

WISCASSET BOARD OF SELECTMEN,  
BOARD OF ASSESSORS AND OVERSEERS OF THE POOR  
January 20, 2015

Preliminary Minutes

Tape Recorded Meeting

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

1. Call to Order

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 Minutes

**Ben Rines, Jr., moved that when the meeting adjourns, it does so in memory and lasting tribute to Donald Smith.** He said Smith had been a reserve officer of the town since 2008 and spent many years in the fire department. **Vote 5-0-0.**

**Ben Rines, Jr., moved to approve the minutes of January 6, 2015. Vote 4-0-1 (Merry abstained).**

4. Approval of Treasurer's Warrants

**A. Jeff Slack moved to approve the payroll warrants of January 9 and 16, 2015. Vote 5-0-0. Jeff Slack moved to approve the accounts payable warrants of January 13 and 20, 2015. Vote 5-0-0.**

5. Approval of Abatements and Supplementals – None

6. Special Presentations or Awards – None

7. Appointments:

A. Board of Appeals: Denis Hebert

B. Appearance of the Town Committee: Norma Gordon, Vickie Hersom, Richelle Pontau, and Don Jones

C. Cemetery Committee: Jason Putman, Donald Jones, Cynthia Collamore and David Sutter

D. Community Center Scholarship: Robert Bickford, Vickie Hersom, Katherine Martin-Savage, Louann Pontau, Sheila Sawyer and Brian Viele

E. Investment Advisory: Stefan Mehrl and Frank Barnako

F. Waterfront Committee: Richard Scanlan

**Jeff Slack moved to approve all appointments. Vote 5-0-0.**

8. Resignations – None

9. Public Comment on Non-agenda Items

Norm Guidiboni thanked the Town Manager for her attendance at the Budget Committee meeting and for her input. He also noted that the town was carrying a lot of debt and to keep in mind during the budget process how to make up the deficit.

Steve Mehrl asked if the Town had decided what to do with the closed elementary school and if the Town had hired a professional company to help determine future use of the building. Pam Dunning said no discussions had been held by the selectmen or with the School Board regarding a timetable for vacating the school or future use of the building by the School Board.

Mehrl also asked that the public be given information on meetings regarding Mason Station and the foreclosure process. Town Manager Marian Anderson said the matter is still in the courts, but she will do an outline of what had occurred with dates of meetings. Mehrl said in the past a monthly letter of town news had been distributed and suggested that it be done again.

Mehrl said with regard to Gardiner Pond the last thing the town should do is to acquire more property.

10. Department Head or Committee Chair Report – none

11. Open Airport Tractor Bids

The following bids were received:

Chad Little Power Equipment	\$16,269.28
Wallingford Equipment Co.	16,980.00
Hammond Tractor Co.	15,299.00
Union Farm Equipment	14,675.00
Wescott & Sons	15,530.00
Kramer, Inc.	18,782.00

Anderson said she would review the bids with the airport people to insure that the bids met the specs. **Tim Merry moved to authorize the Town Manager to accept the lowest, most qualified bid. Vote 5-0-0.**

12. Unfinished Business

Anderson said, in response to comments made at the previous meeting regarding the cutting of trees by Chewonki, CEO Stan Waltz had reported that Chewonki, using a forester, was following a harvest plan, and the cutting was being done on a piece of property infested with the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid. The total harvest will be approximately 15 acres of mixed growth timber. Abutters have been notified. The Intent to Harvest number is 456717. Waltz reported that Chewonki was doing a great job in its forest management practices and is very diligent in seeing that operations are done to the highest standards.

13. New Business

A. Consider policy for repurchase and transfer of ownership of burial lots in the Wiscasset public cemeteries: Don Jones, chair of the Cemetery Committee, had asked that the selectmen consider the policy which would require any sales of lots be made only to the Town in order for the Town to keep

track of ownership. **Tim Merry moved to postpone discussion to a future meeting when the Cemetery Committee can attend. Vote 5-0-0.**

**B. Approve a Municipal Quit Claim Deed for property located at 14 Middle Street: Jeff Slack moved to approve signing the Municipal Quit Claim Deed for the property located at 14 Middle Street. Vote 5-0-0.**

**C. Consideration of a request of Don Jones to change the road sign of Rumerill Road to "Rumrill Road" to correct the spelling of the name of the family for whom the road is named: Pam Dunning said she had ascertained that the correct spelling of the family name is Rumrill; however, according to the post office, if the spelling on the sign were corrected, all residents on the road would have to file change of address notices with the correct spelling of the road because the automatic sorting machine would not recognize the former road name. A motion to not change the spelling failed. The residents of the road will be contacted for their wishes regarding changing the name of the road.**

#### **14. Town Manager's Report**

Anderson asked the board to consider persons to whom the annual report could be dedicated and to advise her of the names.

#### **15. Adjournment**

Pam Dunning reminded the board that the evening's meeting was dedicated to Donald Smith for his service to the Town of Wiscasset on the fire department and as reserve officer to the police department. The town appreciates the dedication of service and mourns the loss of one of its officers.

**Jeff Slack moved to adjourn. Vote 5-0-0.**