

WISCASSET SELECT BOARD,
TAX ASSESSORS AND OVERSEERS OF THE POOR
SEPTEMBER 10, 2020

Present: Kim Andersson, Chair Pam Dunning, Vice Chair Kathy Martin-Savage, Jeff Slack, Sarah Whitfield, and Town Manager Dennis Simmons

Chair Pam Dunning called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Discussion/Sign Warrant for Special Open Town Meeting – Parks and Recreation Budget

Dennis Simmons said there was no intention to defund the Parks and Recreation Department; the problem was due to a printing error by the company that printed the ballots. The article should have read “raise and appropriate”; however, “raise” had been omitted. Simmons had contacted both legal counsel and Maine Municipal Association who indicated that funds could not be spent legally, nor could the P & R Department be funded out of contingency funds . He said that the solution would be to revote the article. Seven days’ notice of the special town meeting to vote on the article will be required. In the meantime, the Parks and Recreation Department cannot spend any of its budget and had been shut down.

Pam Dunning said the closure of the community center and its after-school programs would affect families who will have to stay home to care for their children. The members agreed that the Town had an obligation to the parents and providing after-school programs was a priority. Pam Dunning reminded the board that it was bonded for inadvertent mistakes. **Jeff Slack moved to approve \$9,000 of contingency funds to support the Parks and Recreation Department until the open town meeting.**

Duane Goud, Director of Parks and Recreation, said the \$9,000 would cover the immediate needs of the department until the budget could be approved at a special open town meeting. **Vote 5-0-0.**

Jeff Slack moved to hold an open town meeting on Thursday, September 17 at 6 p.m. The purpose of the open town meeting is to raise and appropriate \$829,889 for the Parks and Recreation Department. Vote 5-0-0.

3. Adjournment

Jeff Slack moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:38 p.m. Vote 5-0-0.