

WISCASSET SELECT BOARD,
TAX ASSESSORS AND OVERSEERS OF THE POOR
April 20, 2021 via Zoom

Present: Kim Andersson, Chair Pam Dunning, Vice Chair Kathy Martin-Savage, Jeff Slack,
Sarah Whitfield and Town Manager Dennis Simmons

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

1. Approval of Treasurer's Warrants

a. **Kathy Martin-Savage moved to approve the payroll warrants of April 9 and April 16, 2021. Vote 5-0-0.**

b. **Kathy Martin-Savage moved to approve the accounts payable warrants of April 13 and April 20, 2021. Vote 5-0-0.**

2. Approval of Minutes

a. **Kathy Martin-Savage moved to approve the minutes of April 6, 2021. Vote 4-0-1 (Slack abstained).**

3. Special Presentations or Awards

a. Wiscasset High School Climate Presentation: Ralph Keyes, Advisor for the Sheepscot Climate Action Club introduced Grace Greene, who spoke on the climate change resulting in rising levels of water in the Gulf of Maine and its effect on Wiscasset, and the warming of the Gulf of Maine and its effect on the fishing industry. Maria West shared resolutions the group had developed such as declaring a climate emergency, creating a town-wide mobilization effort, creating an energy efficiency committee, tracking greenhouse gases, signing on to the global covenant of mayors for climate and energy initiative, and having the Town of Wiscasset create a climate action plan. She said no date has been set for response from the board. Pam Dunning thanked the committee for sharing their ideas with the board. Sarah Whitfield said that many of the topics covered will be covered by the Comprehensive Plan. The non-binding document will be on the agenda at a future meeting.

4. Committee Appointments

a. Cemetery Committee: **Kathy Martin-Savage moved to appoint Loretta Morse Leighton; David Sawyer; Anthony Rauseo, Jr.; Peter H. Wells; Judy Flanagan; and Steven Christiansen to the Cemetery Committee.** One additional member will be required for the seven-member ad hoc committee. In response to Peter Wells' question, Pam Dunning said the committee will be supplied with a committee handbook and will be assigned work by the select board. **Vote 5-0-0.** Dennis Simmons will set up an initial meeting with the committee for the election of officers.

b. Appearance of the Town Committee: **Kathy Martin-Savage moved to appoint Jan Flowers, Larry Flowers, Candace Cahn Iampietro to the Appearance of the Town Committee. Vote 5-0-0.**

c. Comprehensive Planning Committee: **Kathy Martin-Savage moved to appoint Valerie Young to the Comprehensive Planning Committee. Vote 5-0-0.**

5. Public Hearings -none

6. Public Comment on Non-agenda Items

Ed Polewarczyk, referring to Article 6 on the warrant, said the public needed basic information on the airport solar project that would normally be presented during a fact-finding period prior to negotiations. He asked about the actual location and whether clearcutting would be necessary. He also asked about the state approval and whether the power and energy parameters were known. Other concerns included the viability of the solar company, the projected cost and if there was any guarantee that the project would be successful and not become another Point East. He asked about a fact-finding period and an explanation of decisions already made. He said the voters should be aware of as many facts as possible in order to be in a better position to make a decision on Article 6. Dennis Simmons said the board will have a workshop on solar and it will also be discussed at the meeting on the town warrant. Representatives from Cynergy will be present at that time to address questions and concerns.

7. Department Head or Committee Chair

a. Department Head monthly reports – submitted

8. Unfinished Business

a. Set date/location for Public Hearing on Town Meeting Warrant Articles: **Kathy Martin-Savage moved to set May 18 at the Community Center gym for the public hearing on the Town Meeting Articles. Vote 5-0-0.**

b. Monthly Financials

- Department year to date expense reports
- H.M.Payson State of Accounts

c. New Business License: **Jeff Slack moved to approve the Business License for Stephen J. Ludwig, DBA Ludwig's Antiques and Art, located at 161 Main Street. Vote 5-0-0.**

d. Donation of \$400 to General Assistance from Neighbors Helping Neighbors GoFundMe fundraiser: **Jeff Slack moved to accept the \$400 donation from Neighbors Helping Neighbors for the General Assistance Program. Vote 5-0-0.**

e. Boat Donation: **Kathy Martin-Savage moved to accept the donation of a boat from Mrs. Sharon Jacques.** Dennis Simmons said he had discussed the donation with the Fire Chief and found the boat is not conducive to the town's needs, but the donor had indicated the boat could be sold if it did not fit the town's needs. **Vote 5-0-0.** Simmons will acknowledge the gift.

f. Westport Island/Dresden EMS Contracts: **Kathy Martin-Savage moved to authorize the Town Manager to execute the FY '22 EMS contracts with the Town of Westport Island in the amount of \$12,265 and the Town of Dresden in the amount of \$28,999. Vote 5-0-0.**

g. Quitclaim Deed: **Jeff Slack moved to execute the Quitclaim Deed for Ronald Gonyou, Jr., Map R01, Lot 037E. Vote 5-0-0.**

h. Set date for School Budget meeting : **Kathy Martin-Savage moved to set the date for School Budget Meeting on May 12, 6 p.m., at the Community Center gym. Vote 5-0-0.**

10. Town Manager's Report

Dennis Simmons reported that several department heads had attended the MMA's Personnel Practices training held via zoom.

A pre-bid meeting had been held at the airport for the runway reconstruction project. Target date is late July or early August for the runway rebuild. The obstructions on the Chewonki Campground easement will be cleared after the camp closes in October.

Simmons met with Emily Rabbe, Mary Ellen Barnes, Karl Olson and Jackie Lowell to discuss how to better improve the flow of Planning Board items through the Town Office.

Simmons met several times with Wright-Pierce over the design of the Old Ferry Road repair.

Simmons attended a meeting of the Schooner Fest Committee and invited them to attend the May 18th meeting.

Duane Goud has been investigating putting cameras down at the town piers to record activities at the piers which will be monitored by the Police Department. In addition to assisting law enforcement, they will provide data on actual usage of the piers to aid the Town in decision-making for collecting additional revenue. The cameras would capture license plate or boat registration numbers to aid the town in assessing launch or other fees. Initial cost is \$9,000 and Simmons asked for input from the board. He said he needed more data in order to make decisions on how to move ahead to generate dollars from the piers. The cost would come out of the waterfront budget. Kim Andersson asked about privacy protection. Simmons said signs can be posted notifying the public that surveillance cameras were being used. There were no objections from the board.

11. Other Board Business

Kim Andersson asked when the last time the members of the board had read *1984*.

Kathy Martin-Savage volunteered to be the Cemetery Committee liaison.

12. Adjournment

Kathy Martin-Savage moved to adjourn the meeting. Vote 5-0-0.

