

WISCASSET SELECT BOARD
BOARD OF ASSESSORS AND OVERSEERS OF THE POOR
MAY 1, 2018

Preliminary Minutes

Present: Bob Blagden, Chair Judy Colby, Kathy Martin-Savage, Vice Chair Ben Rines, Jr., Jeff 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. Kathy Martin-Savage moved to approve the payroll warrant of April 27, 2018. Vote 5-0-0.

b. Kathy Martin-Savage moved to approve the accounts payable warrant of May 1, 2018. Vote 5-0-0.

3. Approval of Minutes

Ben Rines, Jr., moved to approve the minutes of April 24, 2018 as amended. Vote 5-0-0.

4. Special Presentations and Awards – none

5. Committee Appointments – none

6. Public Hearings – none

7. Public Comment

Seaver Leslie, Public Advisory Committee member, asked if the projected MDOT project overrun of \$1.8 million would have an effect on the scope of the project and asked that the Board find out prior to signing any agreement with MDOT. A PAC meeting will be held on May 7; however, Kathy Martin-Savage asked the Town Manager to seek an answer before the meeting. Bob Blagden volunteered to be a second board member on the PAC.

Jason Putnam asked about the protocol of executive sessions and whether talking about matters other than the specific reason for the session was illegal. The Town Manager will ask MMA.

In response to Pam Logan's question, Marian Anderson said nothing other than the 10/13/16 letter of intent had been signed regarding the MDOT project. She added that MDOT had said it would hold a formal public meeting prior to the final design. Judy Colby said because of the lawsuit things had been delayed.

Crissy Swartz asked that the project agreement be shared with the public before it is signed. She also asked where parking would be allowed and not allowed during summertime construction. It was suggested that that question be asked at the PAC meeting. The next PAC meeting is at 5 p.m. on Monday, May 7, and is open to the public.

Pam Logan asked where the construction equipment would be parked, as previously the equipment had been parked near White's Island and when construction started at 7 a.m., it disturbed the residents in that area.

Kathy Martin-Savage said the public would be notified ahead of time where and when the construction equipment would be parked.

Jorge Pena, Maine Art Gallery, invited the public to the Youth Art Exhibit at the gallery from May to September, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

8. Department Head or Committee Chair – no report

9. Unfinished Business

a. Central Lincoln County Ambulance Proposal – Warren Waltz: Marian Anderson said CLC had been invited to a board meeting following discussions at budget meetings. Waltz submitted a two-year proposal for ambulance service to the town at a cost of \$175,000 per year for CLC presence. Aside from covering operational costs, \$100,000 would be used to cover the cost of a new ambulance, spread over two years. CLC would operate out of the current station, have a team in place and would transport patients to Miles Hospital. Waltz said CLC is a non-profit service. The subject of ambulances in the future being too large for the building was brought up, and Anderson said ambulances would be available for the size building that Wiscasset has. CLC staffing would include two full time employees and a paramedic on duty 24/7. In the event a second ambulance is needed, it would come from Damariscotta. Police Chief Jeff Lange said that frequently both ambulances in Wiscasset are needed for calls. Bob Blagden said with CLC the town would have the same ambulances, same building, probably some of the same staff, but would not have contracts with other towns, bad debts to collect and other administrative services.

b. Audit Update: Bill and Fred Brewer were present to answer questions about the audit. Bill Brewer said the audit was not complete and suggested a workshop with the board. Fred Brewer referred to a summary of the budget which had been distributed. Questions regarding the current fund balance, and the apparent past due debt service were postponed by the auditors until the workshop before the next select board meeting. Treasurer Vernice Boyce said the audit should have been completed last August. Brewer said the goal was to have a finished audit at the next meeting. Jason Putnam asked whether the town owes the school \$1.1 million. Fred Brewer said the town has one checking account and the money is there. Marian Anderson said she did not agree on the \$1.1 million figure, but Brewer said to wait for the workshop and that he would be taking to Vernice Boyce about it.

10. New Business

a. Brownfields Grant Award: Marian Anderson said Wiscasset was successful in obtaining a \$400,000 grant from the EPA for brownfields cleanup. She thanked David Lloyd and Maryellen Barnes who helped write the grant.

b. Pier Vendor Permit Applications: **Jeff Slack moved to approve the permit application for Two Bridges Regional Jail and the Chamber of Commerce (the fee for the Chamber being waived). Vote 4-1-0.** (Blagden opposed) In the past, the fee has been waved for the Chamber of Commerce building; this

year the chamber will pay only electric. In the past, the town's Chamber of Commerce membership fee has been waived.

c. Monthly Financials: H. M. Payson Statement: Jeff Slack said the statement was better than expected. Total is \$14,500,000.

d. Correspondence – First Congregational Church: A note of thanks had been received from the church for use of the town pier for the Easter church service.

e. Maine Art Gallery – Request to place signs for art show: **Jeff Slack moved to approve the placing of signs on Route 1 and other streets advertising four shows at the Maine Art Gallery. Vote 5-0-0.**

11. Town Manager's Report

All documents filed with the court were given to the board regarding the dismissal of the MDOT law suit.

The Town had received correspondence from Asha Echeveria, the Town's attorney in the Wawenock lawsuit, where Wiscasset is a party of interest, outlining the current status and future actions. Anderson said the Wiscasset will not be spending money on this lawsuit unless it is required to. The attorney will monitor the situation and the Town will not participate in an upcoming hearing on May 15. Wiscasset responds only when required by the court. The letter attorney's letter will be put on line.

Anderson reminded the public of the next PAC meeting on May 7 at 5 p.m. She thanked Bob Blagden for volunteering to be a member of the PAC.

13. Adjournment

Kathy Martin-Savage moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m. Vote 5-0-0.