

WISCASSET BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MAY 13, 2008

(Tape recorded meeting)

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

1. Call to Order

The chairman called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

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

The chairman announced that the secret ballot vote on the school budget will be held on May 27 at the Wiscasset Community Center from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

3. Approve minutes of April 22 and 29, 2008 and May 6, 2008. Approve Abatement minutes of April 12 and 29, 2008 and May 5 and 6, 2008

Phil DiVece moved, Nicole Viele seconded, to approve the minutes. Vote 5-0.

New Business

4. Proposed location change for July 4th fireworks display - Becky Applin

Becky Applin said there had been a suggestion that a site near the Mason Station be used for the fireworks to centralize the activities at the pier where vendors will be set up and allow better visibility from the pier. She has checked into insurance and has received approval from the State Fire Marshall for the change. Police Lt. John Allen said many people park at the middle school to watch the fireworks and asked where they would park if they had to go to the pier. He suggested using the wastewater treatment plan for the pyrotechnics so that people at the pier and at the school could see the fireworks. Duane Goud asked Becky Applin to look into both locations, Birch Point Road and the sewage treatment plant, and report to the Board. A barge would be very expensive but could be considered for the 250th anniversary in 2010.

5. Request ORC to develop recommendations requiring visible address numbers for homes and businesses for E-911 purposes

Town Planner Jeffrey Hinderliter said the Town received a request for the ORC to look into requiring the posting of address numbers to help emergency services find the correct address. **Duane Goud moved, Nicole Viele seconded, to authorize the ORC to develop recommendations for requiring visible address numbers for homes and businesses for 911 purposes. Vote 5-0.**

6. Request ORC develop recommendations for a demolition permit

Jeffrey Hinderliter said that a simple demolition permit without a fee could help the Town keep track of buildings that were demolished and should be removed from the tax rolls. **Duane Goud moved, Phil DiVece seconded, to give authority to the ORC to develop recommendations for a demolition permit. Vote 5-0.**

7. Request amendment to ordinances - John Allen

- **Parking Fines:** Lt. Allen recommended increasing the parking fines, as offenders are ignoring parking tickets, assuming that the Town would not pursue collection of the fines legally. Parking fines in nearby towns range from \$10 to \$25 while Wiscasset's parking fines are \$5. Fines are doubled if not paid within 48 hours. Jeffrey Hinderliter recommended looking into the State statutes before enacting an ordinance increasing fines and added that a public hearing would be required. **Duane Goud moved, Nicole Viele seconded, to amend the ordinance to increase parking fines and to include court costs and hold the required public hearing. Vote 5-0.**
- **Road Sign Fees:** Lt. Allen recommended that a fee be associated with obtaining a building permit to cover the cost of a sign on a driveway to assist deputies in locating addresses, this would be particularly useful if more than one house is on the same driveway. Road Commissioner Bob Blagden said that if the town required signs, it would be responsible to maintain or replace if necessary. **Duane Goud moved, Phil DiVece seconded, to request the Town Planner to recommend a fee schedule or agreement that has to be met if there is more than one dwelling on a driveway. Vote 5-0.**

8. Implementation of NIMS (National Incident Management System) John Allen

John Allen asked the Selectmen to sign the NIMS letter, indicating acceptance of the NIMS policy for emergency services. He said there are two grants totaling almost \$60,000 that are available to the Town if it certifies that the NIMS policy is being followed. The Ambulance Service and Police Department personnel have received NIMS training; some firefighters are still in training. Copies of the certifications will be placed in the employees' personnel files. **Nicole Viele moved, Phil DiVece seconded, to accept implementation of the NIMS policy for the Town. Vote 4-1 (Curtis opposed).**

Don Jones, referring to the ordinance prohibiting parking within 10 feet of a fire hydrant, said that the recently painted yellow lines indicating no parking appear to be in conflict with the ordinance. The ordinance states that vehicles may not park within 10 feet of the hydrant, but the area marked on the street is 10 feet total, five feet on either side of the hydrant. Bob Blagden said that because the hydrant is set back from the curb, the actual distance from the hydrant as marked on the street, using a 10-foot radius, is in accordance with the ordinance. John Allen will ask the Fire Chief to determine if a problem exists.

9. Approve amended Firefly contract for new website

Duane Goud said the Firefly contract had been adjusted to cover the cost of additions, which were overlooked, to the Town side of the website, increasing the total by \$4680. He said at the signing of the extension \$3,225 will be due, \$3,225 will be due on July 1 for the beta launch, \$3,225 will be due on August 1 for the phase 1 launch and \$1,255 due on September 1 for the phase 2 launch. Total cost is approximately \$17,180. The website should be running by September 1 and will be maintained by staff at the Community Center and at the Town Office. Minutes, agendas and other Information are being sent to Firefly so that the website should be up to date when it is available in September. **Duane Goud moved, Bill Curtis seconded, to approve the amended contract with Firefly.** There were comments on the value of the website, the ease of looking up property values, the availability of the ordinances and the disappointment that Budget Committee and Transportation Committee minutes and other information have not been available for months. **Vote 5-0.**

10. Award annual catch basin cleaning bid

Two bids were received:

McDonald Sweeping	By Basin: \$35 By Hour: \$100
Wilson's Commercial Sweeping	By Basin: \$37 By Hour: \$175

The Road Commissioner recommended accepting the bid on a per basin basis from McDonald Sweeping, the low bidder. **Duane Goud moved, Nicole Viele seconded, to accept the McDonald bid for \$35 per basin. Vote 5-0.**

The Road Commissioner recommended awarding the striping contract at the airport for \$4,890.60 to Lucas Striping. Lucas will also stripe the airplane parking at no charge, a \$217 savings to the Town. **Duane Goud moved, Bill Curtis seconded, to award the airport striping contract to Lucas for \$4,890.60. Vote 5-0.**

The Road Commissioner presented bids to replace bodies on two trucks (#6 and #7) at the town garage:

Howard P. Fairfield, Inc.	\$6,150
Messer Truck Equipment	6,495
Hews (did not bid)	

He said the bodies were so rusted that overall strength is compromised and repairing them with a temporary fix is a waste of time. He estimated that the trucks would be usable for at least two more winters. The expense will be taken from the current truck repair line in the budget and will not require additional funds. **Duane Goud moved, Phil DiVece seconded, to accept the bid of Howard P. Fairfield, Inc. to replace the bodies on two trucks at a cost of \$6,150 per body. Vote 5-0.**

11. Request to erect building on town-owned property off Fowle Hill Road for Sno-Goers - William Rines

William Rines asked permission to build a storage building/club house on the Fire Department Training site at no cost to the Town. The building for the snowmobiling club would be a 24' x 32' garage on a cement pad with overhead doors on both ends of the building. The building will have electricity but no plumbing. The Town will look into the insurance discrepancies. **Duane Goud moved, Bill Curtis seconded, to give the Wiscasset Sno-Goers permission to erect a building on the fire training site near the transfer station.** The Sno-Goers were requested to apply to the Planning Board for approval of a building permit and return to the Select Board for an answer on the insurance question.

12. Request to Approve the 911 Road naming of Old Farm Lane (Cecil Reed driveway at 217 Old Sheepscot Road)

David Nichols moved, Duane Goud seconded, to approve the naming of Old Farm Lane for 911 purposes. Vote 5-0.

13. Sign Ratio Declaration and Reimbursement Application for 2008 tax year

The application covers 909 homestead exemptions valued at \$11,817,000 at .013 mills and will result in a state reimbursement of approximately \$77,000. **Duane Goud moved, Nicole Viele seconded, to sign the Ratio Declaration and Reimbursement Application. Vote 5-0.**

14. Request to rescind mooring permit application

A letter had been received from Alexander Diamond and Suzanne Sherwood requesting that their mooring license be rescinded and the mooring fee of \$50 be refunded. **David Nichols moved, Bill Curtis seconded, to grant the refund and turn the mooring over to the harbormaster. Vote 5-0.**

15. Town Manager Report

- Approval of the shore and harbor grant (mooring field): Arthur Faucher announced that a \$6,000 grant had been awarded to Wiscasset to reconfigure the mooring field. It will require \$1500 in matching funds from the Town, which is in the budget. **Nicole Viele moved, Bill Curtis seconded, to accept the grant and authorize the Town Manager to sign the contract for reconfiguring the harbor mooring field. Vote 5-0.**
- Permission to launch harbormaster vessel: Harbormaster Peter Dalton requested permission to launch the vessel. He said minor damage had been repaired and it would be necessary to change the fluids, adjust valves and install a propeller cage. He has been in contact with the Fire Department regarding rescue in the river and will train the Fire Department personnel. **Duane Goud moved, Phil DiVece seconded, to give permission to the harbormaster to launch the boat and do the necessary repairs.** Repairs and the stainless cage will cost approximately \$3,000 to \$5,000; funds will be taken from the contingency account. **Vote 5-0.**
- Modification of jib crane: Peter Dalton asked permission to put a hand crank and stop on the crane. The crane is used to take gear off boats, and the lobstermen initially were to pay \$200 per year to pay off the crane. Dalton was asked to determine the cost to modify the crane and return to the Board with an estimate. The crane will need to be re-certified. He was also asked to speak to the lobstermen in the program to determine the current status.
- Discussion regarding surplus mooring equipment: Peter Dalton said there were moorings at the dump that he would like to sell and use the money for the waterfront. **Phil DiVece moved, Duane Goud seconded, to authorize the Harbormaster to meet with Arthur Faucher to draft an ad for bids for the surplus moorings. Vote 5-0.**

16. Other Business

Arthur Faucher, as acting health officer, asked the Board's authorization to remove household garbage, wood and white goods from the property formerly owned by Roger Jones, who had lost the property through foreclosure. The Town has permission of the bank and the attorney involved to clean up the property. Bob Blagden estimated it would take two men two hours to clean up the property. **Phil DiVece moved, Nicole Viele seconded, to authorize the Town Manager to do whatever is necessary to see said property is cleaned up to the satisfaction of the acting health officer, and all expenses incurred by the Town of Wiscasset be applied to the lien on the property so that at such time as the property is sold the Town will be reimbursed for all costs incurred in cleaning up the property.** Duane Goud said he had a problem with the Town cleaning up someone's property without a

chance of being paid. He acknowledged it was a health hazard and suggested that the State be involved in the process. **Vote 5-0.**

Bill Curtis asked the status of hiring a replacement for the Administrative Assistant. Arthur Faucher said he was almost finished with the job description. Bill Curtis and Nicole Viele volunteered to assist in the hiring process.

Phil DiVece raised the question of the disposition of the surplus fire truck. Bill Curtis had quoted a price of \$17,000 to the Town of Dresden, and Dresden would like a decision by the Board before the June 2 Dresden Town Meeting. Wiscasset has spent \$16,265.71 on the truck. The agreement between Jefferson and Central Nyack on the truck before it ultimately was given to Wiscasset was discussed. Bill Curtis recommended that Bob MacDonald, who negotiated the deal for the truck, be invited to the next meeting. Bill Curtis has drafted a sales agreement that will be given to the Board and the Town attorney for review. **Duane Goud moved, Bill Curtis seconded, to make an agreement with Dresden for this piece of equipment.** It was recommended that the old fire truck at the Transfer Station be sold or broken down and sold for parts. **Vote 5-0.**

The chairman asked that the former Elizabeth Young property on Old Dresden Road be put out to bid.

Nicole Viele asked that the review of three department heads be completed. Duane Goud asked that it take place before the next Selectmen's meeting. Arthur Faucher said he had received an email from Linda McGill regarding a contract for the support staff and copies will be made for the Selectmen.

A Special Town Meeting will be held on May 14, 6 p.m., at the high school to pass over the articles to the Special Town Meeting on Saturday, May 17 at 9 a.m. An abatement meeting was tentatively scheduled for Monday, May 19 at 7 p.m.

17. Citizen Comments

J. D. Warren, a candidate for County Commissioner, introduced himself to the Selectmen and audience.

In response to Bob Blagden's questions, Arthur Faucher gave him authorization to pick up the garbage on the Roger Jones' former property on Wednesday, May 14 and to have the Animal Control Officer remove the animals from the property.

In response to Bob Blagden's request, **Duane Goud moved, Bill Curtis seconded, to direct the ORC to amend the subdivision ordinance to require a road association be formed before any lots are sold. Vote 5-0.**

The Special Town Meeting for the school ballot has been rescheduled to May 27. The Planning Board will meet on May 28, because of the holiday on May 26. School ballots will be available on May 20.

18. Adjourn

Phil DiVece moved, David Nichols seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 p.m. Vote 5-0.