

WISCASSET SELECTBOARD,  
TAX COLLECTORS, AND OVERSEERS OF THE POOR  
JUNE 21, 2022  
IN PERSON AND VIA ZOOM

Present: James Andretta, Terry Heller (via Zoom), Dusty Jones, Bill Maloney, Sarah Whitfield, and Town Manager Dennis Simmons

Dennis Simmons called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Board

a. Nominations for Chair of the Wiscasset Selectboard: **Bill Maloney moved to elect Sarah Whitfield as chair. Vote 4-0-0 (Whitfield abstained).**

b. Nominations for Vice Chair of the Wiscasset Selectboard: **Terry Heller moved to elect Dusty Jones as Vice Chair. Vote 5-0-0.**

3. Approval of Treasurer's Warrants

a. **Bill Maloney moved to approve the payroll warrants of June 10 and 17, 2022. Vote 5-0-0.**

b. **Dusty Jones moved to approve the accounts payable warrants of June 14 and 21, 2022. Vote 5-0-0.**

4. Approval of Minutes

**Dusty Jones moved to approve the minutes of June 7, 2022. Vote 3-0-2 (Andretta and Maloney abstained).**

5. Special Presentations and Awards – none

6. Committee Appointments – none

7. Public Hearings – none

8. Public Comment

Judy Flanagan thanked all who worked on the events that took place the past weekend. She also said working at the polls the previous week was fun and an honor. Sarah Whitfield said she was proud of the huge turnout with 703 voters.

9. Department Head or Committee Chair

a. Department Head Monthly Reports: No comments.

10. Unfinished Business

a. Set new sewer rates: Sarah Whitfield clarified that a 46% increase in revenue did not mean sewer bills would increase 46%; actual proposed increase in sewer bills would be 22% -24%. **Dusty Jones moved to accept the sewer department fees as recommended by the Sewer Department Superintendent.** In response to Ed Polewarczyk's question, Rob Lalli said that additional funds would come from the seasonal or flat-rate customers whose bills would now be calculated at the regular billing rate. The increase would also be an incentive to those flat-rate customers who fail to have meters installed or fail to allow access to the meters to comply. Those who have their own septic systems will not be affected by the rate increase. Lalli said that using the formula recommended by Cathy Robinson (Maine Rural Water Association) would add \$262,000 to the revenues. Dennis Simmons said the town has legal methods to go after those who do not comply. **Vote 5-0-0.**

## 11. New Business

### a. Monthly Financials

- H. M. Payson Statement of Accounts
- Year-to-date department expense/revenue report

b. New Business License – Sally A. Hinsch, DBA Salmon Falls Counseling, LLC, located at 61 Flood Avenue: **Dusty Jones moved to approve the Business License for Sally A. Hinsch, DBA Salmon Falls Counseling, located at 61 Flood Avenue. Vote 5-0-0.**

c. Midcoast Humane Agreement for Services: **Terry Heller moved to authorize the Town Manager to execute, on behalf of the Town of Wiscasset, the Agreement for Services with Midcoast Humane for the period July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023. Vote 5-0-0.**

d. School Renovation Fund Loan Forgiveness Grant Financing for handicapped elevator: Kathy Onorato said the elementary school is not currently ADA compliant as there is no handicap access to the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floors, and the grant would be used for an elevator. The grant provides 40% funding, or \$346,371, of the \$868,750 needed to complete the project; the balance will come from the fund balance so there will be no impact on taxes. **Dusty Jones moved that the vote entitled "Vote to authorize \$346,371 School Revolving Renovation Fund Loan Forgiveness Grant Financing" be approved in the form presented to this meeting and that the Clerk file an attested copy of said vote with the minutes of this meeting. Vote 5-0-0.**

e. Request for allocated parking from Wiscasset Public Library: The Wiscasset Public Library has requested three spaces of allocated parking for patrons of the library on High Street directly in front of the library during library hours. As an alternative, the library requested a time limit such as one hour or thirty minutes for the spots in front of the library. Dennis Simmons suggested the time limit request be granted; the allocated parking was not recommended as it could set a precedent for others to request allocated parking. **Dusty Jones moved to approve the request of the library for three designated one-hour parking spaces in front of the library. Vote 5-0-0.**

f. Nomination for Maine Municipal Association Policy Committee: Dennis Simmons said the committee advises the MMA and the legislature on issues that are important to municipalities. He said Dusty Jones had expressed an interest in joining the committee. **Bill Maloney moved that Dusty Jones be appointed to the MMA Policy Committee. Vote 5-0-0.**

## 12. Town Manager's Report

In addition to items already discussed during the meeting, Dennis Simmons reported that the FY '21 audit is underway and he expects it will be completed by the end of the month.

Simmons attended a daylong Human Resources Management conference at Thomas College which he said was helpful in keeping up with changes in employment laws and rules to make sure the town is in compliance.

Envirovantage has finished its portion of the cleanup of the ash ponds at Mason Station. The area needs to be seeded which is the Town's responsibility. A silt fence is in place to keep the loose soils from running off into the river. Simmons will be working with Ransom to close out the EPA grant.

According to Bruce Mullin, the interior of the Wawenock building is being stripped to expose the inside of the exterior walls which will be framed so that the exterior bricks may be removed without the structure coming down. Simmons and Mullin will inspect the work done so far on June 23.

Simmons recommended that the board approve the proposed sewer rate increases as presented.

The Town Manager recommended scheduling a workshop to discuss goals and priorities, liaison to committees, and suggested new or revised ordinances. A decision on the marijuana ordinances will be needed soon if they are to be on the November ballot.

The Art Walk is scheduled before the next meeting and Simmons will issue a permit in accordance with the new policy.

## 13. Other Board Business

a. Executive session for consultations with legal counsel: At 6:35 p.m. **Dusty Jones moved to enter executive session pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6)(E). Vote 5-0-0. Dusty Jones moved to exit executive session at 7:28 p.m. Vote 5-0-0. Bill Maloney moved that we enter into agreement with Federal Appraisal LLC for appraisal service regarding Maine Yankee. Vote 5-0-0.**

## 14. Adjournment

**Bill Maloney moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:29 p.m. Vote 5-0-0.**