

MINUTES

SELECTMEN'S/ASSESSORS' MEETING TUESDAY, JUNE 15, 2021 WILLIAM PULLEN MUNICIPAL BUILDING 6:30 p.m.

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

Others present: Jay Feyler (Town Manager), John Gibbons, Judith Gushee, David Eyler, Erik Amundsen, Rachael Umstead, and Mel Philips

- 1. Call Selectmen's Meeting to Order:** at 6:30 p.m. by Adam Fuller.
- 2. Election of Officers:**

Motion by: Bill Lombardi to elect Josh White as Chair.

Motion by: Jim Justice to elect Adam Fuller as Chair.

2nd by: Martha Johnston-Nash

3-1 opposed (Lombardi) - 1 abstaining (Fuller)

Motion by: Adam Fuller to elect Josh White as Vice Chair.

2nd by: Jim Justice

4-0-1 abstaining (White)

- 3. Public Comment:**

Judith Gushee spoke and presented documentation including a letter from Judy Brogden detailing issues with the swimming hole at Morgan's Mill (speeding, foul language, skinny dipping, burnouts, parking in people's driveways, etc.).

Rachael Umstead and Mel Philips also spoke. Consensus was the neighborhood swimming hole is great, with a history to preserve, but it has gotten out of control.

Proposed solutions included signage ("No Parking," "No Loitering"), security cameras, a gate on the driveway, and above all contacting the Sheriff to do regular detours off Route 17 as well as hearing from residents. This is if property owner Richard Morgan still wants to keep the swimming hole open.

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4. Approve Minutes of Tuesday, May 25, 2021 (two sets):

Approve Public Hearing Minutes May 25:

Motion by: Josh White
2nd by: Bill Lombardi
4-0-1 abstaining (Justice)

Approve Joint Public Hearing Minutes May 25:

Motion by: Martha Johnston-Nash
2nd by: Bill Lombardi
4-0-1 abstaining (Justice)

Approve Minutes of Tuesday, June 1, 2021:

Motion by: Martha Johnston-Nash
2nd by: Josh White
4-0-1 abstaining (Justice)

5. Approve Treasurer's Warrant dated June 15, 2021:

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

6. Approve the Historical Society to use the bandstand for a music event on July 17:

Jay noted two other written requests have come in: Carol Ann Stripling to use the bandstand July 17 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. (she has communicated with the Historical Society); and the Chamber of Commerce to use the bandstand July 16 for the pie social and concert.

Motion by: Jim Justice to approve all three.
2nd by: Martha Johnston-Nash
4-0-1 abstaining (Lombardi)

7. Board of Selectmen Confirmation of the Town Clerk appointment of Sharon Richardson as Deputy Clerk/Tax Collector/Treasurer from June 21 to June 30, 2021:

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

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8. Board of Selectmen Confirmation of Town Manager/Town Clerk/Tax Collector/Treasurer Appointments for July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022:

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

9. Board of Selectmen Appointments:

Motion by: Martha Johnston-Nash to make appointments as presented.
2nd by: Jim Justice
5-0

10. Other Business:

Accept the resignation of Grant Watmough as Health Officer.

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

11. Town Manager's Report:

Jay reminded the board to sign documents.

Jay gave an update on paving, noting that by the end of summer we will have accomplished something we set out to do 12 years ago. We are on a maintenance plan which is good for the future.

12. Committee Reports:

a. Broadband

John Gibbons asked the board to approve \$5,000 to take part in the Coalition feasibility study.

Motion by: Bill Lombardi to take \$5,000 from ARP money coming our way.
2nd by: Martha Johnston-Nash
5-0

b. Food Ordinance

Jay spoke of MMA discussion on eliminating a municipality's ability to regulate food. The recommendation is wait and see what comes out of Augusta.

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Bill said he and Elaine Frost have put together a simple ordinance addressing previous concerns. He is willing to keep it in abeyance.

Motion by: Martha Johnston-Nash to disband the Food Ordinance Committee.
2nd by: Jim Justice
5-0

c. Aging in Place in Union

Bill said the luncheon is coming up June 24.

They are working with the Masons to do small jobs for seniors.

They are also working with Debra at the library to lend small tools.

d. Future of the Thompson Community Center

Martha said at the last meeting there were two representatives from Siemens, who Erik said is like a general contractor plus including financing, hiring locally, and maintenance; it can be incremental.

Bill added for Siemens to work, the town would have to set up an entity to deal with the building, which Erik referred to as the TCCA. He saw an estimate of \$3 million to get it renovated which they plan to make back in rentals.

A letter was sent to Lori from Roger the Town Attorney. There has been no response yet.

Martha said they are looking at several options for the TCC, but the main three are: 1) the town owns it; 2) Michael Mullins works with maker spaces, getting grants, historical spaces — he would own it but have spaces for the town; or 3) give it to an entity like Penquis.

The next meeting is July 7 via zoom. Penquis should be there.

13. Selectmen's Report:

Bill got a nice email from Kathy Thornton re: Stone Road.

Josh brought up trails. There was discussion about how trails might fit into Parks & Recreation (now mostly focused on Ayer Park and youth sports).

Martha asked about the grant for a second ambulance. Jay said no rejection yet.

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14. Future Agenda Items:

Martha brought up a committee for Union's Sestercentennial.

15. Adjourn:

Motion by: Bill Lombardi

2nd by: Martha Johnston-Nash

5-0

Meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Abaldo
Secretary