



**BOARD OF SELECTMEN REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
290 Main Street  
Millville, MA 01529

**Monday February 7, 2022**  
**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:**

Chairman Jennifer Gill, Vice Chairman, Andrew Alward and Member Todd Trottier.

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Town Administrator, Peter Caruso

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

The Board of Selectmen observed a moment of silence to recognize the recent passing of a Millville resident.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- All residents were reminded that there is one week left to pull papers for positions in town. There is a listing of the vacancies on the town website.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

- An email will be provided at a future meeting from the Garden Club.
- There will be a BMR joint meeting on Wednesday, March 2, 2022. The focus of the meeting will be on the budget and capital items.

**MINUTES:**

**January 18, 2022:**

**On a motion made by Andrew Alward, seconded by Todd Trottier, the Board of Selectmen voted by roll call to accept the minutes from January 18, 2022 with revisions.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

Jennifer Gill	aye
Andrew Alward	aye
Todd Trottier	aye

### **Departments/Boards:**

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

There was no representative from the Board of Health present at the meeting. The Board of Health will be invited to the next meeting. The COVID numbers have been in decline.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **RiMaConn Relay:**

The RiMaConn Relay is scheduled for August 27, 2022. There was paperwork submitted which needs signature from the town. The signatory will be the Town Administrator.

**On a motion made by Andrew Alward, seconded by Todd Trottier, the Board of Selectmen voted by roll call to allow the Town Administrator to sign the authorization for the rail trail race.**

#### **Roll Call Vote:**

Jennifer Gill	aye
Andrew Alward	aye
Todd Trottier	aye

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

#### **ARPA Update:**

The ARPA Administrator Sarah Hoecker was present by zoom. The Board needs to review and approve the potential funding needs of the town. Ms. Hoecker explained that the final rule was released on January 6, 2022. This town is looking into how to allocate the funds which can be expended on April 1, 2022. The town is looking to use the funds on personnel, administration, public health/safety, and infrastructure. The town has been allocated approximately \$950,000.00. The town will be adopting the standard allowance under the ARPA Final Rule issued by the US Treasury allowing funds to be used for general government services. The funds will need to be expended by 2024. The goal of the town will be to stay within the guidelines of the standard allowance. The items of funding were noted on the screen share. There was a question about having water operator for the MES be part of the infrastructure funding. This person is currently being used on an as needed basis. The water consultant services falls within the parameters of the ARPA guidelines. This falls under water improvements. There is plenty of PPE and test kits coming as part of this funding. The future expenditures were noted which would include a new town server. There will need to be more discussions about a new Town Hall, Fire Station, and Police Station. A suggestion was made to

use some funds on the playground behind the police station. The senior center would also like a carport if the new van is funded. There will also be software needs for assessor and Building Department permitting. The town is also able use ARPA funds to pay for an administrative position which was not filled during the pandemic. In relation to the senior van, there was a recommendation to have the representatives come to another meeting to provide more clarity.

**On a motion made by Andrew Alward, seconded by Todd Trottier, the Board voted by roll call vote to act on Table 2 as presented minus the Senior Center Van. The total amount being \$266,00.00.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

Jennifer Gill	aye
Andrew Alward	aye
Todd Trottier	aye

**Capital Planning Update:**

The Board was informed that the Chairperson and Town Administrator attended the Capital Planning meeting with the school. There are currently about \$60,000,000.00 in repairs based on the reports from the school. A new facility would cost \$98,000,000.00 with 55% reimbursement from MSBA. The Town would like to discuss this further looking at all options. It is recommended that a feasibility study be done for \$750,000.00. The cost to Millville would be \$191,000. There is another Joint meeting to be held on Wednesday, March 2, 2022. There will be discussion on OPEB at the March 2, 2022 meeting. There will need to be a management plan put in place for the funding of this. Currently, the increase on this goes up over \$1,000,000.00 each year. Regarding the school project, a statement of interest would need to be done in April 2022. The BMRSD School Committee has full authority to do this. This will be a big financial impact to the residents. If there is a new facility, there was discussion of consolidating the grades which could return MES to the town. This would trigger more discussions about what the town wants when moving forward regarding MES, Old Town Hall, Police Station, and Fire Station. It was suggested to have the Building Inspector do an inspection of the old town hall. Chairperson Gill suggested doing an "option poll" for the town residents. These topics will be discussed over the upcoming months.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Building Inspector Search Committee Dissolve:**

**On a motion made by Andrew Alward, seconded by Todd Trottier, the Board voted by roll call to dissolve the Building Inspector Search Committee.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

Jennifer Gill	aye
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Andrew Alward                      aye  
Todd Trottier                      aye

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

- There was a comment via zoom that the boiler for MES will need to be paid back if MES goes back to the town.

**SELECTMEN REPORT:**

- A recommendation was made to make sure the signatures for the checks are updated.

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:**

**Highway Department:**

The Town Administrator thanked the DPW and Public Safety for their hard work during the recent snow events.

**Metacomet Dispatch:**

There will be a meeting with Metacomet next week to discuss the MECC FY23 budget. The Town Administrator will be attending.

**Fire Department Agreement:**

The memorandum of agreement with the Fire Department Union was signed. Those changes will be made in the written agreement and will come to the BOS for signature.

**Police Department Agreement:**

The Board was informed that the Police agreement will need to be memorialized. The contract needs to be finalized and brought to the BOS for signature.

**Regional Animal Control:**

There was a meeting with the six towns regarding the regional animal control position. There was a suggestion to include three additional towns. The recommendation is to stay with the 6 towns and not include the other three.

**Budget:**

The Departments/Board received the budget guidance letter. The Town Administrator will be meeting with the Superintendent of Schools this week to discuss budget.

**FUTURE MEETING:**

- March 7, 2022

**ADJOURN:**

On a motion made by Andrew Alward, seconded by Todd Trottier, the Board voted by roll call to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 pm.

**Roll Call Vote:**

Jennifer Gill	aye
Andrew Alward	aye
Todd Trottier	aye

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Sutherland  
Recording Secretary

*Jennifer Gill*  
3/21/2022

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TOWN CLERK