

Select Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, May 13th, 2019 @ 5:00 P.M.
Office of the Select Board, 1st Floor
3 Hollow Road, Wales, MA

Members Present: Chairman Ed Boyce ; Members James Whalen and William Matchett III

Others Present: Pamela Leduc, Executive Secretary, Norma Thompson (Conservation), Dick Silva

Chairman Ed Boyce called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M.

New Business

Vote to appoint Robert G. Herbert to the Conservation Commission for a 3 year term to expire May 12, 2022

Motion 051319-01 by Selectman Whalen; Seconded by Selectmen Matchett

Mr. Herbert was not in attendance. Norma Thompson from the Conservation Commission was present and explained to the Board of Selectman that 2 members had to resign due to personal reasons. The board was currently in need of 2 board seats to be filled. Norma continued to explain that with the solar projects and several other situations that she is in need of assistance and putting a conservation agent in place is imperative along with having access to training for all members.

The motion passed unanimously.

Union Road Solar Project PILOT

Selectman Whalen gives a brief overview of the Smart Pilot Program. Selectman Whalen explains the difference between cost services vs. income approach, explaining that residents would sign on for community solar. Selectman Whalen explains some of the estimated costs and expenses with a depreciation built into this based on the age of the arrays. Executive Secretary Pam Leduc suggests holding an executive session with town counsel to negotiate and determine which option is the best for the town and then present to Nexamp.

Vote to approve the October 16, 2018 Regular Session Meeting Minutes

051319-02 by Selectmen Whalen, all in favor

The board discussed the wording of October 16, 2018 minutes, Selectman Matchett abstains from voting on the minutes since he was not present for those meetings.

Vote to approve the March 6, 2019 Tri Town Meeting Minutes

Motion 051319-03 by Selectmen Whalen; Seconded by Selectmen Matchett

Selectman Whalen would like the wording "Brimfield Ambulance acknowledged that they had a money marketing account" to be added to the 3/6/19 minutes.

The motion passed unanimously.

Vote to approve and authorize the Chair to sign PVPC City/Town-Owner Agreement 92 Vinton Road, Holland

Motion 051319-04 by Selectmen Whalen; Seconded by Selectman Matchett

The motion passed unanimously.

Vote to approve and sign the FFY 2018 Wales Community Development Program Financial Warrant #4

Motion 051319-05 by Selectmen Whalen; Seconded by Selectmen Matchett

The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

Police Chief Search Committee

Motion 051319-06 by Selectmen Whalen; Seconded by Selectmen Matchett

Chairmen Ed Boyce appointed Nancy Groom as the 7th and final member of the Police Chief Search Committee.

The motion passed unanimously.

Transfer Station Operations

Motion 051319-07 by Selectman Matchett; Seconded by Selectman Whalen

The board discusses the breakdown of services received in the latest bill for the Transfer Station from USA Hauling. Selectman Boyce expresses his concerns about making the purchase of yearly stickers available on weekends due to most residents being unavailable during work week. Dick Silva joins the Selectmen meeting and clarifies that the recent bill reflects recent services that were initiated on his behalf. The Selectman ask if there are any receipts for bulk items listed, the Selectmen conclude that the transfer stations fees do not even cover what they are being charged from the hauling company.

Selectman Matchett's motion-All mattress disposals have a \$25 fee. The board determines that at the next meeting the board will designate a new schedule fee to cover what the transfer station is being charged.

The motion passed unanimously.

Transfer Station Operations

Motion 051319-08 by Selectman Matchett; Seconded by Selectman Whalen

Selectman Matchett addresses the concern of accountability for items coming in, providing receipts or some sort of proof of these items. The Selectman discuss when new fiscal year dump stickers can be made available to the public, allowing a longer time frame for residents to purchase stickers.

Selectman Matchett's motion- the town will start the sale of transfer station stickers June 1st, 2019, pending accountability verification.

The motion passed unanimously.

Further Transfer Station Discussion

Pam Leduc brings it to the Selectman's attention that she received a phone call from Dan Hall (DEP, Solid Waste Department). Mr. Hall had two concerns that were discussed; the Barney Rd issue and the compost located at the Transfer Station. Mr. Hall explained that he had visited the Wales Transfer Station recently and observed the compost had grass clippings and branches pushed back and that it needed to be moved.

Mr. Silva clarified that this was an issue a few weeks back and he explained that the Board of Health had a designated compost area, located directly next to the Transfer Station since the 70's. Mr. Silva has had permission from the Board of Health to dump any compost at the location which is technically not on the property of the Transfer Station.

Pam Leduc reiterates that Mr. Hall explained that this sort of arrangement is no longer allowed due to changes in the law. Mr. Hall explained to Pam that he has refrained from administering fines even after he has already brought this to the town's attention previously but that this issue needs to be rectified.

The Selectman then inquires about the Transfer Station's tractor, Mr. Silva explains that the tractor has needed repair to which he has made personal efforts to repair. Selectman Matchett points out that these issues need to be brought to the board's attention so the town can make arrangements to get things fixed plus that would avoid any potential liability issues.

IT Assessment

Motion 051319-09 by Selectmen Whalen; Seconded by Selectman Matchett

Pam Leduc gives an overview of the IT Assessment pointing out that it is critical that the following items need to be applied; anti-virus, service data back-up and email migration. These services will cost a total of \$6,800.00. The town's current IT budget is \$5,672.72. Pam Leduc points out that the town has the grant writer line that was not utilized. A \$5,000.00 transfer into the IT account would allow this critical work to be completed.

Selectman Whalen's motion- to transfer \$5,000.00 from the grant writer line to the IT line to cover anticipated expenses

The motion passed unanimously.

Other Business

Fire Department Replacing Flags

Motion 051319-10 by Selectman Matchett; Seconded by Selectmen Whalen

Selectman Matchett's motion- the town will buy new flags to replace damaged one from the Norcross account

The motion passed unanimously.

Selectman Whalen reads and presents Selectman Boyce with a certificate of appreciation for his years of service from 2013-2019.

Selectman Matchett makes a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Selectman Whalen, meeting adjourned.

Minutes were transcribed by Sarah Ryan – Assistant Town Clerk via DVD