

**Town of Damariscotta
Board of Selectmen Meeting
Minutes
Wednesday, June 4, 2008**

I. Pledge of Allegiance

II. Call to Order

The Board of Selectmen met at the Municipal Facility on Wednesday, June 4, 2008 to conduct town affairs. Josh Pinkham called the meeting to order at 6:30p.m. Members present were Josh Pinkham, Richard McLean, Dave Wilbur and Vicki Pinkham. Staff present was Town Manager, Greg Zinser, Road Commissioner Terry Sutherburg, and Town Clerk, Cheryl Pinkham. Others present were Jody Sprague of Sprague Transport., Seth & Justin Hagar of Hagar Enterprises, Brent Hallowell, Don Hunt; Buzz Scott and Debbie Elliot of Ocean Wide Org., residents, Chris Roberts, Ann Pinkham, Fred Brewer and Ed Stelzer.

III. Public Hearings-None

1. Entertainment License renewal for King Eiders Pub.

J. Pinkham opened the public hearing at 6:32p.m. There were no public comments. Public hearing was closed at 6:34p.m.

2. Entertainment License renewal for Schooner Landing Restaurant.

J. Pinkham opened the public hearing at 6:35p.m. There were no public comments. Public hearing was closed at 6:37p.m.

On motion of McLean/Wilbur moved to approve entertainment license for King Eiders Pub. 4, 0.

On motion of McLean/Wilbur moved to approve entertainment license for Schooner Landing Restaurant. 4, 0.

IV. Communications-None

V. Town Manager Discussion

1. Presentation by Oceans Wide Organization

Buzz Scott, of Ocean Wide, gave a presentation on the organization and their plans to possibly purchase the 'Shady Lady' building in front of Schooner Landing Restaurant. This would become a visitor center. Also they could possibly have a water taxi that would transport people to the Darling Center, or Boothbay Harbor, etc. The organization is looking to obtain a vessel that could become a 15 passenger classroom. Ocean Wide is looking for the Town's support in sponsorship for grants if need be.

McLean asked where this would all be, where would the research center be, what about the vessel.

Scott stated the research center would remain in Walpole at the Darling Center; however the vessel would be docked in the Damariscotta/Newcastle harbor.

McLean pointed out that parking is always an issue within the downtown area, and what their thoughts were on that issue.

Scott said he lived right around the corner from town and thought patrons could park at his house.

Stelzer asked if they have already approached the federal government for grants.

Elliot they were looking at the River bond grant, however the rules for that one were still in the making.

Stelzer stated he was a retired Navy engineer and is very interested in helping out with this. The Federal government is a great place to start. Would also like to point out that if the organization is planning to dock a boat by the Shady Lady building, it is a very tough spot to dock.

Elliot they were looking at the River bond grant, however the rules for that one were still in the making.

Stelzer stated he was a retired Navy engineer and is very interested in helping out with this. The Federal government is a great place to start. Would also like to point out that if the organization is planning to dock a boat by the Shady Lady building, it is a very tough spot to dock.

McLean asked if a letter from the town stating interest in this project would be a merit, and said he was in favor of the Town assisting with this.

Scott and Elliot believed it would help, and thanked the Board for their interest.

2. Addressing issue on Abbie Lane.

Zinser informed the Board he received a letter from residents, Creamer, Murphy, and Genthner at the far end of Abbie Lane. They have requested the name of the road be changed because they have concerns with mail, fed ex, and ups deliveries, not being able to locate the residences. The GPS's do not coincide with the road either. Another concern is safety and the response time from police, fire department, and ambulance. Zinser told the Board he has spoken with the Fire Chief, Police Chief and Ambulance service and they all assured him they knew the area and the houses and there was no problem in locating the residences. Zinser has denied the request and would like the Board to back his decision on this. Zinser provided the Board with a map of the concerned area.

Sutherburg told the Board he has a sign there with the road name Abbie Lane with an arrow pointing the direction to go.

Wilbur felt after looking at the map, and we add another sign with a new name, not convinced that would solve anything, what's the difference if there's a road sign that says Abbie Lane →, or a different road name.

Zinser also pointed out that this would affect everyone on the road, there would be a need to renumber all houses, causing all the residents to do change of addresses. We are trying to work with the concerned residents on Abbie Lane to resolve this.

J. Pinkham said the Fire Dept carries the Lincoln County Atlas with them in each truck to help identify areas.

McLean felt the Board should back Zinser's decision.

The rest of the Board nodded in agreement.

3. FEMA

Zinser updated the Board with the status of Belvedere, Backmeadow, and Branch roads. Branch Rd is also waiting to hear back on hazard mitigation funds. Zinser expects to hear something in a month.

4. Main St. Intersection striping.

Zinser told the Board he received a letter from the State with Bill Posts, former Town Manager, signature on it, agreeing the Town would be responsible for the intersection and the upkeep of it, upon completion of the project.

Wilbur felt the project has not been completed as a whole, and feels we aren't at the point of taking on the responsibility yet.

J. Pinkham believes the way the traffic is getting; there could be a serious issue if the lines are not painted soon. There have been a few close calls already, he is giving Zinser a week, if Zinser has not heard from the state by the Town Meeting date, and then the Town will need to do something with striping. This is a matter of public safety.

Zinser will draft a letter to establish a time frame.

Brewer questions the grass seed for Main St. His lawn looks terrible. The State was supposed to come back and re-seed the lawns.

Zinser will check that, but the state has guaranteed the growth of grass.

VI. Official Action

2. Open and review Ditching bids.

Zinser opened the bids and read allow. The bids came in as follows: Sprague Transport \$63,140, with \$4,800 for traffic control, and completing project in 10 days. Don Hunt \$119,522, with an additional \$7,198 for traffic control, and completing project in 200 hours. Hagar Enterprises \$27,527.50 with \$2,196 for traffic control, and completing project in 61 hours.

J. Pinkham asked if this could be awarded at Town Meeting next week, this would allow a full review of the bids.

McLean asked if each bid was in compliance.

Zinser stated at a quick glance, and just opening the bids they appeared to be, with the exception of Don Hunt who needed to supply the insurance.

Hunt was in the audience and said he had a copy of the insurance with him tonight.

On motion of McLean/V. Pinkham moved to act on the ditching bid at the June 11th 2008, Town Meeting. Vote 4, 0, 0.

1. Act on resignation of Scott Gove

On motion of McLean/Wilbur moved to accept Scott Goves resignation. Vote 4, 0, 0.

3. Open and review generator bids.

Zinser received a bid from Gown Power Systems from Portland. It has 2 options: 1) 2-200 amp and 1-100 amp for \$15,600. 2) 25 kilowatt-600 amp transfer for \$17,880. With just opening the bids, it does appear to have met the specs. This price is for purchase and delivery only.

McLean questioned why there was such a difference in pricing.

Zinser was not sure, he went on to say the bid packages were picked up by several. The CEO suggested option 2 for the Town.

Wilbur asked what the other bidders had to suggest.

Zinser pointed out there would be 3 switches involved to operate the generator, and it's a little concerning because others are saying a 25 kilowatt cannot serve a 600 amp switch.

J. Pinkham suggested researching this a bit more.

V. Pinkham thought the bid could be put back out to include the installation of the generator also.

Zinser said the installation would run around 22-23,000.

McLean asked Stelzer (as an engineer) for his opinion on the combo of 3 switches.

Stelzer thought one switch is all the Town would need. Why bother with 3 switches. He has some contacts he will get in touch with for some technical advice and get back to the Board/Town Manager.

4. Open and review cruiser bids.

Zinser said the Town received no bids for this, and said it was in between model years; they will probably have to go back out to bid.

5. Act on Assessors' Agent contract.

Zinser told the Board this contract was being reduced to 52 days.

On motion of McLean/V. Pinkham moved to approve the contract. Vote 4, 0, 0.

5. Discuss strategy for filling vacancy

On motion of McLean/Wilbur moved to do what is necessary to be able to call an election and have that election take place on July 15th. Vote 4, 0, 0.

VII. Old Business-

Stelzer asked about the Harbor Ordinance, and the status of it. Also reminded the Board and Zinser that he would be happy to assist with that, or be on the committee for it. He believes parking should be the number one concern. Newcastle has done the right thing in creating a moratorium for the Towns' and business people. The Town of Damariscotta only has a Town Landing Ordinance. If there are 80 slips put in the river and the business is in Newcastle, where do you think they are going to park, the spill over is going to end up in the back parking lot, which will take spaces away from the Damariscotta businesses.

J. Pinkham stopped Stelzer, and said the Board was aware of it and they have been working with the Newcastle Board.

Zinser said they have been updating the parking ordinance, changing some of the 8 hour and 3 hour spaces, possibly looking to have the back parking lot go to 2 hour parking. The spillover is a potential problem. McLean asked when the moratorium expires.

Stelzer believed the Newcastle moratorium was for a minimum of 3 months, not to exceed 6 months.

Zinser said he and Ron Grenier, Administrator to Newcastle are working on a draft ordinance and will be looking for the Board of Selectmen, the citizens, and the Harbor Master to assist with the final drafting.

J. Pinkham asked why Bob Faunce had an issue with the Board's concern on using 2" trees in the new Site Review Ordinance.

Zinser corrected J. Pinkham and said there was no issue on Faunce's part; he was just willing to come explain to the board the reasoning, if necessary. But certainly has no issue with the question.

Wilbur said he would not be at the June 18th Board meeting, he has a conflicting meeting for the RSU.

McLean asked Zinser how Damariscotta was affected by the County Budget.

Zinser said they sent us an estimated tax bill of \$408,000, then after goes through their own budget process; the actual tax is going to be \$381,341.05. This can be amended from the floor at Town Meeting,

McLean asked about the lights on the bridge, the light was supposed to cast downward. CMP couldn't find those ones, and this was to be an interim fix it.

Zinser replied the lights there now are what it is; the light shine upwards is most likely from the decorative finials.

Zinser asked for the Boards permission to close the office on June 30, 2008 for the end of year close out. This is the one day a year he asked to close the office, and did so last year also. Just helps to make this a clear and precise transition.

McLean reminded everyone that this is also the last day June's vehicle registrations are valid. This would need to be pointed out to the residents, and make sure the word is out there.

J. Pinkham asked if the office could be open for part of the day.

C. Pinkham asked the Board if they closed the entire day on June 30th, then the office could stay open all day on Wednesday, so the Town has those hours back so to speak.

**On motion of McLean/Wilbur moved to close the office for year end close out, on Monday, June 30th.
Vote 4, 0, 0.**

V. Pinkham asked if the book of minutes for the Board to have for meetings was done.

Zinser said there was a book of minutes in his office he will start bringing it to the meetings.

J. Pinkham stated he did not like the Town Report, felt it is useless, and not user friendly.

J. Pinkham asked the Board and Zinser if anyone has said anything about Gove's resignation to the press. On channel 6 the other night the story reported said 'the chairman has called for Gove's resignation...'

J. Pinkham asked about the street light, is it going to flash yellow, can we get rid of it yet.

VIII. Consent Calendar

Regular meeting minutes of May 7th and May 21st, 2008

On motion of McLean/V. Pinkham moved to accept minutes of 05/07/08 & 05/21/08Vote: 4, 0, 0.

1. General Fund Warrant #63

On motion of V. Pinkham/Wilbur moved to accept General Fund Warrant #63. Vote: 4, 0, 0.

2. Payroll Warrants #61 & 62

On motion of V. Pinkham/McLean moved to accept Payroll Warrants # 61 & 62. Vote: 4, 0, 0.

IX. Other Business

1. Meeting reminder-Board workshop on 6/16 @ 6:30 to discuss site review ordinance.

Zinser told the Board they would be meeting in the back office for this workshop because the meeting room was already reserved.

X. Adjournment

On motion McLean/V. Pinkham moved to adjourn meeting at 818 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl M. Pinkham, Town Clerk