

WISCASSET SELECTBOARD,
TAX ASSESSORS AND OVERSEERS OF THE POOR
APRIL 16, 2024, 6 P.M.
IN PERSON AND VIA ZOOM

Present: James Andretta, Pam Dunning, Terry Heller, Vice Chair Bill Maloney, Chair Sarah Whitfield, and Town Manager Dennis Simmons

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Approval of Treasurer's Warrants

a. **Terry Heller moved to approve the Payroll Warrants for April 5 and April 12, 2024. Vote 5-0-0.**

b. **Terry Heller moved to approve the Accounts Payable Warrants for April 9 and April 16, 2024. Vote 5-0-0.**

3. Approval of Minutes

a. **Terry Heller moved to approve the minutes of April 2, 2024, as amended. Vote 5-0-0.**

b. **Terry Heller moved to approve the minutes of April 8, 2024, as amended. Vote 4-0-1 (Andretta abstained)**

4. Special Presentations or Awards – none

5. Committee Appointments – none

6. Public Hearings

a. Junkyard/graveyard Permits

Terry Heller moved to open the public hearing for Junkyard/graveyard permits for Robert Blagden, 842 Gardiner Road, Grover Auto and Tire, Inc. at 342 Bath Road, and Norm's Used Cars, Inc., 744 Bath Road at 6:08 p.m. Vote 5-0-0. Terry Heller moved to close the public hearing at 6:09 p.m. Vote 5-0-0. Terry Heller moved to approve the Junkyard/graveyard permit for Robert Blagden, 842 Gardiner Road. Vote 5-0-0. Terry Heller moved to approve the junkyard/graveyard permit for Grover Auto and Tire, Inc., 342 Bath Road. Vote 4-0-1. Terry Heller moved to approve the junkyard/graveyard permit for Norm's Used Cars, Inc., 744 Bath Road. Vote 5-0-0.

7. Public Comment

Susan Blagden reported a trench across High Street and which with winter degradation has gotten deeper. She said it may have been due to Water Company work and she asked if anything could be done. Dennis Simmons said he would investigate it.

8. Department Head or Committee Report

Simmons said the correct date for Aaron Chrostowsky's economic development report to the committee is April 18.

9. Unfinished Business

a. Wawenock Block up0date

Sarah Whitfield said the town had been notified that there has been material progress in the installation of brick on the front elevation of the Wawenock Block up to the second-floor windows, granite lintels have been installed and work will progress until the job is complete. In response to Susan Blagden's question about legal action, Dennis Simmons said he has contacted the town attorney about enforcing the maintenance ordinance. The attorney is drafting a letter to the owners of the building threatening them with a \$100 per day fine. Simmons said it will take a judge to enforce penalties. Bill Maloney suggested that other buildings of the same age as the Wawenock Block be inspected.

10. New Business

a. Monthly Financials: Dennis Simmons said a correction was received from H.M. Payson and a corrected copy was available upon request.

b. Approval of School Budget Meeting Warrant: **Terry Heller moved to approve the school budget meeting warrant to occur April 30 at 6 p.m. Vote 5-0-0.**

c. Request for Use of Town Property and Road Closure – Wormfest Committee: Sarah Whitfield requested the use of town property for the first ever Wiscasset Wormfest to be held on June 8, 2024. The Wormfest would celebrate a unique part of the town's history and she said the committee had received positive feedback from wormers. She requested that Railroad Avenue from Route 1 to the large parking lot be closed on the day of the event. The Committee will be responsible for removal of trash and she asked permission to use the Scout Hall bathrooms for the event. T-shirts with the Wormfest logo are available. **Pam Dunning moved to allow road closure for the Wormfest on Railroad Avenue from Route 1 to the large parking lot on June 8, 2024. Vote 5-0-0**

11. Assessors Business

12. Town Manager's Report

Dennis Simmons reported that the town is applying for congressional directed spending for the wastewater treatment plant.

The town has not heard from Maine Yankee following the governor's signing of the law regarding Maine Yankee's taxable property.

The temporary bridge on Old Ferry Road has been completed and the bypass should be open soon. Because of weather delays, work will probably not be completed until July.

Simmons announced that Kathy Martin-Savage had been posthumously awarded the 2023 Maine Spirit of America Foundation Award for her work with the CIA, Sheriff's Department, Selectboard, Budget Committee and various other activities.

13. Other Board Business

Sarah Whitfield announced that more than 100 people had responded to the comp plan survey online. She said paper copies are available at the town office. The survey will end on June 30.

Wormfest t-shirts are available at wiscassetwormfest.com. T-shirts will also be available at the event. A link for making contributions to the event will be on the website.

14. Adjournment

Pam Dunning moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:26 p.m. Vote 5-0-0.