

TOWN OF WALES, MA
SELECT BOARD MEETING

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

Meeting of Monday, August 2, 2021
Regular Session

CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT

Pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, this meeting will be conducted in person and via remote means, in accordance with applicable law. This means that members of the public body as well as members of the public may access this meeting in person, or via virtual means. In person attendance will be at the meeting location listed above, and it is possible that any or all members of the public body may attend remotely, with in-person attendance consisting of members of the public. The meeting may also be accessed remotely via the GoToMeeting provided on the public agenda. When required by law or allowed by the Chair, persons wishing to provide public comment or otherwise participate in the meeting, may do so by in person attendance, or by accessing the meeting remotely, as noted above.

Members Present: Chairman Michael Valanzola; William Matchett III, John Grasso (arrived 7:09)
Others Present: Pamela Leduc, Executive Secretary

OPEN & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. leading the room in the Pledge of Allegiance.

NEW BUSINESS

• **Lake George Rules and Regulations**

Michael Palumbo and Bonnie Karas Palumbo attended the meeting to discuss Lake George Rules and Regulations. Issues:

- Buoy's – The Select Board has no knowledge nor did they grant permission for the placement of buoys. Buoys had been removed, but recently replaced.
- Public Beach Buoys - buoys are placed by the Parks/Recreation Commission at town beaches. Action: the "no wake" buoys need to be removed.
- Draft Boating regulations (submitted to the Select Board as reported in the Lake George Association newsletter). Who has proposed these regulations? Again, the Select Board and Ms. Leduc has no knowledge of proposed boating regulations presented to the Board. Regulation signage was placed on public property without the town's permission. Action: Remove signage.
- Lake George Association created a subcommittee to review boating safety. How is it that the Association has the authority to issue regulations? Mr. Valanzola indicated the Association does not have such authority and in future email correspondence with Police Chief Ford, the Chief explained such regulations would need to be voted upon by the town and adopted as bylaws. Mr. Valanzola noted the regulations were not directed by the Select Board, and have not gone through the necessary channels at the state level which would trigger them being brought forth to a town meeting for voters to decide; therefore, whatever rules are outside of the Massachusetts General Laws, would not be enforceable.
- Safety Issues – there have been no reports of safety concerns made to the Massachusetts Environmental Police (MEP) nor the Wales Police Dept. If persons want to report safety violations, they need to report the boating registration number to the MEP.

Mr. Robert Reidy (Lake Association) joined the meeting (remotely) and asked to address the Board. Mr. Reidy claimed that these were not regulations, but rather guidelines taken from the state of Massachusetts Boating Guidelines. He agreed that the Association made a mistake by placing buoys, and has since suggested that lake front property owners can put out buoys to protect their own properties in accordance with state law.

Mr. Valanzola and Ms. Leduc explained that if the Lake Association wanted to develop regulations that there is a formal process to do so.

OLD BUSINESS

- Olde Home Day – Members of the Olde Home Day (OHD) Committee asked the Select Board for financial support to help cover the cost of policing coverage as recommended by Police Chief Ford. The Board indicated they would need to see if there is any available funding and get back to the OHD Committee.

Motion:

Mr. Matchett moved, seconded by Mr. Valanzola, to approve the Wales Irish Pub's request for a one-day Liquor License for Saturday, August 14, 2021 from 1PM to 11PM.

VOTE: All in Favor

Motion:

Mr. Matchett moved, seconded by Mr. Valanzola, to approve the Wales Olde Home Day Committee's request for a one-day Entertainment License for Saturday, August 14, 2021.

VOTE: All in Favor

NEW BUSINESS (CON'T)

- Board of Registrars

Motion:

Mr. Matchett moved, seconded by Mr. Valanzola, to appoint Joanne Higgins to the Board of Registrars effective August 2, 2021 – April 30, 2023 to fill a Howard White's unexpired term.

VOTE: All in Favor

- Tree Warden

Motion:

Mr. Matchett moved, seconded by Mr. Valanzola, to appoint Ronald Anderson to the position of Tree Warden effective August 2, 2021 - June 30, 2022.

VOTE: All in Favor

- Eastern Pioneer Valley Regional Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)

Motion:

Mr. Matchett moved, seconded by Mr. Valanzola, to endorse candidate, Mr. Gold, to the MPO Board.

VOTE: All in Favor

- Transfer Station – Professional Services Agreement

Motion:

Mr. Matchett moved, seconded by Mr. Valanzola, 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 for the transfer station facility in accordance with the requirements of 310 CMR 19.018.

VOTE: All in Favor

- Job Description – Highway Department

Ms. Leduc indicated the job description was approved by the Road Commissioner.

Motion:

Mr. Grasso moved, seconded by Mr. Matchett, to approve Heavy Equipment Operator/Laborer Job Description as presented.

VOTE: All in Favor

CORRESPONDENCE

- Resignation letter from Wilfred Jarvais, effective 8/26/21.
- Cyber Security report card – 2nd Q
- Letter asking if the town has interest in purchasing 102 Main Street. The Board indicated there was no interest and directed Ms. Leduc to respond.
- Action EMS Report
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EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion:

Mr. Matchett moved, seconded by Mr. Grasso, to move into Executive Session at 7:16 p.m. pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Section 21(a), Exemption 2: 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.

Road Commissioner Bruce Cadieux

Teamsters Local Union 404

A roll call vote was taken.

YES – Grasso, Matchett, Valanzola

The meeting reconvened at 7:58 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion:

Mr. Grasso moved, seconded by Mr. Matchett, to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 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