

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 September 12, 2023 @ 6:00pm

Board Attendance: Eric Gagnon, 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 6:03pm

Approval of minutes:

- Motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on August 29, 2023 by Randy, 2nd by Paul. Vote: Approved 3-0-0

Public Comment:

- Roger Plante, President of the Wales Ridge Runners Snowmobile Club, came to express concern regarding the Right of Way marker missing at the end of Southern Terrace causing a dispute regarding access.

Fire Department:

- August 2023 Incident Report was distributed.
- E31's part has been shipped to Greenwood. They will schedule the repair once the part is received.
- The repeater cabinet is awaiting a new A/C unit before it will be fully operational.
- We are still waiting for a price on the station radio.
- Scott presented a response plan for Hurricane Lee.
- Scott received a phone call from Chad at the Fire Marshall's Office regarding the weight room at Oak Hill High School. The Fire Marshall has requested Scott to meet them at the high school to do a walk through inspection on September 22nd.
- Manpower is getting bad at all area fire departments.
- We received payment from the Waterville Fire Department for the purchase of Ryder Johnston's gear.

First Responders:

- Rescue Chief Scott Dimmick would like to purchase a grill guard for the new Rescue 71 truck and is requesting to withdraw it from his capital reserve account.
 - Motion to allow up to \$2000 from the First Responders Capital Reserve Account by Randy, 2nd by Paul. Vote: Approved 3-0-0
- They helped cover the Litchfield Fair again this year.
- Rescue has covered 3 football games thus far.

Public Works:

- Shoulders have been completed on School Road. Once they settle we'll have to put some more material down.

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- There are 2 driveways that need some stone the help prevent washouts.

General:

- MMA Annual Business Meeting voting delegate nomination form.
 - Nobody from the Town of Wales will be available to be a voting delegate this year.
- We received notice from Maine Revenue Services of our preliminary 2024 state valuation.
 - \$189,250,000 which is an increase of \$31,000,000 from 2023.
 - Our 2024 state ratio is 65%. We will only be able to certify at 70% for 2024 if the revaluation is unable to be completed by then.
- We received the Maine Policy Review book for 2023.
- We received the Warrant and Notice of Election calling Regional School Unit No. 4 Budget Validation Referendum to be held on October 3, 2023.
 - Motion to sign the Warrant and Notice of Election by Randy, 2nd by Paul. Vote: Approved 3-0-0
 - These notices will be posted in 3 locations within the town before September 26, 2023 by the Treasurer and Notice of Return of Posting will be returned to the RSU4 Superintendent's Office.
- Sharon received a call from Dan Dunton, Monmouth PW Director, regarding the Transfer Station.
 - All of the employees have resigned. They have been advertising for employees to no avail.
 - Winter hours will start on Tuesday September 19th instead of November 1st due to the lack of staffing.
 - Monmouth PW will try to cover the operating hours until they find employees.
 - They will be discussing options and possible solutions and will bring us in for that conversation if we'd like.
 - The result will most likely be reduced hours until employees can be found.
- Harvest Festival at the Somali Bantu Community Liberation Farms at 1002 Gardiner Road will be September 15th for anyone that wants to attend.
- Zack from AVCOG will be at the next meeting on September 26th to discuss the Community Resilience Partnership Grant we have chosen to participate in.
- We will need to have a hearing for the new GA Maximums at our next meeting. Sharon will post that notice in the newspaper and 3 locations.
- We need to schedule time to go over the Handbook and Policies.
- We need to work on a committee for the 50th Anniversary of the Fire Department.
- We need to decide what we want to give as Holiday gifts for the FD and what we want to do for our Holiday gathering.
- Check Number Sequence Log was reviewed and signed by Randy.
 - Check# 17855-17880 \$184,039.54
 - Electronic payments made = \$3,048.15
- **Review Payroll Warrant FY24-06PR**: Motion to approve Payroll Warrant FY24-06PR for \$5,816.40 by Randy, 2nd by Paul. Vote: Approved 3-0-0
- **Review AP Warrant FY24-06AP**: Motion to approve AP Warrant FY24-06AP for \$181,898.47 by Randy, 2nd by Paul. Vote: Approved 3-0-0

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Unfinished Business:

- Process for changing our form of government.
- Cable Franchise Agreement renewal
- Review policies/handbooks

With no objection the meeting was adjourned at 8:35pm.