

WISCASSET SELECT BOARD,
TAX ASSESSORS AND OVERSEERS OF THE POOR
JUNE 2, 2020

Present: Kim Andersson, Chair Judy Colby, Kathy Martin-Savage, Vice Chair Ben Rines, Jr., Jeff Slack, Town Manager John O'Connell, School Superintendent Terry Wood, EMS Director Dennis Simmons, Parks and Recreation Director Duane Goud

Press: Charlotte Boynton, Lincoln County News; Phil DiVece, Wiscasset Newspaper

Judy Colby called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. via Sysco Webex remote teleconferencing

1. Pledge of Allegiance – none

2. Approval of Treasurer's Warrants

Kathy Martin-Savage moved to approve the payroll warrants of May 22 and May 29, 2020. Vote 5-0-0

Kathy Martin-Savage moved to approve the accounts payable warrants of May 26 and June 2, 2020. Vote 5-0-0.

3. Approval of Minutes

Kathy Martin-Savage moved to approve the minutes of May 19, 2020. Vote 5-0-0.

4. Special Presentations or Awards – none

5. Committee appointments – none

6. Public Hearing – none

7. Public Comment – none

8. Department head or committee chair

a. Superintendent of Schools Terry Wood – Wood reported that the schools' budget will be the same as last year: \$5,999,603.39 with no increase to the taxpayers. She said the budget is \$168,795.78 less than the state allocation. Kim Anderson commented that this is the first time the town would not have to vote to approve additional funds.

b. Town Clerk, Linda Perry – Notice of Town Vacancies (submitted memo): John O'Connell listed the vacancies on the town boards, committees, and Water District which will be on the September 8 ballot. Those elected in September for a one-year term will serve until June 2021, those elected in September for a two-year term will serve until June 2022, and those elected in September for a three-year term will serve until June 2023. Nomination papers are due July 10. Nomination papers received by the original deadline will be valid. Current committee and board members will continue to serve until September 8, 2020.

c. Parks and Recreation Director Duane Goud: Goud expressed hope that the rec center could be opened according to the Governor's guidelines and asked for the board's approval. He listed the safety precautions that are being taken to protect both employees and the public. He said informational guidelines have been sent out regarding the gym and the pool, the only two areas which will initially be open; the locker rooms and fitness center will remain closed for the time being. The number of swimmers in the pool at one time will be 25 which EMS Director Dennis Simmons thought was a little high; however, Goud said that only lap swimming is allowed and the total number of swimmers allowed is the maximum with only one lifeguard. Simmons stressed the training of staff in cleaning and disinfecting. Kathy Martin-Savage advocated giving the plan a try while Ben Rines, Jr. said he thought the plan would fly in the face of precautions considering the number of senior citizens in town. Kim Andersson was in favor of the opening if CDC guidelines were followed. Judy Colby agreed with Rines and was in favor of delaying the opening a few weeks. The vote to open the center pool and gym was 3 to 2 with Rines and Colby dissenting.

9. Unfinished Business

a. Airport CARES Grant: John O'Connell asked for a motion to authorize him to apply for the \$30,000 CARES grant. **Kathy Martin-Savage moved to authorize the Town Manager to execute the application for the CARES Act Grant No 3-23-0049-023-2020 for the Wiscasset Airport. Vote 5-0-0.**

b. MDOT Over limit Project #2380500. O'Connell asked approval for the over limit permit. **Kathy Martin-Savage moved to approve an over limit permit to the Contractor for the MDOT Project No. 2380500 and to require the contractor to obtain a satisfactory bond to cover the cost of any damage that may result of the over limit loads.** In response to Ben Rines, Jr.'s question, O'Connell said the details regarding what roads other than Route 1 would be affected were not available. **Vote 5-0-0.**

10. New Business

a. Scholarship expenditure approval for 2020 General John and Mrs. Jeannette French scholarship and the 2020 Lawrence B. Haggett Memorial Scholarship: **Kathy Martin-Savage moved to expend \$500 from the Lawrence B. Haggett Memorial Scholarship Fund and \$1,000 from the General John and Mrs. Jeannette French Scholarship to two Wiscasset High School students who meet the scholarships' criteria. Vote 5-0-0.**

11. Town Manager's Report

a. Town Office operations and reopening process: O'Connell said the town counter is open by appointment only with access from the Route 1 entrance and exiting through the meeting room. Ten-foot markers have been placed on the sidewalk and it will be necessary to obtain a tent for those waiting outside. O'Connell said the Code Enforcement Officer occasionally meets with the public, but mostly the meetings are carried on outside the building. O'Connell suggested that the next meeting be held remotely on June 17th using the same format as has been used in the past. He recommended that the first meeting in July be held in the meeting room with the selectmen, O'Connell, Kathy Onorato, and the press present as well as one or two others with precautions about distancing and disinfecting. O'Connell said the Transfer Station is open for recycling. He said the Wastewater Treatment Plant was being cautious about security, asking employees and visitors to wear masks.

b. Committee Openings: The Planning Board will be meeting remotely via Zoom next week and the Waterfront and Comp Plan Committees will also be meeting remotely. Record of the minutes and voting will be kept as usual.

c. 2020 Town Meeting Timeline: O'Connell said the adoption of the budget warrant has been changed from July 1 to July 7. Select board budget workshops are scheduled for 5 p.m. on Thursday June 18, Monday, June 22 and Thursday, June 25 with only the press present.

Comment [JL1]: e

Comment [JL2]:

d. 2021 Tax Anticipation Note: O'Connell said the anticipation note process should begin soon. **Kathy Martin-Savage moved to authorize the Town Manager to begin the application process for the 2021 tax anticipation note. Vote 5-0-0.**

e. EDA Grants for Nuclear Closure Communities: O'Connell has been talking with Mary Ellen Barnes and others about available grants.

f. Water Street Blasting Notice – The DOT has been using jack hammers on Water Street without success so will be blasting beginning June 1, and an advisory has been issued. Jeff Slack asked if the possibility of the DOT building a bathroom could again be brought up. O'Connell will ask Ernie Martin.

g. Appearance of the Town Committee Request: A request for approval of the concept to install a pergola in the Sunken Garden had been received. **Kathy Martin-Savage moved to give permission to the Appearance of the Town Committee to look into the concept of a pergola at the sunken garden at no cost to the Town and assurance that it is not contravening any restriction. Vote 5-0-0.**

12. Other Board Business

a. Executive Session to discuss labor negotiations: **Judy Colby moved to enter Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6) (D). Vote 5-0-0.** At 6:05 p.m. **Judy Colby moved to exit Executive Session. Vote 5-0-0.**

13. Adjournment

At 6:06 p.m., **Kathy Martin Savage moved to adjourn the meeting. Vote 5-0-0.**