

**TOWN OF MILLVILLE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

MINUTES OF MEETING

October 6, 2014 - 7:00 p.m.

Board of Selectmen Members Present: Vice Chairman Joseph Rapoza, Secretary Jennifer Dean Wing, Robert Baker and Selectman John Laura

Board of Selectmen Members Absent: Chairman Roland Barrett

Others Present: Executive Secretary Helen Coffin

Vice Chairman Rapoza opens the regular meeting at 7:03 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence for the recent passing of John McNamara.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you to all those who came out over the weekend in support of the Centennial Committee's Family Fun Day.

Reminder that Town offices will be closed next Monday, October 13th in observance of Columbus Day.

Next Wednesday, October 15th is the deadline to register to vote for the November 4th election. Please see the Town Clerk's office for details.

Reminder that Charter will going digital starting October 7th. The new Town access channels will be 191, 192 and 194.

SCHEDULED GUESTS/SPEAKERS None.

MINUTES

September 15, 2014 – 6:00 p.m.

On a motion by Laura and second by Wing, the Board votes unanimously to accept the Minutes of September 15, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. {Baker abstains}

September 15, 2014 – 7:00 p.m.

On a motion by Laura and second by Wing, the Board votes unanimously to accept the Minutes of September 15, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. {Baker abstains}

WARRANTS

On a motion by Laura and second by Baker, the Board votes unanimously to accept the Warrants as prepared.

REPORTS OF TOWN OFFICIALS

Council on Aging. Jill Anderson, Outreach Coordinator provides an update on the services at the Senior Center. The Council obtained a service incentive grant which has allowed them to offer evacuation and emergency preparedness for the elderly and disabled which is a state-wide program. They have also created Senior Center brochures and advertised the services of Tri-Valley Elder Services. They are making an effort to get the word out in the community about the services being offered at the Senior Center. They send out a newsletter every month. They offer fuel assistance – those who are reapplying this year should have already received the forms. For those applying for the first time, the forms won't be available until mid-October. They offer assistance with Medicare open enrollment which is through December 7th and there will be a presentation on October 16th for those considering making a change in health insurance. The Senior Center will offer flu shots on October 14th. The Worcester County Sheriff's office recently provided grounds maintenance at the Senior Center for no charge. The Senior Center had a 1,200-1,300 participation rate in FY14 which is very good. They just started offering a new oil painting class.

The Senior Center has 27 active volunteers with Bob Laflamme serving as volunteer janitor. They now offer breakfast and still offer lunch once per week. The state recently handed out emergency "go packs" to about 35 seniors. Deputy Fire Chief Furno recently gave a talk regarding safety in the home. The Fire Department is hoping to begin home visits to check and replace smoke alarms, pending grant funding. The Council continues to identify available grants, however, they are limited due its lack of 501c3 non-profit designation. The new senior van transportation will be starting soon and the Council is getting the word out – a brochure was created. Individuals need to first register their file of life in order to ride the van. The Council has two experienced drivers and have two others that require some additional training. Bingo takes place on Thursday nights. The Council meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday evenings and the Senior Center is open on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00am-3:30pm.

PUBLIC FORUM None.

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter from BMR thanking the Board for its commitment to the MES water situation and advising that the School is now officially off bottled water.

A letter from Mass. Municipal Association inviting the Board of Selectmen to the annual conference at Tri-County.

APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS

John Laura submitted a resignation from the Municipal Center Building Committee.

On a motion by Baker and second by Wing, the Board votes unanimously to accept the resignation.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORT None.

OLD BUSINESS

Police Policies and Procedures. Chief Landry is following-up with the Board on his submission of revised Policies and Procedures for the Police Department. He indicates that he revises the policies every three years. They are then sent to the union for comments. The Board members were each provided a disc to review the policies. He understands it is a lengthy process to review them and going forward he will only provide new and revised policies to avoid confusion. The policies are a requirement for liability issues.

Mr. Rapoza advises that he read all of the policies and appreciates the ongoing process of review.

Wing questions the use of “charter” in one policy. Chief Landry will review same but indicates that many towns use the policies which is why the term is used. Wing seeks clarification on the handling of video and audio with Mendon dispatch. Chief Landry advises that we must follow the Open Meeting Law and all recordings are saved in Mendon. Wing asks what the officers are required to do with the policies. Chief Landry confirms that officers are given a list of each policy and they must sign off after reading each individual policy and then that form is placed in their personnel file.

On a motion by Laura and second by Baker, the Board votes unanimously to approve the Police Department Policies and Procedures as prepared dated July 2014.

Traffic Study. Chief Landry also advises that he received the results of the recent traffic study, gathered in 6 locations. There are 6,200 cars per day traveling over the bridge on Central Street; 2,000 on Ironstone Street; 2,100 on Chestnut Hill Road; 2,600 on Rt. 122 Uxbridge side; 2,600 Rt. 122 Blackstone side and 1,800 coming from North Smithfield. He is actively working to stop the excessive amount of trucking coming through Town. He is concerned with the expansion of the asphalt plan in Uxbridge and his complaint with Mass Highway has fallen on deaf ears.

Bus Stop. Chief Landry advises that the bus stop at the corner of Central/Hope has been moved to the vacant lot near the Post Office due to the upcoming DCR construction on the bike trail. The construction will start within the next couple of weeks and is estimated to take about two years.

NEW BUSINESS

Rock Salt Bid. The Town participates in a consortium bid with other Towns. The cost of rock salt has increased from \$49/ton to \$63/ton due to the high demands.

On a motion by Wing and second by Laura, the Board votes unanimously to award the 2014-2015 Rock Salt Bid to Eastern Minerals for \$63/ton delivered or picked-up in accordance with the bids received by the Town of Shrewsbury.

Special Town Meeting Warrant.

On a motion by Baker and second by Laura, the Board votes unanimously to close the Warrant for the Special Town Meeting immediately.

Wing would like to see the Hampshire Council electricity warrant article on the Warrant. Rapoza advises that it was just accepted in Lowell and is supported by the state.

State Election Warrant, as prepared by the Town Clerk's Office. The state election is November 4th.

On a motion by Laura and second by Baker, the Board votes unanimously to sign three originals of the State Election Warrant.

MEMBERS FORUM

Vice Chairman Rapoza advises that he recently attended the legislative breakfast and found it very informative. There was a great deal of discussion regarding Chapter 90 funding. He also spoke with officials regarding electric aggregation. Lastly, the Town of Charlton has also had some problems with excess amounts of road salt and we need to beware of the amounts we use so that personal wells are not harmed.

Wing expresses her understanding of how salting takes place. However, she questions who monitors the amounts. She would welcome a workshop with the Highway Surveyor to discuss the matter further. The Board members agree this should take place at a regular meeting.

Vice Chairman Rapoza indicates that he would like to revisit the subject of a Selectmen's retreat and/or goal setting session; however, he will table same until a full Board is present.

Wing advises that she is not a fan of email as she feels it takes the tone of the reader and not the writer. She feels the Board needs to get a better handle of emails that are sent to and from town employees and officials. She is only one member of the Board and cannot act alone; however, she will clearly make her thoughts known on performance evaluations and recommend against re-appointment. She refers back to email communications of years ago involving two town employees/officials when the Moderator requested it stop. She has received copies of emails in her mailbox from anonymous individuals. She feels emails should not take the place of telephone conversations. Brief discussion follows among the members. Laura feels the Board must be cautious of the Open Meeting Law. Baker advises that email works better for him due to his work situation; however, he does not support the back and forth exchanges. The Executive Secretary explains she prefers to email certain notifications to the Board so that all five Board members get the same exact information. The suggestion is made by the Executive Secretary that since emails are all public records, Wing should print and make copies of the emails in question and bring them to a meeting for discussion and explanation of those involved. Performance matters can be addressed in open session. Wing is concerned about personnel matters. Rapoza states he is sensitive to this issue and he wishes to move on from this subject.

FINAL PUBLIC FORUM None.

SIGNATURES The Board signs the documents voted on earlier this evening.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING Monday, October 15, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION None.

ADJOURN

On a motion by Wing and second by Baker, the Board of Selectmen votes unanimously to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Helen M. Coffin, Executive Secretary

Joseph G. Rapoza, Vice Chairman

Robert F. Baker, Selectman

Jennifer Dean Wing, Secretary

John M. Laura, Selectman