

WISCASSET SELECT BOARD,
TAX ASSESSORS AND OVERSEERS OF THE POOR
AUGUST 6, 2019

Present: Kim Andersson, Kathy Martin-Savage, Vice Chair Ben Rines, Jr., Jeff Slack and Town Manager John O'Connell

Absent: Chair Judy Colby

Vice Chair Ben Rines, Jr., called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

Ben Rines, Jr., moved that when the board moves to adjourn, they do so in memory and honor of all who lost their lives in Dayton, Ohio; El Paso, Texas; and Gilroy, California. Vote 4-0-0.

2. Approval of Treasurer's Warrants

a. **Kathy Martin-Savage moved to approve the payroll warrants of July 26 and August 2, 2019. Vote 4-0-0.**

b. **Kathy Martin-Savage moved to approve the treasurer's warrants of July 30 and August 6, 2019. Vote 4-0-0.**

3. Approval of Minutes

Ben Rines, Jr., moved to approve the minutes of July 23, 2019 as amended. Vote 4-0-0.

4. Special Presentations or Awards – none

5. Committee Appointments - none

6. Public Hearings – none

7. Public Comment

Judy Flanagan asked if it was legal for the select board to put an article out for consideration to disband the Historic Preservation Commission without requiring a petition. Jeff Slack said the board had in the past put the item on the ballot without a petition. Ben Rines, Jr., said the vote to keep the HPC had been upheld twice. Flanagan said the commission was working on changes, but its procedure was hurting its efficiency. She asked the board to consider with the commission how it could be made better. She added that the commission was quite new when the previous vote was taken but changes need to be made. Ben Rines said he would prefer a petition and a vote at the June town meeting where it would get the most votes.

Kim Andersson asked to have a larger conversation on all committees and commissions and how to evaluate them. She asked that the subject be put on a future agenda. Ben Rines suggested checking with MMA to see if they have any seminars on the subject. Kathy Marti-Savage said that when people

voted for the commission, they voted more for the concept and idea of the commission, but the commission seems to be straying from rules of order, and it would be important to meet with the commission. Kim Dolce said she was the first applicant and the process was not easy. She said there is documented proof that maintaining the historic value of a town is necessary to maintain property values. She added instead of saying, “our preference would be” they should be saying, “the historic preference would be.” She said the commission needs to work on a list of acceptable materials so that there would be something to vote on. She suggested that people look at the tape of the previous meeting. She advised talking about improving the HPC.

8. Department Head or Committee Chair

a. Wiscasset EMS Director, Dennis Simmons – Dresden Contract, introduction of Deputy Director: Simmons said that following two interviews, Erin Bean was selected for the position of Deputy Director. Bean introduced herself and listed her qualifications.

Simmons said, regarding the ambulance contract with Dresden, there appeared to be a difference between what the contract actually said and what the board had understood with regard to uncollectibles at the end of the contract. The contract says that uncollectibles will be paid by Dresden if the contract is terminated early. Current uncollectibles for 2018 are approximately \$7,000. There was a consensus that the board consult an attorney on the matter.

9. Unfinished Business

a. Revisit Sewer Abatement Request – Roland P. Lacombe (Monkey C Monkey Do, 698 Bath Road): Roland Lacombe had requested an abatement for sewer charges. There had been leaks in the pipes which caused an increase in water usage in the last quarter of 2018, (when the park was closed) but not an increase in sewer usage. The leaks have been repaired. Al Cohen, representing Mr. Lacombe said the increase in usage was not from power-washing, it had occurred after the park was closed for the winter. He said Lacombe had paid all non-disputed portions of the water and sewer charges and requested that the fourth quarter 2018 sewer charges be reduced to reflect the average use for the previous fourth quarter usage. Ben Rines, Jr., asked that the January minutes of the meeting where the abatement was first discussed be made available, that the abatement be on the August 20 agenda, and that Mr. Lacombe be asked to attend the next meeting in person. He added that the full board should discuss the request. Vernice Boyce said that the Town would place a lien on August 22 if the bill was not paid.

b. 2018-2019 Carry Forward – Manager’s Recommendation: John O’Connell said his recommendation for the carry forwards was as follows: Fire Department floors - \$10,000; Municipal Building floors - \$4,000; Public Works tree removal (\$11,000) and striping (\$4,000)- \$15,000 and Waterfront bathrooms and pier repair - \$10,000. Total recommendation is \$39,000. **Ben Rines, Jr., moved to authorize the carry forwards as presented. Vote 4-0-0.** There is currently \$63,500 in undesignated funds.

c. Maine Municipal Association (MMA) response to board’s question on remote participation: Richard Flewelling, Senior Staff Attorney at MMA, had advised the board that the legislature has rejected bills that would allow authorized members of public boards to participate in meetings via telephone, video, electronic or similar means. The selectmen’s guidelines will be amended for the board’s approval.

10. New Business (Kim Andersson left the room temporarily)

a. Bid Openings

- Winter Sand Bids – 3500 cubic yards of winter sand
Nathan Northrup: \$6 per cubic yard, \$14.75 per cubic yard delivered

Ben Rines, Jr., moved to authorize the Town Manager and Road Commission to award the bid to the lowest qualified bidder. Vote 3-0-0.

- Paving Bid

Pike Industries	\$147,335.00
Allstate Asphalt	\$154,462.50
Crooker Construction	\$137,520.05
Hagar Enterprises	\$130,495.00

Ben Rines, Jr., moved to authorize the Town Manager and Public Works Director to review the bids and award the Paving Bid to the lowest qualified bidder. Vote 3-0-0.

- Tax Anticipation Note - \$1,001,000

The First	2.4% as needed, 2.4% lump sum
Bath Savings	2.34% as needed, 2.34 lump sum
Bangor Savings	did not bid
Partners Bank	3.38% as needed, 3.38% lump sum
Machias Savings Bank	2.55% as needed, 2.55% lump sum

Ben Rines, Jr., moved to authorize the Town Manager and Town Treasurer to review the bids and award the Tax Anticipation Note bid to the lowest qualified bidder. Vote 3-0-0.

b. Set date (August 20) and approve Special Town Meeting Warrant: **Ben Rines, Jr., moved to meet with the Budget Committee on August 14 at 6 p.m. to discuss the article. Vote 4-0-0.**

c. Resignation of Phil DiVece from Historic Preservation Commission: Asked why he was resigning, DiVece said he had attended three meetings, the last was stressful. He suggested watching the video of the last meeting. **Ben Rines, Jr., moved to accept the resignation with regret. Vote 4-0-0.**

11. Town Manager's Report

- Safety Works Report – The report has not arrived.
- Property Hazard Survey – See Maine Municipal Association Risk Management Report: Inspection of the Public Works Garage.
- Eviction of tenants of tax-acquired property – The taxes were paid.
- Art Walk Food Vendor Licenses – Applications will be on the August 20th agenda.
- MDOT curbing – No curbing has been taken.
- MMA Workers Comp Plan refund of \$7,778 was received.
- AMTRAK is reviewing the tracks from Brunswick to Rockland.

12. Other Board Business

Kim Anderson asked if planning for the year could be listed on one of the next two meeting agendas. She also asked to review the process for starting a business in Wiscasset. Jeff Slack recommended

meeting with committees and with the school board. O'Connell said Laurie Smith had drawn up information on doing business in Wiscasset.

13. Adjournment

Kathy Martin Savage moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m. Vote 4-0-0.