

WISCASSET BOARD OF SELECTMEN
APRIL 29, 2008

(Tape recorded meeting)

Present: Bill Curtis, Phil DiVece, Chairman Duane Goud, Vice Chairman David Nichols, Nicole Viele and Town Manager Arthur Faucher

1. Call to Order

Chairman Duane Goud called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America

3. Approve Minutes of April 9 and 15, 2008

David Nichols moved, Bill Curtis seconded, to approve the minutes as read. Vote 5-0.

Items 4 through 6 were postponed until 7 p.m.

New Business

7. Set amount of liability coverage for airport manager to purchase

According to Maine Municipal Association, the amount of liability coverage the airport manager must carry is to be established by the Selectmen and must be at least \$400,000 but not more than \$500,000. **Duane Goud moved, Nicole Viele seconded, to require \$500,000 of liability insurance coverage by the Airport Manager. Vote 5-0.**

8. Water District Superintendent Chris Cossette: Project updates

Phil DiVece recused himself from consideration of this item. Chris Cossette updated the Board on the plans for the water main replacement project this summer. He expects to receive approval on the USDA Rural Development financing in the next week; a public hearing will be held at the Fire Department on May 8 at 6 p.m. Roads involved are Churchill, Lee, Bradbury, Pleasant, Fore, Ft. Hill and Middle streets. He had met with the Town Manager, Road Commissioner, Sewage Treatment Plant Manager, and representatives from the fire, ambulance, police and school transportation departments regarding traffic control; one-way, one-lane traffic was discussed and will be worked out with the police and the Road Commissioner. Cossette requested permission to install a sign indicating the engineer and financing source on Town Property at the corner of Route 1 and Churchill Street. **Nicole Viele moved, Duane Goud seconded, to give the Water District permission for a temporary sign and authority to work with the police and Road Commissioner on traffic control Vote 4-0-1 (DiVece abstained).** Cossette also requested permission to use Town property for the storage of equipment and material during construction and suggested the parking lot behind Treats, the triangle at Fore, Bradbury, and Pleasant Streets, and the island at Churchill Street and Gardiner Road. **Duane Goud moved, Nicole Viele seconded, to allow the Road Commissioner to work with the Water District to determine the best available areas for stockpiling equipment and material. Vote 4-0-1 (DiVece abstained).** Cossette said that construction is scheduled to begin the second week in July following a 21-day bid period and final approval from the congressional delegation. Cossette requested that the application fee be waived; however, Jeffrey Hinderliter advised that a waiver was not necessary as fees had not been set.

9. Request for permission to install directional sign on the East Coast Greenway Bike Route

A memo with accompanying map from Jeffrey Hinderliter, Town Planner, recommended approval of the installation of signage with the following conditions: 1) Signage within the town right-of-way shall be installed and maintained by representatives of the East Coast Greenway Bike Route, 2) before signs are installed, sign location shall be marked and the location authorized by a town official, 3) signs shall not interfere with vehicular or pedestrian traffic, and 4) signs shall be periodically inspected by a representative of the East Coast Greenway Bike Route to ensure signage is properly maintained. Robert Bruce, a representative of the East Coast Greenway Bike Route agreed to the conditions. **David Nichols moved, Phil DiVece seconded, that Mr. Bruce of the East Coast Greenway Bike Route be allowed to place signs as marked on the map and in accordance with the memo from Jeffrey Hinderliter dated April 29, 2008. Vote 5-0.**

10. Other Board Business

- **Borski's Way**: Placing the acceptance of this road on the warrant for Town Meeting had been discussed at the previous meeting. Road Commissioner Bob Blagden recommended that the Town not accept the road. He said it had been voted down several years ago and the road was now several years older and in need of more repairs. He added that if the road were to be accepted, the Town would be responsible for its repair and there would be requests for other private roads to be accepted by the Town. He cited the problems with the road in its present condition including insufficient repair to one section of the road, the fact that the culvert was not the required 15 inches and an abutter to the road had sandbags in front of his garage because of insufficient drainage from the road. **Duane Goud moved, Bill Curtis seconded, to not put this article on the ballot. Vote 5-0.**

- **Ferry Road**: The acceptance of this road was discussed. A letter from I.park Wiscasset, LLC to the regional Federal Economic Development Agency dated several years ago was brought to the Selectmen's attention. The letter was in reference to a grant and indicated that Ferry Road would be owned and maintained by the developer initially and ultimately deeded to the tenants/owners as a common share access road. The Road Commissioner said that the road does not meet town specifications citing ditching, the slope of the shoulders and wrong pitch of the road. **Duane Goud moved, Phil DiVece seconded, that the acceptance of Ferry Road not be on the warrant. Vote 5-0. Duane Goud moved, Phil DiVece seconded, to authorize Arthur Faucher to contact Point East and Oest Associates about taking care of the repairs of the road without expense to the Town and to use the services of an attorney, if needed. Vote 5-0.**

- **Survey Question**: **Duane Goud moved, Bill Curtis seconded, to place a non-binding survey question on the ballot allowing the Selectmen to take money out of reserves to reduce taxes. Vote 5-0.**

- **School Warrant**: **Duane Goud moved, David Nichols seconded, to sign the warrant for the school Special Town Meeting at the high school gymnasium on May 10 at 9 a.m. Vote 5-0.**

4. Public Hearing and Selectmen Consideration: Taste of Orient Liquor License Renewal

The public hearing opened at 7:04 p.m. Police Lt. John Allen reported that he had met with Mr. Juntura regarding his concerns and said he saw no problems in the future. The public hearing closed at 7:06 p.m. **Nicole Viele moved, David Nichols seconded to approve the liquor license application of Taste of Orient. Vote 5-0.**

5. Public Hearing and Selectmen Consideration: Le Garage Liquor License Renewal

The public hearing opened at 7:06 p.m. There were no comments or questions. The public hearing closed at 7:07 p.m. **David Nichols moved, Phil DiVece seconded, to approve the liquor license application of Le Garage. Vote 5-0.**

6. Public Hearing and Selectmen Consideration: High Street Parking Ordinance Amendment

Police Lt. John Allen said a resident had requested that parking be restricted to one side of High Street. He said the width of the road with parking on both sides was inadequate for emergency vehicles and recommended eliminating parking on the west side of High Street except for the widened area in front of the library. Jeffrey Hinderliter said that the Selectmen have the authority to amend the parking standards, according to legal counsel, and the issue did not require placement on the warrant. In response to Phil DiVece's question, Jeffrey Hinderliter said the residents of High Street had not been personally notified, but a legal notice was published in the newspaper. Lt. Allen said that the issue had been discussed at the County Commissioner's meeting because of the lack of parking on special court days. Some of the reserved parking spaces near the courthouse will be made available on those days and parking will also be possible in St. Philip's lot on Hodge Street. The public hearing closed at 7:16 p.m. **Nicole Viele moved, Duane Goud seconded, to adopt the proposed amendment (Section 3.14.5) to prohibit parking on the westerly side of High Street from the library to the intersection with Lee Street, except where a parking indentation has been made in the curbing.** The no parking sign in front of the library will be moved to prohibit parking from the indentation to the corner. The parking restriction will take place as soon as the signs are installed.

10. Other Board Business (continued)

- Tree Removal in Cemetery: Becky Applin requested authorization to look into having several large pine trees removed in the Greenlawn cemetery without harming gravestones. She said there is a 20' x 20' area which is currently unusable because of the trees. Bob Blagden indicated on a plan of the cemetery which trees could be safely removed. **Duane Goud moved, Nicole Viele seconded, to give the Road Commissioner authority to take care of whatever trees are necessary without damaging the stones. Vote 5-0.**
- Selectman Candidate: Arthur "Skip" Taylor introduced himself as a candidate for Selectman. He congratulated and thanked Duane Goud for his hard work serving the people of Wiscasset.
- White's Island Bridge: Bob Blagden said that he had inspected the bridge by boat and found that two pile caps are near collapse and five more need replacing. The decking and rails are in good shape. **Duane Goud moved, Nicole Viele seconded, to take care of the pile caps that need repair so they don't fall into the river.** The chairman advised that the owner would be contacted; the bridges are on the Town right-of-way and are owned by the Town. Bob Blagden will communicate with Mr. Phinney regarding the repairs and with the contractor about the removal of the huge rock in front of the bridges. The bridge will not be opened, as there is still the issue of the railroad crossing to be resolved. **Vote 5-0.**

12. Adjourn

David Nichols moved, Bill Curtis seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. Vote 5-0.