

TOWN OF WALES, MA
SELECT BOARD MEETING

Office of the Select Board, 1st Floor
3 Hollow Road, Wales, MA

Meeting of Tuesday, January 26, 2021
Regular Session

CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT

"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 in-person and via remote participation. No inperson 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."

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

Others Present: Pamela Leduc, Executive Secretary; Leis Phinney, Town Clerk; Police Chief Earl Dessert

OPEN & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. leading the room in the Pledge of Allegiance.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion:

Mr. Valanzola moved, seconded by Mr. Grasso, to enter into Executive Session at 5:31 pm to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with non-union personnel (Police Department) with the intent to reconvene in open session.

A roll call vote was taken.

YES – Grasso, Matchett, Valanzola

The regular session reconvened at 5:55 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

• **EOTSS Cybersecurity Awareness Training Grant**

Leis Phinney, Town Clerk, discussed the request to apply for the EOTSS Cybersecurity Awareness Training Grant. Ms. Phinney will file the application on the town's behalf and agreed to be the point of contact and coordinator.

Motion:

Mr. Grasso moved, seconded by Mr. Valanzola, to support the application for the EOTSS Cybersecurity Awareness Training Grant and agree to the following statements:

- "Our community is willing to collaborate with the Executive Office of Technology Services and Security (EOTSS) to support efforts to better understand the state of cybersecurity awareness at the local-level."

- “Our community is willing and able to begin end-user cybersecurity training in the winter of 2021.”
- “Our community will make a point of contact available to EOTSS who will help to ensure successful program deployment.”

VOTE: All in Favor

- Police Department Directive 01/21 - Use of Force

Earl Dessert, Chief of Police discussed the Police Department Directive 01/21 Use of Force. The Federal Police Reform Act requires departments to have a document in place for all future funding. Chief Dessert indicated small edits, relative to the size of the Wales PD, were made to the sample Use of Force Directive document prepared by the MA Police Chief's Association attorney. He indicated that there may be future changes amendments coming as the issue of police reform gets further scrutiny and review; but at this time, this initial document would put the Town of Wales in compliance with Federal requirements.

Mr. Valanzola asked for additional time to review the document to see if he feels it should be reviewed for risk assessment by the Town's legal counsel.

Action: The matter to be placed on the next meeting agenda.

- Zoning Board of Appeals – Fee Schedule

Motion:

Mr. Grasso moved, seconded by Mr. Valanzola, to approve Zoning Board of Appeals Application and Fee Schedule as revised December 2020.

VOTE: All in Favor

Mr. Valanzola left the meeting.

- Finance Committee Appointment

Motion:

Mr. Grasso moved, seconded by Mr. Matchett, to appoint Edward Fisher Jr. to the Finance Committee for a 3-year term to expire January 25, 2024.

VOTE: All in Favor

- Historical Commission Appointment

Motion:

Mr. Grasso moved, seconded by Mr. Matchett, to reappoint Lynn Greene to the Historical Commission for a 3-year term to expire October 29, 2023.

VOTE: All in Favor

- PVPC Joint Transportation Committee

Motion:

Mr. Grasso moved, seconded by Mr. Matchett, to rescind the appointment of Michael Valanzola as the Town of Wales alternate representative to the PVPC Joint Transportation Committee effective January 27, 2021.

VOTE: All in Favor

Motion:

Mr. Grasso moved, seconded by Mr. Matchett, to appoint Rodney Kincaid as the Town of Wales alternate representative to the PVPC Joint Transportation Committee effective January 27, 2021.

VOTE: All in Favor

- Payroll and Vendor Warrants

Motion:

Mr. Grasso moved, seconded by Mr. Matchett, to authorize the Executive Secretary, on behalf of the Board, to sign payroll and vendor warrants.

VOTE: All in Favor

Motion:

Mr. Grasso moved, seconded by Mr. Matchett, to approve and sign payroll warrant 2115P dated January 21, 2021, in the amount of \$83,459.16.

VOTE: All in Favor

Motion:

Mr. Grasso moved, seconded by Mr. Matchett, to approve and sign vendor warrant 2115V dated January 21, 2021, in the amount of \$66,594.23.

VOTE: All in Favor

- PVPC Discharges of Liens

Motion:

Mr. Grasso moved, seconded by Mr. Matchett, to approve and authorize the Chair to sign PVPC Discharges of Liens on Real Estate: 20 Old Millbrook Road, Brimfield; 28 Hollow Road, Wales; 9 LaFlamme Road, Brimfield 19 Long Hill Road, Holland; 18 Oakwood Road, Brimfield.

VOTE: All in Favor

MINUTES

Motion:

Mr. Grasso moved, seconded by Mr. Matchett, to approve the following Regular Session Minutes:

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| • July 22, 2019 | • October 17, 2019 |
| • September 23, 2019 | • October 30, 2019 |

VOTE: All in Favor

OTHER BUSINESS

- Ms. Leduc reviewed the Transfer Station operations FY21 2nd quarter financial report. She had also provided a same time-period comparison report for last year's expenses and revenue. She reported that there are job openings for on-site cashier and attendants. She is currently reviewing applications/resumes.

- Board of Selectmen 2021 Annual Report. Ms. Leduc will prepare some bullet points for the Chairman for his report.

- 2/8/21 Agenda - Per correspondence received, Mr. Torres will be added to the 2/8/21 agenda.

OLD BUSINESS

Motion:

Mr. Grasso moved, seconded by Mr. Matchett, to move forward with Article 8 from the Special Town Meeting of October 21, 2020, by submitting to the legislature.

VOTE: All in Favor

ADJOURNMENT

Motion:

Mr. Grasso moved, seconded by Mr. Matchett, to adjourn the meeting at 6:24 pm.

VOTE: All in Favor

Minutes transcribed by Pat Gauthier via GoToMeeting video

NOTE: This meeting was broadcast live on Wales Cable Access Channel 192
GoToMeeting Video and Phone Conferencing information was provided on the Wales Selectmen's webpage.

WBS:pag