

MINUTES

**SELECT BOARD/ASSESSORS' MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2024
WILLIAM L. PULLEN MUNICIPAL BUILDING MEETING ROOM
ONLINE NON-INTERACTIVE ON TOWN HALL STREAMS
6:30 p.m.**

Select Board present: Jim Justice, Adam Fuller, Martha Johnston-Nash, Wayne Kirkpatrick, and Linda Mountainland

Others present: Jay Feyler (Town Manager), Greg Grotton, John Mountainland, John Gibbons, Abraham Knight, Steve Migliorini, Pat Hood, and others

- 1. Call Select Board Meeting to Order:**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Approve Minutes of Tuesday, December 19, 2023:**

Motion by: Wayne Kirkpatrick
2nd by: Martha Johnston-Nash
5-0

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

Motion by: Wayne Kirkpatrick
2nd by: Linda Mountainland
5-0

- 5. Town Manager's Report:**

Jay said right before the holidays he met with Jim Sinclair of Wyman's. They are no longer going to contract with us for the blueberry field on Coggins Hill. He added it is mostly a financial decision for them. In answer to Adam, Jay said the public use probability going forward as well as additional requirements may have been factors.

He said the other solar project is starting.

He said department head budgets are due by the end of this month. As usual he asked board members to email him with anything they would like to have put in the budget, before the end of the month. He noted the deadline is a bit earlier due to referendum ballot prep rather than town meeting format.

Select Board Meeting Minutes – January 2, 2024

He added in two weeks we will be one man down at Public Works, so let him know of anyone with a Class B license who does not do drugs including marijuana. The position is full time with benefits, pay dependent on experience.

6. Other Business: None.

7. Public Comment:

Abraham Knight said he will take the (TCC) tree down, bring the cords in, and put the lights away tomorrow. Adam confirmed the cord had no issues. Jim mentioned for next year a cheap device that runs off a battery.

8. Committee Reports:

a. Broadband

John Gibbons said nothing happened over the holidays. They have requested a meeting with LCI, which is expected no later than next week.

b. Green Space – None.

c. Sestercentennial – None.

d. Ambulance Advisory – None.

e. Thompson Working Group

Steve Migliorini said they met December 12 to work on the revised RFQ. They expect the revised RFQ, which will incorporate the new provisions set forth by Union voters on November 7 for the development of the yellow school building into senior housing, to be issued prior to the next select board meeting. Once issued there will be a link on the Town of Union homepage so the public can view the document.

f. Parks and Rec

Pat Hood said they had a meeting just before the holiday. Some new members thought it would be beneficial for a rep to explain what's happening in the group from time to time.

Highlights include: they are working with the town manager on options to rehab the tennis and basketball courts which get a lot of use. They have taken first steps to ensure grant money options.

Select Board Meeting Minutes – January 2, 2024

He said re: pickleball the elementary school has really stepped up, providing indoor space three days a week. As a result, Parks and Rec is still paying for equipment (tape, balls, etc.). They also understood some participants provided a donation when they went in, and some did not, as able; so the board presented a motion that Parks and Rec will provide a stipend or donation to the school for \$650 annually, as a good faith gesture for wear and tear of that facility during the winter. He reminded we do not have our own indoor space and added that, additionally, softball is having some pitchers and catchers there.

He said we are very fortunate that the school is agreeable to having us, a big deal. The committee is also exploring a K-2 basketball practice there, after the older kids' season, maybe an opportunity for an hour block once a week.

Re: the Sestercentennial, he said Parks and Rec is working with that committee on having a softball game (maybe coed, slow pitch). They also committed to a float.

He added pickleball is drawing kids, middle aged, and seniors. In answer to Abraham, he said they got the \$650 through the town budget. In closing he said after winter they will be full speed into baseball/Little League and softball, which Adam confirmed is their prime time staple. Martha thanked Pat on behalf of the board. Pat thanked the board.

9. Select Board Report:

Linda thanked the community, saying they served about 60 meals on Christmas Day at the Masonic Lodge. They plan to do it again next year. Adam said he thought it was a great community thing. She thanked Jesse and crew for their Christmas morning visit.

Martha wished everyone a Happy New Year. She said Lawrence is doing much better and misses everyone. She thanked all for their concern.

Adam noted positive momentum entering the coming year and mentioned Steel-Pro

10. Adjourn:

Motion by: Martha Johnston-Nash

2nd by: Wayne Kirkpatrick

5-0

Meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Abaldo
Secretary