

**TOWN OF MILLVILLE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

MINUTES OF MEETING

March 2, 2015 - 6:00 p.m.

Board of Selectmen Members Present: Chairman Roland Barrett, Vice Chairman Joseph Rapoza, Selectmen Robert Baker and Jennifer Dean Wing

Board of Selectmen Members Absent: Selectman John Laura

Others Present: Executive Secretary Helen Coffin and Finance Committee Chairman Richard Crivello

Chairman Barrett calls the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Longfellow Municipal Center.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss and determine the Board's priorities in planning for the FY16 budget, and to give guidance to the Finance Committee with respect to funding needs.

Chairman Barrett reads a list of potential items to consider as priorities as prepared by Vice Chairman Rapoza as follows:

- (1) Continuity of Operations of Town Government - based on the ongoing and recent issues with respect to the Longfellow Municipal Center building. The Town must be prepared to relocate the personnel so that interruption to Town government is limited.
- (2) Blackstone-Millville Regional School District - increases in budget. Mr. Rapoza attended the School Committee meeting last week and Millville's increase may be as much as \$483,000 from last year.
- (3) Management/Oversight/Accountability of Highway Department. The Highway Surveyor hasn't been timely in preparing and submitting paperwork. Last year the Town lost a \$15,000 grant for road recovery.
- (4) Economic Plan and Development. Mr. Rapoza met with Sen. Fattman and Rep. Kuros last week and discussed objectives relating to broadening the Town's tax base. It was suggested the Town look into utilizing a student in the graduate program at Northeastern.
- (5) Restructuring Town Hall Administration. Based on recently proposal submitted by the Executive Secretary, the Board needs to consider making some changes/additions in personnel. Mr. Barrett explains that he believes this is important for the future of the Town. Often times, you need to spend money to make money and an individual with a finance background is crucial in every business.

Mr. Barrett suggests that Item #1 will depend on what the Municipal Center Building Committee recommends and this item should wait until the following meeting. Item #3 would be addressed by the Executive Secretary's recent proposal to create a new position. Mr. Barrett is most concerned about Item #2, the School's budget. The Town cannot afford the increases beyond the 2-1/2% limit. Mr. Tringali, BMRSD Rep, advises that he will get more in detail with the budget

numbers on Wednesday evening with the Finance Committee but they are looking at allocating other funds to offset the amounts. Brief discussion follows regarding the social and emotional classroom that is being recommended. Many costs are due to the new ELL mandates from the state.

Mr. Crivello questions if the amount proposed for restructuring Town government administration is sufficient. He agrees with the creation of the Inspection position but feels the management position may not be funded enough to fill the needs of the Town. Ultimately, he agrees with the creation of a new position...similar to having a “current operations” and “future operations” arrangement but is just concerned nobody will take a position for this salary. Mr. Barrett explains that the Board has to start somewhere and that it is possible that the position may need to be filled on a full-time in the future. Mrs. Wing suggests that there are many retired or former Town Managers who are looking for part-time work. However, Mrs. Wing feels this requires more discussion by the Board and she hasn’t looked over the proposal yet.

With the time being 6:40, Chairman Barrett closes this meeting in order to commence the next meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Helen M. Coffin, Executive Secretary

Roland P. Barrett, Chairman

Joseph G. Rapoza, Vice Chairman

Jennifer Dean Wing, Selectman

Robert F. Baker, Selectman