



**Town of Westport Island**  
**Select Board, Assessors and Overseers Meeting**  
**March 28, 2022**

**Present:**

**Selectmen:** George D. Richardson, Jeffery Tarbox, and Ross Norton

**Citizens:** Gaye Wagner (Deputy Clerk); Gary Richardson, Code Enforcement Officer (CEO)

**Guests:** Charlotte Boynton, Lincoln County News, and Evan Goodkowsky, Certified Maine Assessor

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

**Business Conducted:**

- 1. Warrant:** George motioned to approve Payroll Warrant No. 81 for \$1,225.68; Ross, 2<sup>nd</sup>; vote: 3-0; and then made a motion to approve Accounts Payable Warrant No. 82 for \$4,876.01; Jeff, 2<sup>nd</sup>; vote: 3-0.
- 2. Minutes:** George motioned to approve the minutes of March 21, 2022; Jeff, 2<sup>nd</sup>; vote: 3-0.
- 3. Correspondence:** George advised that MDOT has emailed an offer to purchase winter salt through the State contract as we have in recent years. We need to advise MDOT by April 22 if we want to participate in the 2022/23 bulk bid/purchase which provides a significant savings to the Town. We just ordered a final load to meet the requirement to purchase at least 75% of what we ordered for 2021/22. After discussion, George made a motion to participate in the MDOT program; Jeff, 2<sup>nd</sup>; vote: 3-0.
- 4. Evan Goodkowsky, Certified Maine Assessor:** Evan requested an increase from \$40.00 to \$45.00/hour for his work as the Town's Certified Assessor. He pays his own insurance, mileage, and costs. He also advised the Select Board that if he wins in his bid for the State Legislature, he will be required to resign as our Assessor – although it is likely that 95% of the assessing work under his upcoming Agreement will be done by that date. George made a motion to increase Evan's pay from \$40 to \$45/hour in his upcoming 2022/2023 Agreement with the Town; Jeff, 2<sup>nd</sup>; vote: 3-0.
- 5. Frois Tree Growth Plan Renewal:** Theodore and Louana Frois are seeking to renew their Tree Growth Plan on 21.5 acres. George made a motion that the Tree Growth Plan be renewed; Jeff, 2 vote: 3-0.
- 6. Citizen's Issues:** None.
- 7. 2<sup>nd</sup> Selectman Business:** Jeff shared photographs he took of a property on Greenleaf Road with pending health and safety violations. He contacted the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) who advised that even though there may be DEP violations on the property, the issues posed would more appropriately be resolved by treatment as a junkyard. A permit is required to operate a junkyard and provides town controls. Jeff noted that no permit can be issued for a junkyard within 300 feet of a well; and the property is within 300 feet of an abutter's well; there is also adjacent wetland. CEO Gary Richardson said there may be a compliant area on the property that could be permitted as a junkyard. If

so, the owner would then be responsible for seeking a junkyard permit and complying with the requirements. The CEO noted that Maine Municipal Association (MMA) Legal needs to be consulted to see if the junkyard statute can be applied in this case. He will draft an inquiry to MMA for approval of the Select Board.

8. **Harbor Master Stipend/Proposed Schedule of Mooring Permit Fees:** The cost of the Harbor Master stipend, Harbormaster Association dues, and training would have exceeded the funds in the Mooring account (currently \$1,220.87) if the training course had been taken. The Harbor Committee is currently seeking Select Board approval to impose an annual mooring fee of \$10 – as opposed to the former one-time \$10 fee. There are currently 150 moorings with a few more likely to come – providing over \$1,500.00 in annual revenue which would cover regular Harbor-related costs. George made a motion to accept the Harbor Committee’s proposed Schedule of Mooring Permit Fees to fund a Harbor/Mooring Account for payment of any Harbormaster/Harbor Committee costs and for a warrant article to be drafted to reflect a dedicated Harbor/Mooring Account for the purposes stated; Ross 2<sup>nd</sup>; vote: 3-0.
9. **Town Clerk Updates:** George shared an email from Julie with her slate of nominees for appointment as Election Clerks for the upcoming biennium; the appointments must be made by May 1.

Gaye briefed the Select Board on an Elections Cybersecurity training sponsored by the Secretary of State's Office that she and Town Clerk Julie Casson had attended. Top recommendations for the town included: 1) membership in the Elections Infrastructure Information Sharing and Analysis Center (EI-ISAC) to receive regular notifications of security risks that could threaten the integrity of election operations; and 2) transition of the Town's website and emails to a .gov domain as part of an effort to increase the credibility and security of government communication systems nationwide. The training was provided by a new federal cybersecurity unit designed to ensure the safety and integrity of our elections systems. To support increased security planning and upgrades by local municipalities, guidelines are currently being developed for a State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program which will be available soon. There will also be additional training via a tabletop exercise in August.

10. **Other Legal Business:** George advised that Rich Lorenson, Chair of the Planning Board, has requested the appointment of John Henderson as a Member of the Planning Board and Julie Casson as an Alternate Member. George made a motion to make the requested appointments to the Planning Board; Jeff, 2<sup>nd</sup>; vote: 3-0.

Jeff reviewed an email from MMA regarding LD2003, a bill designed to eliminate barriers to building affordable housing, from a Commission looking at Zoning and Land Use Restrictions. MMA opposes the legislation because it removes local control, e.g., on accessory dwelling units allowed on a property – on Westport Island this is particularly problematic because of sewage and water limitations. MMA is recommending that we ask our representatives to oppose LD2003. Jeff has already personally registered his opposition. Jeff made a motion that the Town write a letter opposing the bill; Ross, 2<sup>nd</sup>; vote: 3-0.

11. **Meeting Adjourned:** George motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 pm; Ross, 2<sup>nd</sup>; vote: 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

George D. Richardson, Jr.  
1<sup>st</sup> Selectman

Jeffery H. Tarbox  
2<sup>nd</sup> Selectman

Ross Norton  
3<sup>rd</sup> Selectman