

WISCASSET SELECT BOARD,  
BOARD OF ASSESSORS, AND OVERSEERS OF THE POOR  
JANUARY 30, 2018

Preliminary Minutes

Present: Bob Blagden, 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 7:05 p.m.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Approval of Treasurer's Warrants

- a. Ben Rines, Jr., moved to approve the payroll warrants of January 12, 19, and 26, 2018. Vote 5-0-0.
- b. Kathy Martin-Savage moved to approve the accounts payable warrants of January 16, 23, and 30, 2018. Vote 5-0-0.

3. Approval of Minutes

Bob Blagden moved to approve the minutes of January 9 and 16, 2018. Vote 5-0-0.

4. Special Presentations or Awards - none

5. Committee Appointments

Jeff Slack moved to approve the following committee appointments:

- a. Pamela Brackett, Airport Committee reappointment
- b. Susan Blagden, Board of Appeals reappointment
- c. Denis Hebert, Board of Appeals, Alternate reappointment

Vote 4-0-1 (Blagden abstained)

6. Public Hearings – None

7. Public Comment

Jason Putnam reported that the clock tower did not need major work and he has obtained materials for the repair. He asked for and received the board's approval to proceed.

Putnam also reported that CMP had lost the bid for line improvements.

8. Department Head or Committee Chair

- a. Submitted Department Head Reports: Marian Anderson reminded those present of the Winterfest celebration, February 2 and 3, and the February 15 Chamber After Hours, both at the Community Center.

## 9. Unfinished Business

- a. Patricia Quinn, Executive Director of Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority (Amtrak/Downeaster) – Presentation regarding passenger rail service in Wiscasset: Quinn described plans to extend Downeaster service up the coast of Maine from Brunswick to Bath, Wiscasset, Newcastle and Rockland on weekends. In a slide presentation, she described the four facets of the Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority: Partnerships, Performance, Promotion and Passengers. She said currently there are five round trips from Boston to Portland, three of which are extended to Freeport and Brunswick. She said local communities would be responsible for platforms and/or stations and for promotion of the service. The public outreach for the service will be conducted in February and timelines will be confirmed in March. Mary Ellen Barnes said she has been part of the welcoming team in the past and they know how to market the service. Kathy Martin-Savage asked the specs for the ramps be sent to the town. There was a consensus of the board to move forward. A five-minute recess was taken at 7:47 p.m.
- b. Winter Parking Ban – Parking Fines and Issues: Chief Jeffrey Lange submitted recommendations for additions to the ordinance for Handicapped Parking violations and a comparison of fines among Boothbay, Damariscotta and Wiscasset. After discussion, Ben Rines, Jr., moved to increase the parking fees from \$20 to \$25, the Handicapped space violations from \$100 to \$250 and Fire Hydrant violations from \$100 to \$250 and change the ordinance accordingly. Vote 5-0-0.

## 10. New Business

- a. 2018 Ambulance Service Contract Rates – Westport Island and Edgecomb: The current rate for Dresden will be reviewed to determine equal rates for Westport Island and Edgecomb and the item will be on the next agenda.
- b. Wiscasset Area Chamber of Commerce 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner 2/1/2018, 5:30 p.m.
- c. Monthly Financials
  - Department Year to date expense report: Anderson reported that expenses were in line with the budget.
  - H. M. Payson Investment Review: Value as of 12/31/17 was over \$14 million.
- d. Resignation of Paul Rubashkin, Police Administrative Assistant: Judy Colby moved to accept the resignation with regret. Vote 5-0-0.

## 11. Town Manager's Report

Anderson presented a resolution to the board for its approval supporting Senate Bill 1903 regarding payments to towns where decommissioned civilian nuclear power plants are located and requesting that the Senators Collins and King and Representatives Pingree and Poliquin co-sponsor the bill. If the

bill passes Wiscasset would receive annual payments from 2018 to 2024 of \$8,134,500. Judy Colby moved to formally request the support and that the resolution take place immediately upon its adoption. Vote 5-0-0. The resolution was signed. Anderson said if the funds were received, they would be used for infrastructure and capital improvement of the town.

The Community Center will be celebrating 20 years on February 14, 2018.

Anderson reported that Attorneys Murray and Shumadine continue to communicate with the MDOT leadership and there was nothing new to report.

The Town's response to the Wawenock LLC's appeal from the Business and Consumer Court to the State of Maine Supreme Judicial Court is due March 14, 2018.

Correspondence from Stephanie Meeks, National Trust for Historic Preservation, Mark Robison and Ralph Doering was given to the board.

Anderson said State and local authorities continue to monitor the sunken minesweeper.

Lucia Droby requested permission to invite food trucks participate in the summer. There was no objection from the board.

The Help Yourself Shelf Food Pantry requested that some of the funds donated to the food pantry be used to help support the school's food pantry. The board approved the request.

## 12. Other Board Business

Police Chief Jeff Lange alerted the public to a scam by phone soliciting funds for the police department. He said the Police Department does not solicit funds.

## 13. Assessor's Business

### a. Abatements:

- Matthew Huber, Map U09, Lot 001-001 in the amount of \$116.90
- Timothy Cromwell, Map R03, Lot 009 in the amount of \$871.52
- Matthew Huber, Map U09, Lot 001-001 in the amount of \$287.88
- Matthew Huber, Map U07, Lot 003-ON in the amount of \$280.65 for 2018 and \$281.40 for 2017 (Homestead exemption granted on new parcel

Jeff Slack moved to approve all three. Vote 5-0-0.

## 14. Adjournment

Kathy Martin-Savage moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m. Vote 5-0-0.

