



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

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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 11, 2023**

**Present:** Mary Ellen Barnes, Mario DePietro, Gary Webber, Adam Webber  
**Select Board:** Jeff Tarbox, Donna Curry, and Lisa Jonassen  
**Citizens:** Jim Cromwell (Road Commissioner), April Thibodeau (Town Clerk)  
**Guests:** Aaron Martin, Stephen Dyer, Charlotte Boynton (via Zoom), Vito Longobardi (via Zoom), Peter Drum

**Meeting Convened:** Donna called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm

**Business Conducted:**

Donna apologized for her comment at the last meeting that people “from away” don’t care as much about the town in regard to trash being left on lawns along Main Rd. She explained that she meant people who don’t currently live on Westport Island, not people who live on Westport Island and are originally from other places.

1. **Minutes:** Donna motioned to approve the minutes of the 8/28/23 Select Board Meeting and the 9/1/23 Board of Assessors meeting; Lisa 2<sup>nd</sup>; Vote: 3-0
2. **Opening of Bids for Bayshore Rd. Culvert Replacement & Ditching project:** One bid was received from SR Griffin for \$37,000. Road Commissioner Jim Cromwell asked the Select Board to table discussion until Wednesday due to a possible hurricane that might affect the work needed.
3. **Discussion of management of old town dump property:** Stephen Dyer & Aaron Martin of Sevee & Maher Engineer (formerly of Ransom, Inc.) reviewed the environmental study they did of the old town dump property and their finding that one monitoring site had a high level of PFAS. They are now proposing a follow up study of whether nearby residential wells are affected. The DEP has agreed to reimburse the town in full for that study. Stephen and Aaron will submit their proposal to the DEP and get a formal reply confirming reimbursement, and the Select Board will then need to formally enter an agreement with the DEP.
4. **Citizen’s Issues:**
  - a. Mario DePietro asked if anything was going on with his complaint regarding the junkyard on Greenleaf Rd. Donna shared that the Select Board is working on putting together an Ordinance Review Committee to tighten up ordinances to address this kind of thing. Mario believes there is enough evidence already of a violation of the current ordinances for the Code Enforcement Officer to act. The Select Board will talk to the Code Enforcement Officer.

- b. Mary Ellen Barnes brought up the parking complaint regarding the 8/28/23 History Committee event at the Town Hall. She requested to be included in any discussions about possible solutions as a representative of the History Committee.
5. **Ad hoc Ordinance Committee:** The Select Board reported on their progress in putting together an Ordinance Review Committee. They have worked to ensure a diversity of perspectives and knowledge are included. The need for this Committee is based on the new State affordable housing law, LD 2003, which requires municipalities to update their land use ordinances. In addition, there is a need to update our code enforcement processes, clarify business permitting requirements, address the junkyard concerns, and draft a road ordinance. The goal is to hold public hearings on proposed amendments and ordinances next spring in time to vote on them at the June 2024 Town Meeting. The Select Board is finalizing the list of members and will set a date for a first meeting.
6. **Roads:** Jim Cromwell reported that the work on Fowles Point Rd. is almost finished. The Sortwell Rd. ditching is complete but they did strike some ledge that will need to be dealt with next year. Culverts have been installed to prevent standing water. There is an order in for new signs.
7. **Correspondence:** Donna reported that we received an application from the Midcoast Municipal Association, which is an organization of Lincoln, Knox, and Waldo County towns that offers support and advice to municipal leaders. Membership costs \$25 and requires the Select Board to identify one person as the representative. Jeff suggested that Donna be the representative. Donna motioned to join the Mid-Coast Municipal Association and pay the \$25 membership fee; Jeff 2<sup>nd</sup>; Vote 3-0.
8. **Administrative Items:**
  - a. April requested that the Select Board confirm their October meeting schedule. They will meet every Monday except 10/9/23 in observance of Indigenous Peoples Day.
  - b. **Warrants:**
    - i. Donna motioned to approve Payroll Warrant # 24 for \$1,886.97; Jeff 2<sup>nd</sup>; Vote: 3-0
    - ii. Donna motioned to approve the Accounts Payable Warrant # 25 for \$17,860.30; Lisa 2<sup>nd</sup>; Vote: 3-0
    - iii. Donna motioned to approve Payroll Warrant # 26 for \$2,874.77; Jeff 2<sup>nd</sup>; Vote: 3-0
    - iv. Donna motioned to approve the Accounts Payable Warrant # 27 for \$6,454.98; Lisa 2<sup>nd</sup>; Vote: 3-0
  - c. Donna motioned to appoint Nick Pagon as a Board of Appeals Alternate; Jeff 2<sup>nd</sup>; Vote 3-0
  - d. April reviewed her efforts to draft new town policies on committees, procurement, and the Town Hall.
  - e. Donna motioned for Jeff to be the voting member representing Westport Island at the 2023 Maine Municipal Association Convention; Lisa 2<sup>nd</sup>; Vote 2-0 (Jeff abstain)
9. **Other Legal Business:** Donna reviewed the Longobardi issue, and shared that their attorney, Peter Drum, had made an offer to resolve the matter. Peter Drum offered \$2,500 as a fine to remedy the violation. Jeff motioned to accept the \$2,500 offer and a Consent Decree; Donna 2<sup>nd</sup>; Vote 3-0
10. **Adjournment:** Donna motioned to adjourn; Lisa 2<sup>nd</sup>; Vote: 3-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Minutes taken and prepared by April Thibodeau,

A True Copy, Attest: \_\_\_\_\_