

WISCASSET SELECT BOARD,
TAX ASSESSORS AND OVERSEERS OF THE POOR
MINUTES, FEBRUARY 20, 2018

Present: Bob Blagden (arrived during the meeting), Chair Judy Colby, Kathy Martin-Savage, Vice Chair Ben Rines, Jr., Jeff Slack and Town Manager Marian Anderson

Chair Judy Colby called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Approval of Treasurer's Warrants

- a. Ben Rines, Jr., moved to approve the payroll warrants of February 9 and 16, 2018. Vote 4-0-0.
- b. Kathy Martin-Savage moved to approve the accounts payable warrants of February 13 and 20, 2018. Vote 4-0-0.

3. Approval of Minutes

- a. Ben Rines, Jr., moved to approve the minutes of February 6, 2018. Vote 4-0-0.
- b. Ben Rines, Jr., moved to approve the minutes of February 13, 2018. Vote 4-0-0.

4. Special Presentations or Awards – none

5. Committee Appointments – none

6. Public Hearings – none

7. Public Comment – none

8. Department Head or Committee Chair

- a. Waterfront Committee-New Main Street Pier Vendor Permit Application/Main Street Pier Policy Revision: An approval date and expiration date have been added to the application. Jeff Slack moved to approve the permit and policy revision. Vote 5-0-0.
- b. Monthly Department Head reports: Marian Anderson thanked the department heads for their reports and added that the adult volunteers were needed by the Rec Center for Winterfest.

9. Unfinished Business

- a. Sewer Abatement Policy: After reviewing sewer bill abatement policies of nearby towns with the Wastewater Treatment Plant Manager, the Town Manager had drafted a sewer bill abatement policy to be used when water use exceeds sewer use, such as for lawn watering or filling pool. A separate meter

will be necessary for those uses. The policy was revised to remove the second and third sentences under the Requests paragraph. Ben Rines, Jr., moved to approve the draft as amended. Vote 5-0-0.

b. Request from Nick Dalton payment of the removal of his artwork located on Town property in the amount of \$1,280: Anderson said the request to display the artwork had been discussed at many meetings including the date when it would be removed, October 1, 2017. When the artwork was not removed by October 1, 2017, Kathy Martin-Savage had left a message at Mr. Dalton's place of employment. As there was no action by Mr. Dalton, the Town removed the artwork on the 23rd of October to the Transfer Station. The sink and faucet were returned to Mr. Dalton. Mr. Dalton is suing the Town for the destruction of his artwork. Judy Colby moved that the Town Manager send a letter to the Opticliff Law firm that the Town will not be reimbursing \$1,280. Vote 5-0-0.

c. Review of Wiscasset Ambulance Services' proposed rates: EMS Director Toby Martin provided three options of EMS Subsidy Calculations: a fixed capita cost flat rate, splitting the difference 2/3 Wiscasset, 1/3 serving communities after subtracting revenue, and using transfer station calculations. The participating towns' responsibility for uncollectibles was discussed. Further discussion and a decision was postponed to the budget process.

d. Legal Updates

- Wawenock, LLC et al v. State of Maine Department of Transportation: The attorneys have advised the court that the Town is taking no position on the matter and does not intend to file briefs.
- Town of Wiscasset v. State of Maine Department of Transportation: The Town has received permission for extra time to file and has received responses from MDOT. All documents will be on the Town's website.
- Legal Clarification email Mark Robinson dated 2/15/2018: Although the Town has been named as a party in the Wawenock suit, it is not Mr. Doering's intent to cause the Town hardship.

Judy Colby reported that the next hearing will be the week of April 4-9.

10. New Business

a. Introduction of new Town Treasurer and Police Officer. Marian Anderson introduced Vernice Boyce who will begin March 5. Police Chief Jeff Lange introduced patrolman Allen Terrance who has just left the army after nine years.

b. Declaration claiming September Childhood Cancer Month: Jeff Slack moved to declare September Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. Vote 5-0-0.

c. Monthly Financials:

- Department year to date expense report. Anderson said all budgets are in line.
- H.M. Payson Statement of Account: Jeff Slack said January numbers were down a bit.

d. Request from First Congregational Church to use Town Dock for Easter Sunrise Services: Jeff Slack moved to allow the request. Vote 5-0-0.

e. Pyro City 2018 Fireworks Contract – Authorize Town Manager to sign the one-year \$8,000 contract. Same price as last year. Ben Rines, Jr., moved to authorize the Town Manager to sign the contract. Vote 4-1-0 (Blagden opposed).

f. Special Town Meeting Warrant: Judy Colby said it was time for the select board to step back and ask the town whether to continue the lawsuit before any more money is spent. The board discussed a special town meeting to determine the opinion of the voters on proceeding with the lawsuit against MDOT. It was the consensus that there should be only one question on the ballot, whether to proceed with the suit. Funding would not be part of the question. Judy Colby moved to put it before the town on a referendum ballot to either go forward with the lawsuit or drop the lawsuit. The board was encouraged to provide an explanation so that voters would understand the issues. Vote 5-0-0.

11. Town Manager's Report

Marian Anderson announced that the budget books would be ready shortly. The budget schedule was completed as follows:

2/27/18, 6 - 8 p.m. Police Waterfront, Fire, EMS

3/1/18, 6 - 8 p.m. Transfer Wastewater

3/5/18, 6 - 8 p.m. Cemeteries, Public Works, Municipal Building

3/8/18, 6 - 8 p.m. Clerk, Election, Codes, General Assistance

3/13/18, 6 - 8 p.m. Parks & Recreation, Finance, Administration

3/15/18, 8:30 – 11 a.m. Animal Control, Assessing, Boards and Committees, celebrations, Public Utilities, Selectmen, Shellfish, Community Organizations, Contractual, Municipal Insurance.

Other meetings will be scheduled as necessary. Anderson said the budget must be adopted and signed by April 13.

12. Other Business

Bob Blagden announced that Jason Putnam had completed the repair on the clock tower and thanked him and his son for the donation of their labor.

13. Adjournment

Kathy Martin-Savage moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m. Vote 5-0-0.