

WISCASSET BOARD OF SELECTMEN,  
BOARD OF ASSESSORS AND OVERSEERS OF THE POOR  
APRIL 10, 2012

(tape recorded meeting)

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

1. 6:30 p.m. Call to Order

Judy Colby called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

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

3. Senior Center Budget Workshop

4. 7 p.m. Budget Meeting

Chair Judy Colby called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. There were no questions or comments regarding the budget from those present. Colby thanked the selectmen, budget committee members and department heads for their attendance and work at the workshop on Saturday, April 7.

5. Budget Direction for Town Manager

Town Manager Laurie Smith addressed previous questions and decisions were made by the selectmen as follows:

- Article 6 regarding selectmen's salaries had been reworded.
- Insurance on the Harbormaster's boat is expensive because of its size. Boats more than 25 feet cannot be carried in the MMA risk pool; MMA has put the insurance out for private coverage. Value of boat is \$43,000 and insurance covers not only property damage, but also liability for the operator and liability for the actions of the operator. Because the boat is not in daily use, MMA will see what other options are available. Cost of boat insurance has been placed in the Waterfront Budget, which is \$38,775.
- EMA funding will remain under Contractual Services.
- A note following Article 13 explains that cardiac monitors will be leased for five years at \$12,000 per year.
- Roland Abbott reported that according to Wiscasset Ford a larger engine cannot be put in the ambulance but recommended replacing the chassis - \$75,000 in budget for this purpose.
- LCTV funding will be moved from General Government to its own question.
- The town is currently spending \$18,000 per year on landfill monitoring. Decision on hiring an environmental attorney was postponed to a later date.
- An increase of funds for upweller replacement was not approved.
- The Waterfront budget was adjusted to include the Harbormaster's stipend of \$5,000 plus FICA and Medicare.
- Because of a shortage of electrical power on the pier, the electrical panel will be upgraded. The budget will remain at \$43,317 (estimated cost to upgrade the panel is \$3,000 to \$5,000).
- The Wastewater budget was reduced by decreasing the sewer line to \$800 and the uniform line to \$400.
- \$2,000 will be left in the planning budget for software; Global Mapper may be a cheaper alternative to current GIS, but training and compatibility need to be explored.
- Contingency was reduced to one line item.

- The \$55,000 for RSU withdrawal will be raised and appropriated.
- An article to sell the superintendent's office will be added.
- The individual amounts for capital improvements will not be shown, only the total, \$399,000. However, individual amounts may not be exceeded unless other line items come in under budget, leaving a surplus.
- The revenues for the Transfer Station have been updated.
- The notes for Articles 15 and 16 indicate the state and federal grant matches. The \$33,333, the town's share toward the pier grant, has been carried forward from last year's Waterfront budget.
- An additional article for funds needed if a sewer grant/loan is received was not included because of lack of particulars. \$10,000 is included in the Wastewater budget for an interest payment if a loan is required for the match. A loan would require an additional vote.
- Article 3 will be left as is in spite of arguments that it gave voters no choice to vote on individual articles.
- A second warrant will be prepared with Articles 5, 8, and 12 broken down by line item for comparison with current budget.
- The town has foreclosed on the Point East properties and selectmen are reviewing other legal options. The taxes are still being assessed to the previous owner. If the town took the properties valued at \$6 million, there would be a significant impact on taxes. It was suggested that the town reconfigure and reassess the properties.

The selectmen will vote on the budget on April 17 and, following the budget committee vote, the warrant will be presented to the selectmen on April 24 for signatures.

#### 6. Adjourn

At 8:30 p.m., Bill Curtis moved to adjourn. Vote 5-0-0.