WISCASSET BOARD OF SELECTMEN,

BOARD OF ASSESSORS AND OVERSEERS OF THE POOR

MARCH 1, 2016

tape recorded meeting

Present: David Cherry, Judy Colby, Vice Chair Judy Flanagan, Chair Ben Rines, Jr., Jeff Slack and Town Manager Marian Anderson

1. Call to Order

Chairman Ben Rines, Jr., called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Public Hearings

A. Liquor License Renewal – Little Village Bistro: **Judy Colby moved to open the public hearing. Vote 5-0-0.** In response to David Cherry’s question, Town Manager Marian Anderson said the one-year period of the license could be added to the state required application form. Judy Flanagan said the restaurant was an asset to the town. **Judy Colby moved to close the public hearing. Vote 5-0-0.** **Jeff Slack moved to approve the Little Village Bistro’s liquor license. Vote 5-0-0.**

4. Approval of Minutes

**Judy Flanagan moved to approve the minutes of February 16 as corrected. Vote 5-0-0.**

5. Approval of Treasurer’s Warrants

A. **Judy Flanagan moved to approve the payroll warrants of February 19 and 26, 2016. Vote 5-0-0.**

B. **David Cherry moved to approve the accounts payable warrants of February 23 and march 1, 2016. Vote 5-0-0.**

6. Assessors’ Business – none

7. Special Presentations or awards

Chairman Ben Rines, Jr., welcomed Ben Averill as the new Town Planner. Averill said he looked forward to working with the boards and committees of the town.

8. Appointments

**Judy Colby moved to appoint John Merry to the Budget Committee**. His appointment will end in June. The Budget Committee now has six members – five are needed for a quorum. **Vote 5-0-0.**

9. Resignations – none

10 Public Comment – none

11. Unfinished Business

A. Wiscasset Community Center roof replacement bid summary: Marian Anderson said no recommendation from Wright-Pierce had been received to date; however, the item will be on the March 15 agenda with a recommendation. The selectmen were provided with a breakdown of the bids for the roof replacement showing prices for replacing the lower roof, the upper roof and total bid.

B. Hesper and Luther Little: The board had received a memo from Robert Cronk updating the board on the objectives for a high school project to restore and/or refurbish the remains of the two ships.

C. White’s Island, temporary signage: The Maine Coast Heritage Trust has acquired White’s Island and the Town’s acceptance of the island will be on the annual town meeting warrant. The trust has asked permission to put up temporary signage indicating that the island has been conserved in cooperation with the town. Marian Anderson said the Code Enforcement Officer had no problems with the sign. Anderson had met with Chesterfield Associates who will donate time and talent to figure out the next steps for the two bridges. A draft warrant article will be presented to the board by the trust.

D. Support Staff Contract**: Judy Flanagan moved to accept as written the support staff contract**. The support staff has not yet signed the contract. **Vote 4-0-1** (Rines abstained.)

12. New Business

A. Central Maine Power Pole Permit, Sheepscot Road: **Judy Colby moved to give Central Maine Power permission for the pole on Sheepscot Road. Vote 5-0-0.**

B. Airport Advisory Committee, Discussion on non-resident members: The ordinance requires that all members of the committee be Wiscasset residents. Judy Flanagan recommended that the ordinances be amended to allow a non-resident member on the airport committee as well as on the waterfront committee inasmuch as many non-residents use those facilities. She pointed out that the Planning Board allows one non-resident member, and the Historic Preservation Committee allows non-resident members. Marian Anderson noted that the practice of the airport committee had not followed the policy and that non-resident members have had full voting rights. Ben Rines, Jr., said the Comprehensive Plan, which was approved by the Town in 1998, recommended that committee members be residents. Rines said he did not think it was appropriate for non-residents to have a role in developing a budget that would affect residents’ tax bills. Judy Colby recommended allowing the townspeople to vote on allowing non-resident committee members. .

Cliff Hendricks, Budget Committee chair, said one non-resident member on the Airport Committee would be reasonable and prudent, inasmuch as it has been hard to fill committee rosters. The Waterfront Committee currently has only two members; the Budget Committee until recently also had only two members, and not allowing non-resident members would be hamstringing the town.

Judy Flanagan moved that the board ask the Ordinance Review Committee to draft an amendment to the Airport Committee ordinance to allow one non-resident member. Judy Flanagan moved to amend the motion to include allowing the Waterfront Committee to have a non-resident member.

In response to Judy Colby’s question, Anderson said the Airport Manager drafts a budget which is brought to the Airport Committee for comment and approval to bring it forward. The committee’s vote is advisory only. Flanagan said the ordinance should include reference to the Airport Manager. Judy Colby said she had no objection to a non-resident member without voting privileges. Flanagan said that even though a non-resident member of a committee could vote on committee matters, he or she would not vote on town warrants where budgets are approved. The motion to amend the motion carried on a 3-2-0 vote (Rines and Colby opposed.) The motion as amended reads: **To ask the Ordinance Review Committee to draft an amendment to the Waterfront and Airport Committee ordinances to allow one non-resident member. Vote 3-2-0 (Rines and Colby opposed.)**

C. Lincoln County Animal Control, Discussion on equitable sharing of costs generated by training and equipment for ACOs: Marian Anderson reported on a Lincoln County ACO Advisory Committee meeting at which the cost sharing for equipment and education was discussed. The costs will be divided among the 11 participating towns, Wiscasset’s share of which is $575.25. Anderson said the cost sharing has worked well in the past.

D. Airport – Disposal of non-working 2001 Chevy Impala: Marian Anderson said the vehicle had been donated by a non-resident member of the Airport Committee and was no longer operable. She supplied the board with the Surplus Item Policy and asked for permission to dispose of the vehicle. In response to Ben Rines’ recommendation, Anderson will determine the value and bring the matter back to the board at the next meeting.

E. Budget Update (March 29): Ben Rines, Jr., suggested that the budget meeting schedule be changed to include March 29 with the possibility of eliminating the April 26 meeting. As an update to the meeting with the auditor, Rines thanked the Town Manager for providing a list of warrant articles over the past few years dealing with the unexpended fund balance.

F. Powder House: Rines asked the Town Manager to look into the matter of the town acquiring land around the Power House seven or eight years ago.

13. Department Head or Committee Chair Reports – none

14. Town Manager’s Report

Anderson reported that 2,341 notices had been sent to all mail recipients in the Town of Wiscasset regarding the public informational meeting with the MaineDOT. The meeting on March 8 at 6 p.m. will cover new non-bypass alternatives to address major traffic delays and safety concerns in downtown Wiscasset. Ben Rines, Jr., said the State would not go ahead without the town’s approval and although the MDOT wanted the board to decide on the alternatives, Rines would prefer the townspeople voted on them. It was unclear whether any Town money would be required for the improvements; however, the Town would probably be responsible for maintenance of the lights. The value of a non-binding referendum on MDOT plans was discussed since it would not be binding on the selectmen who would be the signers of the agreement. There was not unanimous opinion that the alternatives be put to a town vote.

Marian Anderson asked the board members for input on a request to install pinwheels on the common for Child Abuse Awareness month**.** Judy Flanagan opposed, as the board had not yet determined what to allow on the common. David Cherry cautioned that it might be a distraction to drivers. **Jeff Slack moved to allow pinwheels on the town common in front of the Municipal Building for one month. Vote 3-2-0** (Flanagan and Cherry opposed).

In response to a question, Marian Anderson said Fairfield Signs had removed the town sign for refurbishing.

15 Adjournment

**Judy Colby moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m. Vote 5-0-0.**