

Town Board Minutes of June 9th, 2026

The meeting of the Wales Town Board was held on the 9th of June 2026 at the Wales Community Center, 12345 Big Tree Road, Wales Center, New York.

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Howard at 7:00 pm EST.

ROLL CALL

Supervisor Howard
Councilman Gallo absent
Councilman Newman
Councilman Butcher absent
Councilwoman O'Connor

Present: Attorney Phyllis Todoro (5) Residents whose names are on file.

INVOCATION: led by Supervisor Howard

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: led by Councilman Newman

ADOPTION OF AGENDA: MOTION # __ By Councilwoman O'Connor, second by Councilman Newman, approving the agenda. Carried ayes-3 noes-0 Absent 2

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES: MOTION # __ By Councilman Newman, second by Councilwoman O'Connor, approving the Town Clerk's minutes of May 12th. Carried. ayes-3 noes-0 absent 2

INVITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Dori Carlone Hunters Creek - What is the battery storage system issue? Are we voting for it? I looked into it a little bit with my insurance company and they told me that they don't insure the battery storage system and that it's not covered by homeowners. It is not covered by our umbrella policy. And if it is determined that it malfunctions and burns the house down, it's too bad. Thank you.

Andy Jacobs from ITTC To Thank the Board for the \$500 donation this year. We just want to thank you for the bottom of our hearts. Thanks again, everybody.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Battery Storage Systems

Councilman Newman explained since our last meeting, I've continued to research and review the battery energy storage system, or BESS for short. The town of Colden is in their process, I'm following their law, why reinvent the wheel ? Similar township. This draft is based on one that was developed by the state, a skeleton or a model code that the state has done. After Colden finishes with their final code, I'll bring it back to the board.

2. Update - Dog Control

Supervisor Howard spoke with Dan Whitehead today he stated that he's continuing to explore options for kennel services from someplace outside of the town. He has no firm options at this time. The Grand Island Dog Control Officer indicated they have kennel availability and that he is waiting for a return call. Table till next month

3. Draft of short-term rental applications and fees

Supervisor Howard stated we are simply going to table until the next meeting. Dan has been reviewing other towns short-term rental applications and fees. He plans on using the best parts from each application.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Resolution for Donald Gallo's NYS Retirement System Calendar

MOTION# __ by Councilwoman O'Connor, second by Councilman Newman approving the Resolution for NYS Retirement system. Carried ayes -3 noes 0

2. Donation of \$450.00 to Kiwanis for Nite-in- the-Park June 24th

MOTION# __ by Councilwoman O'Connor, second by Councilman Newman approving annual donation to Kiwanis for \$450 for the Nite-In-the-park. Carried ayes-3 nose-0 absent

3. Wales Final State Equalization rate of 24.00%

Supervisor Howard stated our Eq Rate goes down when our sales/values go up. That is definitely the case again this year, from 26% to 24% is not a huge leap, but ideally it would be nice to stay the same or go down just 1% but our sales in Wales are still high in my opinion.

4. Renewal of I Drive – backup for computer network at \$1200.00 yearly

MOTION# __ by Councilwoman O'Connor, second by Councilman Newman approving the renewal for the I Drive backup for the network severe. Carried ayes-3 nose-0 absent-2

Matt Maican - Sheriff's Office

He did say there was a federal agency responding to the solar farm in Marilla, he ended up showing up on that call myself.

Customers and Border Patrol were doing a target operation on some of the individuals employed by whatever company is doing the construction. They had an outstanding warrant for one of them, so they were going for that individual specifically. I believe others started running. They picked up about a dozen individuals. On to Wales May report - 120 calls for service, 12 traffic stops, five accidents, one with injuries, and there were four arrests, DUI, suspended license, also an outstanding warrant.

COMMUNICATIONS

-Primary voting starts this Saturday June13-21 Weekends 9-5 Weekdays 12-9

-250 Celebration We're still in doubt about the pancake breakfast, on July 5th, prior to the community non-denominational prayer service.

-The Town Clerk/ Refuse Clerk has great news - The recycling grant from 2023 is finally at the top of the list. We should be eligible for a \$37,682.53 grant. They have additional items they are requesting. Hoping we will have a check by the end of the year.

-Sales Tax revenue is 7% higher than this time last year.

- Electronic recycling event in Batavia June 20th 8:30- noon pre-registration is required
 - Dave Lane memorial ceremony by this family will be June 20 at 1pm.
 - Constable Paul Solmon retired at the end of May.
 - The Community Fair at the South Community Hall this weekend will feature various community services and a car show.
 - The NYS DOT project at the intersection of 20A and Route 78 is in a preliminary design phase, with construction scheduled for spring 2028; A roundabout is one of several possibilities.
 - The Building Inspector Dan Whitehead received notice today that the clerk that he hired about two weeks ago has resigned. Dan has asked that the board approve him using the last posting and the six interviews he did in response to rehiring. So, he said we need a motion to allow him to utilize the form of posting.
- MOTION#** __ by Councilwoman O'Connor, second by Councilman Newman approving to go off the last posting for the position and hire Linda Gedeon one of the candidates interviewed off the last job posting. Carried ayes-3 nose-0 absent -2.
- Workshop Meeting Do we cancel the workshop meeting in two weeks? Do we need one? The batteries storage law. Well, the We have spoken about the farmers on seasonal restrictions. Councilman Newman was not sure if we would have enough time to research before that workshop. Table it for now and let us see what we can come up with? If in two weeks we don't have anything, then we'll. Okay. We can send notice for the meeting, then we cannot, but that's all, okay. We can cancel the meeting Friday before it we need too.

REPORTS OF DEPARTMENT HEADS: received Highway Dept., Town Clerk and Building Inspector.

REVIEW AND ACTION ON SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:

MOTION# __ by Councilwoman O'Connor, second by Councilman Newman approving May 2026 Supervisors monthly reports. Carried ayes-3 nose-0 absent

REVIEW AND ACTION ON TOWN CLERK'S REPORT:

MOTION # __ by Councilwoman O'Connor second Councilman Newman, approving the Town Clerk's monthly reports. For May 2026 as presented. Carried ayes-3 nose-0

GENERAL FUND BILLS:

MOTION # __ by Councilwoman O'Connor, second by Councilman Newman approving General Fund Abstract # 006 voucher #205-234 total of \$ 59,323.66. Carried ayes-3 nose-0 absent-2

HIGHWAY FUND BILLS:

MOTION # __ by Councilman Newman , second by Councilman , approving Highway Abstract # 006 voucher # 47-60 total amount \$12,402.42. Carried ayes-3 nose- 0 absent -2

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION# __ by Supervisor Howard and seconded by Councilman Newman to adjourn the meeting 7:28 pm. Carried ayes-3 nos-0 absent 2

Respectfully submitted, Melinda Eaton, Wales Town Clerk