

MINUTES

**SELECTMEN’S/ASSESSORS’ MEETING
TUESDAY, JULY 6, 2021
WILLIAM L. PULLEN MUNICIPAL BUILDING MEETING ROOM
6:30 p.m.**

Selectmen present: Jim Justice, Martha Johnston-Nash, Josh White, Bill Lombardi, and Adam Fuller

Others present: Jay Feyler (Town Manager), Greg Grotton, John Gibbons, and Christine Simmonds (Village Soup)

- 1. Call Selectmen’s Meeting to Order:** at 6:30 p.m. by Adam Fuller.
- 2. Public Comment:** None.
- 3. Approve Minutes of Tuesday, June 15, 2021:**

Motion by: Bill Lombardi
2nd by: Jim Justice
5-0

- 4. Approve Treasurer’s Warrant dated July 6, 2021, and June 30, 2021 Warrant and Bond:**

Approve Treasurer’s Warrant dated July 6, 2021:
Motion by: Josh White
2nd by: Martha Johnston-Nash
5-0

Approve June 30, 2021 Warrant:
Motion by: Bill Lombardi
2nd by: Josh White
5-0

Approve June 30, 2021 Bond:
Motion by: Martha Johnston-Nash
2nd by: Bill Lombardi
5-0

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5. Approve the 2021-2022 Septic Disposal Agreement:

Motion by: Jim Justice
2nd by: Martha Johnston-Nash
5-0

6. Approve Pope Memorial Animal Care Agreement 2021-2024:

Bill Lombardi noted Pope Memorial is excellent. He later pointed out some missing items in the boilerplate agreement (items seven through 17) as a technicality.

Motion by: Jim Justice
2nd by: Bill Lombardi
5-0

7. Confirmation of Registrar of Voters appointment of Deputy Sharon Richardson:

Motion by: Martha Johnston-Nash
2nd by: Josh White
5-0

8. Discussion to begin forming the Sestercentennial Committee:

This committee would involve the Historical Society, Union Alumni, the Chamber of Commerce, Vose Library, and the local school. Union's Sestercentennial will be in 2024.

Motion by: Martha Johnston-Nash to form this committee and take applications.
2nd by: Jim Justice
5-0

9. Other Business:

Regarding tax-acquired property between Coggins Hill and North Union Road, it was decided to stick with the original plan of using a neutral realtor. Jay said the current realtor was unable to get the work done. He will find another neutral realtor.

Next, Jay raised the issue of Holly Gartmayer-DeYoung serving on the Aging in Place in Union Committee. She was approved by the previous Board of Selectmen but did not sign her oath at the time due to personal reasons that she felt would have kept her from attending meetings. Jay would like this board's approval now that she is able to serve.

Bill noted that in general he would prefer to have a prospective committee member's application in front of him.

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Motion by: Adam Fuller to approve Holly Gartmayer-DeYoung on the Aging in Place in Union Committee.

2nd by: Martha Johnston-Nash

5-0

10. Town Manager's Report:

Jay gave an update on ditching and culverts. Our intern is researching and putting them on GIS.

In response to a question from Adam, Jay clarified it is the homeowner's responsibility to install the first culvert on their property. It is the town's responsibility to maintain those culverts, but if the homeowner damages their culvert the policy is, "We'll put it in, you pay for it." The only time the state will replace a culvert is if it is washing out their road.

New treasurer Maria Greeley started July 1 and is doing a great job.

At the next meeting Jay will have the town-owned property listings for everybody.

Also at the next meeting we must discuss a policy for meeting remotely, both committees and selectmen. Post-covid, meeting remotely is supposed to be emergency only.

In response to a question from Martha, Jay said we do not yet have a Health Officer.

11. Committee Reports:

a. Broadband

John Gibbons gave a comprehensive update of the committee's progress and latest meeting. He reiterated the committee's goal of making a recommendation to the Select Board as soon as possible.

The LCI engineering study results are expected mid-July. The coalition feasibility study is expected by the end of August.

b. Aging in Place in Union

Bill reported a successful luncheon on June 24.

c. Future of the Thompson Community Center

No news. Next meeting July 7.

Bill said the food pantry will officially be out of TCC by mid-July.

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12. Selectmen's Report:

Josh brought up the piece of property across from the dump. With home prices what they are, might the town want to deed it over or sell to it an entity like Penquis and have an affordable housing community? He is concerned about young people growing up in Union who could never afford to buy a house here when they grow up.

Adam said his concern about affordable housing is older people who have been in Union for a long time, thus last as well as first-time home buyers.

Josh would like to see mixed use.

Martha mentioned Habitat for Humanity. She asked what happened to the cluster housing project behind Dollar General. Jay said it was approved for subdivision. It is currently listed for sale. Habitat is interested in Union.

Jim heard two complaints: 1) Somebody tore up the flowers on the Common around the gazebo and planted their own flowers. This had been approved, and there are roses not just hostas. 2) Why can't Union have a pickle ball league like Northport? Jay said it was underway. The materials (net, paddles, and ping pong balls costing about \$250) should be here by the end of the week.

Christine Simmonds described pickle ball as ping pong on a tennis court.

13. Future Agenda Items: None.

14. Adjourn:

Motion by: Bill Lombardi

2nd by: Josh White

5-0

Meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Abaldo
Secretary