

WISCASSET SELECTBOARD,
TAX ASSESSORS AND OVERSEERS OF THE POOR
MARCH 5, 2024
IN PERSON AND VIA ZOOM

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

1. Pledge of Allegiance

2. Approval of Treasurer's Warrants

a. **Terry Heller moved to approve the payroll warrants for February 23 and March 1, 2024. Vote 5-0-0.**

b. **Terry Heller moved to approve the accounts payable warrants for February 27 and March 5, 2024. Vote 5-0-0.**

3. Approval of Minutes

Terry Heller moved to approve the minutes from February 20, 2024. Vote 5-0-0.

4. Special Presentations or Awards – none

5. Committee Appointments

a. Ad Hoc Economic Development Advisory Committee

Pam Dunning moved to appoint Kim Dolce, Frederick Quivey, Alissa Eason, Evan Goodkowsky, Richard Malaby, Sherri Dunbar and Patricia Cloutier to the Ad Hoc Economic Development Advisory Commission. Vote 5-0-0.

6. Public Hearings

a. Special Amusement Permit for Jodi's Café & Bakery, located at 45 Water Street. **Terry Heller moved to open the public hearing at 6:04 p.m. Vote 5-0-0.** There was no discussion. **Terry Heller moved to close the public hearing at 6:04 p.m. Vote 5-0-0. Terry Heller moved to approve the Special Amusement Permit for Jodi's Café and Bakery, located at 45 Water Street. Vote 5-0-0**

7. Public Comment on Non-agenda Items

Kim Dolce reminded the board that the Future of the Schools Committee had met in 2021 on the status of the schools and had since issued only one report which included incomplete data. She pointed out errors in the report on the cost to tuition out students and on the capacity of the school buildings. Dolce said that the schools are underperforming, the graduation rate last year was 12 points below the state average and more and more students are opting to go to other schools. She asked the board, before any decisions are made, to direct the committee to address the issues in a transparent method, or if they are unable or unwilling to do so, to appoint another committee to do what voters directed the board to do. Sarah Whitfield said a workshop will be held to again look at the school situation and costs.

8. Department Head or Committee Chair – none

9. Unfinished Business

a. Wawenock Block Update: Sarah Whitfield reported that the work continues to progress and primary masonry work on the front of the building will begin on March 12, 2024.

10. New Business

a. Lincoln County 2024 approved budget

b. Lincoln County ARPA spending report

c. Maine Service Centers Coalition-Dues Renewal/Appointment of Voting Delegate: **Terry Heller moved to appoint Dennis Simmons as delegate and Pam Dunning as alternate delegate. Vote 5-0-0.**

d. Wiscasset Municipal Airport 2024 Minimum Standards: Steve Williams, Chair of the Airport Committee, introduced the minimum Standards for Commercial and Non-commercial Operators. Ery Deck, member of the Airport Committee, explained the standards are necessary to ensure compliance for grants and were compiled from standards of other airports. **Pam Dunning moved to adopt the 2024 Wiscasset Municipal Airport Minimum Standards. Vote 5-0-0.**

e. Resignation of Ronald Leeman – Waterfront Committee: **Terry Heller moved to accept with regret the resignation of Ronald Leeman and accept with thanks for the many years of service. Vote 5-0-0.**

11. Assessor's Business

a. Tax Abatement-Frank Allen, Jr., Map/Lot R02-010-C "ON" in the amount of \$4.82 for tax year 2022. **Pam Dunning moved to approve the tax abatement for Frank Allen, Jr. for Map/Lot R02-010-C "ON" in the amount of \$4.82 for tax year 2022.**

12. Town Manager's Report

Dennis Simmons reported that he had met with members of the Budget Committee and will address their concerns.

An email from Senator Collins' office had been received indicating the \$5 million for the Wastewater Treatment Plant had survived the budget negotiations and a vote in the House of Representatives was scheduled for March 6, followed by a vote in the Senate, and when signed, the funds will be available. Simmons had met with Olver to scope out locations and may consider sites other than town-owned land. Bill Maloney reminded the board that the wastewater plant in Oxford consists of just a building that could be put anywhere in town.

13. Other Board Business – none

14. Adjournment

Bill Maloney moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:28 p.m. Vote 5-0-0.

