

March 14, 2000

The meeting was opened at 7:00 pm. with Les Davis, Jennifer A. Dean, Kenneth Gikas, Madeline Gauthier and Executive Secretary Aldon Jeffs attending.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The meeting schedule has been changed. Due to that and the budget meetings tonight, Davis announced that the agenda would be altered. The next workshop is scheduled for Monday, 3/20/00 at 7 p.m. and will be the last meeting before the Annual Town Meeting on 4/3/00.

CORRESPONDENCE

- 1.) The Mass. Municipal Assoc. will be holding meetings regarding wireless communication towers on 3/21/00, 3/22/00 and 3/23/00 at various locations, in order to work on drafting legislation. A letter had been sent in support of the town of Milton's letter protesting the State's legislation whereby towns would lose power over the towers to the state.
- 2.) Letter from the Dept. of Housing and Community Development concerning the Community Development Block Grant for 1999. Gauthier gave an update.
- 3.) Notice from the Blackstone-Millville Regional School District rescheduling 3/23/00 meeting to 3/30/00 at 7:30 p.m.
- 4.) Exec. Secretary Jeffs attended a meeting with the Finance Comm. on 3/8/00 where one of the speakers was Dr. Fitzgerald of Valley Technical Vocational School, who stated that Millville's minimum contribution for the upcoming year is \$95,000.00 more than last year. Jeffs explained the figures and process. Davis stated that a 5% budget reduction had been requested of all town boards/offices.
- 5.) Jeffs had sent a letter to Rep. Jaworski requesting help for the upcoming year for the following: funding the Sr. Center, the outdated fire trucks and the need for a new tanker, animal shelter and the sewer system/connection.
- 6.) Letter stating the Sr. Center Building Comm.'s preferred building site locations: #1 being the Chestnut Hill lots, #2 Prospect and Hope Sts. and #3 Central St. The Selectmen will be working with them.
- 7.) It was brought to the Board's attention that since the Town turned down funding for a full-time dispatcher at last year's Town Meeting, there has been a problem filling the dispatcher shifts. Hiring a provisional full-time dispatcher would be more cost effective than paying a police officer time and a half. This is in the process of being done. Gauthier made a motion to appoint Ms. Tiffany Moore as part-time dispatcher. Dean seconded and the vote was unanimous.
- 8.) Mr. Roger Rondeau, Sr. is applying for a Class II license at 65 Main St. and has sent out the notices. The public hearing will be held on 3/20/00.

GOOD AND WELFARE

Ms. Colleen Curis stated that the forum for the upcoming election will be held on 3/23/00 at 7 p.m.

The Warrant for the Annual Town Election had been submitted by Town Clerk; the Board signed it.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

Jeffs asked for an Executive Session at the end of the meeting to further resolve pending police contracts in accordance with Chapter 39, Section 23B.

The Board was requested to authorize the Chairman to sign a letter approving the resumption of binding arbitration which will be sent to all state representatives and senators.

A letter had been received from the Dept. of Revenue complimenting the Town Accountant, Marilyn Mathieu, on her work with Schedule A. The Board will sign a letter commending her.

A letter will be sent to Highway Surveyor, John Dean, stating that he should punch his time in person, not over the phone or radio, except in emergency situations. Selectwoman Dean did not participate.

Valley Tech had gone after a grant on a wellness project beyond the level of the one they presently have. A letter of support was required and due to time constraints, Davis had signed this letter per Jeff's request, without a Board vote.

There is a School Funding seminar on 3/16/00 regarding where we are going with Chapter 70.

The D.A.R.E. car is gone and will be used by a junk yard for parts and the Fire Dept. will use the body for extrication techniques with the Jaws of Life.

At the last meeting, tax foreclosure was discussed, where the money would have to be returned immediately to those people whose land had been foreclosed; the Governor vetoed this and the legislature supported the veto.

The animal control leash by-law should be reviewed by the state and returned by 3/25/00.

The Board approved having the Chairman sign a letter addressed to legislators requesting a favorable vote on House Bill 49.31, whereby the towns would be reimbursed at 75% of the value of property transferred to the state prior to or after the abolition of the county. This would mean the return of \$16 million to cities and towns bringing our numbers to a manageable level (unfunded pension liability).

The first public water and sewer meeting will be held at the Uxbridge Sr. Center on 3/16/00 at 7 p.m.

The Board was in favor of signing the above-mentioned letter reinstating binding arbitration.

Gauthier was commended for her hard work and service as a Selectwoman. She will not be returning after the elections.

The Board decided the Annual Report should be printed in the larger size and with the better binding, not spiral binding.

For the purpose of reorganization, Dean made a motion to have Gikas act as the interim chair for the first meeting after the elections (4/14/00) in order to call the meeting to order and take nominations. Gauthier seconded and the vote was 3 in favor with Gikas abstaining.

Per request of the Cable Comm., Gikas made a motion to appoint Jim Bentsen, Jim Ryan and Mary Lou Anderson to the Cable Advisory Comm., Dean seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The Board held its budget workshop, then went into Executive Session, after which the meeting was adjourned.

Les Davis, Chairman

Jennifer A. Dean, Vice Chairperson

Kenneth Gikas, Secretary

Madeline Gauthier

C. Althea Czarn

/na