

WISCASSET BOARD OF SELECTMEN,  
BOARD OF ASSESSORS AND OVERSEERS OF THE POOR  
JULY 5, 2011

(tape recorded meeting)

Present: Chairman Judy Colby, Bill Curtis, Pam Dunning, Vice Chairman David Nichols,  
Ed Polewarczyk and Town Manager Laurie Smith

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. Approval of Treasurer's Warrant: June 28, 2011 and July 5, 2011

Pam Dunning moved to approve the Treasurer's Warrant of June 28, 2011. Vote 5-0-0. Pam Dunning moved to approve the Treasurer's Warrant of July 5, 2011. Vote 5-0-0.

4. Approval of Minutes: June 21, 2011 and June 28, 2011

Ed Polewarczyk moved to approve the June 21, 2011 minutes as amended. Vote 4-0-1. Ed Polewarczyk moved to approve the June 28, 2011 minutes. Vote 5-0-0.

5. Special Presentations or Awards - none

6. Appointments

A. Appoint Senior Center Trustees

David Nichols moved that the Board of Selectmen appoint Earl Dighton, Keith Bridgham, Eleanor Tracy and Anthony Gatti as Senior Center Trustees, each serving a term of one year. Vote 5-0-0.

B. Appoint Pam Dunning to the Investment Advisory Committee

Bill Curtis moved that the Board of Selectmen appoint Pam Dunning to the Investment Advisory Committee, serving a term of one year. Vote 4-0-1.

7. Public Comment - none

8. Department Head or Committee Chair Report - none

9. Unfinished Business

A. Central Maine Power letter re Montsweag Dam

In a letter, CMP had notified the board that it had decided to retain ownership of the Montsweag Brook parcel and that protective deed covenants and restrictions have been placed on the property pursuant to the DEP and ACOE MPRP permit requirements. CMP remains responsible for costs associated with the dam, the property will remain on the tax rolls of Wiscasset and Woolwich, the impoundment created by the dam will be available as a water supply for local fire departments as long as the dam remains viable, and the property will remain available for passive recreational activities to residents. Smith advised that CMP be put on notice that if there is any change in their decision, Wiscasset be allowed to reenter the process at that point.

**David Nichols moved that the Board of Selectmen notify Central Maine Power that the Town is interested in being notified of any change in ownership in the future. Vote 5-0-0.**

B. Abatement for Richard C. French, Map U-01, Lot 30

Assessors' Agent Sue Varney reported that she had recalculated this abatement and based on no plumbing, no insulation and monitor heating, the valuation should be \$21,555 with \$319.01 to be refunded. **Judy Colby moved that the Board of Selectmen approve an abatement for Richard C. French - Map U-01, Lot 30 - in the amount of \$21,555 in valuation or \$319.01 in taxes. Vote 5-0-0.**

Varney said that according to the State Auditor, she had under-assessed CMP on its transmission lines last year and a supplemental tax bill will be issued. The correct valuation is \$533,654; taxes due are \$7,898,08. **Pam Dunning moved to approve the supplemental evaluation for CMP of \$533,654 with additional taxes due of \$7,898.80. Vote 5-0-0.**

10. New Business - None

11. Town Manager's Report

A. Police Chief Interviews: Smith said 27 applications had been received for the police chief position, 17 of which were from Maine. She will review the resumés and set up a two-stage interview process for the selected candidates. One group will be made up of a citizen, business and school department representatives; the other will include a selectman, representatives of the police and fire departments and the town manager. Ed Polewarczyk and Pam Dunning volunteered for the interview process. Meetings will be scheduled for mid to late July.

B. 4th of July parade results: Smith reported the parade went well and announced the winners of prizes for floats. Business - Skip Cahill, Sarah's, and Ryan Chadwick/KA Properties. Non-Profit - Morris Farm, Congregational Church, Chamber of Commerce. Automobile - WWF, Tom Goen, Kathy Savage. Youth - Sam Osingu and Aiden Huff, Class of 2015 and Clara Mugnai. Judges' choice was North End Coop/Modern Woodmen.

C. Sign Ordinance legal question: A question arose at the last meeting about the legality of the selectmen waiving sign fees. Smith reported that Geoffrey Hole, an attorney from Bernstein Shur, advised that rather than waiving fees, the selectmen establish a fee schedule with a fee of \$0 for a category or individual sign. If there are categories of signs that are not listed in the ordinance as exempt, they could be listed in the fee schedule with a \$0 fee until the ordinance could be changed. Pam Dunning suggested contacting other towns for a list of their fees. Ed Polewarczyk said he did not believe the board had the authority to waive ordinance requirements. Bill Curtis suggested that the matter be referred to the ORC.

D. General Update: The grant application to the Communities for Maine's Future program for Wiscasset's intermodal plan was submitted by the due date, July 1. The plan encompasses the creation of a railroad station on the north side of Route 1 and a pier on the south side of Route 1. There are funds for only eight of the thirty-three finalists, and a decision should be made by mid-August.

Bids for the pier work will be sent to 14 contractors that have gone through the qualification process. The bids will be sent out as soon as the specifications are ready.

12. Other Business

David Nichols submitted his resignation as the liaison with Mr. Phinney.

13. Adjournment

At 7:35 p.m., **Pam Dunning** moved to adjourn. **Vote 5-0-0.**