

TOWN OF WALES, MAINE

Incorporated Feb. 1, 1816

175 Centre Rd.
Wales, ME 04280

Phone: (207) 375-8881
Fax: (207) 375-8811
email: ttownofwales@roadrunner.com

Minutes Board of Selectmen March 26, 2024 @ 6:00pm

Board Attendance: Eric Gagnon (Chair), Paul Burgess, Randy Greenwood

Staff Attendance: Sharon Siegel, Tr/TC; Scott Dimmick, FD/FR; Bill Austin, PW Director

Call to order: Meeting called to order at 6:04pm

Approval of minutes:

- Motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on March 12, 2024 by Randy, 2nd by Paul. Vote: Approved 3-0-0

Public Comment:

- None.

Fire Department:

- Scott presented his budget.
 - The proposed operating budget is \$121867.18 and proposed Capital Reserve contribution request is \$15000.
- There is a new OSHA/NFPA standard that will be extremely expensive to comply with that is expected to go into effect January 2025 if it passes as currently written.
 - Scott would like the Board to submit a letter to the open comment period opposing this.
 - Randy proposes submitting a letter opposing the changes in standards. This letter should also be forwarded to Senator Collins, Senator King, & Representative Golden.

First Responders:

- Scott presented the budget.
 - The increase is 15.27% for a proposed budget of \$20214.28 for operations.
 - There is a decrease of \$15000 for the Capital Reserve contribution.
- There are still issues with dispatch that haven't been resolved.

Public Works:

- We will be applying for the CRP grant for materials to replace windows and doors.
- Bill attended a stream crossing workshop where he found out that there is grant funding available to remove bridges like the Hallatt bridge.
- Bill presented his budget.
 - Operating Budget = \$23,844 increase 3.29%
 - Construction = \$430,000
 - Equipment capital reserve = \$35,000
 - Municipal Property capital reserve = \$40,000

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General:

- Daryl Cote from Ouellette & Associates presented the FY23 Audit.
 - They gave a clean opinion.
- William Brownell came to discuss repurchase options for his property at 300 Centre Road, Map R03 Lot 013-B.
 - Motion to enter into a repurchase agreement with William Brownell for redemption of the property on Map R03 Lot 013-B at 300 Centre Road for the past due balance and fees of \$4,000 due by December 31, 2024 by Randy, 2nd by Paul. Vote: Approved 3-0-0
 - Sharon will draft a repurchase agreement and contact Mr. Brownell to have him sign it.
- The Androscoggin County Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan update has been completed and the Resolution of Adoption 2024 has to be signed by the Board.
 - Motion to sign the Androscoggin County Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Resolution of Adoption 2024 by Randy, 2nd by Paul. Vote: Approved 3-0-0
- Assessors: Open Space withdrawal penalty for Ryan Sherman needs to be reissued.
 - Motion to approve the Open Space withdrawal for Ryan Sherman, Map R03 Lot 028, for 5 acres \$1200 by Bill, 2nd by Paul. Vote: Approved 3-0-0
- AVCOG: Ballot for election of officers.
 - Motion to select the following for the election of AVCOG 2024-2025 officers:
President – Shiloh LaFreniere (Jay); Vice President – Danielle Loring (Minot);
Treasurer – Amy Bernard (Franklin County); Secretary – Matt Garside (Poland)
- Sabattus Pond Dam Commission – Public Hearing Mailer
 - Mailers were sent to all residents of Wales, Sabattus, & Greene detailing informational Meetings that will be held to discuss the required repairs to the Dam and related funding requirements.
 - Meeting Dates: Wales – May 1, 2024; Sabattus – May 2, 2024; Greene – July 23, 2024
- Review and sign check number log.
- **Review Payroll Warrant FY24-20PR**: Motion to approve Payroll Warrant FY24-20PR for \$7,664.72 by Randy, 2nd by Paul. Vote: Approved
- **Review AP Warrant FY24-20AP**: Motion to approve AP Warrant FY24-20AP for \$162,291.90 by Randy, 2nd by Paul. Vote: Approved 3-0-0
- Electronic payments made \$4,001.11.

Unfinished Business:

- Process for changing our form of government.
- Review policies/handbooks
- Cemetery fee schedule

With no objection the meeting was adjourned at 10:27pm.