

WISCASSET SELECT BOARD,
TAX ASSESSORS AND OVERSEERS OF THE POOR
DECEMBER 18, 2018

Present: Kim Andersson, Bob Blagden, Chair Judy Colby, Kathy Martin-Savage, Vice Chair Ben Rines, Jr. and Town Manager Marian Anderson

Chair Judy Colby called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Approval of Treasurer's Warrants

- a. **Ben Rines, Jr. moved to approve the payroll warrants of December 7 and 14, 2018. Vote 5-0-0.**
- b. **Bob Blagden moved to approve the accounts payable warrants of December 11 and 18, 2018. Vote 5-0-0.**

3. Approval of Minutes

Kim Andersson moved to approve the minutes of December 4, 2018 as amended. Vote 5-0-0.

4. Special Presentations or Awards – none

5. Committee Appointments – none

6. Public Hearings

The hearing was delayed until 6 p.m. as posted.

7. Public Comment on Non-agenda Items

Judy Flanagan thanked the people of Wiscasset who filled over 300 Christmas wishes and Kathy Onorato who helped with the project.

Steve Christiansen said the downtown parking lots are being used by residents who park in the lots when they could park in their own driveways. The illegal overnight parking makes snowplowing difficult or impossible.

Kathy Martin-Savage thanked Steve Christiansen who had brought up the subject of illegal parking last year. She suggested the Police Chief talk to the Road Commission about plowing the lots.

Chief Hesseltine said he has spoken to the Road Commissioner regarding plowing. He said he did not have staff to enforce the parking ban from midnight to 6 a.m., but he has been out at 4 a.m. trying to enforce it. Bob Blagden said the people need to know what the rules are.

8. Department Head or Committee Chair

a. Department Head Monthly Reports: In response to Bob Blagden's question, Marian Anderson said there was no update on the fire truck; the Fire Chief had not yet received information he needed. The Parks and Recreation truck has been delivered; there was no trade-in because using it at the airport was being considered.

9. Unfinished Business

a. Comp plan update next steps – Postponed until January

10. New Business

a. Resignations

- Brad Sevaldson, Ordinance Review Committee
- Craig Worster, Wiscasset Police Department

Ben Rines, Jr., moved to accept the two resignations. Vote 5-0-0.

b. Municipal Quit Claim Deeds: Sally Berry (Map U23, Lot 13); Star Pinkham (Map R03, Lot 004); Albert Pinkham (Map R03, Lot 004-001): **Bob Blagden moved to execute the Municipal Quit Claim Deeds for Sally Berry, Star Pinkham and Albert Pinkham. Vote 5-0-0.**

c. Monthly Financials

- Department year-to-date expense report
- H.M.Payson State of Accounts

d. January Meeting Dates: The Board will meet next on January 8 and will at that time decide on the second January meeting date.

e. Bid Opening – 2019 4th of July Fireworks: Two bids were received.

PDK Pyro –\$10,500

Central Maine Pyrotechnics - \$8,000

Central Maine Pyrotechnics' bid noted that smaller shells are now required and because trees have grown, Central Maine Pyrotechnics would be able to obtain permit from the Coast Guard and provide floating docks to give greater visibility. Kim Andersson asked that the contract stipulate the fireworks start at the right time. **Ben Rines, Jr., moved to approve the bid from Central Maine Pyrotechnics. Vote 5-0-0.**

11. Town Manager's Report

Marian Anderson announced that a check for the salt and sand building reimbursement of had been received in the amount of \$49,651.92.

Request for temporary electrical connection for *Providence* maintenance work: Dick Forrest thanked the select board for allowing repair of the boat at the pier and asked that the board allow the installation of 110-volt electric service to the boat; instillation and electricity will be at no cost to the

town. There was a consensus that the request for temporary electrical connection be allowed. Forrest said brochures are available and a tour will take place on December 19 at 1:15 p.m.

6. Public Hearing (6:00 p.m.)

a. Special Amusement Permit – Carla Chapman, DBA The Cubbyhole Sports Pub: **Kathy Martin-Savage moved to go into the public hearing. Vote 5-0-0.** Chapman said there would be a small band on Saturday nights and the pub would close by 8 or 8:30 p.m. Ray Soule said he lived between the pub and the race track and both were good neighbors. **Kathy Martin-Savage moved to come out of the public hearing. Vote 5-0-0. Ben Rines, Jr., moved to approve the Special Amusement Permit for Carla Chapman, DBA The Cubbyhole Sports Pub. Vote 5-0-0.**

12. Other Board Business

A letter to Judy Colby, Chair of the Board of Selectmen, from Frank Barnako was read and is attached as part of the minutes.

The chair wished everyone a Merry Christmas and safe and happy new year.

13. Adjournment

Kathy Martin-Savage moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:07 p.m. Vote 5-0-0.

12/13/18

Judy Colby
Chairman, Board of Selectmen
51 Bath Road
Wiscasset, Maine 04578

Dear Ms. Colby

I just read the minutes of the last Selectmen's meeting. I learned that the School Board invited the Selectmen to attend several budget meetings for the school system. You said your interest is, not budgets, but whether the School Board has a vision or strategy for the next few years.

I was surprised to learn of the School Board's second-hand response. As you well know, the Selectmen have been asking for a meeting with the Schools for weeks, if not months. Inviting attendance at a budget session is unlikely to lead to an evaluation of the schools' performance and success.

Now, we have learned that the Wiscasset schools are lagging state English, Math and Science averages except WMHS which "slightly exceeded" in one category, according to the Wiscasset Newspaper.

The bright spot is being 'slightly' better than "average".

You and I both know how the cost of the schools has impacted the town. Property taxes are sky high and basic town maintenance responsibilities are being deferred or are simply unmet. Yet the School Board, independent as it is, has no reluctance to budget and spend, delivering below average results. With this record of non-achievement, I'm not surprised the Board has dodged the Selectmen. The Board acts as if it is accountable only to itself. Its independence, and the failing Wiscasset school system, are an unaffordable luxuries.

/s/
Frank Barnako
136 Clarks Point Road
Wiscasset, ME 04578