

MINUTES

SELECTMEN'S/ASSESSORS' MEETING TUESDAY, MAY 4, 2021 ONLINE INTERACTIVE 6:30 p.m.

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

Others present: Jay Feyler (Town Manager), Christine Simmonds, John Gibbons, Gail Hawes, Elizabeth Dickerson, Elaine Frost, Catherine Meyer, and Jim Justice

1. Call Selectmen's Meeting to Order: by John Shepard.

2. Public Comment: None.

3. Approve Minutes of Tuesday, April 20, 2021:

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

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

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

5. Approve and sign Town Meeting Warrant:

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

6. Set Public Hearing Date for Budget and Ordinances for Tuesday, May 25, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.:

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

7. Discussion on more formal rules on the Board of Selectmen Sidelines newsletter:

What defines trying to influence, promote, or politicize? John raised this question, as an issue had come up regarding the Food Ordinance. Conversation ensued.

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Reminders included: all board members should review the newsletter before it is published. The newsletter is taxpayer-funded. All deliberations should take place in public, and not after a Board of Selectmen vote. Meetings are available via Town Hall Streams.

Bill will work on a condensed disclaimer for Sidelines.

8. COVID-19 updates:

Jay said we had one positive case at Public Works; everyone else there tested negative.

Younger people (20s, 30s) in other parts of the state of being hospitalized with the virus. It is important to get vaccinated.

The same protocols are still in place in the Town Office and no cases.

9. Other business:

Bill said the Union Farmers Market asked him to inform the board that they intend to use 27 Common Road facilities rather than the Common this year. The first market is May 14.

Catherine Meyer received an email from Maine Disability Rights that said the meeting tonight was to be close captioned, but she hasn't seen any. Jay said zoom says close captioning is on. Adam shared zoom support info. Christine suggested Town Hall Streams.

10. Town Manager's Report:

Jay noted he spoke last week with a gentleman from Maine Disability Rights.

The Public Works crew is on Sidelinger doing eight culverts, while the other half of the crew is out mowing lawns.

We started our official quarterly safety meetings again which, with trainings and certifications, save us money on our liability insurance.

Jaycie, our newest employee, is leaving. She came from a hospital setting; the pay difference is incredible. We will be short-handed, working on getting a new employee.

11. Committee Reports:

- a. Broadband
- b. Food Ordinance

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- c. Aging in Place in Union
- d. Future of the Thompson Community Center

12. Selectmen's Report: None.

13. Future Agenda Items:

Martha and Bill both said they appreciated last night's Road Workshop.

Bill would like to see speeding on the agenda.

Martha would like to see discussion of paving at the TCC driveway on the agenda. She also asked when we might go back to in person meetings.

Adam is concerned about TCC finances before we get too deep with the driveway.

14. Adjourn:

Motion by Selectman Lombardi seconded by Selectman White. Vote by roll call.

Selectmen in favor: Johnston-Nash, White, Shepard, Fuller, and Lombardi. Unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Abaldo
Secretary