

# MINUTES

## SELECT BOARD MEETING WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2021 WILLIAM PULLEN MUNICIPAL BUILDING 6:30 p.m.

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

**Others present:** Jay Feyler (Town Manager), Jim Murphy (Assessors' Agent), Kathleen Thornton, Heather Jackson, John Gibbons

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

Adam read a letter from Helen Zahn regarding Jim Justice wanting an electronic sign outside the town office. The gist was the town could earmark monies for a better use.

Jim said he is still for the sign.

Martha said we will probably take this issue up at budget time and thanked Helen for her letter.

Jay asked people to state their names before speaking for those on Town Hall Streams. Adam suggested using the podium in a location visible to camera. John Gibbons and Martha rolled the podium over.

Jay, who watched the last meeting via Town Hall Streams, said as a spectator he felt the concern of TCC tenants was dismissed. Mr. Knause came into his office and confirmed everything in the letter and more. He said Mr. Knause confided he is not only moving his business but he is moving from town. He said this is not good, and reiterated that one's personal opinions should be kept to oneself.

The issue of some residents not receiving tax bills or Aging in Place invitations was discussed. Jay said they are two separate entities. The tax bill software had a glitch (not getting rid of all duplicate addresses); still, we had only 30 to 35 returned tax bills which is normal. He reminded that people don't always give us their correct mailing address, and we are not required by law to send out tax bills.

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Adam wanted to be sure the issue is now resolved. After the tax deadline, Bill would like to know if we have more delinquencies this year than in the past.

### **4. Approve Minutes of Tuesday, October 19, 2021:**

Motion by: Jim Justice

Not all board members received the minutes.

Motion to table until next meeting by: Martha Johnston-Nash

2<sup>nd</sup> by: Jim Justice

5-0

### **5. Approve Treasurer's Warrants dated November 3, 2021:**

Motion by: Josh White

2<sup>nd</sup> by: Jim Justice

5-0

### **6. Discussion and approval of Personal Property tax write off:**

Stacey provided a memo with spreadsheet regarding unpaid Personal Property tax deemed to be uncollectible. The amount is \$497.28 including accrued interest as of November 3, 2021 billed to A&B Welding.

Motion to write off the above by: Martha Johnston-Nash

2<sup>nd</sup> by: Josh White

5-0

### **7. Extend the Town Emergency Order until April 1, 2022:**

Jay confirmed this is so we can continue zoom meetings.

Motion by: Josh White

2<sup>nd</sup> by: Bill Lombardi

5-0

### **8. Abatements and Supplementals:**

Assessors' Agent Jim Murphy presented the following four items for the board's consideration and vote.

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Motion to abate \$557.48 for T. M. Strong due to error in ownership by: Martha Johnston-Nash

2<sup>nd</sup> by: Josh White

5-0

Motion to correct acreage in the amount of \$43.44 for R. Dean by: Jim Justice

2<sup>nd</sup> by: Martha Johnston-Nash

5-0

Motion to correct ownership for B. Hasting and A. Crocco in the amount of \$557.48 by: Jim Justice

2<sup>nd</sup> by: Josh White

5-0

Motion to accept Farm Space Classification removal penalties for Erik Amundsen in the amount of \$402.15, and for Brian and Michelle Lilley in the amount of \$18,277.72, by:

Martha Johnston-Nash

2<sup>nd</sup> by: Bill Lombardi

5-0

Jim said he is pursuing some residents previously in farm space who have not been complying with the requirements, noting there will be upcoming removals from this classification.

### **9. Discussion of additional members to the Green Space Committee:**

Motion to add Heather Jackson to the Green Space Committee with an apology for the oversight regarding her application at the last meeting by: Bill Lombardi

2<sup>nd</sup> by: Jim Justice

5-0

### **10. Speed signs:**

Motion to use the three existing signs we have on Carroll Road and Overlock Hill Road by: Bill Lombardi

Bill noted he also heard from a resident on Collinstown Road.

Jay suggested a motion is a precedence you shouldn't start. As Road Commissioner he will ask Public Works to use the three existing signs.

Jay added that the town buys signs from a state vendor, White Signs, who will sell to the public. Public Works would have to put them up. Other residents have paid for their own signs with DOT approval.

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The option of residents calling the sheriff came up again, with Josh suggesting documentation including video.

### 11. Town Manager's Report:

Jay noted that despite the massive rainstorm, nothing washed down Coggins Hill Road.

He suggested signing up for List Serve for the latest on road paving; the contractor gave us a lower price, saving approximately \$4,000, but can shuffle around a bit.

We had really low storm damage, figuring \$20,000, the major issue being Clarry Hill, applying for a mitigation grant for part of it. This shows we put a lot of work into ditching over the last few years.

Ambulance service is a pretty bad situation in the midcoast right now; yesterday there were multiple calls that could not be handled. There will be a substantial increase in the ambulance budget for next year. We need to keep our people.

Jim asked about a Clarry Hill driveway that washes into the road. Jay sent the property owner a letter again the other day.

Bill asked if Jesse bought the fly car for EMS. Jay said yes; it's at Joly's for signage and has already been used for an emergency.

### 12. Other Business: None.

### 13. Committee Reports:

#### a. Broadband

John Gibbons and Adam gave updates on LCI and Coalition.

#### b. Aging in Place in Union

Bill said they had 37 people at the last luncheon with lots of positive comments. The March luncheon, St. Patrick's Day, may be in person depending on COVID.

Regarding an initiative on fighting isolation and loneliness in the age of COVID, he has been working with Debra Lay at Vose Library. There is some grant money out there. The number of seniors at the library has decreased, as at the food pantry. The number of seniors wanting books delivered to their homes has also decreased, despite plenty of volunteers.

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### c. Future of the Thompson Community Center

Martha said there has been no meeting since the last Select Board. Jay and Rebekah meet with TCCA tomorrow night. The next CFTCC meeting is November 17.

### 14. Select Board Report:

Bill reminded that a gender-neutral resolution was passed, and we should be rigorous about it.

Josh said the new chip seal is a lot better and quieter. He would like Jay to pick a day or evening to set up the first meeting of the Green Space Committee between Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Martha praised road paving.

Adam concurred the grading has changed. He thanked Bill Packard for training.

Adam also praised Trail of Terror at the fairgrounds, and his family's and friends' Halloween experience on the Common.

Jim talked about road closure signs when Clarry Hill Road got closed; a local tv show in town; and the need to retain our EMT people.

### 15. Future Agenda Items:

Martha mentioned December 5, 2021, Chamber of Commerce Christmas in the Country — thinking about a contest for decoration, Common use, lighting on existing trees.

### 16. Adjourn:

Motion by: Bill Lombardi  
2<sup>nd</sup> by: Martha Johnston-Nash  
5-0

Meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Abaldo  
Secretary