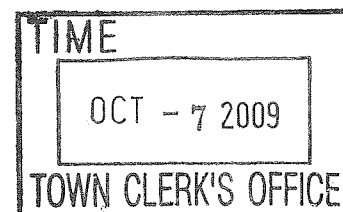


TOWN OF MILLVILLE  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 21, 2009



7:00 P.M.

**Board Members Present:** Chairperson Jackie Lima, Vice Chairman Tom Petrowicz, Secretary Charlie Poulin, Selectmen John Laura and Roland Barrett

**Others Present:** Executive Secretary Helen Coffin

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Chairperson Lima opens the Meeting at 7:23 p.m. at the Millville Free Public Library.

Thank you to the Librarian and Library Trustees for hosting the meeting and thank you to Colleen Curis for taping the meeting.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Thank you to the Police and Fire Departments and all those who participated in Safety Day.

Information was received from Chief Mullaly that there will be a red dye test in the Blackstone River – this is nothing to be alarmed about.

Reminder that the All Town Government Meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 5, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. All departments are asked to give a brief 5-minute presentation.

Information was received from Chief Landry that volunteers have come forward to assist with the planning of the Pumpkin Party. This event will take place on Sunday, October 25, 2009 from 6-8 p.m.

Thank you to Mr. Philip Clark of Providence Street for the donation of two flags to the Town.

**MEETING MINUTES**

September 8, 2009 at 6:00pm.

*Motion by Petrowicz, second by Laura, to approve and sign the Minutes of September 8, 2009, 6:00 pm. Motion passes by unanimous vote.*

September 8, 2009 at 7:00pm.

*Motion by Petrowicz, second by Laura, to approve and sign the Minutes of September 8, 2009, 7:00 pm. Motion passes by unanimous vote.*

## **PUBLIC FORUM**

Librarian Lisa Cheever. Lisa provides a brief overview of the activities at the Library and informs of all the upcoming programs. The Library had a successful summer reading program and circulation numbers have drastically increased over the past couple of years. A Friends of the Library Group is starting and the first meeting is October 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00. The Trustees are writing the long range plan which is a requirement for certain grants. The Library had an ADA inspection of the building and the findings were not too bad.

### ***Selectmen Petrowicz and Laura step down from the Board.***

Bethany Hogue, Grove Street. She has been a resident of the Town for 24 years and would like to express her frustration with the Building Inspector. She has been attempting to purchase 44 Central Street since the end of February and continues to hit road blocks. The Building Inspector informed her that he had no documentation evidencing that the renovations and conversions made to the building were legal. However, Susan McNamara (the previous Assessor and current Town Clerk) was able to provide her with copies of the Special Permit and information evidencing proper inspections. Ms. Hogue provided this information to the Building Inspector but is having difficulty with cooperation from him.

The Board asks that the Executive Secretary look into the matter and the Board will determine whether a meeting should be set up with the Building Inspector.

### ***Selectmen Petrowicz and Laura return to the Board.***

Susan McNamara. She would like to make a statement in order to put facts forward; however, she will not entertain discussion. She feels that she was publicly criticized about her work in the Assessors Office. She does not feel the reduction in hours to various town positions was done appropriately. She was laid off from her position and feels this was retribution for a harassment lawsuit she filed against town officials. She thinks the appointment of Betsy Cournoyer to the Board of Assessors is an injustice to the Town and feels Judy Sambor should have been reappointed.

Chuck Singleton, Main Street. He questions the status of the regionalization with Mendon. He feels the newspaper articles are confusing and that Mendon should not be speaking for Millville. He has concerns about how the dispatch center will be run if this continues.

The Executive Secretary explains the status of the regional dispatch. A date is tentatively set for next Monday to sign the Agreement. The Board previously voted to proceed with the technology and logistics and November 1<sup>st</sup> was the goal date given to the vendors. The Town will not switch services until a contract is signed. E911 needs a letter from the Town before they will schedule such a switch and this letter will not be sent until the Agreement is signed. Millville is not the cause for any delays.

## **APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS**

Assistant Collector Mary Baca submitted a letter of resignation indicating she will retire effective September 30, 2009.

***Motion by Petrowicz, second by Poulin, to accept the resignation with regrets. Motion passes by unanimous vote.***

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

**Toll Road.** The Millville Fire Rescue submitted a request for a Toll Day on September 26<sup>th</sup>. The Town has not received an alternate date from the Knights of Columbus. Selectman Barrett was informed that the Knights of Columbus will look at another date in the spring.

***Motion by Poulin, second by Laura, to approve the toll road for the Millville Fire Rescue. Motion passes by unanimous vote.***

The Executive Secretary should send letters to both organizations.

**United Nations Proclamation.** The Board received correspondence from the United Nations seeking the submission of a proclamation on behalf of the Town. Selectman Petrowicz feels he must abstain because he believes the UN has not performed in support of the military. Selectmen Poulin, Barrett and Laura are not interested in making a motion to sign this Proclamation. Not being a quorum of members interested, the Board passes on this item.

**Silver Star Banner Families.** The Board received correspondence from the Silver Star Banners organization seeking the submission of a proclamation on behalf of the Town. Selectman Petrowicz feels this is a very worthy cause as it honors those who sacrificed and those who served in the military and their families and that these families deserve recognition and thanks.

***Motion by Petrowicz, second by Laura, to sign the Silver Star Banner Families Proclamation in perpetuity. Motion passes by unanimous vote.***

### **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORT**

**Invoice/Voucher Brian Mullaly.** An invoice was submitted for work done by Mullaly Construction. The Town Accountant rejected the voucher for payment and suggested getting a legal opinion. Legal counsel recommends that both Chief Mullaly and Brian Mullaly obtain written ethics opinions which should be made available to the Town so as to ensure that no ethics laws are violated.

***Motion by Petrowicz, second by Barrett, to direct Chief Mullaly to obtain a written ethics opinion concerning the employment and hiring of family members and that Deputy Chief Clement direct Brian Mullaly to obtain a written ethics opinion concerning the work he performs for the Town as an employee and outside vendor, both to be made available to the Town. Motion passes by unanimous vote.***

**Town Hall Building Permit.** The fire doors are being replaced with windows. The Executive Secretary asks that the Board vote to waive the building permit fee for the job.

***Motion by Petrowicz, second by Laura, to waive the building permit fee for the Town Hall windows. Motion passes by unanimous vote.***

Town-issued cell phones. The Executive Secretary explains a recent situation involving the Fire Chief and his town-issued cell phone. The Chief left a voice message indicating that he was unavailable and would not return calls until after Sunday. There was no prior notification given to the Executive Secretary that he would be unavailable. There was no communication regarding who should be contacted in his absence.

*Motion by Petrowicz, second by Barrett, that the Executive Secretary send a Memo to the Fire Chief advising that if he is not able to be in contact with the Town he should advise the Executive Secretary of same and he should also designate a person in his absence and make that person known to the Executive Secretary. Motion passes by unanimous vote.*

Lincoln/Esty Street. The Executive Secretary reads an opinion received from Town Counsel regarding the bushes at the corner of Lincoln/Esty Streets which are causing a safety hazard.

*Motion by Petrowicz, second by Laura, to have Chief Landry and John Dean determine how much needs to be trimmed and then send a letter to the resident as outlined in the opinion of Town Counsel. Motion passes by unanimous vote.*

Education Reform Waiver. The Town Accountant has asked that the Board sign a letter seeking a waiver for the Town's minimum contribution. The Town Accountant assured that this would not affect the current voted budget.

*Motion by Petrowicz, second by Poulin, to authorize the Chairperson to sign the letter. Motion passes by unanimous vote.*

The Board would like further clarification as to the impact on the budget going forward. Also, a letter should be sent to BMR and BVT to let them know this was signed.

Assistant Collector position. The Executive Secretary would like authorization to post the position internally to see if the Town receives any potential candidates and if not, to post it externally. Discussion follows regarding the number of hours of the position and the rate of pay. The Executive Secretary suggested an increase in the hours if it did not affect the bottom line budget? The Board prefers to leave the hours at 12 per week, with the exception of additional hours for training purposes only.

*Motion by Laura, second by Poulin, to keep the position at 12 hours per week. Motion passes by unanimous vote.*

## LIAISON REPORTS

Chairperson Lima, Town Clerk and Business Retention. Confirmation was received that the ATM by-law changes were sent to the Attorney General. The Executive Secretary must obtain estimates for the work to be done on Central Street before meeting with Joe Deliso of the Chamber of Commerce.

Vice Chairman Petrowicz, MES Water. Bob Ferrari attended the meeting last week and provided an explanation of the water tank inspection report. He reviewed options with respect to refurbishing the water tank. He does have other options he is contemplating and will get back to the Board soon. Discussion follows whether the Board should proceed with a cleaning

of the existing tank in the near future of if we should first look into installing a smaller domestic tank. Discussion follows regarding whether the Town should wait until summer to act on these issues and whether the existing tank will last until then? These questions will be asked of the engineer.

Secretary Poulin, Fire and Police. Nothing to report.

Selectman Laura, Board of Assessors. Nothing to report...meeting was held earlier tonight.

Selectman Barrett, Cable Committee. Still has not received the Meeting Minutes as requested.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Mendon Dispatch Agreement. A final draft was provided to the Board. A tentative date has been scheduled for next Monday for all three towns to sign the Agreement.

The Executive Secretary seeks approval, providing the Agreement is signed next week, to move forward with Custom Alarm to make the necessary changes to the Town Hall and Police Department Fire alarms.

*Motion by Barrett, second by Laura, to proceed contracting with Custom Alarm once the Agreement with Mendon and Hopedale is signed, with the alarm signaling at Mendon dispatch. Motion passes by unanimous vote.*

Selectman Petrowicz asks if Kristin Anderson could come in again to speak about the oil program as he has received some questions from residents. The Town Hall and Police Department will be using this service for the upcoming winter season.

There has been no update from the Board of Health on their response to the questions raised by DEP in connection with the closure of the landfill. The Executive Secretary should follow-up.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Special Town Meeting. The Board previously voted to hold the STM on December 8<sup>th</sup>. This is the same day as a state primary and it was questioned as to whether the Town would have a quorum. It is decided to change the date for the STM to Monday, November 23, 2009. A revised warrant schedule will be prepared. A memo will be sent to all departments.

*Motion by Petrowicz, second by Barrett, to cancel the December 8<sup>th</sup> Town Meeting and reschedule for November 23, 2009. Motion passes by unanimous vote.*

*Motion by Petrowicz, second by Laura, to open the STM Warrant effective immediately. Motion passes by unanimous vote.*

Lien Discharge. A residence which was part of the Housing Rehab Program was recently sold. The lien was paid off by the new buyers and the Town must discharge the liens.

*Motion by Petrowicz, second by Laura, to sign the lien discharge form. Motion passes by unanimous vote.*

## PUBLIC FORUM

Chuck Singleton, Main Street. He has concerns about boulders falling from the high wall on Main Street and crumbling into the street. Could the Highway Surveyor look into this and possibly contact Mass Highway? Also, the speed limit signs coming into Millville on Main Street are blocked by tree branches. Could these trees be trimmed?

Mr. Singleton would like to thank the Library Board of Trustees for hosting the Meeting. He would also like to remind everyone of the Power to Save Campaign which will be held at the MES on Thursday, September 24<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 p.m.

Consolidated Fire with Mendon. The Executive Secretary wants to inform the Board that she did meet with Chief Horn of Mendon concerning consolidated fire services. He provided a verbal proposal but she has not reviewed the numbers yet. Once she has reviewed the information provided and presents it to the Board of Selectmen, Chief Horn would like to know if the Town would like him to follow-up with a written presentation. The parties feel it is important that any proposals submitted outline the losses to the Town as well as the gains. Chairperson Lima would like to be sure that notice is sent to the Fire Department when this information is presented to the Board.

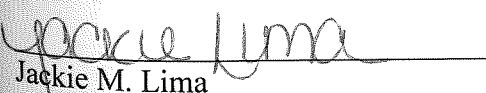
Colleen Curis, Library Trustee. She would like to know if the Town could implement a Community Bulletin Board. The Executive Secretary feels this is a great idea but is currently limited due to budgetary constraints.

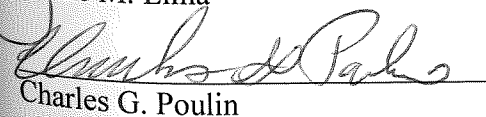
Colleen would like to know the status of the parking signs for the Library. The Executive Secretary believes Mr. Dean is working on this but will follow-up with him.

There are still boxes of video tapes of Selectmen Meetings at the Library that must now be moved due to the ADA findings. The Executive Secretary suggests moving them to the basement of the Town Hall, however, there are concerns raised about moisture. Chairperson Lima feels the tapes should just be moved over to DVDs and stored at the Library. The funds are available in the Cable account to purchase the equipment and hire the individual to get the project done. It has yet to be determined where the Cable Committee will set up equipment.

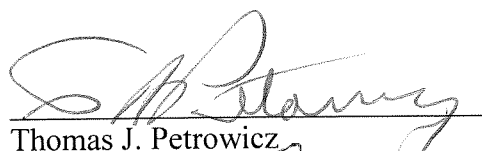
*Motion by Laura, second by Petrowicz, to adjourn the Meeting at 9:35 p.m. Motion passes by unanimous vote.*

Respectfully submitted,  
Helen M. Coffin

  
Jackie M. Lima

  
Charles G. Poulin

  
Roland P. Barrett

  
Thomas J. Petrowicz

  
John Laura