

WISCASSET SELECT BOARD,  
BOARD OF ASSESSORS AND OVERSEERS OF THE POOR  
JANUARY 3, 2017

Tape recorded meeting

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

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

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Approval of Treasurer's Warrants

**a. David Cherry moved to approve the payroll warrants of December 23 and December 30, 2016. Vote 4-0-0.**

**b. David Cherry moved to approve the accounts payable warrants of December 27, 2016 and January 3, 2017. Vote 4-0-0.**

3. Approval of Minutes

**David Cherry moved to approve the minutes of December 20, 2016 as amended. Vote 4-0-0.**

4. Special Presentations or Awards – none

5. Committee Appointments

**Jeff Slack moved to approve both applications with one vote. Vote 4-0-0.**

**Jeff Slack moved to approve Jackie Lowell's appointment to the Planning Board and to the Ordinance Review Committee. Vote 4-0-0.**

6. Public Hearings – none

7. Public Comment – none

8. Department Head or Committee Chair

**a. Shellfish Committee: Conservation closure of Cushman Cove, January 2, 2017 to June 30, 2017.**  
**David Cherry moved to authorize the conservation closure of Cushman Cove as recommended by the Shellfish Committee. Vote 4-0-0.**

**b. Chief of Police Jeffrey Lange – Request to enact Disorderly House Ordinance:** Lange described the recent attack by dogs on Ward Brook Road and the complaints by residents in that neighborhood. He had met with the residents to hear their complaints, and proposed that the town enact a Disorderly House Ordinance which would enable the police to bring an enforcement action against property

owners or tenants that are unreasonably causing disruption in the community, not only at Ward Brook, but at other neighborhoods as well. Although one resident of the neighborhood was not in favor of an ordinance, other residents said they were scared and complained about loud music and the smell of marijuana. They said that their neighborhood was unsafe, that they were threatened by the owner of the dog, and that they were afraid to let their children play outside or walk to the bus stop. Several residents said they carried a hammer for protection when they went out of their houses. Chief Lange encouraged the residents to call the police so that they have a paper trail and can provide additional patrols. He asked the board to act on the Disorderly House ordinance. **David Cherry moved to refer the ordinance to the Ordinance Review Committee to handle as promptly as possible so that a special town meeting can be scheduled. Vote 4-0-0.**

c. Public Works – Teresa and Peter Fogg thank you to department: Judy Colby read a letter thanking the Public Works Department for their recent help. Town Manager Marian Anderson said downtown businesses had also appreciated the Public Works Department clearing the sidewalks and she expressed her appreciation to Toby Martin and Doug Fowler and his crew for setting up the new desks on the holiday.

d. EMS Director Toby Martin – YTD uncollectible \$28,683.76: Martin said that a billing agency had taken over the ambulance billing last April and has asked what action the town wanted to take against those that have not responded to letters asking them to contact the agency to work out a payment plan or proof that they cannot pay the bill. Martin said the subscription plan was an attempt to help clients pay for ambulance calls. There was a consensus of the board that the accounts be referred to collection.

e. Accounts Payable – Ellin Jasmin has been approved as a Certified Tax Collector and Treasurer: Marian Anderson congratulated Ellin Jasmin and thanked Treasurer Shari Fredette for her help in certifying Ellin.

## 9 Unfinished Business

a. RHR Smith- 2015-2016 Audit Presentation: Chris Bachman said a full draft of the audit was being sent to the select board and he requested a meeting with the board and the Budget Committee to review the audit. In response to Judy Colby's question regarding the length of time it took for an audit after the books closed in June, Bachman said it was normal for Wiscasset, citing the separation from the RSU three years ago, the sewer project, the TIF, and he added that the audit does not reflect the financial condition of the Town in August or September because of the reconciliations, adjustments, getting the school to reconcile with the Town's figures, etc. which takes time and requires explanation as to how all the parts go together. He said he was ready to give the presentation last month, but it was postponed to January. Colby said in the past the audit firm had given advice on how to make the town more financially secure. Bachman said they could not make financial decisions for the Town, but it was important to understand the quarterly reports, looking at not only expenses, but expected revenues. A workshop meeting was scheduled for Monday, January 9 at 5 p.m.

## 10. New Business – none

## 11. Town Manager's Report

Anderson reported that Murray Hill Properties had paid \$10,000 toward the consent judgement. She also said she had spoken with the DEP Commissioner on the consent agreement on the Wastewater

Treatment Plant issue, and a final document will be available for the next Selectboard meeting. An Operations Audit will be done on the plant to determine how to improve operation of the plant.

#### 12. Other Board Business

In view of the recent vote on the recreational use of marijuana, **David Cherry moved to schedule an open town meeting as soon as possible to consider the question of a six-month moratorium regarding marijuana cultivation, retail establishments, social clubs, zoning and any and all ordinances that may be appropriate. Vote 3-1-0 (Rines opposed.)**

Judy Colby said the Ward Brook matter will be on the warrant for the special town meeting.

Mary Ellen Barnes said the Lincoln County Planning Commission will be holding a workshop on the marijuana issue at its office on January 25 at 4:30. She said MMA will also be scheduling a workshop.

#### 13. Adjournment

**David Cherry moved to adjourn the meeting at 7 p.m. Vote 4-0-0.**