

WISCASSET SELECTBOARD,
TAX ASSESSORS AND OVERSEERS OF THE POOR
JULY 19, 2022
IN PERSON AND VIA ZOOM

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

Chair Sarah Whitfield called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Approval of Treasurer's Warrants

a. **Bill Maloney moved to approve the payroll warrants of July 8 and July 15, 2022. Vote 5-0-0.**

b. **Bill Maloney moved to approve the accounts payable warrants of July 12 and July 19, 2022. Vote 5-0-0.**

3. Approval of Minutes

Bill Maloney moved to approve the minutes of July 5, 2022. Vote 5-0-0.

4. Special Presentations and Awards – none

5. Committee Appointments – none

6. Public Hearings – none

7. Public Comment

A letter from Linda Adams had been received reiterating her earlier request for a written process on how interested parties can apply to place memorial statues, benches, etc. on town property. She also would like to see the town come up with regulations to protect the town from being subject to acres and acres of land being used for solar farms.

Bob England, recently appointed School Superintendent, introduced himself to the board. He said he had spoken to the Town Manager about the schools taking advantage of solar power. He was welcomed by the board.

8. Department head or committee chair

a. Department Head monthly reports: Bill Maloney commented that Parks and Recreation had a very good year. In response to Dusty Jones' question about better visibility for vehicles

responding to an emergency, Fire Chief Bickford said usually emergency response vehicles have hazard lights requesting right of way, but it is not mandatory and that responders were trained on emergency procedures.

9. Unfinished Business

10. New Business

a. Daniel and Jamie Lackie, DBA D&D Classic and Custom Rides, located at 1141 West Alna Road: **Bill Maloney moved to approve the Business License application for Daniel and Jamie Lackie, DBA D&D Classic and Custom Rides, located at 1141 West Alna Road. Vote 5-0-0.**

b. Monthly Financials

- H.M.Payson Statement of Accounts
- Expense/revenue reports (June)

c. Maine Municipal Annual Election: **Bill Maloney moved to approve the candidates on the Maine Municipal Association ballot. Vote 5-0-0.**

d. Bid Opening – Winter Sand

The only bid received was from Nathan Northrup.
3000-3500 cubic yards - \$10 per cubic yard picked up
3000-3500 cubic yards - \$19.50 per cubic yard delivered

Dusty Jones moved to authorize the Town Manager and Public Works Director to review the bids and award the bid to the lowest qualified bidder. Vote 5-0-0.

e. Public Works 2004 GMC pick-up truck: **Bill Maloney moved to deem the Public Works 2004 GMC pick-up truck as surplus and authorize the Town Manager to solicit bids to sell it. Vote 5-0-0.**

11. Town Manager's Report

Dennis Simmons reported on an issue with the purchase and sale agreement for the fire truck. The price of the truck is within the budget, but the seller won't guarantee the price of the chassis because one cannot be found, and therefore Simmons was hesitant to sign the P&S. Robert Bickford said the truck was originally budgeted at \$350,000 to \$360,000; the purchase and sale agreement was for \$395,000 with a \$10,000 deduction if paid up front. However, he said the vendors cannot find chassis and therefore dealers cannot quote a price for the fire truck. Pierce representative Ray Smith explained the surcharge if a contract for purchase agreement were cancelled and added that prices could be expected to rise if the decision were delayed. After extensive discussion, it was decided to put the matter on the selectboard's agenda for July 26, 2022, at which time Smith may have more information for the board.

Simmons said the Town of China is putting up for bid a 2017 cruiser with fewer than 17,000 miles, which could be used to replace Wiscasset's older cruiser now being used by the School Resource Officer. He said funds are available. He added that a new cruiser would cost about \$55,000. There was a consensus that Simmons be allowed to submit a sealed bid for the cruiser.

The Town Manager explained the issue with reopening the airport. The FAA has identified a power pole on Chewonki Neck Road that is six feet too high. The pole is not deemed an obstruction but rather a distraction and it needs to be mitigated. A possible solution is to lower the pole by six feet which would have to be approved by the telephone and cable companies as their lines would need adjustment. Dave Nadeau of Stantec explained the FAA considers only man-made features, even though the pole in question was situated near trees which were higher than the pole. The FAA is waiting to hear from the Town how the problem will be addressed. The only option available other than shortening the runway is to shorten or relocate the pole 220 feet. Nadeau said their preference was to shorten the pole by six feet. If the decision is made to lower the pole, the FAA can make a determination based on that decision. Steve Williams, chair of the Airport Committee, John Soule president of the hangar association, Erv Deck, senior planner at Stantec and former airport manager, and Airport Manager Rick Tetrev spoke on the issue and a video demonstrated the negligible distraction the pole created. The FAA has said the airport could be opened if a mitigation plan were submitted. **Dusty Jones moved to authorize the Town Manager and the Airport Manager to work with the CMP to develop the most suitable quickest mitigation plan and in the meantime open the airport. Vote 5-0-0.**

Simmons reported he had granted a permit to the First Congregational Church to hold its annual Summerfest on the Town Common on July 23.

The board was reminded of the meeting on July 26 at which the draft marijuana ordinances will be considered, and the board was encouraged to review the ordinances so that a final version can be put on the November ballot.

Simmons reported that the new Public Works maintenance truck is in service, and he suggested the old truck be declared surplus property and put out to bid.

12. Other Board Business

Sarah Whitfield said she would forward Linda Adams' email to the board and suggested that the matter of memorials on town land be referred to the ORC.

13. Adjournment

Bill Maloney moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m. Vote 5-0-0.