

WISCASSET SELECTBOARD,
TAX ASSESSORS AND OVERSEERS OF THE POOR
JANUARY 3, 2023
IN PERSON AND VIA ZOOM

Preliminary Minutes

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

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

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Approval of Treasurer's Warrants

a. **Terry Heller moved to approve the payroll warrants of December 23 and December 30, 2022. Vote 5-0-0.**

b. **Terry Heller moved to approve the accounts payable warrants of December 27, 2022, and January 3, 2023. Vote 5-0-0.**

3. Approval of Minutes

Terry Heller moved to approve the minutes of December 20, 2022. Vote 5-0-0.

4. Special Presentations or Awards – none

5. Committee Appointments – none

6. Public Hearings – none

7. Public Comment

John Barnes thanked the board for the Christmas bonus and presented Chief Hesseltine with an outstanding achievement award, thanking him on behalf of the town police officers for his work and support.

8. Department Head or Committee Chair – none

9. Unfinished Business – none

10. New Business

a. **Municipal Quitclaim Deed, Chris Cossette, Map R03-080: Bill Maloney moved to execute the municipal quitclaim deed for Map R03-080. Vote 5-0-0.**

b. **Business License for Ellie Anne Photography: Bill Maloney moved to approve business license for Elissa Salter, DBA Ellie Anne Photography. Vote 5-0-0.**

c. Broadband – Authorize to execute Maine Connectivity Authority Grant Agreement FY2022. **Bill Maloney moved to execute Maine Connectivity Authority Grant Agreement FY2022. Vote 5-0-0.**

11. Town Manager's Report

Dennis Simmons reported that the Omnibus Federal Budget Bill passed which included an earmark request for \$1.3 million for repair of Old Ferry Road.

12. Other Board Business

Consolidated Communications Broadband Discussion: Simon Thorne distributed copies of his planned presentation. Thorne said he is working with towns near Wiscasset to pursue a potential grant which may be available as soon as February for the purpose of building a fiber optic network throughout Wiscasset which would be owned, run, and operated by Consolidated. Consolidated offers four pricing options, ranging from 50 mbps to 2 gigs and a fidium network for businesses. There are 1887 eligible locations in Wiscasset and if the town decided to work with Consolidated, consolidated would be required to put in \$700 for each location, totaling over \$3million. If chosen, consolidated would build in 2024 and construction is anticipated to take three to six months. There would be no charge for installation up to 250 feet. In response to a question, Thorne said Consolidated would not offer service on a network they had not built.

b. Executive Session for the discussion of a legal matter: At 6:28, **Bill Maloney moved to enter Executive Session pursuant to 1. M.R.S.A §405 (6) (E). Vote 5-0-0. Bill Maloney moved to exit Executive Session. Vote 5-0-0.**

13 Adjournment

Dusty Jones moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m. Vote 5-0-0.