



## BOARD OF SELECTMEN REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

290 Main Street  
Millville, MA 01529

Monday November 16, 2020  
Zoom Meeting

Residents and meeting participants can also follow the Zoom Technology directions on the  
Town Website at:  
[www.millvillema.org](http://www.millvillema.org)

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### **PRESENT:**

Vice Chairman Jennifer Gill, Member, Jennifer Dean Wing, Andrew Alward and Kevin Surette.

### **ALSO PRESENT:**

Town Administrator, Peter Caruso

The Chairwoman opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- There were no announcements.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- The approval of the minutes will take place at the next meeting when the Chairman is present.

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

- There was no correspondence received.

### **DEPARTMENTS/BOARDS:**

#### **Board of Health:**

The Board of Health representative was present and explained that the town is dealing with 10 active COVID-19 cases. This is within the last 14 days and 60 in total for the Town of Millville. The numbers are increasing. There was a suggestion about cutting things back. The town will be following the Governors guidelines for putting further regulations in place. The Town Administrator wants a better understand the invoicing from the public health nurses. The town would like to get an itemized bill of what services were being provided. It was advised to check

the contract scope of services. The Governor of MA is now mandating that residents need to wear a mask when outside.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **Mr. Robert Ferrari, Northeast Water Solution:**

Mr. Ferrari Consultant for Northeast Water Solution provided an update on what is happening with the MES water situation. Mr. Ferrari provided a history of the water situation at MES starting back in 2005. There was a corrosion evaluation which showed lead and copper corrosion. This was the worst corrosion problem he has ever seen in his 40 years. A plan and process were put in place in 2006-2007. There was testing done for 9 months and there has been compliance since 2009. The well water has high levels of iron and manganese. There was a failure of the well in 2010 due to manganese solids. This was cleaned and redrilled. There was an upgrade in 2010. There was installed a portable water tank. In 2013 the town was issued with a contamination problem and it was due to modifications to the system. The problem was corrected. The town asked Northeast Water Solutions to take over the operations in 2013. The water has been in compliance. In 2014 there was an upgrade with the water system. This included monitoring and remote alarm notifications. This has allowed a reduction in the frequency of visits. Since 2013 there has been an elevation of disinfection byproducts. There have been no negative bacteria hits since 2006. Overall, there has been good success with water quality. Recently, in 2020 the MA DEP has increased the monitoring requirements. The DEP felt the PH was a little low and this was a concern. The reports showed consistent compliance. The most recent sanitary survey was done in 2020. There was a list of 35 items which needed to be addressed. Northeast Water has responded to all items and actions were taken. There are two additional items from the report which will be addressed by December 1, 2020. This year two well failures took place. The pipeline which is 30 years old had a split joint. This was detected and corrective action measures were taken. There was also a pipeline break in the boiler room. It was at the mechanical joint. Water was hitting the master control box for the system. The alarm went off so within two minutes our operator contacted the school. There was water everywhere. This was fixed and transferred to the auxiliary panel. There was no significant loss of service since this happened and was fixed over the weekend. There will be an estimate provided to repair the main panel. The next step after COVID-19 should be to unwrap the bubblers since the water is drinkable.

## **APPOINTMENTS:**

### **Green Committee:**

**On a motion made by Jennifer Gill, seconded by Kevin Surette, the Board of Selectmen voted by Roll Call vote to appoint Matthew Kirk to the Green Community Committee through June 30, 2021.**

### **Roll Call Vote:**

<b>Jennifer Gill</b>	<b>aye</b>
<b>Andrew Alward</b>	<b>aye</b>
<b>Kevin Surette</b>	<b>aye</b>

Jennifer Dean Wing                      aye

**CMRCP Planning Board Alternate:**

On a motion made by Andrew Alward, seconded by Kevin Surette, the Board of Selectmen voted by Roll Call vote to appoint Pam Maloney as the Planning Board alternate member to the CMRCP through June 30, 2021.

**Roll Call Vote:**

Jennifer Gill	aye
Andrew Alward	aye
Kevin Surette	aye
Jennifer Dean Wing	aye

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Appointment Process:**

Vice Chairman Gill created a power point screen about consideration for changing the appointment process. The goal is to ensure that the best people are in positions that serve the community. The process should provide constructive feedback and praise through the review process. This will enable citizens to provide feedback. The appointment process will be at the discretion of the Board. There is also the ability for removal from a position in the middle of an appointment term. The person who is being considered for removal has the opportunity to review the feedback given and can offer rebuttal. The Town Administrator communicated that there needs to be clarity for those who are employees versus volunteers who are appointed. The recommended timeline of events for the review process would start February 1, 2021. The appointed positions would be posted April 1, 2021. Resumes would be reviewed and collected by April 15, 2021. Candidates would be brought in to be interviewed on May 10, 11, and 17, 2021 as needed. The Board of Selectmen would discuss the appointments and agree on positions by June 2021. Appointments would be July 1, 2021. The Town Administrator expressed concern that this appears to suggest that we are looking for better candidates for each spot, which is not a good feeling for those who are currently serving in these positions. There would be a criterion which the employee needs to meet within the review process. It was recommended to gather the list of how many employees are appointed. The Town Administrator will provide this list. It was recommended to look at the paid appointments as a starting point. There was also a suggestion to check the personnel handbook, bylaws and the MIAA files. The Board of Selectmen want to make sure that the approach taken with the employees follow established protocols. The presentation also included that the review process would be to solicit input from peers and solicit input from the townspeople. The immediate supervisor would collect and consolidate feedback into a report. There should be a form on the website for the public. The feedback must be provided to two Board of Selectman for verification of address and citizenship. Some of the selectmen communicated their concern that the town needs to be careful in doing this. The last part of the presentation from Selectmen Gill included consideration of other sources of feedback needed which would regional agreements such as for the animal control, BOH Nurse and other shared positions.

## **PUBLIC FORUM:**

- No comments

## **BOARD OF SELECTMEN FORUM:**

- Selectmen Gill informed all that there will be a Capital Planning Committee meeting on November 30, 2020. The requests to the various departments have gone out.
- Selectmen Gill wanted to know when the executive session minutes will be available.

## **ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:**

### **Cares Act Request:**

The Town submitted the CARES ACT request for the second round of allocation. The Town received approval of \$132,000.00. The town is getting the lift for the ambulance.

### **Annual Licensing:**

The applicant packages for annual licensing have gone out.

### **Town Audit:**

There is one open item which the audit firm is working on. This is in regard to the septic betterment loans. The information is being provided to the auditors.

## **Items not anticipated within the 48 hours:**

- Representative Fattmans Office has earmarked \$250,000 for an ambulance through the COVID related funds.

## **NEXT MEETING:**

- Monday, December 7, 2020

## **ADJOURN:**

On a motion made by Jennifer Gill and seconded by Jennifer Dean Wing, the Board of Selectmen voted by Roll Call to adjourn the meeting.

### **Roll Call Vote:**

Jennifer Gill	aye
Andrew Alward	aye
Kevin Surette	aye
Jennifer Dean Wing	aye

The regular meeting ended at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Amy Sutherland

Recording Secretary



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**Chairwoman, Member, Erica Blake**

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**Vice Chairwoman, Jennifer Gill**

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**Member, Jennifer Dean Wing**

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**Member, Andrew Alward**

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**Member, Kevin Surette**