

**Town of West Bath
Selectmen Meeting Minutes
October 24th, 2016**

Town of West Bath Board of Selectmen: Peter Oceretko, Chair - **Present**
Paula Nelson - **Present**
Madelyn Hennessey - **Present**

Town Staff Present: Town Administrator, Adam Garland
Town Clerk, Karly Perry
Town Assessor, Ron Beal

**West Bath Economic
Development Committee** Paul Coombs
Steve Kalisz

Public Attending: David Hennessey, Merrilee Wilson
Attorney David Kallin, Drummond & Woodsum

A regular meeting of the West Bath Board of Selectmen was held **Monday, October 24, 2016 at 5:30 pm** in the meeting room of the West Bath Town Hall, 219 Fosters Point Road, West Bath.

- I. Call to Order at **5:30pm**
- II. Attendance and Establishment of Quorum **Yes**
- III. Pledge of Allegiance
- IV. CONSENT AGENDA
 1. Approval of Minutes for October 3, 2016 Board of Selectmen Meeting
 2. Approval of Warrant(s):
 3. Upcoming Meeting(s):

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be held on Monday, November 14, 2016 at 5:30pm in the West Bath Town Office.

Motion was made by Selectman Nelson to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Selectman Hennessey. Selectmen unanimously approved.
- V. SELECTMEN COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Selectmen Oceretko announced that Absentee Ballots are currently available through Thursday, November 3rd and can be returned up until the close of polls on election day. The General and Local Election will be held Tuesday, November 8th, 8am to 8pm at the West Bath Fire Department, 192 State Road, West Bath. Meet the Candidates night will be held Tuesday, November 1st, 5pm at the West Bath Town Hall
- VI. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS - None

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VII. COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT/WORK GROUP REPORTS – None

VIII. BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Warrant for Election

Selectman Oceretko turned the floor over to Administrator Garland who reviewed the warrant for the upcoming election. **Selectman Nelson moved to accept the Warrant for the November 8, 2016 General Election, seconded by Selectman Hennessey. Selectmen unanimously approve.**

2. Appointments

Selectman Oceretko reviewed appointments for upcoming General Election. **Selectman Nelson moved to accept the appointments of Annora Wright-Renaud and Diane Delano as ballot clerks for the November 8, 2016 General Election, seconded by Selectman Hennessey. Selectmen unanimously approve.**

3. Wing Farm

Selectman Oceretko presented a letter dated September 29th, 2016 from Drummond Woodsum on behalf of RSU1 requesting the town to endorse RSU1 to receive an estimated cost for buyout of the Bath-owned portion of the Wing Farm property. Oceretko emphasized that this was a request for information only and was not an agreement or obligation to commit to any future purchase by the RSU1. Oceretko detailed the four-part ownership of Wing Farm and the principals behind the original intentions for Wing Farm to promote business growth and development. Oceretko went on to discuss a meeting held Thursday, October 20th between himself, Administrator Garland, Steve Kalisz of the West Bath Economic Development Committee and Alan Bridgham of the United States Economic Development Association regarding RSU's potential involvement and suggested that West Bath invite the four parties to meet to discuss the situation further before signing off on RSU 1's request. In addition, Oceretko recommended that a press release be written regarding the decision.

Steve Kalisz spoke to the request in agreement of Selectman Oceretko's stance on the request and emphasizing that any appraisal done on behalf of RSU1 must be within 30 days of acceptance of a buyout. He later went on to discuss the stance of the United States Economic Development Association in negotiating potential buyouts and their preference towards a full and complete buyout of the business park.

Attorney David Kallin, of Drummond Woodsum and author of the letter for RSU1 spoke to the request and the need for an early appraisal in order to secure state assistance in covering the cost for the school and to compare costs against other sites. Kallin confirmed that the request was part of the research process and in no way is it

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final or conclusive. Kallin went on to agree that a meeting between the four parties, as well as RSU1, makes sense for all involved parties.

Selectman Nelson moved that the Selectmen not sign the letter requesting endorsement, but instead authorize Town Administrator Garland to schedule a meeting inviting the four owners of Wing Farm to discuss moving forward. Selectman Hennessey seconded the motion. Selectmen unanimously approve.

4. Abatement 16-01 (Weir, Map R03 Lot 22-3, Acct 1329)
Assessing Agent Ron Beal recommended an abatement of \$159,700 under the reasoning of irregularity in assessment. **Selectman Nelson moved to accept the recommended abatement as written, seconded by Selectman Hennessey. Selectmen unanimously approve.**
5. Abatement 16-02 (William Scotsman Inc, Personal Property, Acct P037)
Assessing Agent Ron Beal recommended an abatement of \$21,993 under the reasoning of error in assessment. **Selectman Nelson moved to accept the recommended abatement as written, seconded by Selectman Hennessey. Selectmen unanimously approve.**
6. Abatement 16-03 (Heichel, Map R02 Lot 16-G, Acct 1444)
Assessing Agent Ron Beal recommended an abatement of \$250,300 under the reasoning of error in assessment. **Selectman Nelson moved to accept the recommended abatement as written, seconded by Selectman Hennessey. Selectmen unanimously approve.**
7. Abatement 16-04 (Plummer, Map R02 Lot 15P, Acct 1546)
Assessing Agent Ron Beal recommended an abatement of \$12,100 under the reasoning of irregularity in assessment. **Selectman Nelson moved to accept the recommended abatement as written, seconded by Selectman Hennessey. Selectmen unanimously approve.**
8. Abatement 16-05 (Byrd, Personal Property, Acct P213)
Assessing Agent Ron Beal recommended an abatement of \$3,484 under the reasoning of error in assessment. **Selectman Nelson moved to accept the recommended abatement as written, seconded by Selectman Hennessey. Selectmen unanimously approve.**
9. Abatement 16-06 (Byrd, Personal Property, Acct P213 (2015))
Assessing Agent Ron Beal recommended an abatement of \$3,484 under the reasoning of error in assessment. **Selectman Nelson moved to accept the recommended abatement as written, seconded by Selectman Hennessey. Selectmen unanimously approve.**

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10. Other:

Representative Joyce McCreight updated the Town on the issue of flooding on State Road and other DEP issues. McCreight met with the Town Administrator, Road Commissioner, DOT and DEP to address the flooding and neighboring property. DOT had promised resolution by October and McCreight has followed up with DEP who is also waiting on the DOT to move forward. McCreight reiterated that she will continue to monitor the situation closely and further credited the town with making this a 4-part collaboration.

Representative McCreight went on to address continuing work to improve current DMR legislation, specifically that regarding depuration digging. After discussion with Selectman Hennessey and David Hennessey, McCreight is looking to expand on current notification regulations with a penalty for noncompliance and also an increase in the amount paid out to the municipality of harvest.

Representative McCreight continued further to discuss her plans for her upcoming term, including working on a more comprehensive procedure for the disposition of marine flares and creating more local support for mental health issues in the Midcoast. McCreight will be requesting that she continue to serve on all current committees during her new term in office and encouraged all citizens to call and schedule a visit, as well as to contact her with and questions or concerns.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Administrator Garland announced there is nothing to be discussed in Executive Session

X. ADJOURNMENT

**Motion made by Selectman Nelson to adjourn, seconded by Selectman Hennessey.
Meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m. by unanimous acclamation.**

A true attested copy,

Karly A. Perry, Town Clerk