee, Wilfred Jarvais, is responsible for the operation of the department in his absence. The Board agrees to forego the appointment of Christopher Ryan to the position of Acting Highway Superintendent.

OLD BUSINESS

Olde Home Day: "Out of an abundance of caution, the Wales Old Home Day event scheduled to be held at the Wales Elementary School this Saturday, August 1st, has been postponed until a future date. While we are disappointed, the recent increase of COVID-19 infections in western MA over the last week has made this unfortunate decision necessary. The plan for this event, established after considerable consultation with the Police Chief, Fire Chief, and the Board of Health, included extensive measures for the protection of public health and safety, exceeding the guidance offered by the state. The Board of Selectmen wishes to thank the OHD Committee, Police Chief, Fire Chief, and our Board of Health for their dedication to and support of this celebration and their commitment to the people of Wales. The Town of Wales is grateful for the outpouring of support for this festivity from so many residents and area communities. We look forward to this event returning at a future date when the situation improves and we can celebrate our wonderful Wales heritage."

Motion 073120-02 by Selectman Valanzola; seconded by Selectman Grasso; to ratify the public statement released on July 29, 2020 on behalf of the Board of Selectmen. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Selectman Valanzola; seconded by Selectman Grasso; to adjourn the meeting at 10:29 am. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela A. Leduc

Executive Secretary