

# MINUTES

**SELECT BOARD/ASSESSORS' MEETING  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 6, 2024  
WILLIAM L. PULLEN MUNICIPAL BUILDING MEETING ROOM  
ONLINE NON-INTERACTIVE ON TOWN HALL STREAMS  
6:30 p.m.**

**Select Board present:** Wayne Kirkpatrick, Adam Fuller, Martha Johnston-Nash, Steve Migliorini, and Linda Mountainland

**Others present:** Jay Feyler (Town Manager), John Mountainland, Abraham Knight, John Gibbons, and others

- 1. Call Select Board Meeting to Order:** at 6:30 p.m. by Adam Fuller
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Approve Minutes of Tuesday, July 16, 2024:**

Motion by: Wayne Kirkpatrick  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: Linda Mountainland  
5-0

- 4. Approve Treasurer's Warrants dated Tuesday, August 2, 2024:**

Motion by: Wayne Kirkpatrick  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: Martha Johnston-Nash  
5-0

- 5. Vote for MMA Executive Committee Members:**

Adam said we have vice president, one-year term, and executive committee members, three-year terms.

Motion for Vice President Justin Poirier, Monmouth Town Manager, by: Steve Migliorini  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: Martha Johnston-Nash

Jay said you can just vote for the whole slate of officers.

Amended motion for Justin Poirier, David Cyr, Michele Varuolo Cole, and Matthew Garside by: Steve Migliorini  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: Martha Johnston-Nash  
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### 6. Approve and sign the Pope Memorial Contract:

Jay said it is up slightly from last year. The only choice is one- or three-year contract, and he would suggest three.

Motion to accept and sign the three-year term to renew with Pope Memorial Humane Society by: Steve Migliorini  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: Linda Mountainland  
5-0

### 7. Approve various Committee Appointments:

These are for Community Resilience, Broadband, and Cemetery. In answer to Martha, Adam clarified no one has yet been appointed to the Community Resilience Committee.

Motion we elect for the Community Resilience Committee the five people on the first page – Tracy Weed, Keith Siegel, John Mountainland, John Shepard, and Kathleen Thornton – by: Wayne Kirkpatrick  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: Linda Mountainland

Linda said she thought we could just pick four, as we are to have a select board representative for a total of five. Jay said the names are in the order they came in. Consensus was the board will offer Kathleen to be an alternate nonvoting member.

Amended motion to approve the first four with the fifth being an alternate nonvoting member by: Wayne Kirkpatrick  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: Linda Mountainland

Amended motion to approve the first four with the fifth being an alternate nonvoting member and to add the fifth person as select board rep Steve Migliorini by: Wayne Kirkpatrick  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: Linda Mountainland  
5-0

Motion to appoint Keith Siegel on the Cemetery Trust by: Martha Johnston-Nash  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: Steve Migliorini  
5-0

Jay noted the Cemetery Trust is actually an elected position, but nobody applied, so the board makes the appointment.

Motion to appoint John Mountainland to the Broadband Committee by: Wayne Kirkpatrick  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: Steve Migliorini  
5-0

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**8. Confirm Town Manager, Town Clerk, Tax Collector and Treasurer Appointments:**

Motion that we accept all that's on this page for Town Manager, Town Clerk, (Tax Collector), and Treasurer appointments by: Wayne Kirkpatrick  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: Linda Mountainland

Adam read aloud:

Town Manager Jay Feyler appointments and oaths July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025, one-year terms: Tax Collector and Town Clerk Sonya Willis, Treasurer Stacy Parra, EMS Chief Jesse Thompson, Fire Chief Jesse Thompson, Assistant Emergency Management Director Jesse Thompson, Code Enforcement/Building Inspector Chris Packard, Local Plumbing Inspector Grant Watmough, Alternate Code Enforcement/Building Inspector Grant Watmough, Cemeteries Director Myrna Soule, Deputy GA Administrator Stacey Parra, Animal Control Officer Heidi Blood.

Town Clerk Sonya Willis appointments and oaths July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025, one-year terms: Deputy Tax Collectors Michelle Clifford, Tabatha MacArthur, and Stacey Parra, Deputy Town Clerks Michelle Clifford, Tabatha MacArthur, and Stacey Parra.

Treasurer Stacey Parra appointments and oaths July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2024, one-year terms: Deputy Treasurers Sonya Willis, Michelle Clifford, and Tabatha MacArthur.

Above motion passed,  
5-0

**9. Approve Town Office Closing on October 2, September 18, and November 5:**

Motion by: Wayne Kirkpatrick  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: Martha Johnston-Nash

Jay said October 2 is Maine Municipal's annual conference with classes for clerks, deputy clerks, and treasurers. September 18 is clerk and treasurer state training day. Tuesday, November 5, is election day.

Above motion passed,  
5-0

**10. Other Business:**

Linda went to the fire department meeting last night. She wants to do a fundraiser to help them pay for their classes and to get people certified. She would like to have it out back with a bounce house and dunk tank (for which she's already rounded up three people), and down in the Little League field three sets of cornhole as well as another game like

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dodgeball with your feet. It will be hot dogs, hamburgers, and some salads. Jesse has hats that say “Union Fire Department” to hand out to the kids and other giveaways.

Adam suggested making sure Parks and Rec is not using the field on that day. Linda said the date is Saturday, September 28. Jay will check with Parks and Rec. He confirmed the porta potty will be there.

Motion to give permission to use the back field and parking lot for the above fundraiser pending Rec does not have a conflict by: Wayne Kirkpatrick  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: Steve Migliorini  
4-0-1 abstention (Mountainland)

Linda asked why we are not allowed to do a boot run (collection drive). Jay said the board voted a long time ago not to do it. Linda asked if we could vote it back in as a board. Jay said you can do whatever you want; we used to get a lot of complaints – holding people up, and people felt like they were being forced to donate.

Wayne noted Rockport has a stoplight so they have to stop, which is a difference, and they have all four corners. Waldoboro had theirs by Hannaford. Adam said our guys could do it on the Common where people stop. Damariscotta did it on Route 1, not at a stoplight. Linda suggested cones and signs and said many other towns do it.

In answer to Martha, Linda said the fire department mentioned to her they would like to do it. Adam noted we don't have to specify where; they can set it up wherever they have the manpower to make it safe. He added they used to do it by the B. M. Clark property. Jay felt they would get run over now on Route 17.

Motion that we allow them (fire department) to give it (boot run/collection drive) a try again as long as they can do it safely, manage the traffic, and have the proper manpower by: Linda Mountainland  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: Martha Johnston-Nash  
5-0

### 11. Town Manager Report:

Jay said we're in the process of paving. They will be back to do shouldering, finish off driveway aprons, etc.

He said the front lot is well under construction. If it doesn't rain tomorrow they are supposed to be pouring the apron. They are right on schedule. In answer to Wayne, Jay said the apron was not designed 8' but for when the trucks come out and come off the bump, it won't make that hollow and fill with snow and water and run back into the station. It is 4' wide. They are doing the town office, too, marked by Dig Safe which they have to do to meet the law. Wayne confirmed there will be stairs going down (fire station), to arrive on Friday.

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Jay said, re: TCC, our contractor ripped off some material in a few hours so we could take pictures of original stuff and get them to Essex Preservation. The original clapboards are obviously not there. The window frames are still visible. The stools have been broken off. He expects they will get back to us within a week or so. They may come do a physical inspection. In answer to Abraham, Jay said he did not believe the brick building was in the original agreement and thinks they are working just on the yellow now. That would be a Matthew question, and he is on vacation. Adam confirmed they have not asked for anything from the inside yet.

Jay also said the Chamber of Commerce is no longer going to have a bulk mailing stamp. The cost to get one is \$320 a year. When he had a business, he had to pay for software also. For next year, the board could find another firm that will do mailings which could be quite a bit more expensive than what we've done in the past, or go back to what we used to do years ago and just pile up all the town reports at the local businesses and let people pick them up here and there.

Martha said the Chamber found that members were using a different cheaper mail processing method through the post office. Jay will ask about items heavier than letters.

### **12. Public Comment:** None.

### **13. Committee Reports:**

#### a. Broadband

John Gibbons said the last we heard Tidewater had 70 applications, were just wrapping up testing, and expecting to make the first connections by the end of July. There were no indications that there are any problems with the expansion.

The next priority is to get regular status meetings going between the committee and Tidewater, and to get the ombudsman committee going. John Mountainland joining is a big step toward the ombudsman committee.

A couple of items are hanging with Tidewater. Over the longer term, we are still trying to decide whether and how to expand the fiber network after this latest go around to reach the final houses in Union. He recapped there are just under 1,300 addresses in Union. When this Tidewater expansion of the fiber network is complete, there will be almost 800 who have fiber access. Of the remaining 500, three quarters will have cable access which is not as good as fiber but not bad. That's priority two.

Priority one is the remaining addresses in Union that lack either cable or fiber after this latest expansion. The first step there will be to find a grant funding source. The next big grant on the horizon is the BEAD program administered by the Department of Congress, very well-funded and in the planning stages for two

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years. We expect to get started with it in the next six months or so. One of the rules for successful applicants (service providers) is they have to agree to expand their network to reach all addresses within their territory (defined in the application). There is pushback from providers. We are tracking that program. Brief discussion followed. The board thanked John.

### b. Sestercentennial

Adam said Argy let him know this heading can be removed week to week. When they finish with the sign and a few other things, they will let us know and be on the agenda.

Martha said they had a wrap-up meeting. They pretty much finished business as a committee, and anything left was going to be handled by the historical society.

### c. Thompson Working Group

Jay said they are setting up a meeting he thinks for September 1.

## 14. Select Board Report:

Adam thanked the Sestercentennial Committee. It was very well done, which he heard from a lot of people in town. They pulled off quite a bit, impressive with no major issues. He also thanked the volunteers. Martha noted she also said thank you on behalf of the board the other night.

## 15. Adjourn:

Motion by: Martha Johnston-Nash

2<sup>nd</sup> by: Wayne Kirkpatrick

5-0

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Abaldo  
Secretary