

WISCASSET BOARD OF SELECTMEN
JULY 29, 2008

(Tape recorded meeting)

Present: Bill Curtis, Phil DiVece, Bob Fairfield, Chairman David Nichols,
Vice Chairman Nicole Viele and Town Manager Arthur Faucher

1. Call to Order

The chairman called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

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

3. Approve Minutes of July 3 and 8, 2008

David Nichols moved to accept the minutes of July 3, 2008. Vote 4-0-1 (DiVece abstained). David Nichols moved to accept the minutes of July 8, 2008. Vote 5-0.

New Business

4. Bid opening and award of Tax Anticipation Note (TAN)

Requests for bids on the \$3 million TAN had been sent to 13 banks; five had responded as follows:

<u>Bank</u>	<u>As Needed</u>	<u>Lump Sum</u>
Androscoggin Bank	2.49%	2.32%
The First	3.35%	3.35%
Key Bank	3.72%	3.72%
TD Bank North	3.39%	3.19%
Camden National Bank	3.14%	3.14%

Bill Curtis moved to go with the Androscoggin Bank on an as-needed basis for 2.49%. Vote 5-0.

5. Set permanent schedule for future Selectmen Meetings

Bill Curtis moved to set the regularly scheduled meetings on the first and third Tuesday of the month. Nicole Viele expressed concern that there would at times be three weeks between meetings and suggested meeting every other week. **Vote 4-1 (Viele opposed).**

6. Request to approve the 911 naming of Winthrop Road off Fowle Hill Road

David Nichols moved to approve the naming of Winthrop Road. Vote 5-0. Phil DiVece asked that all emergency services be notified.

7. Other Board Business

Two bids had been received on the Public Works surplus property as follows:

Item 1	Paul Ruff	\$750*			Pieces of mast
Item 2	Paul Ruff	\$210*	Peter Dalton	\$206	Oak and pine logs near land fill
Item 3	Paul Ruff	\$105	Peter Dalton	\$206*	Hardwood from cemetery
Item 4	Paul Ruff	\$150*			Pine logs stacked in cemetery
Item 5	Paul Ruff	\$100*			Dump truck body

*high bid

Nicole Viele moved to award the bid on Item 3 to Peter Dalton and the bids on Items 1, 2, 4, and 5 to Paul Ruff. Vote 5-0.

Roland Abbott reported that current staffing of the ambulance service was 11 paramedics, 3 intermediates, 8 EMTs and 6 drivers, an increase of 5 EMTs and an overall decrease of 5 members since 2005. All members whom the Town sponsored for the paramedic course had successfully completed the course.

Arthur Faucher said the County had requested a letter regarding the appointment of Roland Abbott as EMA Director. **David Nichols moved to appoint Mr. Abbott Emergency Management Agency Director. Vote 4-0-1 (Curtis abstained).**

Arthur Faucher reported on a July 16 meeting with the MDOT regarding two projects in Wiscasset: Main Street from the Town Office into the village and Federal Street from Main Street to Hooper Street. The utility work, storm drains and paving will be put into the MDOT six-year work plan. The Town will be responsible for the utility work on Federal Street and resurfacing will be done by MDOT. **Phil DiVece moved to authorize the Town Manager to commence work with the MDOT on a request for proposal. Vote 5-0.**

Arthur Faucher said that because of the death of Woody Freeman, the position of Transfer Station Superintendent was vacant, although Bob Blagden was filling in as interim superintendent. He asked the board if they would prefer to advertise for a superintendent or for a truck driver/laborer with a Class 2 license. Bob Blagden said the transfer station was running the same as always, but he did need another person to work Tuesday through Saturday so that there would be two people on at the same time. He said he has been doing the payroll and could continue doing that plus the billing.

Bob Fairfield moved to advertise for a superintendent with a Class 1 license and advertise internally and externally. There could be some conflict if Bob Blagden were to be appointed to the job because he was elected as Road Commissioner. The Transfer Station superintendent's job is filled by appointment. Bill Curtis recommended that current employees be given preference in hiring. **Vote 5-0.**

Changing the hours of a current employee who was hired to work Tuesday through Saturday but works Monday through Friday was discussed. Bob Blagden said that the change would disrupt the current schedule. Nicole Viele expressed concern that if another employee were scheduled to work Tuesday through Saturday, it would involve paying overtime until a new employee could be hired for those days. **Nicole Viele moved to notify the Bargaining Unit that the employee working Monday**

through Friday would be changed to Tuesday through Saturday until a superintendent is hired for the Transfer Station. Vote 5-0.

Sue Varney said that 193 field checks would be required in the next 24 days in order to complete the assessments and meet the September 1 deadline for the tax commitment. These checks consist of 80 new construction or checking completion of residences, 24 garages, 50 sheds and decks and 39 miscellaneous building permits. Tyler Technologies has advised her that they would provide this service for not more than \$15,000, and the Town Manager said this expenditure had been discussed during the budget process. Tyler has indicated that it would have three people available for a couple of weeks to do the field work. Sue Varney said she could do the data entry involved with the inspections. **Nicole Viele moved to sign the contract with Tyler to do the 193 permits. Vote 5-0.**

The chairman read a letter from Katharine Martin-Savage asking the board to consider establishing a fund to replace the large fir tree on the Common, which is rotting internally, with a Colorado or blue spruce and dedicate the tree to Woody Freeman. She enclosed her donation of \$200. **Bill Curtis moved to establish a fund and select somebody or some group to be overseer of the account. Vote 5-0.** Paul Grover indicated he would donate \$100 to the fund.

Nicole Viele congratulated Sandra Johnson on achieving lifetime certification as Town Clerk.

Nicole Viele reported that a letter had been received from the Yacht Club Commodore thanking the July 4th committee for their work on the holiday events.

Nicole Viele reported that the school consolidation plan had been completed and would now be sent to the various school boards for a vote on August 11 before it is submitted to the Commissioner. If approved by the state, it will be on the November 4 ballot.

Phil DiVece asked whether the Town had a policy on charging for Freedom of Access requests, and if not, he recommended a selectman meet with Town Planner Jeffrey Hinderliter to draft such a policy. Sandra Johnson said in the past the town had followed state law and did charge for copying as well as for staff time. Phil DiVece will meet with Jeffrey Hinderliter on the matter.

Sue Varney asked the board's approval for an abatement for a property-owner who had been double billed for his taxes and had been sent four lien notices. **David Nichols moved to abate \$1,737.42 to Mr. Bryan Buck. Vote 5-0.**

8. Citizen Comments

In response to George Green's question regarding the town's sex offender ordinance, Police Lt. John Allen said that work on the ordinance had been postponed when it appeared the State was about to pass similar legislation; however, the State had taken no action. Lt. Allen will meet with Jeffrey Hinderliter on the status of the draft ordinance and it will be brought back to the board for consideration.

Don Jones reported that new signs had been installed in the Sunken Garden recognizing it as a gift from the Sortwell family in 1958.

Steve Mehrl reminded the board of the FOAA training which all municipal boards must take. It will be offered by MMA and can also be taken online.

9. Vote to go into Executive Session

At 8:45 p.m. **Phil DiVece moved to go into executive session pursuant to 36 MRSA Subsection 841 to act on a poverty abatement. Vote 5-0.** The board exited executive session at 8:50 p.m. **Phil DiVece moved to grant the abatement for applicant A. Vote 5-0.**

10. Adjourn

David Nichols moved to adjourn at 8:51 p.m. Vote 5-0.