

MINUTES

SELECTMEN'S/ASSESSORS' MEETING

Tuesday February 2, 2021

ONLINE INTERACTIVE

6:30 p.m.

Selectmen Present: John Shepard (Chair), Adam Fuller, Josh White, Martha Johnston-Nash, and Bill Lombardi.

Others Present: Christine Simmonds, Catherine Meyer, Jim Justice, Greg Grotton, John Gibbons, Abraham Knight, and Erik Amundsen.

1. Call Selectmen's Meeting to order: 6:30 p.m.

2. Public Comment: No public comment

3. Approve minutes of Tuesday, January 19, 2021:

Motion by Selectman Johnston-Nash seconded by Selectman White to approve the minutes of Tuesday, January 19. Vote by roll call. Selectmen in favor: White, Shepard, Fuller, Lombardi, and Johnston-Nash. All approved.

4. Approve Treasurer's Warrant dated Tuesday, February 2, 2021:

Motion by Selectman Lombardi seconded by Selectman Fuller to approve the Treasurer's Warrant. Vote by roll call. Selectmen in favor: Lombardi, Johnston-Nash, Fuller, Lombardi, and Shepard. All approved.

5. Appointment of the TCC Committee:

Motion by Selectman Fuller seconded by Selectman White to appoint the following to the TCC Committee: Rebekah Smith, Sharon Caron, Paul Raudonat, Lorain Francis, Erik Amundsen, and Jim Justice. Vote by roll call. Selectmen in favor: Lombardi, Shepard, Fuller, White, and Johnston-Nash. All approved.

6. Approve the proposed election dates:

Motion by Selectman Johnston-Nash seconded by Selectman White to approve the proposed election dates. Vote by roll call. Selectmen in favor: White, Shepard, Fuller, Lombardi, and Johnston-Nash. All approved.

7. Review and approve Bond Resolutions, if completed:

Motion by Selectman Johnston-Nash seconded by Selectman Lombardi to table the Bond Resolutions. Vote by roll call. Selectmen in favor: Fuller, Shepard, White, Lombardi, and Johnston-Nash. All approved.

8. Approve and signage at Sennebec Lake as per attached:

Motion by Selectman Lombardi seconded by Selectman Fuller to approve signage at Sennebec Lake. Vote by roll call. Selectmen in favor: Lombardi, Shepard, Fuller, White, and Johnston-Nash. All approved.

9. Review and approve Gender Neutral Resolution:

Motion by Selectman Lombardi seconded by Selectman Johnston-Nash to approve Gender Neutral Resolution. Vote by roll call. Selectmen in favor: White, Fuller, Lombardi, Johnston-Nash, and Shepard. All approved.

10. COVID-19 updates: No report

11. Other business: No other business

12. Town Manager's Report: No report

13. Committee Reports:

a. Broadband Committee

The town survey was sent out on Jan 20th. They received 72 responses in the first 2 days, for a total of 90 so far. More than 40 percent of initial responders has Spectrum cable, 30 percent has Tidewater DSL, and less than 10 percent has Redzone wireless. Smaller numbers have LCI fiber or rely on a cellular connection. They are in the process of compiling the results. At first glance, there is widespread (75 percent) dissatisfaction with current service, principally over reliability, speed, and cost. They anticipate releasing the survey once more under a "last call" heading. They are planning a second survey, aimed narrowly at the business community, to be sent out by the end of February. They have received a map from Tidewater showing the location of fiber runs along the roads in the town. They recently received a map from Charter/Spectrum containing similar information on Cable runs. They are anticipating receiving equivalent information from Redzone, showing where in the town their signal is available (down to address-level), and where it is blocked by terrain. From this information, they are attempting to assemble an assessment of how many miles and how many residents have current high-speed access, and how many miles and how many residents remain to be served. This is a major milestone in the estimation of cost to build out the existing networks. Building out the existing networks requires

providing service in areas where low population density and other factors make it unattractive for existing service providers to build out their own networks, using their own capital.

b. Food Ordinance Committee

The next meeting will be held on February 10th at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom.

c. Aging in Place in Union Committee

The Committee welcomed Erik Durbas. Erik along with his wife Cheryl will be assisting with public service announcements, i.e., *The Free Press & Pen Bay Pilot*. The group is currently exploring a friendly caller program for elderly wellness checks. As a reminder, the St. Patrick's Day luncheon is March 18, 2021. The luncheon will be broadcasted through the public service announcement channels and there will also be reminder mailings sent out for past participants.

14. Selectmen's Report:

Martha has enjoyed receiving the monthly reports from Public Works and the ACO report from Heidi. Josh concurred with that sentiment.

John mentioned that Christine Simmonds wrote a very good article about the current happenings at Tri-County Solid Waste Management Organization. The article can be found in *The Free Press*.

15. Future Agenda Items: No future agenda items

16. Adjourn:

Motion by Selectman Fuller seconded by Selectman White to adjourn. Vote by roll call. Selectmen in favor: Lombardi, Shepard, Fuller, White, and Johnston-Nash. All approved.

Meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Patrick
Secretary