WISCASSET BOARD OF SSELECTMEN,

BOARD OF ASSESSORS AND OVERSEERS OF THE POOR

DECEMBER 3, 2013

Present: Vice Chair Judy Colby, Pam Dunning, Chair Ed Polewarczyk, Jeff Slack and Town Manager Laurie Smith

Absent: Tim Merry

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

2. Executive Session regarding possible TIF with Molnlycke

**Pam Dunning moved to go into executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6)(C) to discuss a TIF agreement proposal for the Molnlycke project with the Town’s attorney. Vote 4-0-0.** The board entered executive session at 6:02 p.m. and exited at 7:04 p.m.

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

4. Public Hearing for Special Amusement Permit for Wiscasset Speedway, LLC

Vanessa Jordan asked that the board approve the Wiscasset Speedway’s request to expand its hours to Friday – noon to 10 p.m., Saturday – 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Sunday – 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. She also asked permission for the following uses: car racing, truck pulls, drifter racing, demolition derby, monster truck shows, go cart racing, equestrian shows and swap meets. Although none of the events has been scheduled, the track would like to be able to consider those activities.

A neighbor said he appreciated the business the track brought to the area, but he complained about the noise, fuel stench and litter caused by the track.

Ray Soule, an abutter, said the track was run well and he had no complaints.

Pam Dunning had concerns that some weekends the track might run three nights in a row, giving neighbors no relief from the noise. Vanessa Jordan said the track would not run three nights in a row but the extended hours would give her more flexibility in scheduling.

**Judy Colby moved to approve the Special Amusement Permit for Wiscasset Speedway LLC, with conditions as outlined by the Board of Selectmen. Vote 3-1-0.**

5. Approval of Treasurer’s Warrant: November 26 and December 3, 2013

**Judy Colby moved to approve the Treasurer’s Warrant of November 26, 2013. Vote 4-0-0. Pam Dunning moved to approve the Treasurer’s Warrant of December 3, 2013. Vote 4-0-0.**

6. Approval of Minutes: November 19, 2013

**Judy Colby moved to approve the minutes of November 19, 2013. Vote 4-0-0.**

7. Public Comment

George Green said the upcoming election of school board members is critical and it is important that as much information as possible be made available to the voters. He recommended a televised debate be held with questions prepared in advance.

Bob Blagden said the Budget Committee would sponsor the debate on December 19, 7 p.m. in the Middle School cafeteria. He asked that board members prepare questions in advance. Ed Polewarczyk will inquire about having the meeting televised by LCTV.

Bill Barnes said Maine Yankee is receiving money from the federal government and he felt that Wiscasset should receive some of it to make up for broken promises by Maine Yankee. Ed Polewarczyk said Maine Yankee has sued the federal government because of its failure to remove the spent fuel as promised; however any funds received have been taken by the State.

Norman Guidoboni asked whether the assessment on the Mason Station property included the machinery. Laurie Smith said the personal property was attached to the building and was included in the assessment; the town has not been legally informed that the machinery is no longer the personal property of Mason Station.

In response to Steve Mehrl’s question regarding the school board’s responsibility to the selectboard, Laurie Smith said the school board is a separate entity and it would take a charter provision to make it subject to the selectboard. She said good communication was important and it should be addressed in a town meeting format. George Green suggested that the board consider an ordinance change to include the possibility of recalling elected officials.

8. Department Head or Committee Chair report – none

9. Unfinished Business

A. Chief Merry with update regarding Fire Truck bids: Although the bid from Bodwell met the specifications outlined in the bid and was the lowest qualified bid by $200, the bid from Newcastle Chrysler included a vehicle outfitted as a public service vehicle and installation of necessary equipment would be cheaper. Chief Merry asked the board for approval to purchase the truck from Newcastle Chrysler**. Judy Colby moved to approve the purchase of the truck from Newcastle Chrysler. Vote 4-0-0.**

B. Discussion of Fund Balance Policy: Laurie Smith had drafted a Fund Balance Policy as discussed by the selectmen with input from the Town’s auditor. It calls for an unassigned fund balance in the general fund at two months of general fund expenditures or 16% to be achieved within five years and a plan to restore the fund balance if it falls below the target level**. Judy Colby moved to adopt the attached Fund Balance Policy. Vote 4-0-0.**

10. New Business

A. Review Ordinance Review Committee Work Plan: ORC chairman Karl Olson reported that over the past year, the committee had adopted the Subdivision Ordinance, adopted the Site Plan Review Ordinance, Amended the Castle Tucker Shoreland Zoning Change, amended the Shellfish Ordinance Conservation Hours, adopted the Adult Entertainment Ordinance and adopted the Roads Ordinance.

Town Planner Misty Parker outlined the items currently being worked on by the ORC: Sign Ordinance, Land Use Performance Standards, Future Land Use Plan/New Zoning Districts, Historic District Overlay and Airport Overlay District. Upon completion of the Bath Road Master Plan recommendations, the ORC will be working on implementing any necessary ordinance recommendations and amending the comprehensive plan as needed.

**Pan Dunning moved to approve the Ordinance Review Committee Work Plan. Vote 4-0-0.**

B. Selectmen and Budget Committee review of expense and revenue reports: Budget Committee members present were Bill Barnes, Richard Hanson, John Merry, Neal Paige, Bob Blagden, Norman Guidoboni. Selectmen present were Judy Colby, Pam Dunning, Ed Polewarczyk and Jeff Slack. The Budget Committee is required by ordinance to meet with the Selectboard at least once between the Annual Town Meeting and December 15 in order to determine the adequacy of appropriated funds and

other revenues for the current year’s departmental obligations.

At 41% though the year, revenues as itemized by Smith were mostly on target. Expenses were slightly below 41% but some of those were expected to increase as the year progresses. In response to Steve Mehrl’s question regarding legal expenses, Smith said legal expenses were higher than expected because of both Mason Station and the TIF agreement.

C. Sale of Accuvote Voting Machine

Smith said the State had mandated the use of new voting machines, and Christine Wolfe, Town Clerk, asked for permission to sell the old voting machine to Yarmouth, Massachusetts for $200. **Judy Colby moved to sell the Accuvote machine to the Town of Yarmouth, MA for $200. Vote 4-0-0.**

11. Town Manager’s Report

A. New Hope for Women: A letter had been received from the organization thanking the town for allowing signage during Domestic Violence Awareness month and requesting $1515 to help fund its operations. There was a consensus that the request be denied because no other similar groups had been funded.

B. Bath Road Master Plan: The selectmen will host a meeting on Tuesday, December 10, for a presentation by the Bath Road Master Plan Committee. Stakeholders and abutters have been invited.

C. Coastal Community Grant for boardwalk project: The State of Maine has awarded Wiscasset this grant so that it can proceed with design and engineering for the project.

D. Abatements: The board will take up abatements on December 17 unless the audit presentation is scheduled for that evening. Two poverty abatements will be considered in executive session.

In response to Steve Mehrl’s question, Smith said the current work on the pier is funded with matching federal and state funds. Total cost is $168,000, town share is $33,000.

12. Executive Session regarding Mason Station properties

**Pam Dunning moved to go into executive session pursuant to 1 MRSA §405 (6) (C) to discuss the possible disposition of properties. Vote 4-0-0.** The board entered executive session at 8:40 p.m. and existed at 8:52 p.m.

13. Executive Session to discuss personnel

**Pam Dunning moved to go into executive session pursuant to 1 MRSA §405 (6) (A) for the purpose of discussing personnel. Vote 4-0-0.** The board entered executive session at 8:53 p.m. and exited at 9 p.m.

14. Adjournment

The board adjourned at 9:01 p.m.