



# TOWN OF MILLVILLE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

290 Main Street  
Millville MA 01529

## REGULAR MEETING MINUTES Monday, May 1, 2023

**Location of Meeting:** Millville Town Hall, 290 Main St, Millville MA 01529

Name	Title	Attendance
Jennifer Gill	Chairperson	<i>present</i>
Andrew Alward	Vice Chair	<i>present</i>
Richard Bremilst	Member	<i>present</i>
Roland Barrett	Member	<i>present</i>
Matthew Maille	Member	<i>present</i>
Peter Caruso	Town Administrator	<i>present</i>

### **OPEN MEETING:**

At 7:00 PM Jennifer Gill called the meeting to order with roll call.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- i. **Council on Aging.** The Selectmen considered candidates for appointment through June 30, 2024 for the Council on Aging. Jeff Pettit of 442 Chestnut Hill Road introduced himself and spoke to his qualifications. Cecile Gomes of 93 Kempton Road introduced herself and requested to not be appointed at this time due to health concerns. Richard Hurteau of 8 Ronden Road introduced himself and spoke to his qualifications. Selectman Barrett discussed maintenance needed on the Senior Center's building, and how construction workers would need licenses and insurance to work on the maintenance projects, and would like this to be kept in mind when potential Council on Aging members offer to assist in these maintenance projects to avoid liability. Peter Caruso stated that these would be leadership positions, not necessarily workers, but Selectman Barrett stressed that any construction or maintenance assistance that board members offered needed to be considered in terms of liability. Cecile Gomes commented that she found it nice that young people like Jeff Pettit were interested in helping with the Town and hoped more young people would get involved. A member of the audience, current member of the COA, Pat Finn, stated that the COA was merely looking for someone with

experience so they could understand quotes from contractors and understand and read things like septic drawings. Selectmen Barrett made a nomination

*On a motion made by Roland Barrett, seconded by Andrew Alward, the Board voted to appoint Richard Hurteau to the Council on Aging.*

*Roland Barrett, aye  
Richard Bremilst, nay  
Andrew Alward, aye  
Jennifer Gill, aye  
Matthew Maille, nay*

Selectman Bremilst cited the fact that the Council on Aging recommended Jeff Pettit for his nay vote. Selectman Maille cited the same for his nay vote.

A member of the Council on Aging in the audience, Larry Pierson, requested clarification on the proper procedure for putting forth recommendations. Selectman Gill stated that a signed resignation letter needs to be registered in writing with the Town Clerk, preferably in person. The vacancy needs to then be announced in meetings. The Council on Aging may then conduct interviews after the vacancy has been announced, and put forth their recommendation. The Board of Selectmen make the appointment after receiving the recommendation from the Council on Aging, but may interview all interested parties. Cecile Gomes commented that she found it sad that the Council on Aging chose a candidate and the Board of Selectmen chose to overrule the recommendation.

**ii. FY 24 Budget and Annual Town Meeting Planning.**

Peter Caruso noted corrections to the budget: OPEB (Other Post Employment Benefits) for the Blackstone-Millville Regional School District is increased by approximately \$1100 and debt service for Title 5 is now listed as a line item, but does not change the bottom line. Funding source identified in motion of omnibus budget in warrant articles.

Article 7 was revisited, as it had been recommended by the Board of Selectmen in a previous meeting. The Capital Stabilization Fund is at \$206,000, and the Capital Planning Committee recommends at least \$200,000 to be in the fund. No additional funds need to be added to the fund at this time. Selectman Gill suggested that the Board of Selectmen re-vote to no longer recommend Article 7, and take no action at Town Meeting.

*On a motion made by Selectman Gill, seconded by Selectman Alward, to recommend Article 7, the Board of Selectmen unanimously voted against recommending Article 7 to Town Meeting.*

Selectman Gill discussed stipends for the School Committee.

The Board of Selectmen discussed the warrant article for the fiscal budget, noting a deficit of \$136,000, and discussed the reduced contributions of the Commonwealth to the school system.

*On a motion made by Selectman Barrett, seconded by Selectman Bremilst, the Board of Selectmen voted to recommend Article 10 to Town Meeting.*

*Roland Barrett, aye  
Richard Bremilst, aye  
Andrew Alward, nay  
Jennifer Gill, aye  
Matthew Maille, aye*

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None.

**DEPARTMENTS:**

None.

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

None.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Peter Caruso made an announcement that Family Fun Day is at the high school on May 13th from 1 to 4pm.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Selectman Gill sent correspondence to Dr Fitzpatrick apologizing for an unpleasant exchange that occurred at a previous Board of Selectmen meeting and read the correspondence out loud.

**MINUTES:**

None.

**SELECTMEN'S REPORTS:**

Selectman Barrett had nothing to report.

Selectman Bremilst had nothing to report.

Selectman Alward had nothing to report.

Selectman Gill reported the following:

- There is \$413,000 in free cash. \$46,000 will be allocated to snow and ice, \$80,000 to a new highway stabilization fund, and \$136,000 will be allocated to the deficit. Selectman Gill suggested that the \$150,000 remaining go into general stabilization. Peter Caruso suggested that \$135,000 go into general stabilization, leaving \$15,000 in free cash.
- The agenda for the next meeting is expected to include a survey sent out to residents, a discussion on the Master Plan, appointments, a recap on the Town Meeting, and executive session regarding the police union negotiations.

Selectman Maille had nothing to report.

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:**

Town Administrator Peter Caruso met with the police union; an executive session to discuss the negotiation will be scheduled for the next Board of Selectmen meeting.

Peter Caruso also reports that he has been taking a course for procurement officials.

A project with the old Town Hall was mentioned as moving forward, albeit slowly.

Selectman Alward asked the benefit of leaving monies in free cash. Peter Caruso replied that the free cash carries over and that the free cash allows for a cushion if any mistakes or errors occur in the budget.

**ITEMS NOT REASONABLY ANTICIPATED:**

None.

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING:**

The next regular Board of Selectmen meeting is scheduled for May 15, 2023.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

*On a motion made by Selectman Alward seconded by Bremilst the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:48pm.*

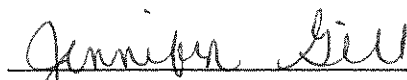
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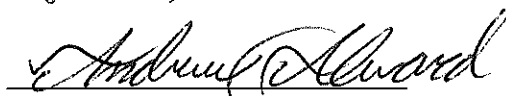
Respectfully Submitted,

Dylan Lindholm  
Recording Secretary

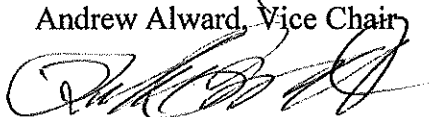
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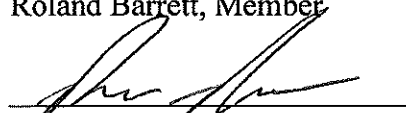
AM 10:27

  
Jennifer Gill, Chair

  
Andrew Alward, Vice Chair

TOWN CLERK

  
Roland Barrett, Member

  
Richard Bremilst, Member

  
Matthew Maille, Member