

**TOWN OF MILLVILLE  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

**October 24, 2011 - 7:00 p.m.**

**Board of Selectmen Members Present:** Chairman Tom Petrowicz, Vice Chairman Roland Barrett, Selectman John Laura and Selectman Bob Baker

**Board of Selectmen Members Absent:** Secretary Charlie Poulin

**Others Present:** Executive Secretary Helen Coffin

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The meeting is called to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Millville Town Hall.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Thank you to Chief and Mrs. Landry, Trisha Benoit-Rudden and Kathy Ouellette for planning the Pumpkin Party. Also, thanks to those individuals who assisted in various ways and to the numerous companies who made donations. It was a well-attended event and a fun time had by all. Congratulations to all the prize winners – best costume in various age groups, best carved pumpkin, best decorated pumpkin, etc...

- Thank you to Brian Mullaly and his crew for taking out the Town Hall air conditioners...much appreciated.

- Thank you to Superintendent Shaver-Hood for delivering some student artwork for display at the Town Hall. Please visit the Business Office to view the artwork of our students.

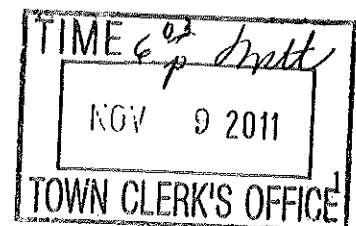
- The Board of Selectmen met with the Finance Committee last Wednesday evening and did the first run-through of the Special Town Meeting Warrant. The Warrant will be reviewed in final form later this evening. Thank you to all the Boards/Departments who attended the meeting to support and discuss their articles.

- Charter Communications has advised us that there will be a nationwide Emergency Alert System Test on Wednesday, November 9th at 2:00 p.m. which will last up to 3-1/2 minutes.

**MINUTES/WARRANTS**

**September 28, 2011 (6:00 pm)**

*On a motion by Laura and second by Baker, the Board of Selectmen votes unanimously to approve and sign the Minutes of September 28, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.*



**October 3, 2011 (6:00 pm)**

*On a motion by Laura and second by Baker, the Board of Selectmen votes unanimously to approve and sign the Minutes of October 3, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.*

**October 19, 2011 (7:00 pm)**

*On a motion by Laura and second by Baker, the Board of Selectmen votes unanimously to approve and sign the Minutes of October 19, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. (Barrett abstains)*

**Warrants**

*On a motion by Laura and second by Baker, the Board of Selectmen votes unanimously to approve and sign the Warrants as read.*

**PUBLIC FORUM**

Town Clerk Marcia Lanctot provides written materials with respect to House Bill 1972. She is in support of the Bill which proposes changes in election laws. This Bill will assure that troops over seas have the opportunity to vote and it will save taxpayers. The proposal is to combine two elections and the savings to Millville will be about \$2,000. Vice Chairman Barrett supports this Bill. Chairman Petrowicz comments there has been strong support of this Bill from other communities. He does not see a down-side to the proposal.

*On a motion by Laura and second by Barrett, the Board of Selectmen votes unanimously to support House Bill 1972 and authorizes the Town Clerk to send a Resolution of same to the State House.*

**APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS**

Patrolman Ray Burton submitted his resignation from the Police Department.

*On a motion by Barrett and second by Laura, the Board of Selectmen votes unanimously to accept the resignation.*

EMT/Firefighter Ethan White submitted his resignation from the Fire Department.

Thank you and Best of Luck to both individuals.

**CORRESPONDENCE** None.

**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORT**

Business Retention Grant. The Historical Commission is in the process of contacting signage companies. Correspondence was received regarding access to historical sites from the Longfellow Municipal Center parking lot. Chief Landry voiced his concerns regarding pedestrian access between buildings...he would prefer creating a walkway access via Fletcher Street. The Board does not feel it is necessary to schedule another meeting on this subject. Chairman Petrowicz does not feel either side of the Town Hall is ideal. He does not wish to encourage pedestrian traffic between the buildings. His feeling is that no action is how the Board should proceed at this time. Until a proper pedestrian access can be created on the Fletcher Street side, there should be no directory signage from the parking lot.

***On a motion by Barrett and second by Baker, the Board of Selectmen votes unanimously to take no action regarding directory signage at this time.***

Senior Center Energy Audit. The questions raised by the Board were answered and the audit was based on 40 hours per week. Subsequently, the audit has been deemed not cost effective.

Senior Center Operations. The Senior Center received prior approval for operations through December 31st via town funding sources. The Senior Center advised that about \$10,000 in donations has been raised and this would keep them afloat through first week in May. The funds have been deposited with the Treasurer. Does the Board wish to vote to authorize operations through end of April and reconsider an additional extension at that time pending additional funding?

Finance Committee Chairman Paul Ouellette feels they need to manage their funds better to bring them to a later date. They need to understand they will not get any additional town funding.

***On a motion by Laura and second by Barrett, the Board of Selectmen votes unanimously to authorize the Senior Center to remain open through the end of April 2012 with donation funding, and be reconsidered at a later date for an extension.***

Blackstone-Millville Regional School District – Communication was received from the Superintendent indicating that the Committee has rescinded its vote to incur debt for repair/replacement of the High School roof. The Committee has submitted to MSBA seeking funding. The insurance company will be replacing the membrane to get through the winter and those repairs are due to begin Friday. Chairman Petrowicz would like to see the qualifications of the contractor who shoveled the roof as well as his Certificate of Insurance.

Blackstone-Millville Regional School District – Communication was received from the Superintendent that Mr. Porter, the High School principal has retired and has been hired as interim for this year. They will be forming a search committee and would like to include one community member from each town. The interview process is to begin in late January through March. We are looking to recruit a community member to represent Millville. This will be posted on the town cable channel. An individual with teaching and/or administrative experience is preferred.

Blackstone-Millville Regional School District – The Superintendent is interested in scheduling a meeting to discuss protocol with respect to closing schools due to significant snow loads. The Building Inspector has been contacted. Does the Board wish to be included? Chairman Petrowicz feels that Mike Giampietro can handle this matter and will take into consideration the composites and construction of the roofs. Paul Ouellette suggests involving the state building inspector as a neutral party.

Blackstone-Millville Regional School Committee – The Chairman of the School Committee has advised that the Committee voted to dedicate the Courtyard at the MES to Mrs. Ann Lesperance for her years of service on the Committee. He questioned whether this required town meeting vote. They are not naming the Courtyard after her – there is no permanent name to be affixed but rather they would simply like to dedicate it to her while the District occupies the building. Town Counsel advised that this does not require town meeting vote. The Chairman will inform us when the dedication ceremony will take place.

Department of Conservation and Recreation – The Board was invited to attend a meeting in Blackstone to get an update from engineers and DCR on the Blackstone River Greenway. The meeting is Tuesday, November 8th at 7:45 p.m.

Conservation Commission – The Commission has advised that they authorized DCR to install granite steps at the Millville Lock to be used for canoe and kayak access...this is supposed to happen in the near future.

Cable Advisory Committee – The Committee submitted a Request for Legal Services. They seek assistance with contract negotiations with Charter. Their Public Hearing is scheduled for November 17th for public input.

***On a motion by Laura and second by Baker, the Board of Selectmen votes unanimously to authorize the Request for Legal Services. (Barrett abstains)***

Mendon Dispatch – We received communication from Chief Horn regarding regional dispatch negotiations. Chief Landry is satisfied with the arrangement and supports another contract. The Board would rather meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays rather than Wednesdays. At this time it is not determined whether Hopedale will participate but this should not affect Millville's financial contribution.

Property on corner Main/Lincoln Streets – We have been verbally informed that effective November 1st town employees will not be allowed to use the property on the corner. This leaves only 3 parking spots at the Fire Station. Chief Landry has authorized Lt. Furno the use of the former Chief's vehicle for doing inspections as well as his work involving Emergency Management. Will the Board allow Lt. Furno to take the vehicle home? The Board does not have any problem with Lt. Furno taking the vehicle home provided the vehicle is also available to Deputy Clement as well.

***On a motion by Barrett and second by Laura, the Board of Selectmen votes unanimously to authorize Lt. Furno to bring the former Fire Chief vehicle home.***

Chief Mullaly has not yet turned in his keys as MEMA Director. A letter was sent and a call made. The Board would like them returned by the next BOS Meeting. The Boards suggests to follow-up with Brian Mullaly.

Library Waiver Letter – At the last regular meeting the Board asked that I prepare a letter on the Board's behalf supporting the granting of the waiver of the FY2012 municipal appropriate requirements for the Library. If the letter is acceptable, please vote to authorize the Chairman to sign.

***On a motion by Baker and second by Laura, the Board of Selectmen votes unanimously to authorize the Chairman to sign the letter as prepared.***

MIIA – Communication is received from our insurance carrier, MIIA, that our participation credits totaled \$14,558 for FY2011. This is a great cost savings to the Town.

Esty Street Shrubs – We received legal confirmation from Town Counsel that since the property owner did not respond to the enforcement orders the Board of Selectmen is within its legal right

to remove the shrubs. He further suggests that once a date is determined, a letter be prepared and hand-delivered to the owner. There should be a police presence at the job site

***On a motion by Barrett and second by Baker, the Board of Selectmen votes unanimously to authorization the Tree Warden to remove the shrubs at the corner of Esty/Lincoln Streets.***

Oil Tank Inspections. Visual inspections were completed of all remaining oil tanks (Town Hall, Library, Police Station and Station 2). Formal inspections were pricey and required hiring a specialized engineering firm. The State does not offer this service. We were advised that all tanks should be replaced in the following order: Station 2, Police Department, Library and Town Hall. We are checking with the insurance company to see if they can assist with inspections for loss control. Does the Board wish to pay for formal inspections or proceed with new tanks? Estimates for tank replacements will be obtained.

Small Storage Shed at Landfill. With assistance from Brian Mullaly, 3 estimates were obtained and the roof will be replaced within the next couple of weeks.

Veterans. President Obama recently announced that 40,000+/- will be coming home before the holidays. We have reached out to Mr. Barber with respect to the possible implication to Millville.

MES – Water Update. The tests taken early October showed minor trace amounts of manganese – this is not alarming but DEP requested more testing. All additional tests have come back non-detectable. All independent bubblers have been flushed and turned on and can be used (gym, hallways). There are also bubblers in the classrooms which are connected to the sinks underneath. There is question as to whether the custodians have turned those back on. We will check with the custodian tomorrow. DEP did not alter the testing schedule which remains quarterly. A letter was sent home with all students, drafted by the Superintendent. Point of clarification: treatment system has been effective...the chlorination in the filtration system is not being used as a disinfectant but rather to sequester the iron oxidizes. There was never any concern regarding bacteria. Changes requested by the Town were not honored.

MES – Roof/Structural Damage. At the last meeting a report dated 9/29 was provided for review. It was determined that much of the structural deficiencies are due to poor workmanship during construction rather than last winter's snow loads. All snow load-related repairs caused by last winter as well as a few other urgent issues have been completed under the insurance coverage; however, some other structural and waterproofing repairs must be addressed. We are obtaining fee proposals from structural engineering firms to prepare specs on the work that must be done in the future.

Auction – Main Street. The Board previously voted in Executive Session to set a minimum acceptance price. With that figure in mind...one bidder attended the auction and bid \$40,000. The Treasurer has continued the auction until November 17th to give the Board the opportunity to lower its price. If the Board wishes to remain firm on the price, then we will reject the offer and that will be it. However, if the Board wishes to discuss lowering the minimum we should vote to go into Executive Session.

***On a motion by Laura and second by Barrett, the Board of Selectmen votes unanimously to maintain the minimum price voted on.***

**OLD BUSINESS/UPDATES**

Special Town Meeting Warrant. The Chairman reads the articles on the Special Town Meeting Warrant.

*On a motion by Laura and second by Barrett, the Board of Selectmen votes unanimously to sign the Special Town Meeting Warrant in duplicate.*

The Board will meet with the Finance Committee and Chief Landry on Monday, November 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the Public Safety Stabilization Fund.

**NEW BUSINESS** None.

**FINAL PUBLIC FORUM** None.

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING**

Monday, November 7, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.


**EXECUTIVE SESSION** None.


**ADJOURN**

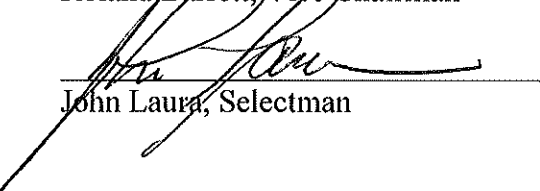
*On a motion by Laura and second by Baker, the Board of Selectmen votes unanimously to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:40 p.m.*

Respectfully Submitted,  
Helen M. Coffin

  
Thomas J. Petrowicz, Chairman

  
Roland Barrett, Vice Chairman

  
Robert Baker, Selectman

  
John Laura, Selectman