

MINUTES

SELECT BOARD MEETING TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 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), Heather Jackson, Christine Simmonds (Courier Gazette), Roger Therriault (Town Attorney), Kathleen Thornton, and John Gibbons

1. **Call Selectmen's Meeting to Order:** at 6:30 p.m. by Adam Fuller.
2. **Enter Executive Session with Town Attorney 1 MRSA 405(6)(E)** at 6:31 p.m.

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

3. **Exit Executive Session** at 7:20 p.m.

Motion by: Bill Lombardi
2nd by: Jim Justice
5-0

4. **Pledge of Allegiance**
5. **Action from Executive Session if any:** None.

6. **Open General Assistance Public Hearing**

Motion by: Bill Lombardi
2nd by: Jim Justice
5-0

7. **Close General Assistance Public Hearing**

Motion by: Bill Lombardi
2nd by: Jim Justice
5-0

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8. Public Comment:

Kathleen Thornton read aloud a letter she had sent concerning the Coggins Hill property, expressing ongoing interest from CHPA.

Adam would like to start this conversation soon and get people together before the holidays.

9. Approve Minutes of Tuesday, August 31, 2021: Tabled.

Approve Minutes of Tuesday, September 7, 2021:

Motion to by: Jim Justice

2nd by: Martha Johnston-Nash

Bill said on page 2, “overlay is designed to rev up the mil rate” seemed unclear but can stay; and on page 3, “from a legal” is redundant.

Amended motion to approve with the above change by: Jim Justice

2nd by: Martha Johnston-Nash

5-0

10. Approve Treasurer’s Warrants dated September 21, 2021:

Motion by: Josh White

2nd by: Martha Johnston-Nash

5-0

11. Approve the 2021-2022 General Assistance Ordinance and Appendices:

Motion by: Martha Johnston-Nash

2nd by: Josh White

4-1 (Lombardi)

Bill noted his was a protest vote, as he believes the amount is insufficient.

12. Appoint members to the Sestercentennial Committee:

Applications were received from Elmer Savage, Gail Hawes, Matthew Blazek, Argy Nestor, Morgan Winslow, and Robert Winslow.

Motion to accept the above by: Martha Johnston-Nash

2nd by: Bill Lombardi

5-0

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Motion to have Martha Johnston-Nash serve as Sestercentennial Committee Select Board Representative by: Bill Lombardi
2nd by: Jim Justice
5-0

13. Town Manager's Report:

Regarding the (Ayer Park) boat ramp, we finally got one document from the bureau of submerged lands. We are still waiting for the Army Corps of Engineers.

Coggins Hill Road will be graded next week and paved a week or two after that.

The President's recent mandate requires the public sector to be vaccinated or test for COVID-19. This includes the Board of Selectmen. We have to wait for the Bureau of Labor to determine who pays for testing.

Jim Murphy was named Assessor of the Year today. He will receive the award on Thursday.

Jay will not be going to Portland, OR but may have to do an online presentation during the meeting October 5.

14. Other Business:

Adam said Heather Jackson presented a petition requesting speed limit and corner signage for North Union Road.

Heather said the signatures are from people all over town.

Jay noted we must follow MUTCD rules.

The board agreed to have Jay look into cost per sign. There was a consensus that speeding is an issue on a lot of people's minds, and on other roads besides North Union. Maybe this goes into next year's budget.

Adam thanked Heather for coming in with community involvement and specificity.

15. Committee Reports:

a. Broadband

Adam reported on two meetings. The first was closed door between John Gibbons, Jay, himself, and Alan Hensley of LCI. It very was productive with an explanation of the engineering study and how it played out in other towns namely

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Appleton and Hope. There will be an early October meeting with Hensley and Randal Manning of LCI.

The second was a committee meeting not streamed due to software update. Talk centered on LCI as the Coalition doesn't have anything for us yet. ConnectME deadlines are in November, so we are looking at LCI if we go that route. We still hope the Coalition can provide some of the information we are looking for, including something from the feasibility study we put money into.

John Gibbons explained the Coalition is driven completely by the threat of another IFP building first in towns they are looking at. Their primary activity now is funding. He believes we still face a tough choice. The committee expects to present the Select Board with a recommendation and set of facts by end October.

b. Aging in Place in Union

Bill said the committee met last week. They are partnering with Vose Library to reintroduce Stay Safe at Home delivery and pickup. Also at Vose Library, Soup and Suspense will feature two authors and soup provided by Sterlington; people are encouraged to drop off cans of soup at the library for the food pantry.

October 21 is the next Aging in Place in Union takeout luncheon. RSVP by October 14.

They are looking at Midcoast Public Transport. More footwork is needed.

The next committee meeting is October 4.

c. Future of the Thompson Community Center

Martha said the next meeting is Monday via zoom at 6:30 p.m. – the first meeting since the Select Board asked CFTCC to formulate a plan, so that will be the topic.

16. Selectmen's Report:

Bill participated in the Pullen Committee meeting and said they decided to spend \$41,000 on the (Ayer Park) boat ramp.

Josh noticed excess chip seal at the top of the TCC driveway. Adam said they had to get the rig out.

Martha said the state did the TCC apron well.

Jim said as we think about the next budget season let's get an electronic sign outside the (Town Office) building.

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17. Future Agenda Items: None.

18. Adjourn:

Motion by: Bill Lombardi
2nd by: Martha Johnston-Nash
5-0

Meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Abaldo
Secretary