

TOWN OF MILLVILLE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of January 7, 2008

Board Members Present: Chairperson Diane McCutcheon, Vice Chairman Paul Savage, Selectmen Tom Petrowicz, Charlie Poulin and Karin Furno

Others Present: Executive Secretary Helen Coffin

Chairperson McCutcheon called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm at the Municipal Center.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Thank you to the Police Department and the Board of Health for helping some needy families in Millville during the Holiday.
- The next Board of Selectmen meeting will be held Tuesday, January 22, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.
- There are vacancies on various boards.

Fire Chief - Milford Paramedics/New Fire Truck:

• Issue at the Millville Elementary School:

Chief Mullaly communicated that the Millville Elementary School had a problem at the school with a foul odor. The Hazmat Team, DEP and the Board of Health were notified. The problem was resolved.

Carbon Monoxide Detectors:

Chief Mullaly would like to remind all residents that Carbon Monoxide Detectors must be placed in all homes. It is the law and required. These detectors need to be placed one on every livable level.

• Milford Paramedics:

Chief Mullaly explained that Milford Paramedics are still in service. The billing process with the ALS Service will increase. The Board of Selectmen feels that this needs to be researched further and possibly contracted out.

• Replacement of Engine One:

Chief Mullaly communicated that there is \$100,000 put away in Capital for a new Fire Truck. Engine One was purchased in 1983 and it is due to be replaced. The last payment for the last engine is due at the end of the year. Chief Mullaly feels that it is time to get proposals for a new engine. This will

not happen until the fall or later. The goal for purchase will be sometime next year.

On a motion made by Paul Savage and seconded Charlie Poulin, the Board of Selectmen voted <u>unanimously</u> to support Chief Mullaly in pursuing a new fire engine.

Minutes/Warrants:

- On a motion made by Paul Savage and seconded Tom Petrowicz, the Board of Selectmen voted <u>unanimously</u> to accept the meeting minutes from December 17, 2007.
- On a motion made by Charlie Poulin and seconded Tom Petrowicz, the Board of Selectmen voted <u>unanimously</u> to sign warrants.

Public Forum:

• Resident Richard Hurteau, 70 Quaker St, Hunting Permission Bylaw:
Mr. Hurteau would like to ask the Board of Selectmen to sponsor a warrant article that would require written permission for any hunters to use private or public property when hunting. Selectman Petrowicz would like to look into this further. Chief Landry thinks that this would have to be researched by legal. Mr. Hurteau will contact the surrounding towns that do have this bylaw and will see how the bylaw is implemented.

Correspondence:

- Information came from Charter Communication informing all about changes in pricing starting February and March 1, 2008 on the expanded basic cable. Selectman Petrowicz feels that residents should check with neighbors about billing.
- A letter from Mary Lou Anderson informing the Board of Selectmen that she is advising students who are completing an assignment involving town leaders. The students will be conducting interviews that will be part of a community project.
- Electrical Inspector report was provided.
- The septic vault was filled.
- There is a joint meeting with the BMR on January 9, 2008 and another joint meeting with the Blackstone Board of Selectmen that will take place on January 16, 2008.
- A memo was received informing all that the federal minimum wage will increase.
- A memo came informing the town about the new Public Record Laws.
- There will be a public hearing held in Uxbridge for the proposed bikeway.
- Dr. Fitzpatrick from BVT indicated that this was an exceptional year and the annual report was provided.

Appointments:

 On a motion made by Paul Savage and seconded Charlie Poulin, the Board of Selectmen voted <u>unanimously</u> to appoint Peter Murray to the Millville Conservation Commission through June 30, 2008.

Executive Secretary Report:

Vote to overspend the Snow and Ice budget:

 On a motion made by Tom Petrowicz and seconded Paul Savage, the Board of Selectmen voted <u>unanimously</u> to overspend the Snow and Ice budget.

Annual Reports:

• A memo was sent to the departments and the reports are due by February 11, 2008.

Animal Control Officer:

• The Animal Control officer prepared policies for the Board of Selectmen.

Old Business:

Bridge:

• The contractors will be working through the winter on the bridge.

Legal Expenses:

- Selectman Petrowicz wanted to bring up that the budget for legal for the Town of Woonsocket is budgeted and appropriated much more that \$50,000 as brought up at the last meeting. He believes it is closer to \$175,000 with a city legal budget being \$100,000.
- Resident, Mr. Thuot, 25 Ironstone St. :

Mr. Thuot has an opinion which differs on this. He wants to know why the town is budgeting \$60,000 for legal? Selectman Savage communicated that the Town Accountant and Finance Committee recommended the budget amount. The Chairperson communicated that we have spent \$26,000 to date. Mr. Thuot would like the legal budget to be less.

New Business:

Esty Street - access gate:

• The Board members along with residents discussed the access gate on Esty St. The Chief agreed that there could be a problem getting trucks up the hill in bad weather. It was a safety issue why the gate was opened.

- Resident, Paul Donnelly, 46 Esty St. must be very careful with neighbors. Worried about the children that are out there. It is a dangerous access onto Lincoln St. Worried about additional traffic. Problems and issues in this area. Valid safety concerns. The locks would not work in bad weather. The Highway Surveyor doesn't mind if the gate is opened or closed. The Chairperson would like to get an opinion from the Fire Chief and would like to make sure that the safety apparatus can get up the hill. This will be moved to the next meeting.
- Resident, Thomas Hite, 46 Esty Co-Owner of the property: He communicated that there are nine families that live on Esty St. A fire truck has not been up there for three years. He feels that the gate was locked for obvious reasons. This has worked for 16 years. Why is this an issue now? He recommends keeping the gate open for plowing and then locking the gate up once the plowing is completed.
- Resident, Margaret Carroll, 132 Main St.: Ms. Carroll informed all that years ago, engineers studied this area and it was determined that Esty St. was not safe to use. There was an agreement to be made that this was not to be used at all. She feels that this will set a precedent if it is left opened. She hopes that the Board of Selectmen will please consider the four years which a committee studied this and ruled that this is extremely hazardous. She presented the Board of Selectmen with a memo about this access road.
- Resident, Norman Thuot, 25 Ironstone St.: He was on a committee that had an Attorney draw up a number of agreements and he thinks that this was addressed at that time. Harold Gould drew up the legal papers and worked with the regional school district.
- The Board of Selectmen is open to discussing this issue again and will make an informed decision. Selectman Savage communicated that he loves to hear the history behind the access road, but the Board did not do this to hinder, but rather to help the residents on the street. The safety concerns at the time that the board voted on this had to do with Esty St. not being plowed. The Board of Selectmen needs to look at what is the best thing for up there, along with consulting with Chief Mullaly.
- Highway Surveyor, John Dean: He doesn't remember hearing complaints about the plowing last year. He will do what the Board of Selectmen recommends. The contractor could have a key and be responsible for opening it and closing it during a snowstorm. The Board of Selectmen reminded the Highway Surveyor that there were complaints about the snow on Esty Street last year.
- Resident, Tom Houle 10 Esty St.: Mr. Houle informed all that his house had a fire on Esty St. and the fire truck could not make the swing and could not get up the hill. He believes that there may be a compromise such as suggested by giving the snow contractor a key.

Police Grant Contract:

This document needs to be signed.

Board of Health - Legal Request:

 On a motion made by Paul Savage, and seconded by Tom Petrowicz, the Board of Selectmen voted <u>unanimously</u> to authorize the request for legal.

Town Travel Reimbursement:

 The reimbursement Mileage Rate for 2008 has increased to 50.5 cents per mile.

GOOD & WELFARE:

Resident, Ms. Wheeler, 31 Allard Court: had questions in regards to the minutes dated November 3, 2007 and November 19, 2007. She feels that there were discrepancies. The minutes have been accepted by the Board of Selectmen, but the minute taker will review these again and provide any recommendation if needed.

ADJOURN:

• On a motion made by Karin Furno and seconded by Charlie Poulin, the Board of Selectmen voted <u>unanimously</u> to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Sutherland

Diane McCutcheon, Chairperson

Paul Savage Vice Chairman

Paul Savage Vice Chairman

Charlie Poulin, Selectman

Karin Furno, Selectman