

SELECTMEN'S MEETING NOTES

JUNE 12, 2019

Called to Order 5:00 pm

Present: Selectmen Melissa Spinney, Doug Baston, Greg Shute Members of the Public Beth Whitney, Roger Whitney, Ed Pentaleri, Jeff Spinney, Chris Cooper, Coleen Trask, Mike Trask, Linda Verney. Press: Jessica Clifford, Susan Johns Clerk Liz Brown

Public Comment: None

New Business

Old Town Office Vandalism Report & Insurance Update

The old town office was broken into and vandalized. The town's insurance carrier, the Maine Municipal Association, was notified. The language in the policy about the deductible is unclear. The selectmen sought oral bids to cover the graffiti and put a neural primer coat on all wall surfaces and paint the trim. They accepted an all-in (materials and labor) bid of \$2,500 to prime and paint a coat of paint on the trim. The other bid was for \$3,900.

The sheriff department has identified two minors who committed the vandalism. The selectmen are waiting for the sheriff's report to send it to the insurance company.

Mike Trask asked if there were any plans to install cameras at the new town office. The selectmen do want to have them installed.

Transfer Station

The Wiscasset Transfer Station manager has asked Bambi Jones not to use the transfer station as she is a Whitefield resident. She owns a woodlot in Alna but does not reside here. Bambi asked the selectmen to intervene on her behalf. Her position is that she pays Alna taxes on her woodlot, so she should be able to use the facility. Wiscasset's position is that houses and people produce trash; not woodlots, so she should take her household trash to wherever Whitefield goes. She could, however, take brush from her Alna woodlot to Wiscasset.

The transfer station calculates the cost shares for all three towns – Wiscasset, Alna, Westport – based on the 2010 census population of year-round residents. Selectman Shute suggested that we ask if Wiscasset would allow Bambi to buy a transfer station sticker. He noted that folks in the UT can purchase a Millinocket transfer station sticker. The selectmen agreed to approach Wiscasset with that option, but all three agreed that Wiscasset's residency position was not unreasonable.

Selectmen Baston said that in digging through the contract he noted that Westport's summer population of 500 is not counted in their costs, nor are Wiscasset's businesses. That means we

are clearly overpaying relative to the other towns. He will write a note to the Wiscasset town manager asking to reopen the cost formula.

Old Business:

ConnectME Grant

The petition count of Alna customers in the underserved area was at 63% when Selectman Baston looked today. We needed 85% of these customers to sign to maximize the points in this category. Some of the same people who have complained about no service have not signed up. Still, Tidewater thinks there is a possibility that the town will get the grant.

Communications

The town received the contract from the Lincoln County Animal Control Officer (ACO). Wages are up, so the contract increased by \$68 this year.

Selectman Spinney made a motion to sign the ACO contract, Selectman Baston seconded, all were in favor.

Public Comment:

The Fire Department has new "70 Year Alna Fire Department" banners. 1949 -2019

It would be nice to know who the original fire fighters were and maybe put it into the town report.

Selectman Shute said that swimming is not going to be okay during the construction at the dam.

Meeting Adjourned: 5:33 p.m.