PRESENT:
Chairwoman, Erica Blake, Vice Chairman Jennifer Dean Wing, Member, Tom Houle, Andrew Alward and Kevin Strette.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS:
• There were no announcements.

MINUTES:
December 16, 2019:

On a motion made by Andrew Alward and seconded by Kevin Surette, the Board voted unanimously to approve the meeting minutes from December 16, 2019.

CORRESPONDENCE:
• The Town received a letter that the Chapter 90 apportionment is $125,026.00.

DEPARTMENTS/COMMITTEES:

PUBLIC FORUM:
• There were no public comments during the public forum.

NEW BUSINESS:
Conservation Commission Metacomet Land Trust:
Metacomet Land Trust Representative, Mike Penko and Chairman of the Conservation Commission Eric Olson were present to sign the conservation restriction for 51 Berthelette Way. The conservation restriction documents were provided. This conservation restriction will include 6 acres to protect the property in perpetuity and will become a Metacomet land trust preserve. This piece of land was presented and discussed at the Board of Selectmen meeting in September
2018. The state has approved this and will give final approval once the required paperwork is submitted. The documents have been reviewed by Town Counsel. Mr. Penko informed all that this is a nice property with a stream running through it. This area would be great for educational opportunities at the elementary school.

The Board of Selectmen and Conservation Commission signed the necessary document with the Town Clerk notarizing the signatures.

**Presentation by Henault & Co. Regarding Marijuana Retail, Manufacture, and Cultivation Licensing**

Henault & Co was present to prepare their business plan for marijuana retail, manufacturing and cultivation at the property located on Lincoln Street. The owner explained that she has separated with her other partner and has taken on another partner. The previous host agreement is no longer valid since the partnership has changed. Henault & Co. is looking to enter into a host agreement with the Town of Millville. The previous financing was from a company in California. The applicant indicated that the financing of this business will remain local. This project will be in three phases. The current house would be used but refurbished for offices. The garage would be used as the retail store and the back area would be the temporary cultivation facility. The facility has plenty of parking. There will be 15 spaces. The employees will park in the back. There will be security on the site as required. The partner has experience in the security field and will be using an outside service. There will be a separate entrance and exit. The cultivation in the back will be isolated from cultivation. The financial numbers were provided. These are conservative numbers. In regard to traffic, there will be approximately 100 extra cars a day. The applicant invited the Board of Selectmen to visit her facility in Providence. The Board of Selectmen thanked the applicants for the presentation. The next step would be to have a host agreement drawn up.

On a motion made by Jennifer Dean Wing, and seconded by Tom Houle, the Board of Selectmen voted unanimously to have the Town Administrator work with the applicant Henault & Co. to prepare a host agreement.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Removal of no parking restrictions Meaghan Way:**

The Board of Selectmen are in receipt of a packet of information regarding Meaghan Way. Mr. & Mrs. Brite were present. The Town Administrator reached out to the neighbors on this street. The consensus from the neighbors is that 3 out of 4 of them want to have the no parking ban to remain in place. Mr. Brite provided the historical background on the situation and would like the ban to be lifted so they can have New Year’s, graduation and birthday parties where their guests can park on the street. The Board of Selectmen agree to keep the no parking in place based on the information provided.

**SELECTMEN’S REPORTS:**
• Selectman Dean Wing communicated that the Blackstone Millville Regional Marching Band will be a guest at the State House on January 9, 2020.

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:**

**Audit:**
The Town Administrator informed the Board of Selectmen that there will be an audit meeting on Wednesday, January 8, 2020 regarding the audit for the fiscal year ended 6.30.19. To date there is no plan to do an audit of previous years since the incremental benefits will be limited estimated cost would be between $20,000.00 -$30,000.00 for each additional fiscal year audited.

**Budget Guidance:**
The Board of Selectmen are in receipt of a memo which provides budget guidance for each of the Boards and Departments. Based on preliminary numbers, it looks like the town may have an additional $140,000.00. The intent is to level fund the budgets but use the $140,000.00 for things such as possibly 2% salary and wage increases. In regard to the schools, if the school sticks with 3%, the budget is feasible. The FY 21 health benefits will probably include one or two more employees. Retirement trends are higher than 2.5% but it is a fixed number for contribution. The insurance will need to be negotiated since the numbers are not known yet. The library suggests a budget put in place to fund full certification for operations. The library resources for funding will dry up mid-year. To fund the library, this would be about $30,000 increase to the level funded budget. The police communication has been paid for by a grant. This was a five-year grant. The cost for this is $10,000 a year which will increase to $40,000 for FY22. It the town were to fund this without the grant it would be over $300,000.00. The Town Accountant will be preparing a detailed budget model which will be distributed to the various boards/departments. The Finance Committee is in support of this budgeting process.

**Status of transition from Baystate Municipal Accounting Services:**
The Board of Selectmen were made aware that Baystate Municipal Accounting does not have access to Vadar. Derek will be the representative working with the town. Derek will be assisting in providing necessary documents for the audit.

**2020 Calendar:**
The Board of Selectmen were presented with the 2020 calendar with the noted holidays and town meeting dates.

**Resignation:**
The Board of Selectmen are in receipt of a resignation email from the Veteran’s Agent Geoffrey Wing. This will be placed on the next agenda.

**PUBLIC FORUM:**
Building Inspector, Lincoln Barber communicated that he is concerned about the access through the residential neighborhoods from those going to the marijuana facility. This will need to be addressed.
On a motion made by Tom Houle and seconded by Jennifer Dean Wing, the Board of Selectmen voted by Roll Call Vote to enter into Executive Session per M.G.L.c.30A, Section 21 (a)(3) to discuss strategy relative to pending or threatened litigation where discussion of these matters in open session would have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the town only to return to open session to adjourn the meeting.

Member Alward questioned if the Board of Selectmen is allowed to enter into executive session since this was placed on the agenda after the 48-hour notice. The Chairman noted this is allowed.

**Roll Call Vote:**

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Vote</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tom Houle</td>
<td>aye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer Dean Wing</td>
<td>aye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Alward</td>
<td>nay</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kevin Surette</td>
<td>aye</td>
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<tr>
<td>Erica Blake</td>
<td>aye</td>
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</tbody>
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**NEXT MEETING:**


On a motion made by Andrew Alward and seconded by Kevin Surette, the Board of Selectmen voted unanimously to adjourn the regular meeting adjourned at 8:32 pm.

The regular meeting ended at 8:32 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Sutherland

Recording Secretary
Member, Erica Blake

Vice Chairwoman, Jennifer Dean Wing

Member, Tom Houle

Member, Andrew Alward

Member, Kevin Surette