



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
3/4/2024

Present:

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

Citizens: Jim Cromwell (road commissioner) Richard Devries

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

Business Conducted:

1. Warrant:

- Donna motioned to approve the Payroll Warrant #78 for \$1,885.96; Lisa 2nd; vote: 3-0
- Donna motioned to approve the Accounts Payable Warrant #79 for \$17,587.99; Jeff 2nd; vote: 3-0
- Donna motioned to approve the Payroll Warrant #80 for \$2,023.04; Lisa 2nd; vote: 3-0
- Donna motioned to approve Accounts Payable #81 for \$30,066.86; Jeff 2nd; vote: 3-0

2. Minutes:

- Donna motioned to approve the minutes of the 2/19/24 Select Board Meeting, Lisa 2nd; vote: 3-0

3. Citizen's Issues:

- Richard Devries, a Westport Island representative to RSU12, spoke of the concern that families were registering their children in schools using Westport Island as their home, when in fact this may not be the case. He presented the board with a suggested policy to help with this. After discussion, it was unclear who was responsible for verifying children's residency, the town or the school district. Donna said she would follow up with Dedee to better understand the process before determining a policy to ameliorate the problem.
- Donna thanked the residents of Westport for coming out to the special meeting on February 24. The decision was loud and clear and the board will continue with the assessor's agent position going forward. Lisa explained that due to state

statute the vote had to take place 90 days before the town meeting vote, which could be why it seemed that this was a rushed decision.

4. Committee Reports:

- The presentation of the Town Hall Committee and Cemetery Committee will be rescheduled as there was no representation from the committees present. Donna thought this may be due to the fact that she did not send out a reminder.

5. Roads:

- Jim spoke about severe road conditions on Sortwell Road, possibly due to large equipment trucks using the road despite the heavy loads posting. He had a delivery of larger gravel delivered as a stop gap to make the road safe to travel for the time being. Jim also expressed his frustration with the fact that construction companies were not obeying the road postings, damaging the roads and costing the town money. This time of year, with days of varying freezing and thawing, it is very difficult to preserve the integrity of the unpaved roads in town. Jim said if anyone sees a truck violating the road posting, either take a picture or get the name of the company, contact him and he will do his best to follow up with the sheriff's department.

6. Correspondence:

- There were two letters received by the town, one from CMP regarding tree work on the island and one from Maine Department of Agriculture regarding the browntail moth. Both were tabled for discussion as our town clerk April was not present at the meeting to discuss (she was busy with election work for the next day's primaries).

7. Administrative Items:

- Donna motioned to appoint Demi Martinez to the Planning Board as a full member. She was formerly an associate member and requested moving to a full member after Rich Lorensen resigned. Jeff 2nd; vote: 3-0
- Donna motioned to appoint Ron Stoodley as Deputy Plumbing Inspector. Lisa 2nd; vote: 3-0
- Donna motioned to appoint Becki Dikitanan to Election Clerk for remainder of 2 year term. Jeff 2nd; vote: 3-0
- The Animal Control Contract with Lincoln County was reviewed. Donna read three areas of change in the contract from the previous year. The per hour fee went up from \$22 to \$23.10, there was indemnification language added and they agreed to share identifiable information from their monthly reports. In the past these came to the towns heavily redacted. Donna motioned that the board accept the contract as written. Jeff 2nd; vote: 3-0
- Donna reminded folks that the RSU budget presentation will be taking place at our March 18th meeting. Also that starting in April the board will begin the budget process and a schedule for topics will be shared.
- The board is currently working on an RFP for a town-wide revaluation as well as a job description and posting for an assessor's agent. It is expected that the

reevaluation will most likely be in 2026, at the earliest, due to the fact that many firms are already booked through 2025. The contract for the current assessor's agent is due to expire June 30 and the board is looking to contract with someone before the Town Meeting in June.

- Lisa gave an update on the Ordinance Review Committee's progress. They are meeting on Thursday, March 7 in the hopes of finalizing the Nuisance Ordinance, making headway on the Animal Control Ordinance as well as the Entryway (driveway) ordinance. Once these are finalized the plan is to share with the town's attorneys for oversight and then conduct a public meeting to explain the committee's proposed new and amended ordinances. Richard Devries asked if we had an ordinance for firearms in public buildings. Donna reported that this had come up a while back and she would revisit the issue.

8. Other Legal Business:

- 8. Donna reported that the consent agreement between the town and Pedro Guimares has been signed by Pedro and will be recorded with the county registry of deeds.

9. Adjournment: Donna motioned to adjourn: Lisa 2nd; vote: 3-0. Meeting adjourned 7:57 PM

10. Board of Assessors:

- Jeff called the meeting of the Board of Assessors to order at 7:57 PM. Jeff motioned to approve the Board of Assessors meeting minutes of 2/5/2024; Donna 2nd; vote: 3-0
- Jeff motioned to adjourn the Board of Assessors meeting; Donna 2nd; vote: 3-0. Meeting adjourned 7:58 PM

Minutes taken and prepared by Lisa Jonassen Select Board 3

A True Copy, Attest:

