

**TOWN OF MILLVILLE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 27, 2008
6:00 p.m.**

JOINT MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN AND FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Board Members Present: Chairperson Diane McCutcheon, Tom Petrowicz, Charlie Poulin and Karin Furno.

Board Members Absent: Vice Chairman Paul Savage

Finance Committee Members Present: Chairman Gerry Labonte, Steve Tringali, Mary Ryan and Sheri Delisle.

Finance Committee Members Absent: Leo Trottier

Others Present: Executive Secretary Helen Coffin, Town Accountant Marilyn Mathieu

Chairperson McCutcheon calls the meeting to order at 6:10 pm.

The Board meets with the Finance Committee and Town Accountant to discuss the financial outlook and revenue shortfall for FY09. Mathieu explains that the Town cannot responsibly make any decisions concerning a dollar amount on the Proposition 2-1/2 as yet because we have not received all the necessary final numbers including town budgets and state revenue. Mathieu further indicates that the Town has, over the past several fiscal years, utilized its reserve funds to supplement the operating budgets. Additionally, thus far, the Town has over a \$100,000 deficit on the Snow/Ice budget. She explains that the Town could look at implementing trash fees; however, these are not tax deductible. She advises that the Town could consider utilizing the Ambulance Receipts Funds -- there may be some opposition to this, but MGL does allow for it. She also provides general information regarding Proposition 2-1/2 overrides.

Discussion follows among Town officials and concerned citizens regarding regionalization and the outlook of the Town going forward in the years ahead. Chairperson McCutcheon explains that the Board, Finance Committee and Town Accountant are not surprised that the Town is at this point. They have been advising for the past several years that this day was coming. The Town has done its best to operate with level funded budgets with supplements from the reserve funds; however, the reserve funds are at a minimum. Most of the public budget meetings and public hearings held on these matters over the past years were not attended by any residents. The Townspeople must now choose whether they want to maintain services as they are, or cut services. McCutcheon encourages any concerned citizens to come forward and volunteer to help...we must all work together in Town.

Since it is too early to present a ballot question to the Town Clerk for the April Town election, the Chairperson will entertain a motion to include an Article on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant concerning an override.

Motion by Petrowicz, second by Furno, to place an Article on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant offering the taxpayers the option of a Proposition 2-1/2 override. Motion passes by unanimous vote.

Motion by Petrowicz, second by Furno, to adjourn the Meeting at 7:30 p.m. Motion passes by unanimous vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Helen M. Coffin

Diane O. McCutcheon, Chairperson

Charles Poulin, Selectman

Tom Petrowicz, Selectman

Karin Furno, Selectman

APPROVED AND SIGNED 3/3/08