WISCASSET BOARD OF SELECTMEN,

BOARD OF ASSESSORS AND OVERSEERS OF THE POOR

JULY 22, 2014

 Videotaped meeting

Present: Bill Barnes, Chair Pam Dunning, Tim Merry, Vice Chair Ben Rines, Jr., Jeff Slack and Interim Town Manager Don Gerrish

1. Call to Order

Chair Pam Dunning called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

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

3. Approval of Treasurer’s Warrant – NA

4. Approval of Minutes: July 15, 2014

**Ben Rines, Jr. moved to approve the minutes of July 15, 2014. Vote 4-0-1.**

5. Special Presentations or Awards – none

6. Appointments – none

7. Public Comment

In response to Bob Blagden’s question regarding the closing of Mountain Road, Interim Town Manager Don Gerrish said he would look into it and report back.

In response to Norman Guidoboni’s question regarding the Bond Anticipation Note, Gerrish explained that the Town had authorization from the voters to borrow up to $2 million to withdraw from the RSU. The Town has a two-year Bond Anticipation Note for that amount and will determine at some point in the future the terms of a permanent loan. Payments on the loan will be included in the Town or School budget for the 2015-2016 fiscal year.

8. Department Head or Committee Chair Report – none

9. Unfinished Business

A. Discussion/approval of Airport Master Plan: A motion to approve the Airport Master Plan had failed at a previous meeting on tie vote. Since that time, the consultants for both Chewonki and the Town have been working on alternative wording for the update of the master plan although no consensus has been reached. Gerrish said the update is required by the FAA and the main issue is the clearing of trees, some of which are on Chewonki property, for the flight path. Without a master plan, no further FAA funding for upgrading the runway will be possible. Pam Dunning said the master plan was not a contract, and could be changed at any time.

The Town consultant’s amendment to the Airport Master Plan called for mitigation of obstructions to the airport’s airspace before FAA funding of the reconstruction of the Runway 7-15. Avigation easements over private land to help mitigate issues with tree penetration will be determined through a separate project beginning with negotiations with respective landowners.

The alternate wording presented by Jim Hopkinson of Hopkinson & Abbondanza, attorney for the Chewonki Campground, called for a displaced threshold in order to mitigate to the greatest possible extent vegetative obstructions and adverse impacts on an abutting campground. There would be special mitigation measures for remaining vegetative obstructions and requests for waivers and/or avigation easements would be pursued with affected property owners.

The feasibility of a displaced threshold and safety measures to be considered with that alternative were discussed. The economic impact on both the campground and the airport was outlined as well as the impact on the town should the master plan not be approved, which would result in no future federal funding for the airport or any other Town transportation projects and repayment of grants already received. It was pointed out that funding for the negotiation process regarding easements would not be available until the master plan was approved.

After lengthy discussion and comments from many parties, **Tim Merry moved to adopt the master plan with the Town engineer’s recommendation for new language. Vote 3-2-0** (Rines and Barnes opposed). Copy of the revised wording on page 66 of the Airport Master Plan is attached.

10 New Business – none

11. Town Manager’s Report

A. Shingle Bids: Don Gerrish recommended that the board accept the bid of P&P Construction for $47,600. **Tim Merry moved to authorize the Town Manager and the Public Works Director to award the bid to P&P Construction. Vote 5-0-0.**

12. Adjournment

Ben Rines, Jr. moved to adjourn the meeting. Vote 5-0-0.