

# TOWN OF WESTPORT ISLAND 6 Fowles Point Road Westport Island, ME 04578

Office of the Select Board, Board of Assessors, & Overseers of the Poor

# Town of Westport Island Selectboard, Assessors and Overseers Meeting Convened at Town Office, 6 Fowles Point Road, Westport Island, ME 04578 September 25, 2023

**Present:** 

Select Board: Jeff Tarbox, Donna Curry, and Lisa Jonassen

Citizens: Jim Cromwell (Road Commissioner), April Thibodeau (Town

Clerk), Stacey Hutchison (Fire Chief), Adam Webber & Gary

Webber

Guests: Charlotte Boynton (Lincoln County News)

**Meeting Convened:** Donna called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

#### **Business Conducted:**

#### 1. Warrants:

Donna motioned to approve Payroll Warrant #30 for \$1,886.97; Lisa 2<sup>nd</sup>;
Vote: 3-0

• Donna motioned to approve the Accounts Payable Warrant #31 for \$20,716.23; Jeff 2<sup>nd;</sup> Vote: 3-0

#### 2. Minutes:

- Donna motioned to approve the minutes of the 9/18/23 Select Board Meeting; Lisa 2<sup>nd</sup>; Vote: 3-0
- **3.** Correction: Donna notes that the Lincoln County News reported last week that the cost of the residential well testing for PFAS contamination from the old town dump site would be over \$50,000. That is incorrect. The actual cost is \$13,145 and will be fully reimbursed by the Department of Environmental Protection.

### 4. Citizen's Issues:

• Donna shared that a citizen had reached out to her about a road rage incident. The citizen was closely tailgated by a black pickup with their lights out, and then the truck suddenly turned their lights on and passed. The citizen wished that it be made public so other citizens are aware, and also recommends that anyone who experiences an incident like this call the police right away, as she waited a day and was told she should have called immediately.

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- Fire Chief Stacey Hutchison announced that the WVFD has received an estimate from Jack Shaw and Precast Concrete of Maine for the cost of a cistern to be located on the donated Bradford property. The total cost will be over \$50,000, which is more than the \$35,000 allotted to be used from the Capital Reserve Account at the Town Meeting. The WVFD will make up the difference. Donna motioned to accept the estimate; Jeff 2<sup>nd</sup>; Vote 3-0.
- **5. Roads:** Jim Cromwell announced that new signs have been put up. There is an issue with placing the order for salt due to delays with the vendor. Jeff has alerted the state to the issue.
- **6. 2022 Property Tax Penalty Interest Rate:** Donna reported that Tax Collector/Treasurer Ashley Murray discovered that the town had charged the wrong interest rate to lien holders in 2022. After researching, it was concluded that the overcharges were extremely small, with total overcharges amounting to \$4.15 and the largest one being \$.67. Donna motioned to not mail refunds due to the small amounts; Lisa 2<sup>nd</sup>; Vote 3-0.
- **7. Ordinance Review Committee:** Lisa reported that the membership of the Ordinance Review Committee has been set, and they will hold their first meeting tomorrow night. Lisa read out loud a description of the Committee's duties. Lisa motioned to appoint 12 members; Donna 2<sup>nd</sup>; Vote 3-0.
- **8. Junk yard operating without a permit:** Donna reported that the Select Board has had multiple complaints about a property on Greenleaf Rd. The Select Board believes the property meets the state's definition of a junkyard and requires a permit. Donna motioned that the Select Board contact the property owner and suggest they seek a junkyard permit or remove the materials. Lisa 2<sup>nd</sup>; Vote 3-0

## 9. Correspondence:

- Donna shared correspondence from an individual whose father owns 17 acres on Main Rd. that he would like to donate to the town. The family can set aside funds to pay the property taxes for a period. The property owner does not want any development of the land. Whether or not to accept the property will need to be decided at a Town Meeting. Jeff suggested the Select Board consider a Special Town Meeting to consider this. Donna motioned that the Select Board move forward with asking the town to consider accepting this property; Lisa 2<sup>nd</sup>; Vote 3-0.
- Donna shared that the Town of Wiscasset sent their Transfer Station contract for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. The amount was the expected amount approved at the 2023 Town Meeting.

#### **10.** Administrative Items:

- Jeff motioned to appoint Donna as the Select Board representative to the Midcoast Municipal Association; Lisa 2<sup>nd</sup>; Vote 2-0; Donna abstained.
- The Select Board received a letter from Jeff Exter announcing his resignation from the Board of Appeals. Donna motioned to accept his resignation, with regret; Lisa 2<sup>nd</sup>; Vote 3-0.
- **11.** Other Legal Business: Donna reported that the Select Board received a Consent Agreement from the attorney for the Longobardis, Peter Drum. The Select Board is not in agreement with the contents of the Consent Agreement and will not sign it.

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- They will consult with Atty. Drum to come up with a mutually agreeable Consent Agreement. They will also contact our town's attorney for further advice.
- **12.** Adjournment: Donna motioned to adjourn; Jeff 2<sup>nd</sup>; Vote: 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Minutes taken and prepared by April Thibodeau, Town Clerk

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