

# MINUTES

**SELECT BOARD/ASSESSORS' MEETING  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2022  
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 Bill Packard

**Others present:** Jay Feyler (Town Manager), Jim Murphy (Assessors' Agent), Joe Murphy, Joe Murphy, Erik Amundsen, Greg Grotton, Lawrence Nash, John Gibbons, Tabatha Ripley, John Mountainland, Linda Waltz-Mountainland, Catherine Meyer, and others

- 1. Call Select Board Meeting to Order:** at 6:30 p.m. by Adam Fuller.
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Public Comment:**

Extensive and heated discussion took place re: TCC signs related to the upcoming election that were taken down, election laws, and Martha's interactions with town office staff. Martha presented her research on election laws. Jay noted Chair Adam had asked to discuss it in executive session, but legal advised against it as elected officials are required to conduct such matters in public.

- 4. Approve Minutes of Tuesday, October 18, 2022:**

Motion by: Jim Justice  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: Wayne Kirkpatrick  
5-0

- 5. Approve Treasurer's Warrants dated Tuesday, November 1, 2022:**

Motion by: Wayne Kirkpatrick  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: Jim Justice  
5-0

- 6. Assessors' Agent Report and Explanation of how taxes are calculated:**

Assessors' Agent Jim Murphy gave a talk based on a 14-question email he received from Martha. He also provided a written response and took questions. He said Union is booming and noted that recently 19% of the town has changed hands. He suggested a reboot of the Welcome Wagon idea started by Mary Thompson.

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Wayne said great job. Martha and Bill thanked him.

### **7. Discussion on the TCC RFP planning group, additional members:**

Motion to accept Greg Grotton by: Jim Justice  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: Wayne Kirkpatrick

After discussion, Greg asked that his application be pulled.

Motion withdrawn by: Jim Justice

### **8. Possible Discussion on the TMA agreement:**

Jay said town attorney Roger's advice is not to take TMA's proffered agreement.  
Discussion followed.

Motion to direct the town manager and town attorney to develop a simple as possible lease agreement for the rooms between the town and the TMA, bring it back to both parties, then the board will discuss it by: Bill Packard

Amended motion to share the existing lease proposal to be reviewed by this board and the TMA, and be brought back as a concept for the spaces expected to be utilized (gym, thrift shop) by: Bill Packard  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: Jim Justice  
4-0-1 abstention (Johnston-Nash)

Discussion on insurance followed.

### **9. Town Manager's Report:**

Jay sent a memo on Clarry Hill paving: it rained and they are catching up.

Public Works will be in here doing a snow class.

This room (William L. Pullen Municipal Building Meeting Room) will be off limits as of Friday until after elections.

Nothing has changed re: TCC – still supply chain and labor issues.

Jay talked with other city and town officials about LD290, one of the major issues with the Legislative Policy Committee, trying to get some of the really bad things taken out though he doesn't know if there's an appetite for it at the legislative level.

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Jay also noted rental assistance (ERA) runs out in November. Right now we don't deal with ERA, but supposedly if people come in and apply for General Assistance, they will qualify due to its end. He is helping work toward an overhaul of welfare.

### 10. Other Business: None.

### 11. Committee Reports:

#### a. Broadband

John said they are focused on the LCI grant application due December 8. They meet with Hinsey and Manning tomorrow evening to discuss: 1) the scope of their proposed network expansion in Union under that grant; and 2) their expected contribution from the town for the so-called local share.

MCI is hosting a forum with prospective applicants, which tends to be interesting due to who shows up and the questions they ask.

#### b. Aging in Place in Union – None.

#### c. Green Space

Jay just got the survey and is sending it out. Adam said the committee will likely ask for a select board member. Wayne might be interested.

#### d. TMA report

Discussion centered on trying to get more volunteers for activities such as basketball and pickleball.

Catherine Meyer wanted a clarification on what pickleball falls under, noting its relationship with Parks and Rec. Adam said if it takes place on the courts, it's under the town's liability insurance; if it's in the gym, it would be under the TMA's general liability policy because they have the lease. He added we are going from a management agreement to a potential lease.

Martha said she thought approximately \$4,000 had been turned over to the town since September or October.

#### e. Sestercentennial

Martha said there's nothing more since last time. November 16 is the next meeting. They are looking for more members.

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f. Ambulance Advisory

Adam read aloud an email from Heather Jackson re: the October 24 meeting.

**12. Select Board Reports:**

Bill asked if there had been any conversation with DOT regarding a tree down on Depot Street. Jay will inquire.

**13. Future Agenda Requests:** None.

**14. Adjourn:**

Motion by: Bill Packard  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: Wayne Kirkpatrick  
5-0

Meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Abaldo  
Secretary