

WISCASSET SELECTBOARD
FEBRUARY 15, 2021
6 P.M. VIA ZOOM

Present: Kim Andersson, Pam Dunning, Terry Heller, Vice Chair Dusty Jones, Chair Sarah Whitfield, and Town Manager Dennis Simmons

Chair Sarah Whitfield called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

1. Approval of Treasurer's Warrants

a. Pam Dunning moved to approve the Payroll Warrants of February 4 and 11, 2022. Vote 5-0-0.

b. Pam Dunning moved to approve the Accounts Payable warrants of February 8 and 15, 2022, Vote 5-0-0.

2. Approval of Minutes

a. Terry Heller moved to approve the minutes of February 1, 2022. Vote 5-0-0.

3. Special Presentations or Awards – none

4. Committee Appointments

a. Pam Dunning moved to appoint Larry Rines to the Broadband Committee. Vote 5-0-0.

b.&c. Pam Dunning moved to reappoint Karl Olson to the Planning Board and Ordinance Review Committee. Vote 5-0-0.

5. Public Hearings – none

6. Public Comment – none

7. Department Head or Committee Chair

a. Department Head Monthly Reports: Pam Dunning commented on the terrific job by the Public Works Department during the past storms and on the favorable reports about the move of sand to the Transfer Station.

8. Unfinished Business

a. Net Energy Billing bid: The sole bid received was from Ameresco. Adam Teff of Titan Energy summarized the bid which offered a guaranteed 22% discount with year-one savings of \$25,740 and lifetime savings of \$566,355.61. Ameresco is headquartered in Massachusetts and has an office in Portland; its project in Bucksport has all interconnection, local permitting and financing documentation finalized which is an advantage for Wiscasset. He said credits are scheduled to flow by the summer of 2023. He contrasted the Ameresco bid with the Revision Energy offer of a 20% discount, one-year savings of \$23,400 and lifetime savings of \$514,868.74. In response to questions, Adam Teff said the power will still be received from CMP and the customer will receive a bill from both CMP and Ameresco. He added that while the town has many CMP accounts, only one bill will be received from Ameresco. According to Adam Teff, Wiscasset will be using approximately 20% of the production from the array. There was a consensus to proceed with Ameresco and **Pam Dunning moved that the Town of Wiscasset contingently award the bid to Ameresco Solar Savings and that is contingent upon the board's approval through their legal advice of the contract. Vote 5-0-0.**

9. New Business

a. Monthly Financials:

- Department year-to-date expense/revenue reports
- H.M. Payson Statement of Accounts

b. CMP Pole Permit – Work Order #801000442925 (Location 302' south of the intersection of Chewonki Neck Road and Thorndike Road): **Pam Dunning moved to approve the CMP Pole Permit Application for work order #80100044295. Vote 5-0-0.**

c. Bill of Sale: **Pam Dunning moved to execute the Bill of Sale of a mobile home located at 1051 Gardiner Road, Lot #28 to Whitney Beaulieu. Vote 5-0-0.**

d. Use of Town Property Policy Discussion: The following changes were made to the draft prepared by the Ordinance Review Committee: The Community Center manager will have the authority to approve rental applications for the community center, inside grills will be deleted, fees will be determined and may be waived by the selectboard and will appear on a separate fee schedule, and information on temporary business licenses will be added. Because the policy is not yet in effect, the board will allow Duane Goud to approve an event with cocktails to take place on the weekend at the Community Center.

10. Town Manager's Report

In addition to items already discussed during the meeting, the Town Manager reported that Wright Pierce has gone out to bid for the Old Ferry Road culvert repair, estimated cost about \$800,000 which exceeds the amount of funding currently available. The Town has committed about \$525,000 and has a stream-crossing grant for \$125,000. An additional grant has been applied for with the U.S. Economic Development Agency's Nuclear Closures Community program.

Simmons spoke with Ransom on Mason Station issues and more discussion will be necessary regarding the change orders.

11. Other Board Business

Future in-person meetings with masks were discussed per CDC guidelines. Possible locations were discussed as well as the difficulties with and possible use of AV systems such as the Meeting Owl which focuses on the speaker. Meeting at the Town Hall meetingroom with zoom capabilities was discussed. Pam Dunning recommended that the microphones at the community center be moved away from the speakers to eliminate feedback and Dennis Simmons recommended the use of lapel mikes. A decision will be made at the next meeting taking into consideration the CDC guidelines at that time. Duane Goud said that the community center would be available for use by the select board on its regular meeting schedule.

An all-day budget meeting with the Budget Committee was scheduled for March 12 beginning at 9 a.m. The Town Manager will supply comprehensive budget books to the board two weeks before the meeting.

12. Adjournment

Pam Dunning moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:39 p.m. Vote 5-0-0.