

# **Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held May 15, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the Wales Elementary School.**

The meeting was opened at 7:20 p.m. by the Town Clerk, who announced that a quorum was present. Since the moderator had resigned, she asked if there was a volunteer who would be willing to be nominated to moderate the meeting. Mr. John Riddle volunteered and was nominated. There were no other nominations offered. Michael Valanzola cast a single vote in favor of nominating Mr. Riddle and he was therefore elected to moderate the Annual Town Meeting.

The Town Clerk commenced the reading of the warrant, and a motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to skip the reading of the warrant. The following articles were then considered.

**ARTICLE 1** The Town voted to accept the reports of Town Officers as written.

**ARTICLE 2** The Town voted to accept the reports of Committees as written.

**ARTICLE 3** The Town voted to authorize the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow money from time to time in anticipation of the revenue of the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2013, in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 4 and to renew any note or notes as may be given in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 17.

**ARTICLE 4** The Town voted to authorize the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to enter into compensating balance agreements with bank offices having their principal offices in the Commonwealth during the fiscal year 2014, as permitted by Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53 F.

**ARTICLE 5** The Town voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to defend all suits that may be brought against the Town and to prosecute all suits on behalf of the Town, to engage counsel for same, and to settle such suits as they deem advisable.

**ARTICLE 6** The Town voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for and accept such federal or state grants or monies as may be advisable and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to expend any funds received there from in accordance with the terms of said grants.

**ARTICLE 7** The Town voted, pursuant to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ , to reauthorize revolving funds for certain Town departments and officers for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2013, as printed below:

<b>REVOLVING FUND</b>	<b>AUTHORITY TO SPEND</b>	<b>REVENUE SOURCE</b>	<b>USE OF FUND</b>	<b>FY'14 BUDGET</b>
<b>Building Inspections</b>	<b>Building Commissioner</b>	<b>Inspection Fees</b>	Expenses and costs related to provision of inspection services. If re-authorized, amount in Excess of \$500 (excluding unpaid expenses) shall close to general fund.	<b>\$18,000</b>
<b>Plumbing, Heating And Gas Inspections</b>	<b>Plumbing/Heating/Gas Inspector</b>	<b>Inspection fees and expense reimbursements</b>	Expenses related to provision of inspection services. If re-authorized, balance (excluding fees due to the inspector) shall close to general fund.	<b>\$4,000</b>
<b>Cemetery Services</b>	<b>Cemetery Commission</b>	<b>Fees received in connection with opening and closing graves</b>	Expenses and costs related to opening and closing graves, including payment to other departments related thereto	<b>\$3,000</b>
<b>Planning</b>	<b>Planning Board</b>	<b>Filing fees and expense reimbursements</b>	Expenses and costs related to processing applications, publishing notices, and holding hearings	<b>\$3,000</b>
<b>Conservation</b>	<b>Conservation Commission</b>	<b>Filing fees, expense reimbursements</b>	Expenses and costs related to processing applications, publishing notices, and holding hearings	<b>\$1,500</b>
<b>Zoning</b>	<b>Zoning Board</b>	<b>Filing fees and expense reimbursements</b>	Expenses and costs related to processing applications, publishing notices and holding hearings	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>Animal Control</b>	<b>Animal Control Officer</b>	<b>Fines and fees</b>	Expenses and costs related to provision of animal control services for which fees and fines are assessed	<b>\$2,000</b>
<b>Library</b>	<b>Library Trustees or Director</b>	<b>Fees and fines</b>	Expenses and costs related to library programs and activities for which fees and fines are assessed	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>Board of Health</b>	<b>Board of Health</b>	<b>Fees and reimbursements</b>	Expenses and costs related to enforcing State & Local Board of Health regulations	<b>\$5,000</b>
<b>Electrical</b>	<b>Electrical Inspector</b>	<b>Permit fees and expenses</b>	Expenses related to inspections. If re-authorized, balance (excluding inspection fees due to the inspector) shall close to the general fund.	<b>\$4,000</b>
<b>Police – Pistol Permits</b>	<b>Police Chief</b>	<b>Pistol Permit Fees</b>	Expenses and costs related to pistol permit application review and issuance	<b>\$4,000</b>
<b>Council on Aging</b>	<b>Council on Aging</b>	<b>Fees and reimbursements</b>	Expenses and costs related to programs and activities for Seniors	<b>\$3,500</b>
<b>Road Commissioner</b>	<b>Road Commissioner</b>	<b>Permit Fees</b>	Expenses related to driveway permits.	<b>\$1,000</b>

			If re-authorized, balance (excluding fees due to the inspector) shall close to general fund.	
Fire Dept.	Fire Inspector	Permit Fees	Expenses related to provisions of inspection services. If re-authorized, balance (excluding fees due to the inspector) shall close to the General fund.	\$2,500
Cable Advisory	Cable Committee	Fees	Expenses and costs related to Cable Committee	\$1,500

**ARTICLE 8** The Town voted to reauthorize an Offset Receipt Account, said amount not to exceed SIXTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (**\$60,000.00**) more or less, for the operation of the **TRANSFER STATION** provided, however, that pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53E, such costs shall be offset by the estimated receipts from the fees charged to users of the services provided by the Transfer Station.

**ARTICLE 9** The Town voted to accept any and all grant monies received during FY14 for the Wales Public Library Grant Account, for the use of the Wales Public Library.

**ARTICLE 10** The Town voted to authorize the Board of Selectmen to transfer from Free Cash, to the Wales Board of Library Trustees for library purposes, the sum of **\$157.72**, such monies having been accrued as interest incidentally to the maintenance of the library building fund.

**ARTICLE 11** The Town voted to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 140, Section 139(s) added by Section 11 of Chapter 193 of the Acts of 2012, "An Act Further Regulating Animal Control", which states: "No fee shall be charged for a license for a dog owned by a person aged 70 or over in a city or town which accepts this provision".

A motion was made and seconded to take no action on **ARTICLE 12 thru ARTICLE 15**, which had been submitted by the Planning Board. The Town voted to take no action on **ARTICLE 12 thru ARTICLE 15**. The motion passed on a majority voice vote.

**ARTICLE 16** The Town voted (50 yes, 1 no) to transfer the sum of \$25,000.00, 50% of the funds received in FY2013 from Norcross Gift Account to the Capital Improvement Stabilization Fund. The required  $\frac{2}{3}$  vote of 36 yes votes being met, the article PASSED.

**ARTICLE 17** The Town voted unanimously to transfer the sum of \$40,000.00 from Free Cash to the Capital Improvement Stabilization Fund.

**ARTICLE 18** The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,000.00 for an Audit of the Town's finances.

**ARTICLE 19** The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,000.00 for Dam Inspections.

**ARTICLE 20** The Town voted to amend the Town-Bylaws, Chapter Two, Town Meetings, Section 5, by deleting the words, “the Selectmen shall cause to be mailed to each dwelling house in the Town, a copy of the Annual Report” and inserting in place thereof the following “**the Selectmen shall post the Annual Town Report on the Town’s website and make copies thereof available at the Town Office, Library, Senior Center and at the Annual Town Meeting and residents may request in writing to receive the town report by mail**”.

**ARTICLE 21** The Town voted not to change the elected position of Road Commissioner to an appointed position, voting NOT to place the question on the ballot for the voters at the 2014 Annual Town Election.

A motion was made and seconded to combine ARTICLE 22 and ARTICLE 23. The motion passed.

**ARTICLE 22&23** The Town voted to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,832,995.57 with \$30,000.00 from Free Cash and \$16,000.00 from Excess Overlay, for the various departments of the town as shown on the Town of Wales FY14 budget detail for the year 2014 period; and to fix the salary and compensation of the following elective officers of the Town of Wales as provided by Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 41, Section 108, as amended: Moderator, Selectmen, Assessors, Treasurer, Collector, Clerk, Planning Board, Road Commissioner, and Board of Health for fiscal year 2014.

**ARTICLE 24** The Town voted unanimously to transfer the sum of \$31,000.00 from Free Cash and raise and appropriate \$20,000.00 to the General Stabilization Account.

The business on the Warrant having been completed, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p. m.

Respectfully submitted,

Leis Phinney  
Town Clerk