

Select Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, July 22, 2019 @ 6:00 P.M.
Office of the Select Board, 1st Floor
3 Hollow Road, Wales, MA

Members Present: Chairman James Whalen; Members; William Matchett III and Mike Valanzola

Others Present: Pamela Leduc,(Executive Secretary), Wendy A Masiuk (Police Chief Applicant), Paul M. Patriarca (Police Chief Applicant), Early Dessert (Police Chief Applicant), Rebecca Smith (Tax Collector), Rod Kincaid (Treasurer), Bruce C. (Highway), Greg Rossow (Tantasqua IT), Stephen Horvath (Uptime Technology)

Chairman James Whalen called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

Candidates for Chief of Police Interviews

The Board of Selectmen interviewed the following candidates for the position of Chief of Police:

Wendy Masiuk, Paul Patriarca, Earl Dessert

Once the interviews commence the Board discuss the next phase of the hiring process to include a pre-background and reference checks. The Board will determine if a second interview is necessary once the results of backgrounds checks are received.

New Business

Review and vote to award FY20 Public Works Bituminous Concrete Contracts

Bruce C. explains that the bids given by both companies were similar in price. Bruce C. recommends Palmer Paving.

Motion 072219-01 by Selectman Valanzola to accept the contract of Palmer Paving, Seconded by Selectman Matchett,

No further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Vote to appoint Ethan J. Shaw to the position of General Laborer for the Highway Department effective July 22, 2019.

Motion 072219-02 by Selectman Valanzola, Seconded by Selectman Matchett

No further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

IT update / Support Services effective July 1, 2019

Selectman Valanzola explains what has transpired with IT up until this point. Since the contract is up with Tantasqua Services the Board of Selectman have arranged for this open conversation to take place. Greg from Tantasqua IT explains that after having his own conversation with Stephen from Uptime Tech. it would be hard to manage the job using both companies.

Greg (Tantasqua IT) explains what the original contract consisted of. Since this is a free service on behalf of Tantasqua the towns needs are not and have not been the highest priority. Stephen (Uptime) explains in recent weeks that Uptime Tech. has taken steps to start updating the towns server and security measures have been revamped. Trying to fix and update things that are high priority is the goal.

Rod (Treasurer) explains that there is a \$200,000 IT grant that is available, but the town would need to work on applying for such a grant. Utilizing PVPC to help with the terminology of how a grant of that size should be constructed would benefit the towns chances of getting approved.

The Board of Selectman would like for Steven to develop a plan that is appropriate for the town based on the needs of the town. Selectman Valanzola explains that the Board of Selectman would be taking a vote to procure Uptime's services as the town's maintenance point of contact, contingent on Uptime providing the town with a proposed plan of recommendations and costs associated with them.

Motion 072219-03 by Selectman Valanzola to appoint Steven from Uptime Technologies as the towns support services for the remainder of this fiscal year, Seconded by Selectman Matchett

No further discussion, all in favor.

New Business

Vote to appoint Cheri L Fisher to the position of Senior Center Director effective July 22, 2019.

Motion 072219-04 by Selectman Valanzola, Seconded by Selectman Matchett

No further discussion, all in favor.

Vote to appoint Sarah L. Ryan to the position of Code Enforcement Clerk effective July 22, 2019.

Motion 072219-05 by Selectman Valanzola, Seconded by Selectman Matchett

No further discussion, all in favor.

Review and vote to approve the Proposal from David L. Beaudoin in the amount of \$1,354.00.

This work is to upgrade the outside box line to meet National Grid's current requirements.

This estimate is for the replacement of the breakers only, if the fuses are the issue then the amount would be \$1931.00.

Motion 072219-06 by Selectman Matchett that the board approve \$1354.00 contingent upon finding out if this estimate is to replace the breakers, IF the quote is for the fuses then Selectman Matchett moves to approve the \$1931.00 estimate. Seconded by Selectman Valanzola.

No further discussion, all in favor.

Vote to approve and sign the FFY 2018 Wales Community Development Program Financial Warrant's #6 and #7

Motion 072219-07 by Selectman Valanzola, Seconded by Selectman Matchett

No further discussion, all in favor.

Financial Management Team

Motion 072219-08 by Selectman Valanzola to appoint Selectman Matchett as the Board's liaison for the Financial Management Team, Seconded by Selectman Whalen

No further discussion, all in favor.

Old Business

Transfer Station operations / Review and approve Transfer Station Cashier Job Description

The Executive Secretary clarifies that Mr. Silva is the Transfer Station manager, who is responsible for the operation itself. The cashier position will be responsible and accountable to the financial aspect of the Transfer Station. This entails making sure everything is recorded. Selectman Valanzola would like it noted that Pam Leduc would be the supervising authority for this position.

Motion 072219-09 by Selectman Matchett, Seconded by Selectman Valanzola

No further discussion, all in favor.

Other Business

Accountant Hours

Selectman Matchett voices concerns that the current accountant was never officially appointed by the Board of Selectman and how the town accountant is not in the office to help the staff with accounting concerns. Selectman Matchett feels that the town accountant should be available at least 1 day a week during normal business hours.

Motion 072219-09 by Selectman Valanzola that the Board of Selectman direct the town accountant to establish hours that are public 1 day a week Mon-Thurs. of the town accountants choosing from the hours of 9 AM – 3 PM, Seconded by Selectman Matchett

No further discussion, all in favor.

Old Town Hall

Rebecca Smith (Tax Collector) has concerns of office space for the veteran's agent at the Old Town Hall since there is insufficient heating for the building. Selectman Matchett recommends having Tasse's establish if electrical needs to be updated and how much it would cost to add a new condenser unit. After Tasse's assesses then the Board would like a proposal for the next meeting.

Manual Check for Wales Veterans

Motion 072219-10 by Selectman Valanzola to affirm the decision to direct a manual check to a veteran recipient who did not receive their normal check, Seconded by Selectman Matchett.

No further discussion, all in favor.

Selectman Matchett moves to adjourn at 8:32 PM.

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