

WISCASSET SELECT BOARD,
TAX ASSESSORS AND OVERSEERS OF THE POOR
MINUTES, SEPTEMBER 3, 2019

Present: Kim Andersson, Chair Judy Colby, Vice Chair Ben Rines, Jr., Jeff Slack and Town Manager John O'Connell

Absent: Kathy Martin-Savage

Chair Judy Colby called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Approval of Treasurer's Warrants

- a. **Ben Rines, Jr., moved to approve the payroll warrants of August 23, and 30, 2019. Vote 4-0-0.**
- b. **Ben Rines, Jr., moved to approve the accounts payable warrants of August 27 and September 3, 2019. Vote 4-0-0.**

3. Approval of Minutes

- a. **Ben Rines, Jr., moved to approve the minutes of August 19, 2019. Vote 3-0-1 (Andersson abstained)**
- b. **Ben Rines, Jr., moved to approve the minutes of August 20, 2019. Vote 4-0-0.**

4. Special Presentations or Awards – none

5. Committee Appointments – none

6. Public Hearings – none

7. Public Comment

Kim Dolce said she had written the Town Manager in July regarding the lack of committee and board agendas and minutes on the town website and had later followed up, although the matter had never been on the select board's agenda. She said two of the committees had sizeable budgets and the business of those committees and others should be in full view of the public. At the very least, she said, the meetings could be videotaped. Chair Judy Colby said she agreed that the matter needed to be addressed and said she would try to add it to the agenda in October.

8. Department Head or Committee Chair

- a. **Town Treasurer, Vernice Boyce – Update on Delinquent Taxes and Town Acquired Property:** Boyce presented the board with a list of the outstanding taxes, some of which are personal property taxes, one which cannot be foreclosed because of bankruptcy and the balance were mostly Mason Station tax liens.

b. Parks and Recreation Director, Lisa Thompson – Scarecrow Festival: Thompson said planning had begun with participation by the Chamber of commerce, Josh Fitterling, Brad Sevaldson, Pat Cloutier, and Bonnie Blagden. The weeklong festival will take place on the Town Common from October 12 to 19 and will feature scarecrow displays, haunted story-time at the library, a chili and chowder challenge, pumpkin pie contest and the scarecrow festival.

9. Unfinished Business

a. Cenergy Energy Presentation - Solar Panel Proposal at Airport: William Pham presented additional information to that provided at the previous meeting such as bonding capacity, and a reduction in the acreage needed to 50 acres. He said the two-year lease option proposal will allow the company to obtain the necessary approvals to qualify for the program. He said time was of the essence inasmuch as 48 filings had already been made for the program. The lease option offer is \$1,000 per acre. He said that LD 1711 passed by the state legislature in July encourages more distributed community-type solar projects capped at 5 mw. In response to questions, Pham said the total cost would be from \$7 - \$8 million. FAA approval will be required. The project will be secured by six- to eight-foot fencing.

In response to Ben Rines, Jr.'s question, Pham said that at the end of 20 years, the program will offer an extension or other agreement and the system will always have a tremendous value. The lease option covers the two-year option as well as the commitment for the total program. **Jeff Slack moved to have the Town Manager sign the lease agreement. Vote 4-0-0.**

b. Approval of Application Annual License for Sale of Consumer Fireworks – Al Cohen: John O'Connell said Mr. Cohen's attorney could not be present and the matter would be postponed. A public hearing will be required. The application will be on an October or November agenda.

10. New Business

a. Set 2019-2020 Tax Commitment: John O'Connell said that the mill rate will be \$19.90 per \$1,000 of valuation, which represents a 1.8% increase. He said there was a loss of assessed valuation because of additional homestead exemptions and a tax-exempt status change of Deer Ridge. **Ben Rines, Jr., moved the 2019-2010 tax commitment as presented. Vote 4-0-0.** The treasurer reminded the public that there are tax clubs available.

b. Municipal Quit Claim Deeds

- Colleen Powell, Map R01, Lot 036
- Keith Hunter, Map R05, Lot 056
- Wojtex Rzycki, Map R07, Lot 048B
- Marian Asdot, Map R07, Lot 038
- (Heirs) Lois E. Konvalinka, Map U01, Lot 150
- Cody A. Haggett, Map U09, Lot 011

Ben Rines, Jr., moved to accept the quit claim deeds as presented. Vote 4-0-0

c. Bills of Sale

- Robert Roberts (Mobile home located at 970 Gardiner Road #14)

- William Rines (Mobile home located at 39 Bumpa Lane)
- C. M. King and David Dutton (Mobile home located at 297 Old Bath Road)
- Kimberly Delano (Mobile home located at 212 Old Bath Road)
- Matthew Huber (Mobile home located at 146 Bradford Road)
- Brenden McMorrow (Mobile home located at 970 Gardiner Road Lot #3)

Ben Rines, Jr., moved to approve the bills of sale as presented. Vote 4-0-0.

d. New Business License

- Barbara Chace, D.B.A. Maine-ly Hooping

Kim Andersson moved to approve the business license for Maine-ly Hooping. Vote 4-0-0.

11. Town Manager's Report

a. Fire Department Floor Remediation: O'Connell said two bids had been received: R. J. Enterprises, Inc. - \$8,000 and New Meadows Abatement, Inc - \$9,900. He recommended accepting the R. J. Enterprises bid. **Judy Colby moved to approve the R. J. Enterprises bid for \$8,000. Vote 4-0-0.**

b. 2020 Census: O'Connell said the census takers will be in the area, will operate between dawn and dusk and will have identification tags.

c. Committee Openings: O'Connell said there are many openings and asked that anyone interested to contact the office.

d. MMA Marijuana Workshop Update: O'Connell attended the workshop and obtained much information; a Marijuana Statutes Cheat Sheet was provided to the board. He said there is the possibility of a 25% payment to the towns from taxes on retail sales. He suggested that a vote on marijuana questions be taken at a full town meeting.

12. Other Board Business – none

13. Adjournment

Judy Colby moved to adjourn at 7:05 p.m. Vote 4-0-0.