

WISCASSET SELECT BOARD,
TAX ASSESSORS AND OVERSEERS OF THE POOR
MINUTES, JANUARY 9, 2018

Present: Bob Blagden, Chair Judy Colby, Katherine Martin-Savage, Vice Chair Ben Rines, Jr., Jeff Slack and Town Manager Marian Anderson

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Approval of Treasurer's Warrants

- a. **Kathy Martin-Savage moved to approve the payroll warrants of December 22, December 29, 2017 and January 5, 2018. Vote 5-0-0.**
- b. **Ben Rines, Jr., moved to approve the accounts payable warrants of December 26, 2017 and January 9, 2018. Vote 5-0-0.**

3. Approval of Minutes

Bob Blagden moved to approve the minutes of December 19, 2017 as amended. Vote 5-0-0.

4. Special Presentations or Awards – none

5. Committee Appointments – none

6. Public Hearings – none

7. Public Comment

James Kochan, owner of a downtown business, asked about the negotiations with the MDOT regarding the downtown traffic plan. He said renewal of leases is coming up and merchants need information regarding the project and parking. Marian Anderson said Attorneys Peter Murray and John Shumadine continue to communicate with the MDOT leadership. Counsel stated that the last meeting was positive and productive and will report to the board in executive session on January 16, 2018 at 5 p.m.

Seaver Leslie asked whether there was any dialogue between anyone other than the attorneys regarding negotiations. Anderson said the board gave directions to the attorneys to negotiate with MDOT and was unaware of any other negotiations.

Ben Rines, Jr., moved to meet at 5 p.m. in executive session on January 16, 2018. Vote 5-0-0.

8. Department Head or Committee Chair

Lonnie Kennedy Patterson, chair of the Public Advisory Committee, reported on the survey results regarding benches, bike racks, trees, bollard and chain, tree grills, street lights, and sidewalk bollard

lights for the downtown project. The board was given illustrations of these elements. He reported on the discussion about trees, the Japanese lilac tree was chosen by the voters, but later found that it was high maintenance and had problems in general, so there was a consensus to not include trees, but substitute plantings.

9. Unfinished Business

- a. Winter Parking Ban: The issues regarding winter parking in the town parking lots were discussed and it was the consensus of the board that the winter parking limitations would be in force from November 1 to April 15 and overnight parking would be by permit only, the fine for illegal parking would be \$20. Ben Rines, Jr. moved to adopt the amended Town of Wiscasset Winter Parking Ban ordinance with the recommended changes. Vote 5-0-0.
- b. Hesper and Luther Little restoration updates-Bill Gemmel: Gemmel recommended that the artifacts remaining from the Luther Little and Hesper, as the few traces of Wiscasset history, be preserved. His recommendation was that the board: 1) designate a space to display the artifacts near the waterfront at one of the piers, 2) authorize the painting and restoration of the wooden pieces, 3) obtain a display case to protect the wooden pieces and 4) after restoration, move and install the metal and wood pieces. It was suggested that help in building a display case might be available from Two Bridges Jail or Shelter Institute. Kathy Martin-Savage said that in 1980 funds were collected to save the two ships by "Friends of the Schooners" and she asked whether any of those funds might be available. The grassy area near the recreational pier was suggested for security purposes. The board approved the concept, contingent upon costs to the town.

10. New Business

- a. Pier Vendor Winter Permit Applications - Wiscasset Area Chamber of Commerce: Ben Rines, Jr., moved to grant the permit and waive the fee. Vote 4-1-0 (Blagden opposed)
- b. Library request for funding: Wendy Ross Eichler, President of the Wiscasset Public Library Board of Trustees, had submitted a request for a contribution of \$57,250 from the Town of Wiscasset toward the library's operating budget for 2018, a \$5,000 reduction from last year's request which the town funded. There was a consensus that the request be included in the budget. The request will be brought forward for discussion.
- c. Spirit of America: Bruce Flaherty, Maine Spirit of America, reminded the board to send in its Spirit of America winner recommendation.
- d. Central Maine Power's Tree Care Program: A letter had been received from Thomas Irwin, Vegetation Management, Central Maine Power, regarding tree work in Wiscasset giving phone number and website if residents have questions. Ben Rines, Jr., asked that the town be notified in advance that work will be done in Wiscasset.

11. Town Manager's Report

Marian Anderson said the offices of Senators Collins and King are following the proposed federal legislation regarding storage of nuclear waste and will contact the board when their review is complete.

Anderson listed the updates to the town's website including a link to register one's dog online and contact number to report an animal complaint; current tax year information; link to re-register a vehicle, boat, snowmobile or ATV; link to Maine Forest Service for burn permits; food pantry information and link for winter fuel assistance; link to State of Maine Voter guide, how to register to vote, etc.; links for hunting and fishing licenses, renewal of driver's license or Maine ID card. The harbormaster information has also been added to the website. Anderson asked for comments and suggestions.

Anderson said she has received information from CMP about the town's street lights and she will check to see that street lights at the airport are not being billed to the town.

Anderson recommended that the town, as a service center, join the MMA Maine Service Center Coalition which this year will be discussing prison funding, and excise and sales taxes.

Judy Colby moved to appoint Town Manager Marian Anderson as voting delegate for MMA Maine Service Center Coalition. Vote 5-0-0.

12. Other Board Business

The next regular board meeting will be held on January 23 at 6 p.m. An executive session will be held on January 16 at 5 p.m.

In response to Bob Blagden's question, Police Chief Lange reported that a mine sweeper had sunk near Mason Station and will be extracted by a salvage company; the town is not involved.

13. Adjournment

Kathy Martin-Savage moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:24 p.m. Vote 5-0-0.