

**Town of West Bath  
Selectman Meeting Minutes  
January 25, 2016**

**Town of West Bath Board of Selectmen:**

Mr. Peter Oceretko, Chair  
Mrs. Paula Nelson  
Ms. Madelyn Hennessey

**Town of West Bath Administrator** Adam Garland  
**Town of West Bath Town Clerk** Brandi Lohr

**Attending: Mr. David Hennessey, Mr. Stuart Axelrod (General Manager for Pine Tree Waste), Mr. Wayne Renshaw, and Representative Joyce McCreight**

A regular meeting of the West Bath Board of Selectmen was held on **Monday, January 25, 2016 at 5:30 p.m.** in the meeting room of the West Bath Town Hall, 219 Fosters Point Road, West Bath, ME.

- I. Called to Order at 5:30 pm.
- II. Attendance and Establishment of Quorum
- III. Pledge of Allegiance was said.
- IV. CONSENT AGENDA
  1. Approval of Minutes for
    - a.) January 11, 2016 Board of Selectmen Meeting
  2. Approval of Warrant(s)
  3. Upcoming Meeting(s):
    - a.) The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be held on Monday February 8, 2016 at 5:30pm in the West Bath Town Hall.

**Motion was made by Selectman Nelson to approve the consent but with correction to the language regarding #7 under the business item regarding the Automobile Recycling Public Hearing and was seconded by Selectman Hennessey. Vote was 3-0**

- V. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS
  - Representative McCreight stopped by to ask if there were any questions that anyone may have for her at this time. Session is supposed to go through the middle of April and Representative McCreight asked if the Board would like for her to come to give a Legislative update. The Board accepted and will be forwarding any questions to her prior to the meeting so that she is able to do some research for them.
  - Mr. Renshaw was surprised at the stop sign that was put up at Houghton Pond Road. There was a petition made by citizens to place the stop sign. The placement of the stop sign is not in a good position. It is difficult to see. A yield sign was what was initially proposed would be fine. Both sides have an uphill slant. Most of the people that signed the petition do not even live on the section of the road where the sign was placed. Speeding is another issue. Most of the people that complain are seasonal people regarding the speeding. Mr. Renshaw proposed that the stop sign be removed from that

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area. Selectman Nelson suggested that we revisit this with the Road Commissioner. The Administrator will be talking with the Road Commissioner regarding the stop sign.

VII. COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT/WORK GROUP REPORTS – None

VIII. BUSINESS ITEMS

1. **Pine Tree Waste - Stuart Axelrod General Manager**

When Pine Tree and the Town drafted the current version of the contract regarding the Transfer station it did not include a recycling public drop off center. There was a group that wanted to have a public drop off especially for recycling that was separate from regular drop off with the trash and everything. At the time the agreement was that Pine Tree would do the physical plant changes and appropriate equipment changes if the Town would help to cover the cost of the attendant. This has been going on since 2007 and a part of the agreement was that the cost of the attendant would be revisited every year. Over the years the revenue from recycling paid for the operation of the recycling drop off center. Some months they would make money and others they would lose money, but in general it has worked. Pine Tree really just wanted to break even. More than a year ago the recycling in-markets crashed. The revenue no longer pays for the drop off center like it used to. The Cost is \$56.00 a ton right now currently Pine Tree is upside down. Pine Tree is asking for help to cover the cost of the attendant which would be in increase of around \$27 per month. The paper market is simply not there anymore. The price of oil made the price of plastic pellet very cheap. The cost per ton has gone down. They are looking for a 3% increase which is the \$27.00. \$904.77 per month is the current cost. This increase is solely for the drop off center. As the markets get healthier we can revisit this, but right now Pine Tree has been visiting other municipalities as well with the results of status of the current economy trying to make up for what they are losing. Surrounding towns are also seeing the increase. **Motion by Selectman Nelson that we approve the increase of \$27 per month for the funds to come out of the recycling fund to cover the cost of the increase and it will be revisited at town meeting seconded by Selectman Hennessey. Vote 3-0**

2. **Hawks Tree Cutting Contract**

Hawks tree contract has expired. They have agreed to use the same rates. The Administrator has suggested that a new contract with them to continue with the work that needs to be done. There is money available in the account. **A motion was made by Selectman Nelson that we enter back into contract with Hawks Tree cutting ending December 31, 2016 seconded by Selectman Hennessey. Vote 3-0**

3. **Town Office Cleaning Bids**

Two bids were received. One is for \$75 per week and the other was for \$499 per month. The current cleaner is making \$225 per month. Right now we do not have the money to increase. The administrator will reach out to them to let them know that the Town received the bids, but at this time the funds are not available to award either of these bids. Suggestions were made to possibly increase this line item to be brought before Town Meeting.

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**4. Heating Fuel**

Selectman Nelson works at MW Sewall and the last few years we have locked in on the prices that MW Sewall has provided with a price lock. This year MW Sewall offered for the town office and the school a price of \$1.495 for 8,000 gallons. **Selectman Hennessey motioned to approve the contract for \$1.495 per gallon for 8,000 gallons to lock in on this price effective July 1, 2016 seconded by Selectman Oceretko – Selectman Nelson abstained from this vote. Vote 2-0 with 1 abstained.**

**5. Other**

- On February 2, 2016 at 6:00 at the Sagadahoc County Court House there will be a Sagadahoc County Budget Advisory Committee District Caucus.
- The Tax Collector, Julia House provided the Board with the current foreclosure list.

**IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

1. Request to enter into an executive session pursuant to Title 1, Chapter 13, Section 405, 6., A. of the M.R.S.A. for the purpose of discussing personnel issues.

**Motion was made by Selectman Nelson to enter to enter into Executive Session, seconded by Selectman Hennessey at 6:28 pm. Vote 3-0**

**Board resumed regular session at 8:00 pm.**

**X. SELECTMEN COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Notice of Public Hearing at West Bath Fire Department, Tuesday January 26, 2016 at 5:30pm, Regarding Automobile Recycling License

**XI. ADJOURNMENT – Motion was made by Selectman Nelson to adjourn and was seconded by Selectman Hennessey. Meeting adjourned at 8:01 pm by unanimous acclamation.**

A true attested copy,

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Brandi D. Lohr, Town Clerk