

Select Board Meeting Minutes
Monday September 23, 2019 @ 5:00 P.M.
Office of the Select Board, 1st Floor
3 Hollow Road, Wales, MA

Members Present: Chairman; William Matchett III and Member Mike Valanzola

Others Present: Pamela Leduc,(Executive Secretary), Willie Jarvais, Liz & Doug Dickinson, Dario Camacho (WPD), Chief Dessert (WPD), Charlie Duckett, Lynn Greene (PB), Diane Piazza (PB) Danelle LaFlower (PB), Jillian DeCoursey & Catherine Ratte (PVPC)

Chairman William Matchett called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

Motion 092319-01 by Selectman Valanzola, Seconded by Selectman Matchett. All in favor.

Selectman Valanzola made a motion to nominate Selectman Matchett as chair in lieu of James Whalen resigning. Selectman Matchett accepts the nomination.

New Business

Wilfred Jarvais, VFW Post 2596 Commander; Veteran's Service Officer/Veterans Memorial Park

Selectman Valanzola explains that Wales is a part of a regional veterans association. Wales has not actively participated in this regional association with the governance process within the last 7 years. The regional veterans association was never notified correctly that Wales would no longer be participating in the region. The Board of Selectman made a decision to rejoin with Mr. Cummingford as the veteran's service agent to make sure that the statutory requirements of that role is being met. Specifically to ensure veterans benefits are paid on time. Unfortunately there was zero documentation of grievances with Mr. Cummingford previously in this position, so the board did not see an issue with rejoining the region with Mr. Cummingford in that role. Going forward there is a process through the region to handle such discontent.

Wilfred Jarvais explains his concerns with implementing Mr. Cummingford back in that role. Mr. Jarvais supports Charlie Duckett as the veteran's service agent because of his commitment to the towns veterans but acknowledges that he lacks training.

The Board of Selectman explain that going forward all concerns or complaints be put in writing, given to the Executive Secretary (Pam Leduc) which would then be presenting to the Board of Selectman and then forwarded to the board of the regional veteran's association. The Board of Selectman support Mr. Duckett attending the regional training set to take place in October 2019. In the meantime Mr. Cummingford will fulfill that role in the interim.

Selectman Matchett opens the room for five minutes of discussion for people to share concerns.

The Board of Selectman agrees to reconvene next month to discuss long term plan of the veteran's service agent.

Motion 092319-02 by Selectman Valanzola; Seconded by Selectman Matchett. All in favor.

The motion was to allocate \$500 from building maintenance to service William Jarvais's request.

Vote to approve and sign the Employment Agreement between Earl J. Dessert, Chief of Police and the Town of Wales

Motion 092319-03 by Selectman Valanzola effective 10/1/19; Seconded by Selectman Matchett. No discussion all in favor.

Vote to approve and authorize the Chair to sign PVPC City/Town-Owner Agreement 162 Monson Road- Unit #1, Wales / Vote to approve and authorize the Chair to sign PVPC City/Town-Owner Agreement 5 Mashapaug Rd, Holland

Motion 092319-04 by Selectman Valanzola, Seconded by Selectman Matchett. No discussion, all in favor.

Vote to approve and sign the FFY 2018 Wales Community Development Program Financial Warrant #8

Motion 092319-05 by Selectman Matchett, Seconded by Selectman Valanzola. No discussion, all in favor.

Vote to approve the renewal of the Professional Services agreement with Mark W. Popham, R.S. in the amount of \$485.00 to provide Third Party Inspector (TPI) services of the municipal transfer station in accordance with the requirements of 310 CMR 19.018

Motion 092319-06 by Selectman Matchett, Seconded by Selectman Valanzola. No discussion, all in favor.

Vote to open the warrant for Special Town Meeting to be held on Wednesday, October 30, 2019 at 7:00 PM and to close the warrant on Thursday, October 10, 2019 at 3:00 PM

Motion 092319-07 by Selectman Valanzola, Seconded by Selectman Matchett. No discussion, all in favor.

Vote to call a Special Election to be held on Wednesday, November 20, 2019 to fill the vacancy on the Board of Selectmen and to file notice with the Town Clerk pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 41, Section 10

Motion 092319-08 by Selectman Valanzola, Seconded by Selectman Matchett. No discussion, all in favor.

Vote to approve and sign the warrant for the Special Town Non-Partisan Caucus to be held on Thursday, October 10, 2019 at 7:00 PM

Motion 092319-09 by Selectman Valanzola, Seconded by Selectman Matchett. No discussion, all in favor.

Vote to appoint Deborah Fisher to the Board of Registrars effective September 23, 2019 through April 30, 2022

Motion 092319-10 by Selectman Valanzola, Seconded by Selectman Matchett. No discussion, all in favor.

Vote to appoint a representative to the Brimfield Ambulance Service, Inc. (BAS) Tri Town Subcommittee

Motion 092319-11 by Selectman Valanzola to nominate Selectman William Matchett III, no discussion, all in favor.

Trick or Treat / Thursday, October 31st from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Motion 092319-12 by Selectman Valanzola, Seconded by Selectman Matchett. No discussion, all in favor.

October/November/December 2019 meeting schedule

The Board discusses personal scheduling conflicts. Monthly meeting dates and times were set for the months of October-December 2019.

Old Business

Community Impact IT Grant

The Executive Secretary updates the Board about meeting with Steven from Uptime and PVPC in regards to IT Grants.

Vote to approve a Code of Conduct Policy for the Board of Selectmen

Motion 092319-13 by Selectman Valanzola, Seconded by Selectman Matchett. No discussion, all in favor.

Other Business: Draft Master Plan Presentation and Discussion (Continued) 6:30 PM: Pioneer Valley Planning Commission

PVPC members Jillian DeCoursey and Catherine Ratte meet with the Board of Selectmen and Planning Board members Danelle LaFlower, Diane Piazzo, and Lynn Greene. PVPC discuss some changes in regards to language and intentions of some sections. After the recommendations and changes were discussed and made, PVPC explained that the edits would be made that week. The edited draft will then be made accessible to the public via the website and hard copies available at various locations throughout town.

Selectman Valanzola moves to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 PM.

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