

**SELECT BOARD MEETING
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
Monday, November 15, 2021
Office of the Select Board, 1st Floor
3 Hollow Road, Wales, MA**

Members Present: Chairman Michael Valanzola; Clerk John Grasso

Members Absent/Excused: Vice Chairman William Matchett III

Others Present: Leon Givner, BOA and Cable Director; Susan Cadieux, BOA; Pamela Leduc, Executive Secretary

Chairman Valanzola called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Valanzola led the room in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC HEARING

Tax Classification Hearing: Mr. Givner and Ms. Cadieux came forward and provided an overview of the results of the fiscal year 2022 property revaluation process. New growth was certified at \$59,376 based on an increase in the valuation of residential and personal property totaling \$2,926,369. The Board of Assessors recommends maintaining a residential factor of 1.00.

Motion 111521-01 by Chairman Valanzola; seconded by Selectman Grasso; to accept the recommendation of the Board of Assessors and maintain a residential factor of 1.00. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Christopher Ryan, Interim Road Commissioner: Mr. Ryan came forward and provided the Board with a departmental update. The highway facility has been cleaned and organized. The mechanic has implemented a detailed fleet maintenance program. He expects to hire one (1) outside contractor to assist with snow operations on an as needed basis. All three (3) employees have appointments to take the CDL license test on Friday, November 19th. Special thanks to Northern Tree Service, Mark Valanzola and New England Tractor Trailer Training School (NETTTS) for facilitating this process. Road maintenance operations continue, rain or shine. There are approximately 96 culverts in the town of Wales requiring some level of maintenance and/or reconstruction. The department recently completed a culvert repair project on Monson Road with the assistance of the Monson highway department. The Union Road and Stafford Holland Road projects are scheduled for construction from December 1st through December 3rd. Proposals have been requested for pavement management services. Meetings have been scheduled with Weston and Sampson to obtain updates on the Monson Road TIP project and the Holland Road bridge project.

Vote to reappoint Rodney A. Kincaid to the Historical Commission for a 3 year term to expire October 29, 2024

Motion 111521-02 by Selectman Grasso; seconded by Chairman Valanzola; to reappoint Rodney A. Kincaid to the Historical Commission for a 3 year term to expire October 29, 2024. The motion passed unanimously.

Vote to approve the renewal of annual Alcoholic Beverages Licenses for Calendar Year 2022

Motion 111521-03 by Selectman Grasso; seconded by Chairman Valanzola; to approve the renewal of the following annual Alcoholic Beverages Licenses for Calendar Year 2022:

***Choice Foods, 2 Main Street
Lake George Tavern, 2 Main Street
Wales Irish Pub, 16 Holland Road***

The motion passed unanimously.

Vote to approve and sign ABCC 2022 Seasonal Population Increase Estimation Form: The temporary increased resident population as of July 10, 2022 will be 1,900.

Motion 111521-04 by Selectman Grasso; seconded by Chairman Valanzola; to approve and sign ABCC 2022 Seasonal Population Increase Estimation Form. The motion passed unanimously.

Snow removal/municipal buildings: The highway department will be handling the snow removal at all municipal buildings during the upcoming season. The outsourcing of this task cost the town approximately \$8,000 last winter.

December meeting schedule: Tuesday, December 7, 2021 at 6:00 pm.

Town Offices holiday schedule: Wednesday, November 24th, closing at noon; Thursday, November 25th, closed; Thursday, December 23rd, closing at noon; Monday, December 27th, closed; Thursday, December 30th, closing at noon; Monday, January 3rd, closed.

OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Leduc provided the Board with an update relative to the road commissioner recruitment process. Resumes are due by Wednesday, November 24th at noon.

Motion 111521-05 by Selectman Grasso; seconded by Chairman Valanzola; to extend the appointment of Christopher Ryan as Interim Road Commissioner through December 31, 2021. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Valanzola instructs Ms. Leduc to reach out to Representative Smola for an update on the progress of the DPW special legislation.

Chairman Valanzola announces the Stuff a Cruiser event on Saturday, December 4th from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm at the Wales Elementary School.

Chairman Valanzola announces the receipt of the following petition signed by 61 residents:

"We, the undersigned, being residents and taxpayers of the Town of Wales, hereby request your assistance with the allocation of additional state appropriated funds to the Town of Wales for the purpose of funding the implementation of a pavement management program and related road construction, preservation and improvement projects."

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Selectman Grasso; seconded by Chairman Valanzola; to adjourn the meeting at 6:42 pm. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela A. Leduc

Executive Secretary