

WISCASSET SELECT BOARD,
TAX ASSESSORS AND OVERSEERS OF THE POOR
MINUTES, APRIL 6, 2021, 6 P.M.
VIA ZOOM

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

Absent: Jeff Slack

Chair Pam Dunning called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

1. Approval of Treasurer's Warrants

- a. **Kathy Martin-Savage moved to approve the payroll warrant of April 2, 2021. Vote 4-0-0.**
- b. **Kathy Martin-Savage moved to approve the accounts payable warrant of April 6, 2021. Vote 4-0-0.**

2. Approval of Minutes

- a. **Kathy Martin-Savage moved to approve the minutes of March 30, 2021. Vote 4-0-0.**

3. Special Presentations or Awards - None

4. Committee Appointments – None

5. Public Hearings

- a. Request for Extension of License on Premise: **Kathy Martin-Savage moved to open the public hearing at 6:05 p.m. Vote 4-0-0.** There was no discussion. **Kathy Martin-Savage moved to exit the public hearing at 6:06 p.m. Vote 4-0-0.** **Kim Andersson moved to approve the request for Extension of License on Premise for Daniel Dyer, DBA Barnhouse Grill & Pub, located at 390 Bath Road. Vote 4-0-0.**

6. Public Comment on Non-agenda Items

Lucia Droby outlined plans for the 2021 Art Walk which will be family-centered and feature musicians, dancers, picnics-to-go from local restaurants, sidewalk artists, and vendors. She asked permission to hang banners on the railings along Main Street and to close the south side of Middle Street for bistro tables, dancers and a brass band. **Kim Andersson moved to permit banners on railings on Route 1 for Art Walk, and the closing of the south side of Middle Street for the Art Walk for bistro tables, art displays and dance performances. Vote 4-0-0.**

Ed Polewarczyk commented on the changes made in the solar project: a change in the acreage from 50 acres, with a lease rate of \$1000/acre for 20 years, to 75 acres, and then the amended offer of a purchase agreement from \$127 per MWh to \$80 per MWh, then the agreement was for 20 acres and the lease rate or fee was \$50,000. The Town is now negotiating with an affiliate of the

subsidiary. He asked that the board keep the town up to date on what was happening, the current stage of the project, who will be buying the energy, how it will be financed and if the system would be taxable to the Town. Sarah Whitfield commented that it was not the intention of the board to be secretive about the agreement and that the board was not currently in negotiations on the solar project.

7. Department Head or Committee Chair - none

8. Unfinished Business

a. Generator bids

- Dennis Simmons asked that the generator bids received earlier be formally rejected. **Kathy Martin-Savage moved to reject the generator bids. Vote 4-0-0.**

b. Sprague's Electric Deposit – **Kathy Martin-Savage moved to take this item out of order. Vote 4-0-0.** The matter will be discussed at the end of the meeting.

c. Revote Town Meeting Warrant Article 6 (previously approved 5-0-0, vote taken without a motion).

Kathy Martin-Savage moved to place the following Article on the June 8th Annual Town Meeting Warrant: "Shall the Town authorize and delegate to the Board of Selectmen to negotiate and enter into a long-term lease agreement for approximately 20 acres at the Wiscasset Municipal Airport with MSD Wiscasset LLC (an affiliate of BAP Power Corporation d/b/a/Cenergy) for the construction and operation of a solar energy project on terms acceptable to the Board of Selectmen?" Vote 4-0-0.

9. New Business

a. Correspondence

- Margot Stiassni-Siercki had written expressing appreciation for the Community Center.
- Carol Daignealut had donated \$1,000 to the Fire Department in gratitude for the help she received after a car accident 20 years ago.

10. Town Manager's Report

Dennis Simmons reported that a check for just over \$21,000 had been received from MMA following an audit of the Town's unemployment insurance. An adjustment had been made due to the Town's wages being lower than anticipated.

The Police Chief, EMS Chief and Fire Chief were speakers at a career day event (via Zoom) for the Troy Howard Middle School in Belfast, and, according to the coordinator, they had done a great job.

Simmons attended meetings with the National League of Cities trying to drill down the details of the recently passed American Rescue Plan, with the Airport Committee, and with MTCMA Virtual Manager Exchange. He has been asked to be on the interview panel for the open Director of Communications position at the dispatch center.

Fred Libby of Molnlycke Health Care said the company had expanded its product line and as a result had hired additional employees. He asked for permission to use a 50' x 120' area of town property for temporary parking until the company could expand its parking lot to accommodate the overlap parking between shift changes. Dennis Simmons said under the agreement the Town would retain ownership and accept no liability. **Kathy Martin-Savage moved that the town enter into an agreement with Molnlycke to park on Town property. Vote 4-0-0.**

11. Other Board Business

a. At 6:47, **Kathy Martin-Savage moved to enter Executive Session pursuant to M.R.S.A. § 405 (6)(A). Vote 4-0-0.** At 7:11, **Kathy Martin-Savage moved to leave Executive Session. Vote 4-0-0.** No action was taken.

b. (8 b above) Sprague's Electric Deposit: **Kim Andersson moved that Frank Sprague's electric deposit be equal to his first month's electric bill from last year which was \$209.69. Vote 4-0-0.**

12 Adjournment

At 7:13 p.m. **Kathy Martin-Savage moved to adjourn. Vote 4-0-0.**