

WISCASSET BOARD OF SELECTMEN
AUGUST 19, 2008

(Tape recorded meeting)

Present: Bill Curtis, Phil DiVece, Bob Fairfield, Chairman David Nichols and Town Manager Arthur Faucher

Absent: Nicole Viele

1. Call to Order

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

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

3. Approve Minutes of August 5, 2008

Bill Curtis moved to accept the minutes as printed. Vote 4-0.

New Business

4. Employee Recognition of 20 years of Service to the Town of Wiscasset - Ron Lear

This item will be rescheduled to a date when Mr. Lear can be present.

5. Discussion on Time Line for Tax Commitment

Town Clerk Sandra Johnson advised the board that the Treasurer would need the tax commitment by September 17 if tax bills were to be sent out in a timely manner. If funds are to be transferred from the reserve account, the voters must approve such a transfer and she suggested September 11 as a date for an open town meeting to vote on the transfer. If the meeting is held on September 11, the warrant must be signed at the September 2 meeting. She said the board should also make sure that reports from the auditors and from Tyler are finalized. Steve Mehrl said the board should already have the necessary school department figures.

Phil DiVece moved to set a special town meeting for September 11 for the purpose of deciding whether or not to take funds from the reserve account in order to apply to the tax commitment. Arthur Faucher will contact Edward Jones to confirm what funds were available. Steve Mehrl said that the board should already have the necessary information on the school budget. **Vote 4-0.**

6. Request for Use of Waterfront Pier on September 6, 2008 for Gospel Concert from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Arthur Faucher said the Police Department had no problem with the request. **Bob Fairfield moved to approve the use of the Waterfront Pier on September 6, 2008 for a gospel concert. Vote 4-0.**

7. Town Manager's Report

- Fiscal Year 2007/2008 Audit Update: Arthur Faucher reported that the auditors hope to have the town side of the audit completed by the end of the month.
- Resignation of Recreation/Program Director Jeff Slack: The Town Manager reported that Jeff Slack would be leaving on August 22 for a job in the private sector. Todd Souza, Director of Parks and Recreation, will post the opening and will also be re-evaluating the position. **Phil DiVece moved to accept the resignation of Jeff Slack as Assistant Recreation/Program Director with regret and thank him for his service to the community. Vote 4-0.** Arthur Faucher said he had conducted an exit interview but could not comment on Slack's reason for leaving.
- Winter Sand Bid: Bids for supplying winter sand were due August 19 and one bid was received. H. C. Crooker quoted a price of \$7 per cubic yard of sand. The Road Commissioner said \$30,000 to \$35,000 had been budgeted for sand. **Phil DiVece moved to accept the bid from H. C. Crooker and Sons of Topsham on the winter sand contract at the stated price of \$7 per cubic yard. Vote 4-0.**
- Handicap Accessible Entrance: A quote had been received from Narrow Door Co., LLC, to replace the existing door on the Bath Road entrance with a handicap accessible door and to furnish and install a new door at the Police Station for \$10,451. **Bill Curtis moved to accept the offer of \$10,451 for the work as specified in the quote by making the front door ADA accessible and replacing the door in the police station.** In response to George Green's question whether the installation of the handicap accessible door would make voting at the town office possible, Sandy Johnson said that the purpose of the new door was to allow handicap access to the building to obtain absentee ballots; the building was not equipped to handle voting under the new state regulations. Narrow Door Co. had installed the handicap accessible door at the community center. **Vote 4-0.**
- FOAA Workshop: Arthur Faucher announced that a FOAA workshop will be held on September 9 for the Budget Committee and selectmen as well as other committee members. He said he had invited Alna and Westport Island to attend also. On the same date at Lincoln Academy, the EMA is sponsoring a heating forum at which he encouraged attendance by a selectman.

8. Other Business

Bill Curtis announced that the Wiscasset American Legion post had voted to have Bob Fairfield be the liaison between the post and the 250th anniversary committee. He added that a resident of Alna would provide three vintage vehicles for veterans to ride on in the parade.

Phil DiVece announced that the second reading of the draft freedom of access policy would be on the September 2 agenda.

9. Citizen Comments

Referring to the televised Selectmen's meetings, George Green said that it is impossible to hear speakers at the rear of the room and at times to hear the Selectmen. He suggested that the Selectmen either speak into their microphones so that viewers of the meetings on Channel 7 can hear them or discontinue televising the meetings.

10. Adjourn

Bill Curtis moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. Vote 4-0.