

MINUTES

**SELECT BOARD/ASSESSORS' MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 3, 2022
WILLIAM L. PULLEN MUNICIPAL BUILDING MEETING ROOM
ONLINE NON-INTERACTIVE AT TOWN HALL STREAMS
6:30 p.m.**

Select Board present: Jim Justice, Adam Fuller, Martha Johnston-Nash, and Josh White

Others present: Jay Feyler (Town Manager), John Gibbons, Wayne Kirkpatrick, John Mountainland, Erik Amundsen, Christine Simmonds (Courier Gazette), and others

- 1. Call Select Board Meeting to Order:** at 6:30 p.m. by Adam Fuller.
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Public Comment:** None.
- 4. Approve Minutes of Tuesday, April 19, 2022:**

Motion by: Jim Justice
2nd by: Josh White

Martha noted on page 7, under TMA Report, it should be “hardwired” not “hotwired.”

Amended motion with the above change by: Jim Justice
2nd by: Josh White
4-0

- 5. Approve Treasurer's Warrants dated Tuesday, May 3, 2022:**

Motion by: Jim Justice
2nd by: Josh White
4-0

- 6. Town Manager's Report:**

Jay handed out ballots for the town report dedication to the board then collected them.

He said we've lost a couple of ambulance people who have taken full-time jobs. We are always looking for ambulance people.

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Road work will take place in the next two weeks: shimming the second half of Clarry Hill Road up to Clarry Lane, so prepare for chip seal, and overlay on Rabbit Farm Road. Jay added this will be done at last year's prices.

7. Other Business:

Accept resignation of Bill Lombardi from the Select Board.

Motion by: Jim Justice

2nd by: Josh White

4-0

Martha and Adam noted Bill's contributions to the board, among them his dedication to transparency. He will be missed.

Jay said there will have to be a special election regarding Bill's replacement. At the next meeting the board will set some dates; his guess is July. There will be additional cost.

8. Committee Reports:

a. Broadband

John Gibbons said there was a setback last week: the grant application was not successful. There were 22 submittals and eight awards. Future grants of this type will be administered by MCA, Maine Connectivity Authority, set up specifically to handle the grants coming from Washington in the next few months. He emphasized this is undeniably a setback but no more than that.

The next application window is approximately six months from now. There is a May 11 meeting scheduled with Alan Hinsey of LCI to go over upcoming grant opportunities (at least two in the next six months), MCA, and potential tasks as this committee evolves into more of an ombudsman committee. They will also explore making connections, which surrounding towns are having trouble with.

Adam thanked John and Alan for being the point guys and didn't feel at all that LCI didn't do everything they could with this grant. John agreed and, in answer to Martha, said LCI submitted three of the 22 applications, none of which were approved.

Josh asked about potential advantages in the next round. John said it will be a completely different organization with a different board, with Adam adding there will be vastly more money than what ConnectME had to dole out. In answer to Jim, John said LCI is not currently doing any expansion in town.

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b. Aging in Place in Union

Jay said he and Stacey held a meeting yesterday. Stacey is taking the lead. They are trying to recruit new members, at the upcoming luncheon as well as Town Meeting. Luncheon and speaker are all set.

c. Future of the Thompson Community Center

Martha said everything is getting pulled together with no snags. Next meeting is tomorrow night from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. to finalize things.

d. Green Space

Josh thinks they are still waiting for survey money to be approved, which the board approved for the warrant. Next meeting is tomorrow night. People will talk about their experiences with deed restrictions and conservancies.

e. TMA Report

Erik said they are sending out the flyers on the Art Show Saturday, May 21, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., outside.

Eastern Fire and Alarm can upgrade and fix the fire alarm system for \$9,400, one third of what Seacoast wants with their plan to rip out the existing system and put in a new one. In answer to Jay, Erik said the furnace is off.

The Boy Scouts disbanded. Related items not in the care of the Methodist Church will be sold at the fair with proceeds sent to the state. Jay said any time a troop disbands, technically everything belongs to the Pine Tree Council.

9. Select Board Reports:

Adam said the town did a real good job grading the road – he's never seen it look that good in his life, smooth, crowned. Josh said our grader must have been taking lessons from Bill Packard.

Jim congratulated Town Clerk Stacey M. Y. Parra on her recognition during this week which is Municipal Clerks' Week. Jay said he nominated her; they are recognizing one clerk every day of this week, and today was her day.

10. Future Agenda Requests: None.

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11. Adjourn:

Motion by: Jim Justice

2nd by: Josh White

4-0

Meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Abaldo
Secretary