

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

Monday June 7, 2022

PRESENT:

Chairman Jennifer Gill, Vice Chairman, Andrew Alward and Member Richard Bremilst.

ALSO PRESENT:

Town Administrator, Peter Caruso

The Board of Selectmen decided not to go into executive session per G.L. chapter 30 A sec. 21 (a)(1) to discuss discipline, or dismissal of, or complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member, or individual.

The Board of Selectmen viewed the tape from the May 16, 2022 Board of Selectmen meeting regarding an incident with resident Gerry Finn who is a member of Capital Planning and the BVT School Committee Representative. He was present at the June 7, 2022 meeting to discuss the incident. This was conducted during the open session of the meeting. The Chairwomen expressed that no members holding positions in the Town of Millville should exhibit the behavior which was exhibited by Mr. Finn during the zoom meeting. Member Bremilst did review the tape and understands the frustration of Mr. Finn but communicated that the behavior exhibited is not acceptable. He can see both sides of the situation. Member Alward agrees with the Chairwomen.

Resident Finn 47 Grove Street was present and expressed his side of the incident. Mr. Finn provided a letter to the Town apologizing for the incident. He explained that his frustration and action from that was due to the fact that he did not think the town meeting was a success as communicated by the Chairwomen and his action taken with his words and hand gesture was from frustration. He also communicated that he did not know that he was part of the zoom meeting since he had already waited one hour and twenty minutes to discuss his agenda item and was waiting to speak on his agenda item. Mr. Finn explained his lengthy service provided to the Town of Millville which included 32 years of service and assisting in seeking and assisting getting over 1.6 million dollars in grants for BVT and the Town of Millville.

The Chairwomen explained that she is thinking about creative ways to handle this situation. She also views the behavior shown the same whether someone is in person and in a zoom setting.

Mr. Finn does not think that a behavior exhibited on zoom in his home is the same as in person in an office.

The Board explored other options such as taking the stipend for his position and possible providing community service a few days a week.

The Town Administrator appreciates that Mr. Finn was present in person to discuss this situation. It was explained that as CPC Chairman he had asked for Mr. Finn's resignation from his position. This was provided to and accepted by the Town Moderator.

Town Moderator Lima read a statement into the record which included the action from May 24, 2022 to have Mr. Finn resign from his position. She also asked the Board of Selectmen to consider what further actions should be taken to hold all town official's accountable for their actions.

The meeting was then opened to the public for comment:

Resident Richard Hurteau:

Mr. Hurteau communicated that the action on zoom meeting is the same as in person.

Resident Ellen Bowen:

Ms. Bowen communicated that the action was not nice and his actions got him caught.

There were no further comments.

Action Taken:

On a motion made by Jennifer Gill, seconded by Andrew Alward, the Board voted to request the resignation of member Gerry Finn from the BVT school committee. Richard Bremilst nay, Andrew Alward aye, and Jennifer Gill aye.

The Chairwomen will be attending the June 16, 2022 BVT agenda.

Next Meeting:

June 14, 2022

Adjourn:

On a motion made by Andrew Alward, seconded by Richard Bremilst, the Board voted by roll call to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Sutherland Recording Secretary

Jennifer Gill, Chairwomen

Andrew Alward, Vice Chairman

Richard Bremilst, Member

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TOWN CLERK