

WISCASSET BOARD OF SELECTMEN
AUGUST 7, 2007

(Tape Recorded Meeting)

Present: Bill Curtis, Chairman Duane Goud, Vice Chairman David Nichols,
Alex Robertson, Nicole Viele and Town Manager Arthur Faucher

1. Call to Order

Chairman Duane Goud called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m.

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

3. Public Hearing for Commercial Waste Hauler Permits

The public hearing was called to order at 5:07 p.m. Applications for waste hauler permits had been received from Regional Rubbish Removal, Inc.; Giles Rubbish, Inc.; and Pine Tree Waste. There were no questions or comments. Tipping fees were briefly discussed. The public hearing was closed at 5:14 p.m.

Jeffrey Hinderliter, Town Planner, advised the Board that the \$300 fee had not been paid by Pine Tree Waste. **Alex Robertson moved, David Nichols seconded, to grant the waste hauler permits except for Pine Tree Waste, which will be granted when the permit fee has been paid. Vote 5-0.**

4. Approve Minutes of July 17, 2007

David Nichols moved, Alex Robertson seconded, to accept the minutes as read. Vote 4-0. (Nicole Viele was out of the room when the vote was taken.)

New Business

5. Request to set up Historic Preservation and Conservation Ad Hoc Committees

Jeffrey Hinderliter said that the comprehensive plan was adopted by the town in November, 2006. The Goals, Policies and Strategies section of the plan call for the establishment of a Historic Preservation Commission and a Conservation Commission within one to three years. He asked the Selectmen for authorization to set up ad hoc committees to research the development of these two commissions. The ad hoc committees will make recommendations on the structure of the commissions to the Board in December or January. **Duane Goud moved, Bill Curtis seconded, to set up Historic Preservation and Conservation ad hoc committees. Vote 5-0.** Two members of the Comprehensive Plan Committee, Anne Leslie and Larry Lomison, were present and agreed to serve on the ad hoc committees.

6. Discussion on Property Sale of Old Railroad Right-Of-Way (Roy Farmer)

A letter had been received from Roy Farmer asking the Town to release its rights to a piece of property which was originally a right-of-way owned by the Wiscasset, Waterville and Farmington Railroad. The Wiscasset Industrial Development Corporation (WIDCO) subsequently acquired all land and rights of way on 3/20/64. On 5/15/96 WIDCO transferred all its interest in real estate in Wiscasset to the Town. Mr. Farmer's letter said that before transferring its interests to

the town, WIDCO had a policy of releasing any interests it had in the old rights of way to any affected landowner if the landowner presented a release deed to WIDCO and paid the recording fees. He asked what the policy of the town now was with regard to releasing these rights. Bill Barnes asked if the Narrow Gauge railroad had any intention of coming to Wiscasset as it had been extending its line. Nicole Viele asked whether the abutting property owners had given up their rights of way. Mr. Farmer was not present to answer questions. A motion to relinquish all rights and privileges in Lot 87, Map R-5, to Joseph L. Bond and George A. Bond, Trustees of the Bond Family Trust did not pass. **Duane Goud moved, Nicole Viele seconded, to table the matter until the next meeting on August 21, 2007. Vote 5-0.** Mr. Farmer and the owner of the property will be invited to the next meeting.

7. Appoint New Code Enforcement Officer (Robert Sharkey)

Jeffrey Hinderliter introduced Robert Sharkey who had been hired as part-time Code Enforcement Officer. He will be working 30 hours per week. **Duane Goud moved, Alex Robertson seconded, to appoint Robert Sharkey as the new Code Enforcement Officer for the Town of Wiscasset. Vote 5-0.**

8. Appoint New Reserve Police Officers

Wiscasset Police Lt. John Allen briefly summarized the experience of Adam Temple and Donald Smith, Jr., both of whom had applied for the position of reserve police officer. **Duane Goud moved, Nicole Viele seconded, to appoint Donald Smith, Jr. and Adam Temple as new reserve police officers. Vote 5-0.** Lt. Allen said this would bring the number of reserve officers to ten.

9. Award Airport Mowing Bids

Bids are not due until August 21, item postponed.

10. Award Highway Department Cab and Chassis Bid

Duane Goud moved, Alex Robertson seconded, to table this item until the Road Commissioner is present to confirm the bids. Vote 5-0.

11. Town Manager's Report

Arthur Faucher reported that Brown Road residents had requested Wiscasset and the MDOT to establish a legal speed limit for Brown Road. The Police Department had recommended a 30 or 35 mph speed limit. Upon the Selectmen's endorsement, the request will be sent to the MDOT for approval. **Duane Goud moved, Bill Curtis seconded to accept the request for a 30 to 35 mph speed limit on Brown Road. Vote 5-0.**

The Town Manager asked approval for the reappointment of the following:

- Sealer of Weights and Measures - Duane Goud
- Board of Appeals - John Blagden, Jr. and Jean Huber
- Town Clerk & Excise Tax Collector - Sandra Johnson
- Town Treasurer - James George
- General Assistance Director - Becky Applin
- General Assistance Deputy - Deb Applebee

- Town Assessors' Agent - Susan Varney
- Sewer Treatment Supervisor - William Rines
- Town Planner - Jeffrey Hinderliter
- Recreation Director - Todd Souza
- EMS Director - Roland Abbot
- Fire Chief - Timothy Merry
- Animal Control Officer - Marla Blagden

Appointment of the Airport Committee Members and the Civil Emergency Preparedness Director was postponed until Arthur Faucher has an opportunity to speak with the individuals involved. **David Nichols moved, Bill Curtis seconded, to reappoint everyone except the Airport Committee Members and the Emergency Preparedness Director at this time. Vote 4-0-1** (Goud abstained).

Roy Farmer was now present (see Item 6 above) and in response to questions said that rights of way had been released to seven owners by WIDCO, the last occurring probably around 1978, and there were probably 25 additional properties where the Town's right of way still existed. He said he was trying to sell property containing an approximate one acre that is technically owned by the town. He said he had no knowledge of plans by the narrow gauge railroad to extend to that property. He added that the property owners had been paying taxes on property that the Town owned. Duane Goud said he would like to find out the railroad's interest, if any, in the property and why the property owners have been paying taxes on land owned by the Town. The matter will be on the August 21 agenda.

12. Other Board Business

David Nichols thanked Lt. Allen for his courteous and professional manner in assisting his wife who had been in an automobile accident recently.

Tony True reminded the Board that his petition to keep the Transfer Station open on Sundays had failed by five votes and asked whether he should circulate a new petition or whether the Board planned to act on the matter. The Chairman said that True was free to circulate another petition; the matter was not on the top of the Selectmen's to-do list, although Transfer Station fees will be discussed at the next meeting.

In response to Steve Mehrl's question, Duane Goud said that he would try to arrange for Tyler Technologies to be present at the next meeting.

The Transfer Station fees will be discussed on August 21, as well as the hours of operation. Arthur Faucher recommended a meeting with the three haulers, particularly about recycling in an effort to take more out of the waste stream, but also about the hours of operation. Duane Goud asked that a list of customers in Wiscasset, Alna and Westport be obtained from the three haulers.

Tony True asked if there was an open seat on the Budget Committee and recommended that Sherry Dunbar be appointed to fill the seat. She had sent a letter to the Town Clerk expressing her interest. **Duane Goud moved, David Nichols seconded, to appoint Sherry Dunbar (when her application is received) to the Budget Committee until November 1 when she will have to run for election to the position. Vote 5-0.**

Regarding proposed amendments to the various ordinances which would be required to accommodate the Twin Rivers Energy Center, **Duane Goud moved, David Nichols seconded, to send the language draft, with a change in the height restriction from 250 to 230 feet, to the ORC to review by August 13 and return with recommendations to the Selectmen.** He read the proposed ordinance changes. **Vote 5-0.**

13. Announce Future Meetings, Workshops and Events

Nicole Viele announced a school consolidation meeting to be held at the primary school on Thursday, August 9, at 6 p.m. Both LD910 (Bath) and LD499 (State) will be discussed. A decision whether to join Bath in the consolidation will not be decided until after the meeting.

Duane Goud announced that a public information meeting on the Twin Rivers energy plant would be held at 6:30 at the high school following the Selectmen's meeting.

14. Adjournment

Duane Goud moved, David Nichols seconded, to adjourn the meeting at 6:24 p.m. Vote 5-0.