

WISCASSET BOARD OF SELECTMEN
DECEMBER 11, 2007

(Tape recorded meeting)

Present: Bill Curtis, Chairman Duane Goud, Vice Chairman David Nichols, Nicole Viele and Town Manager Arthur Faucher

1. Call to Order

Chairman Duane Goud called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America

3. Approve Minutes of November 27, 2007

David Nichols moved, Bill Curtis seconded, to accept the minutes as read. Vote 4-0.

New Business

4. January 15, 2008 Election

Bill Curtis moved, Nicole Viele seconded, to sign the public notice for the January 3, 2008 public hearing. Vote 4-0. Chairman Duane Goud read the special election warrant. **Duane Goud moved, David Nichols seconded, to sign the special election warrant for the January 15 election at the Wiscasset Community Center from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Vote 4-0.**

5. Wicked Good Aviation and Future Fixed Base Operations for Wiscasset Airport

Mike Muchmore was unable to be present because of a death in the family; however, he had contacted the Town Manager to thank the town for the opportunity to serve as the fixed base operator and to give notice that Wicked Good Aviation will cease as FBO on January 31, 2008.

Town Manager Arthur Faucher and Bill Curtis had met with the FAA who will provide a Request for Proposal sample and will assist the Wiscasset Airport Committee in finding a replacement for Wicked Good Aviation. Ken Boudin, Airport Committee Chairman, said that Wicked Good Aviation had done an excellent job for Wiscasset and that Mike Muchmore had offered to assist the Town if needed after the end of January. He said that an RFP would be sent out for an FBO but in the meantime, the FAA would require that the runway be kept open and that self-service fuel was available. It may be necessary to find someone to make sure the tanks are kept filled until an FBO is found. The position will be advertised in the newspapers and on the internet. He suggested that the current contracts be reviewed before preparing the RFP.

Bill Curtis moved, David Nichols seconded, to send Mike Muchmore a letter of appreciation for the help and promotion that he has done for the airport. Vote 4-0.
Duane Goud moved, Bill Curtis seconded, to authorize the Town Manager to make up a proposal for an FBO at the airport. Vote 4-0.

6. Description of Amendment to Residual Management Service Agreement between Wiscasset and New England Waste Services

Buck Rines said that the amendment to the contract with New England Waste Services would allow the contract to be renewed automatically without having to be signed every three years and would explain how the increase in fuel charge is figured. He said the price is adjusted annually and had increased \$5 in the last six years. **Duane Goud moved, David Nichols seconded, to authorize the Town Manager to sign the Residual Management Service Agreement.** Prior Morrell suggested that the contract be put out for bid when it comes up for renewal in three years. **Vote 4-0.**

Buck Rines, in an update on the new pump station on Old Ferry Road, said that it is up and running but that the CMP has not yet upgraded the power.

7. Discussion and Standing of the MDOT and Federal Highway Administration Route 1 Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)

Don Jones summarized the Transportation Committee's position on the DEIS. While supporting the need for a bypass, the committee felt the DEIS was deficient in its failure to include an analysis of interchange alternatives with Routes 218 and 27. The committee was also concerned with the proximity of the routes to the historic district and preferred that the route begin farther south and pass completely around the historic district, not separating the village from the schools. The Committee prefers N2/N2h/N2f.

Bill Curtis said the town's position over the years was that the bypass begin at the Woolwich/Wiscasset town line. He said according to the State Police records, on the section of Route 1 from the Woolwich line to Old Bath Road, there were 144 accidents from 2003 to 2006, with at least one fatality. He asked that the town express its concern over this section of Route 1. He said that there is no emergency vehicle access. He recommended that the Board support a controlled access for emergency vehicles only via Old Bath Road and emergency vehicle ingress and egress from either direction at Routes 218 and 27.

In the discussion which followed Prior Morrell said the State had been told in the past that Wiscasset does not need a bypass; Roy Farmer said that 140 property owners would be affected by the bypass, which was too close to the village; and Karl Tarbox recounted the history of the town's positions over the past ten years and encouraged the Selectmen to "speak with one voice." Bill Phinney recommended working with the MDOT and a land planner to come up with better alternatives. Duane Goud said that a bypass was a seasonal fix, it would be used for only two or three months, and the money could be better spent elsewhere. Arthur Faucher spoke about the political, social and economic impacts of the bypass, some of which were already being experienced, and said there was still room for negotiation with the DOT. Bill Curtis recommended that a letter be sent to the Commissioner outlining the Board's objections to the proposed routes (proximity to schools and village), proposing that previous routes be re-examined and working with the DOT to address all the avenues mentioned by the Town Manager.

Although the Comprehensive Plan supports a bypass, there was a consensus among the Selectmen that none of the routes be endorsed for the reasons listed above. **Duane Goud moved, Nicole Viele seconded, to authorize Arthur Faucher to draft a letter to the Commissioner from the Selectmen expressing their concerns over the currently proposed routes.** Bill Phinney asked that Arthur Faucher meet with the Commissioner to deliver the letter personally and explain the Board's position. **Vote 4-0.**

8. Other Board Business

Arthur Faucher said there were still tags on the Christmas tree if anyone wished to purchase gifts for families in need.

There are five pen, pencil and key chain sets @ \$35 and five plaques @ \$35 and up, all made from masts of the Luther Little and/or Hesper, which are available to the public. Those interested in purchasing any of these items can enter their names in a lottery. The deadline for entries is January 15. Names will be drawn at a Selectmen's meeting.

Bill Phinney asked that the tradition of lighting the trees on the sidewalks on Main Street in the village be continued.

9. Citizen Comments

Don Jones said that the Transportation Committee had met and had agreed with the restriction of parking on High Street to one side of the street (proposed at the previous Selectmen's meeting) , whether on a temporary or permanent basis. He asked that the signs be unobtrusive and limited in number.

The Regional Planning Committee for school consolidation will meet in Whitefield on December 13.

Duane Goud moved, Nicole Viele seconded, that the town office will not be closed from 12 to 2 p.m. on December 20 and the Christmas party will be held on December 24 at noon. Vote 4-0. Duane Goud moved, David Nichols seconded, to close the office on December 31 at 4 p.m. Vote 4-0.

David Nichols moved, Bill Curtis seconded, to go into executive session in accordance with 1 M.R.S.A. Section 405(6)(D) to discuss labor negotiations regarding the Support Staff Unit of the District Lodge #4 for the IAMAW Local Lodge S/89 on Tuesday, December 11, 2007 at 8:55 p.m. Vote 4-0.

At 11:11 p.m. Duane Goud moved, David Nichols seconded, to come out of executive session. Vote 4-0. A continuation of the discussion will be held on December 18, 2007. A similar executive session will be held in accordance to 1M.R.S.A. Section 405(6) (D) to discuss labor negotiations regarding the Support Staff Unit of the District Lodge #4 for the IAMAW Local Lodge S/89. An executive session will also be held under Title 1:General Provisions, Chapter 13: Section 405 (6.A) for deliberations on the employment, evaluation and compensation of town manager Arthur Faucher, executive secretary Debi Applebee, town planner Jeffery Hinderlitter and recreation director Todd Souza. Meeting time is yet to be determined.

10. Adjourn

Duane Goud moved, Nicole Viele seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 11:18 p.m. Vote 4-0.