WISCASSET BOARD OF SELECTMEN,

BOARD OF ASSESSORS AND OVERSEERS OF THE POOR

OCTOBER 7, 2014

 Tape recorded meeting

Present: Bill Barnes, Chair Pam Dunning, Vice Chair Ben Rines, Jr., and Jeff Slack and Town Manager Marian Anderson

Absent: Tim Merry

1. Call to Order

Chair Pam Dunning called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

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

**Ben Rines, Jr., moved that when the meeting is adjourned, the board do so in memory and lasting tribute to former selectmen Bill Curtis who passed away last weekend. Vote 4-0-0.**

3. Approval of Treasurer’s Warrant: September 22, September 29 and October 7, 2014

**Jeff Slack moved to approve the three Treasurer’s warrants. Vote 4-0-0**

4. Approval of Minutes: September 16, 2014

**Ben Rines, Jr., moved to approve the minutes as amended. Vote 4-0-0.**

5. Special Presentations or Awards – none

6. Public Hearing for Automobile Graveyard and/or Junkyard Renewals

A. Grover Auto and Tire

B. Norm’s Used Cars

C. Jim’s Auto Trim

D. Probody Work

E. Blagden’s Garage

The public hearing opened at 7:04 p.m. There were no comments or questions and the public hearing closed at 7:05 p.m. **Jeff Slack moved to approve A through E. Vote 4-0-0.**

7. Appointments

A. Appoint Stephen Graffam to the Conservation Commission

B. Appoint Joan Barnes as deputy Warden for the November 4 election

C. Appoint Susan Blagden as Warden for the November 4 election

D. Vincent Thibeault and Brandon Perrault applications for appointment to the Budget Committee

**Jeff Slack moved to approve all appointments. Vote 4-0-0.** The appointments of Stephen Graffam, Joan Barnes and Susan Blagden were signed; the appointments of Vincent Thibeault and Brandon Perrault will be left in the Selectmen’s office for signatures.

8. Public Comment

Steve Mehrl recommended that the Town investigate the possibility of assistance in economic development. He referred to an article in the Bangor Daily News on the assistance Millinocket received at no cost.

Norman Guidoboni said the town needed to know what the real mill rate would be without using the endowment. He also said the Town could save money if empty positions were not filled and asked if the positions were necessary; using consultants in the long range might pay dividends.

Steven Mehrl said that some things in life cost and some things pay for themselves; and economic development is absolutely necessary for the town to be able to afford daily operation.

Bob Blagden said Mr. Guidoboni was asking what the mill rate would be if no interest or principal were taken from the reserve account for the school.

Steve Mehrl asked the Budget Committee to pay close attention to the school costs, as the Town may be asked to bail out the schools; he said there were no checks and balances and a lot of extravagances.

9. Department Head or Committee Chair Report

A. Change of Registrar hours for November 4 election: Town Clerk Christine Wolfe requested that the board change the hours for the registrar to be consistent with the normal operation on the five days before the election rather than being open for two hours between 5 and 9 p.m. one evening as the law requires. Town Manager Marian Anderson said the hours may be changed by the municipal officers according to the needs of the municipality. She said in the past few voters had registered during the extended hours and registration was available at the polls**. Ben Rines, Jr., moved to change the hours for the registrar to be consistent with the normal hours of operation on those five days and not require the additional hours between 5 and 9 p.m. Vote 4-0-0.**

10. Unfinished Business

A. Policy for redemption of redeemable containers (bottles): The Town Manager presented a draft copy of the policy for the board’s consideration. She said that the Town must require that the organizations that have bins at the Transfer Station have insurance, and they will be so informed**. Bill Barnes moved to take two weeks to read over the policy and bring it back at the next meeting. Vote 4-0-0.**

11. New Business

A. Special Amusement Permit application from Wiscasset Speedway: The application is complete**. Jeff Slack moved to hold a public hearing for the permit on October 21. Vote 4-0-0.**

B. Transfer Station - Discussion of Giles Rubbish fine by Transfer Station: Transfer Station Manager Ron Lear said a Giles truck had dumped rubbish including plastic, cardboard and appliances that should have been recycled, and per the ordinance Giles was assessed a $100 fine. Dan Giles said that his company has been recycling since 1990 and he contested the fine. He said his trucks have a cage for recyclables; however, he had no control over his customers if they put recyclables in dumpsters along with other garbage. He said his drivers could not sort the trash that might contain needles or personal medical information in with garbage. Bill Barnes moved to waive the fine. In discussion that followed, it was pointed out that Giles had not previously been fined, that Giles had been making an effort to comply with the ordinance, but that the board did not have the authority to waive the fine. Giles Rubbish has generated $880 from cardboard recycled since the beginning of the year. The motion failed on a 2-2 vote. Lear and the Town Manager will meet to further discuss the situation.

C. Finance – Financial Report: Sherry Fredette presented an updated cash flow projection reflecting the anticipated revenue and expenses and the monthly and cumulative surplus or deficit.

D. Harbormaster – NOAA request: Habormaster Dan Bradford forwarded to the board a request from NOAA to place a tidal gauge on the pier to measure the height and changes in tides in order to update charts and maps for the first time since 1942. The gauge to be placed on the commercial pier is approximately 6’ x 2’ and will run on batteries and a solar panel. It will be on the pier for six months to two years, and the pier will be repaired when the gauge is removed. The Waterfront Committee has endorsed the request. **Ben Rines, Jr., moved to approve placing a temporary tidal gauge on the town dock. Vote 4-0-0.**

E. Assessing - Sign County Tax Commitment: The commitment of $510,000 was signed. The County tax increase this year was 3%.

F. Public – Don Jones: Marian Anderson said she had met with Jones regarding the claim that trees had been trimmed at the cemetery by the Public Works Department; however, it was determined the trimming had been done by a family member. Anderson confirmed that the date in the cemetery policy for removing trees or shrubs was the beginning date, not completion date. Notices had been published in the newspaper regarding the removal of trees and shrubs.

Jones also asked if the Town would take over clearing the brush on the causeway, which is State property, because the State has discontinued its upkeep. He said he had cleared it to the point where it could be easily maintained with a weed whacker twice during the summer. There was a consensus of the board that the Road Commissioner clear the area twice during the summer.

Jones said the crosswalks had been painted this year on State roads, but not on other roads in town.

He said it was a safety issue and urged the board to consider requesting the Road Commissioner to paint all crosswalks as had been traditionally done.

Jones asked the board to consider opening negotiations on the Time Warner contract that expires this year. The chairman said Jones would be notified of any discussions on the contract.

G. E911 – Residents’ request to change road name: **Ben Rines, Jr. moved to reconsider the board action taken on the naming of Redskin’s Drive. Vote 4-0-0. Ben Rines, Jr. moved, following the latest request of the applicant, to name the road Micmac Drive.** Sara Harvey asked that the name be changed to honor her ancestors. Pam Dunning reported that the chief of the Micmac tribe approved the naming as a sign of respect, honoring the residents’ forefathers. **Vote 4-0-0.**

H. Airport re stripping – Withdrawn from agenda

I. Proclamation promoting Small Business Saturday in Wiscasset – will be on the next agenda.

J. Richard Barnard request for “no parking” sign will be on the next agenda.

12. Town Manager’s Report

Marian Anderson said that it has been a pleasure working with the staff for the past two months and announced that an administrative assistant had been hired.

13. Adjournment

**Ben Rines, Jr. moved to adjourn the meeting in memory of Bill Curtis. Vote 4-0-0.**