

WISCASSET SELECTBOARD,
TAX ASSESSORS AND OVERSEERS OF THE POOR
AUGUST 15, 2023
IN PERSON AND VIA ZOOM

Preliminary Minutes

Present: James Andretta, Pam Dunning, Terry Heller, Bill Maloney, Chair Sarah Whitfield, and Town Manager Dennis Simmons

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 August 4 and 11 FY24. Vote 5-0-0.**

b. **Terry Heller moved to approve the Accounts Payable warrants of August 8, FY 23, August 8, FY24 and August 15, FY 24. Vote 5-0-0.**

3. Approval of Minutes

Terry Heller moved to approve the minutes of August 1, 2023, as amended. Vote 5-0-0.

4. Special Presentations or Awards – none

5. Committee Appointments

a. **Terry Heller moved to appoint Laura Ann Mewa to the Ordinance Review Committee. Vote 5-0-0.**

b. **Bill Maloney moved to appoint Pam Dunning to the Legislative Policy Committee. Vote 5-0-0.**

6. Public Hearings – none

7. Public Comment – none

8. Department Head or Committee Chair

a. See Department Monthly Reports: Terry Heller commended Chief Larry Heseltine and his assistant for their comprehensive report and noted that the number of OUIs for 2023 so far exceeds the number in all of 2022. She said the problem of drugs needs to be addressed.

b. Report from Future of the Schools Committee: Sarah Whitfield, liaison to the committee, thanked the members of the committee who had researched the financial consequences of discontinuing grades 9-12. The report shows that the increase to tuition out students grades 9-12 in 2023 would be \$559,508 and in 2024 \$385,918. A second report will be forthcoming looking at other options. Whitfield said the Comprehensive Plan Committee will be sending out a survey and can include the school questions.

c. Monthly Financials

- MM Payson
- Year to Date Revenue Expense Report

b. Broadband Discussion: Evan Goodkowsky reported that Consolidated was going forward with the grant application for Wiscasset and the town needs to apply for Lincoln County funds for the \$100,000 in matching funds. The application needs to be signed and submitted with a letter proving that the town approved the warrant article for \$100,000.

9. Unfinished Business

a. LD2003 discussion: The board had previously discussed whether ordinances were needed for parking, short-term rentals, and/or additional dwelling units (ADU) to comply with LD2003. The Ordinance Review Committee is working on parking and planner Emily Rabbe has submitted a list of parking requirements for 18 area towns as well as information on short term rentals and additional dwelling units for those towns. Whitfield asked if the board wanted to direct the ORC to draft anything for short-term rentals or accessory dwelling units. Bill Maloney said the short-term rentals should be required to have fire and CO2 detectors. Kim Dolce said the lack of setbacks in the downtown area should be considered when discussing ADUs. Dennis Simmons said the ORC had asked if the board wished to regulate the size (square-footage) of short-term rentals. Discussion of the matter will be on the next agenda.

10. New Business – none

11. Assessors Business

a. **Pam Dunning moved to approve tax abatement for personal property account #345 for \$74.30 to Theresa Gray and Tom Harper. Vote 5-0-0.**

b. **Terry Heller moved to approve the tax abatement for Map U02, Lot 47, account #1358 for \$481.92. Vote 5-0-0.**

c. **Bill Maloney moved to approve the Central Maine Power Pole Permit application for Lowelltown Road, Work order 801000563021. Vote 5-0-0.**

12. Town Manager's Report

Dennis Simmons said according to George Betke, excursion train rides to Bath will take place on August 26 leaving Wiscasset at 10 a.m., 12:20 p.m. and 2:40 p.m. Tickets can be purchased online, the train will stop near the sewer plant at 9 a.m. for visitors before the trip to Bath, and parking is available on Railroad Avenue.

Simmons attended a brownfields conference the past week and gained information which will be helpful in the Mason Station cleanup.

13. Other Board Business – none

14. Adjournment

Pam Dunning moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 p.m. Vote 5-0-0.