

WISCASSET SELECT BOARD,
ASSESSORS AND OVERSEERS OF THE POOR
AUGUST 14, 2018

Preliminary Minutes

Present: Kim Andersson, Bob Blagden, Chair Judy Colby, Kathy Martin-Savage, Vice Chair Ben Rines, Jr., and Town Manager Marian Anderson

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

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Approval of Treasurer's Warrants

Kathy Martin-Savage moved to approve the payroll warrants of July 20, July 27, August 3, and August 10, 2018. Vote 5-0-0

Kathy Martin-Savage moved to approve the accounts payable warrants of July 24, July 31, August 7, and August 14, 2018. Vote 4-0-1 (Blagden abstained).

3. Approval of Minutes

Kathy Martin-Savage moved to approve the minutes with correction. Vote 5-0-0.

4. Special Presentations or Awards – none

5. Committee appointments – none

6. Public Hearings – none

7. Public Comment on Non-agenda items

Susan Blagden thanked Doug Fowler for replacing the street light on High Street. She also asked the selectmen to not sign off on the MDOT Main Street plan until the issue of trees is addressed. She asked that the trees be left on Main Street or replaced with suitable trees that will not lift the bricks. Further, referring to the planned demolition of Haggett's Garage, Blagden asked that the selectmen enforce the law which calls for a hearing before the Historic Preservation Commission before demolition takes place. She said she was dismayed by the apparent attitude of the selectmen that enforcement of the law is optional.

Tom Bryant said according to former Code Enforcement Officer Stan Waltz, a building permit and site plan review were required for Conex boxes and he asked how that would be enforced without a CEO. He was informed that a new CEO had been hired and the matter would be referred to him.

Steve Christianson said a utility trailer had been parked in the lot on Middle Street for four weeks. The matter will be referred to the Police Department. Christianson also reported that a shop on Water Street had three tables and two chairs on the sidewalk 24/7.

In response to Al Cohen's question, Judy Colby reported that the Police Department is operating on a limited basis from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Lincoln County Sheriff's Department is covering Wiscasset from 4

p.m. to 7 a.m. Reserve officers will be working on the weekends. Cohen, in response to Tom Bryant's question said that Conex boxes are being used all over town and none have come before the Planning Board. He said the issue involving Cohen's attorney, Bryant's attorney and the Town attorney had been before the courts twice.

Pam Logan asked that the fence on Route 1 be cleaned up and that the Town Christmas lights be all white. She said there had been no update on an incident involving a car and a bicyclist where the driver of the car drew his gun. She said there had been no arrest and no one was in jail. Anderson said she would follow up on the report. In response to Logan's suggestion that the Town start hiring police, Judy Colby said the Town will be interviewing for a chief this week and then for officers.

Jean Beattie Flynn, Wiscasset Area Chamber of Commerce, suggested that when the PAC is disbanded, a new PAC be formed for liaison between the Town and DOT including as members the Chamber of Commerce and property owners.

Kim Dolce suggested an interim committee include members downtown who are at odds with MDOT. She referred to a letter to the editor which asked the select board to make the decision on how to proceed with ambulance service for Wiscasset. She said the board was hired to make decisions and the people trust the board to make decision, not leave it up to the voters.

Leslie Roberts asked why the board had not discussed the trees with the MDOT and why the PAC had not submitted its final recommendation about trees. She asked what help the selectmen needed. Colby said trees were not discussed with the DOT and the board would take under advisement the final report from the PAC before making a decision on the trees. Colby added that the PAC would be meeting on August 20 at 5 p.m. to finalize its report which will be presented to the board on August 21.

Kate Bryant, referring to the Conex boxes, said Stan Waltz, former CEO, had gone to a seminar and told her that Conex boxes required a permit and that he was going to enforce the permitting.

8. Department head or committee chair

a. Public Safety Advisory Council – Annual Report: The report was included in the board's packet for the meeting.

9. Unfinished Business

a. Update on sunken boat in harbor: A summons and complaint for littering has been issued to Christopher G. Morrison, the owner of the boat, and a hearing at the court house is scheduled for October 25 at 8:30 a.m. The District Attorney will be looking for restitution.

b. Approval of Application for Annual License for Sale of Consumer Fireworks and set fee: The draft application includes the State License Number and signature of the Code Enforcement Officer which were added to the previous form. Anderson said some towns do not charge a fee or charge a nominal fee. In response to Kate Bryant's questions, Colby said a public hearing on a license is required for the initial license, not for subsequent years. The fee for renewal license was discussed and it was the consensus that advertising costs should be paid by the applicant. **Kathy Martin-Savage moved to accept the draft application and the applicant will be responsible for all costs associated with the application. Vote 5-0-0.**

10. New Business

a. Bid Openings – Tax Anticipation Note

The following bids were received:

Bank	Lump Sum Interest Rate	“As Needed” Interest Rate
Sanford Institute of Savings	3.69%	1.30%
Kennebec Savings Bank	3.49%	3.49%
Camden National Bank	2.87%	2.87%
The First	2.70%	2.70%
Machias Savings	2.49%	2.49%
Bath Savings	2.54%	2.54%
Skowhegan Savings	3.45%	3.45%

The board discussed the advantages of borrowing from the reserve account vs. borrowing from a bank and paying interest. Borrowing from the reserve account would require a vote, and Bob Blagden explained that because the interest rate the reserve account was earning was more than the interest on the TAN, it was more advantageous to borrow at a low rate from a bank. **Judy Colby moved to authorize the Town Manager and Treasurer to review the bids and award the Tax Anticipation Note bid to the lowest qualified bidder. Vote 5-0-0.**

b. Sign Quit Claim Deeds

- Bruce C. and Mary-Ellen Engert, 262 Bath Road (Map U10, Lot 23)
- Aaron and Sarah Morse, 80 Old Bath Road (Map R06 Lot 047)

Judy Colby moved to sign the Quit Claim deeds for Bruce and Mary-Ellen Engert and Aaron and Sarah Morse. Vote 5-0-0.

c. FAA Grant Offer for Airport Improvement Program Project No. 3-23-0049-020-2018 for airport development or noise program implementation. The maximum FAA obligation under this grant is \$34,200. **Bob Blagden moved to authorize the Town Manager to execute and sign the FAA grant application for Airport Improvement Program Project 3-23-0049-020-2018 for airport development or noise program implementation. Vote 5-0-0.**

d. New Business License Application: Julie Ambrosino d.b.a. Spruce, LLC at 49 Water Street: **Judy Colby moved to approve the business license for Julie Ambrosino d.b.a. Spruce. Vote 5-0-0.**

e. Wiscasset Public Library request to place fundraising event signs on the Town Common-Kathy Martin-Savage. Martin-Savage asked permission to put signs advertising the library fundraiser on the town common from August 19 to the day after the concert on Labor Day. She said the signs would be taken down within 24 hours after the event. **Ben Rines, Jr., moved to approve the request of the Wiscasset Public Library to place fundraising event signs on the Town Common. Vote 4-0-1 (Martin-Savage abstained).**

f. Resignation – Officer James Fisher, Wiscasset Police Department: **Judy Colby moved to accept the resignation of Officer Fisher with regret. Vote 5-0-0.**

g. Deem 2008 Ford Crown Victoria as surplus: **Bob Blagden moved to declare the vehicle surplus. It was suggested that the vehicle be put on Craig’s List or the Marketplace. Vote 5-0-0.**

11. Town Manager's Report

Marian Anderson introduced Bruce Mullen, the recently hired Code Enforcement Office, who is a resident of Wiscasset and a master plumber.

Anderson reported on the letter from the Davises thanking Road Commissioner Doug Fowler on the overhauling the parking lot on Water Street.

Anderson has received a letter from Sheriff Brackett regarding the temporary assistance Wiscasset will receive from the Sheriff's Department. The County will assist Wiscasset 86 hours per week for 30 days and is prepared to discuss a long-term solution.

White's Island Bridge from the railroad tracks to the mainland will be removed and a "bridge closed" sign will be erected. A grant for matching funds will be applied for before any work begins on the bridge and the work by the town employees involved in taking down the bridge will be considered part of the matching funds.

The Community Center will be shut down for a week from August 24 to September 9. Public Works will be working on the potholes during that period.

Anderson said the change in hours for the office was part of a negotiating process with the union. She said that many people have shown up between 7 and 7:30 and others had thanked the office for being open until 5 p.m.

In response to an update on the comprehensive plan, Anderson said she will talk to the Planning Board before meeting with Lincoln County Planning. Kim Andersson volunteered to be on the Comprehensive Plan Committee. Judy Colby suggested putting information in the papers and asking for volunteers.

12. Other Board Business

Ron Lear explained problems with the Transfer Station forklift. He suggested trading it in for a new forklift which would require six payments of \$2400. After discussion of ways to proceed, including anticipated department revenue for the current year, and deciding who should make the decision to replace or repair, **Bob Blagden moved to have the Town Manager and Town mechanic find out what's wrong with it (the forklift). Vote 4-1-0 (Andersson opposed).**

Kathy Martin-Savage publicly thanked Steve Christianson and the road crew for their work on the parking lot on Water Street.

At 7:45 p.m. **Judy Colby moved to enter Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6) (A). Vote 5-0-0.**

At 8:40 p.m., Kim Andersson moved to exit Executive Session and adjourn the meeting. Vote 5-0-0.

