

**Wiscasset Transportation Committee
Minutes for September 20, 2004**

Present: Chairman Don Jones, Marguerite Rafter, Seaver Leslie, Sean Rafter

Absent: Secretary Lois Kwantz

Guests: Town Planner Jeff Hinderliter

The meeting was called to order at 7pm a quorum being present. The minutes of July 19 and August 16 were approved with minor corrections.

Speed limits. Don reported that the speed limit change from 35 to 25mph between the municipal building and Flood Avenue that was initiated by this committee was approved by the MDOT, and the necessary changes have been made in the signs. He also reported that the speed limit change from 45 to 35mph on the Bath Road from Flood Avenue to the Woolwich town line that had been initiated by petition was not approved by MDOT.

Quik Stop Jeff reported that there had been no further developments in the matter of the Quik Stop sidewalk, since this committee voted to support two curb cuts on the Gardiner Road conditional on upgrading the safety of the sidewalk.

Gateway 1 Seaver Leslie joined the committee in progress. Don reported on recent meetings of the Gateway 1 Interim Steering Committee of which he is a member. He announced that the second meeting of interested citizens from each town would take place in November or December. Unlike the first meeting this second meeting would be held in five joint town groupings and include a light supper. Wiscasset has been grouped with Edgecomb, Newcastle, Damariscotta, and Nobleboro.

Route One initiative Jeff reported that he was concerned about problems that had developed in negotiations with MDOT on the Route One Initiative (also known as the Bath Road Preservation Project). Don expanded on the issues involved. Excessive fees assessed for traffic movement permits could possibly stop some projects from going forward, even though the traffic flow improvement study to be conducted by HNTB has not even started yet. Until the study is complete the cost of the necessary improvements cannot be known. He further opined that the root of the problem is the failure to create a business Route One in Wiscasset as was done in Damariscotta.

Comprehensive Plan Jeff reviewed a preliminary draft of goals, objectives, and strategies with the committee. There was discussion of similarities and differences between Jeff's draft and one presented by Don. Other members were requested to submit their own drafts and ideas directly to Jeff at the town office during the next week so that Jeff can have a first draft ready for the committee to consider at the next meeting in two weeks. The committee

hopes to have a final draft by the end of October so more than one meeting may be required in October.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm. The next meeting will be on October 4 at the usual location unless otherwise notified.

Respectfully submitted,
Don Jones, Chairman