Selectboard Bulletin



Recently work was done on the Veterans Memorial at the Town Office to repair bricks and to add a walkway on the back as we are now adding names on the second side of the Memorial. Feel free to stop by and take a look and thank you to all our veterans for their service! An observance for Veteran's Day will be held at the memorial at 9am on Saturday, November 11th.

Paving Update

Paving of the following roads is slated to begin this week: Foye Rd, Deer Ridge, Oak Ridge West, Willow Lane (from Churchill to Dickenson Rd). The paving includes the culverts on Foye Road.

Thank you for your patience as we waited through many delays due to the weather.

Halloween in Wiscasset

Join in on the Halloween festivities all over town!

- Wiscasset Haunted High School: Saturday, October 28th from 6 to 8pm at Wiscasset Middle High School. Entry is just \$5 and all proceeds benefit the Wiscasset High School Student Council.
- Huntoon Hill Grange Trunk or Treat: Saturday, October 28th from 5 to 7pm, rain date of October 29th, same time.
- Wiscasset Speedway Trunk or Treat: Sunday, October 29th from 3 to 5pm at the racetrack. Free to the public!
- Nightmare on Federal Street: The parade line-up begins at Wiscasset Elementary School at 4pm and the parade goes down Federal Street at 4:30pm. After the parade feel free to trick or treat, visit the Pirates of Federal, enjoy the block party with vendors and more! Prizes for best dressed in several categories. Brought to you by Wiscasset Parks & Rec, Wiscasset Area Chamber of Commerce and Friends of Wiscasset.

From the Wiscasset Climate Action Team

Wiscasset's Climate Action Team will be holding several workshops to gather community input. The first will take place at the Senior Center in the Wiscasset Community Center on Wednesday, October 25th from 6 to 8pm. This meeting will focus on understanding community concerns on climate risks, and will be followed by a second workshop looking at climate solutions and community progress, Nov. 4 from 2 to 4 p.m., Wiscasset Town Office, 51 Bath Road, Wiscasset. In-person and hybrid (Zoom) participation are both supported, and limited support for travel and child care are available by request. Refreshments will also be available.

Town Manager's Corner: Maine Yankee Update

In November 2022, Maine Yankee filed an application with the Maine Department of Environmental Protection Commissioner to certify most of their taxable property as air pollution control equipment. In December 2022, the Town filed an objection to this application and petitioned the Commissioner hold a public hearing on the application. In January 2023 the Commissioner denied the Town's request for a public hearing stating there was "insufficient justification" and that said hearing would not provide any further information or clarification beyond what was already submitted to the record. In March of 2023, the Commissioner granted Maine Yankee's application. In April 2023 the town filed an appeal of the Commissioner's decision with the Board of Environmental Protection.

This past October 19th the Board of Environmental Protection held a meeting to hear the town's appeal of the DEP Commissioner's decision to grant Maine Yankee a certificate as an air pollution control facility. The Board heard over three hours of testimony. At the end of this testimony the Board deliberated briefly before voting unanimously to uphold the DEP Commissioner's decision to grant this certification. During their testimony, Maine Yankee stated that they are willing to pay a "fair" share of taxes to the town. Obtaining a property tax exemption for the majority of the taxable value of the property hardly fits the definition of fair. Their attorney also stated that the rate payers benefit from this exemption. While it is laudable that Maine Yankee is looking out for the rate payers, they are doing so disproportionally at the expense of the Wiscasset taxpayers. At this time the select board will need to meet with the town's attorney and consider the next steps, such as appealing the BEP decision to Superior Court.

-Dennis Simmons, Town Manager

Upcoming Meetings

October 25: Climate Action Team Workshop, 6PM, Community Center October 30: Climate Action Team, 6PM November 01: Fire Department, 6PM November 4: Climate Action Team Workshop, 2PM November 06: Cemetery Committee, 6PM November 07: Selectboard, 6PM November 08: Comprehensive Plan Committee, 6PM November 10: Veterans Day November 13: Ordinance Review Committee, 5:30PM November 13: Planning Board, 7PM November 14: Waterfront Committee, 5PM November 15: Airport Committee, 5PM, Airport November 20: Climate Action Team, 6PM November 21: Selectboard, 6PM November 23: Town Office Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday November 27: Ordinance Review Committee, 5:30PM November 27: Planning Board, 7PM

All meetings are held at the Wiscasset Town Office unless otherwise noted. All meetings, including committee meetings are open to the public and we encourage you to attend!

Helpful Links & Resources

- Town of Wiscasset website
- Town of Wiscasset <u>YouTube Channel</u> (livestream of meetings and library of previous meetings)
- Most recent meeting agendas

Your Selectboard Members

- Sarah M. Whitfield, Chairman: selectmanwhitfield@wiscasset.org
- Terry Heller: <u>selectmanheller@wiscasset.org</u>
- William Maloney, Vice Chairman: <u>selectmanmaloney@wiscasset.org</u>
- James Andretta: <u>selectmanandretta@wiscasset.org</u>
- Pamela Dunning: selectmandunning@wiscasset.org