

SELECTMEN'S MEETING - TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2023

5:30 PM – WORKSHOP – Comprehensive Plan Updates and Funding. Also present: Town Engineer/Planner Mike Livingston and CPUC Chairman Chris Chase.

The draft plan has been sent to the State for review and we expect to have it back with their comments for the November ballot. The Committee will have to review the comments, revise the draft and conduct public hearings before it goes to the Selectmen. Mr. Foley said not to rush the process, and November is better than June because more people vote then. Funding for the Committee's work will have to be carried over to next year's budget. Ms. Kelley will be asked about pending reappointments and filling the vacancies. Implementation of the approved plan is usually handled by a separate committee.

6:00 PM – SELECTMEN'S MEETING

Pledge of Allegiance

SPECIAL PRESENTATION – FY'24 Budget Proposal Presentation by Finance Director Jodie Sanborn

Mr. Pardue congratulated Ms. Sanborn and the department heads for their efforts in compiling the proposal. The good news is that we are under LD1 and expected revenues are up 16.6%. Transfer Station revenue will increase. Some staffing changes are pending. All four union contracts are up for negotiation. The revaluation will be completed by late September/early October.

MUNICIPAL OFFICERS WORKSHOP / BUSINESS / PUBLIC HEARINGS

Present: Chairman John MacLeod, Selectmen Kathy Chase, Tim Roche, Scott DeFelice and Bob Foley, Town Manager Mike Pardue, Volunteer and Events Coordinator Rebekah Kelley, Meeting Recorder Cinni Davidson

1. Good News

- ~Wells resident Tom Danis joined the Public Works Department and has already been busy plowing.
- ~Diane Drescher has been hired for the Assessing Department.
- ~York Hospital has increased the level of care available at their Wells campus with highly skilled medical professionals.
- ~Libby Scott Paving was able to repair the damage on Webhannet Drive quickly and the road is open.
- ~We are proposing mitigation plans to FEMA for the sea wall at an estimated \$1 million.
- ~Mr. Pardue will be serving lunch at the Senior Center this Saturday.
- ~The unified basketball team is playing at the high school gym at 3:30 Thursday.
- ~Our wrestling team is having an outstanding season.
- ~On Tuesday, January 24 there will be a spaghetti dinner to help a long-time bus driver with medical bills. Dinner will be 5-8 PM in the high school cafeteria. The girls' basketball team is playing after dinner.
- ~A guest in town suffered a major medical event on Christmas Eve. Thank you to WEMS, the Fire Department and Police Department for their excellent response which saved the person's life.

~Residents are grateful for the Public Works Department and the great job they are doing keeping our roads clear in spite of the weather.

2. Open to the Public

A Wells resident described suffering a stroke recently and praised WEMS for their fast and efficient response, teamwork, competence and coordination with the hospital. “Please remember them at budget time.”

CURRENT AGENDA ITEMS

1. Review and action on Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants.

Motion by Mrs. Chase, seconded by Mr. DeFelice, to approve and sign the Accounts Payable Warrant dated January 17, 2023 in the amount of \$2,683,790.98, and the General Assistance Warrant dated January 17, 2023 in the amount of \$4,623.42. Passed unanimously.

As of January 5, the Fuel Fund balance was \$52,205 and the balance in the We Are Wells Fund was \$26,412.

2. Update, discussion and action on Committees, Projects, Issues, Purchases and Personnel:

a) Discussion and action to schedule a public hearing to establish a policy for the Transfer Station resident stickers.

The sticker fee will be \$5 per vehicle and the price of orange bags will increase, effective March 1. The policy is similar to the beach sticker policy. Commercial haulers are not covered. Mr. MacLeod proposed a temporary sticker or pass for a contractor doing a job in Wells and dropping off demolition debris. It could be linked to the homeowner’s sticker number, the property tax bill or the CEO’s building permit.

Motion by Mrs. Chase, seconded by Mr. DeFelice, to schedule a public hearing on February 7, 2023 at 6:00PM in the Littlefield Meeting Room, 208 Sanford Road, to establish a policy for the Transfer Station resident stickers. Passed unanimously.

b) Discussion and action to schedule a public hearing on release of funds up to \$50,000 from the Inland Golf Reserve Fund (0713) for Comprehensive Plan Updates.

Motion by Mrs. Chase, seconded by Mr. DeFelice, to schedule a public hearing on February 7, 2023 at 6:00PM in the Littlefield Meeting Room, 208 Sanford Road, on the release of funds up to \$50,000 from the Inland Golf Reserve Fund (0713) for Comprehensive Plan Updates. Passed unanimously.

c) Discussion and action on conveyance of title of a Town owned Ambulance to Wells Emergency Medical Services.

WEMS owns 2 ambulances and the Town owns one. WEMS insures all 3 and hires and trains the operators.

Motion by Mrs. Chase, seconded by Mr. DeFelice, to convey the title of the Town owned Ambulance to Wells Emergency Medical Services. Passed unanimously.

Mr. MacLeod discussed a previous vote by the Selectmen to cover a shortfall. Some money was left over and WEMS would like to use it for a power lift. Their board has approved it, subject to BOS approval. Mr. Pardue will write a letter to WEMS for clarification of the original purchase.

d) Discussion and action to increase the current mileage rate of 62.5 cents to the new federal rate of 65.5 cents, effective January 17, 2023.

Motion by Mrs. Chase, seconded by Mr. DeFelice, to increase the mileage reimbursement rate to match the federal rate of 65.5 cents, effective January 17, 2023. Passed unanimously.

e) Discussion and action on Updates, Personnel and Committee Assignments, Resignations and Issues:

i. Resignation of Carol Desjardins from the Comprehensive Plan Update Committee.

Motion by Mrs. Chase, seconded by Mr. DeFelice, to accept the resignation and write a letter thanking her for her service. Passed unanimously.

f) Discussion and action to accept donations and bequests:

1. \$100.00 donation from Donald and Beverly Esson to the Town of Wells for the Fuel Assistance Program Fund.

2. \$250.00 donation from Nancy Steves to the Town of Wells for the Fuel Assistance Program Fund.

3. \$75.00 donation from Henry and Patricia Musser to the Wells Fire Department.

Motion by Mrs. Chase, seconded by Mr. DeFelice, to accept the generous donations and write letters of thanks to the donors. Passed unanimously.

g) Discussion and action on approving minutes of the January 3, 2023 Selectmen's meeting.

Motion by Mrs. Chase, seconded by Mr. DeFelice, to approve the January 3, 2023 Selectmen's meeting minutes. Passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Open to the Public.

There were no public comments.

2. Town Manager's Report

Mr. Pardue has reported on the new hires, storm cleanup and the budget process. Kudos to Ms. Sanborn and the department heads.

3. Adjournment

Motion by Mrs. Chase, seconded by Mr. DeFelice, to adjourn. Passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Accepted by,



The image shows three handwritten signatures in blue ink, each written over a horizontal line. The top signature is the most stylized. The middle signature is clearly legible as "Stephen D Chase". The bottom signature is clearly legible as "Robert Saley".

Cinndi Davidson,
Meeting Recorder