

**TOWN OF MILLBURY  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES  
MUNICIPAL OFFICE BUILDING- SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM**

**October 8, 2013**

**7:00 p.m.**

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**Present:** Board of Selectmen: E. Bernard Plante; Francis B. King; Brian M. Ashmankas; Sandra J. Cristo; Mary Krumsiek; Town Manager, Bob Spain; Tom Reilly, *The Millbury-Sutton Chronicle*; Susan Spencer, The Telegram & Gazette; Edd Cote and other concerned citizens.

Chairman Plante asked for a moment of silence for Jim Fitzpatrick- a former member of the School Committee and Planning Board, a good friend and a just a good Millbury guy. You didn't get away from him without receiving an Irish shamrock.

**Debby Berthiaume-11<sup>th</sup> Chain of Lights-** she would like to update the town and the Board regarding the Chain of Lights-she is hoping to get more organizations to participate. Fee for nonprofits is \$50.00; fee for businesses is \$100. The Board is getting tired and right now the organizers are running on empty and the money is not there. They have thrown together a makeshift committee and are hoping that someone else will pick it up for next year. This will be the last year that the four of them will be involved; Judy O'Connor, Rob Morton and Lynn Pez. Judy has received a grant for the trollies again this year as that is about \$3-4,000. It costs between \$6-8,000.00 to run the chain of lights. Vendors can sign up until October 28<sup>th</sup> to join the chain of lights.

**Introduction of our new Building Inspector-Scott Barbato.** Mr. Spain is very happy to have him on board and he is already up and running. He has been in the business for about 14 years. All of his certifications are in place. Mr. Barbato said that things are going pretty well here. He plans on working with people. He already went through the schools with Chet Hanratty. Tractor Supply will be opening in a week or two and we have a good handle on that, it is a fairly large building.

Chairman Plante thanked him for coming in, wished him the best of luck and welcomed him aboard.

**Barday Update-** Brooke Ingram is the engineering manager, Kathy Campbell is the consultant, and Lori Struder is the environmental engineer for Barday. Ms. Campbell updated the Board regarding the phenol spill in Sept 2011. They immediately starting testing for impact to the environment and it was detected in the ground water; over 5000 gallons of groundwater was treated. The remediation continued since 2012. Now they have clean audit findings and with DEP's blessing; they shut down the system on Sept 4, 2013 which was three solid months of no findings.

Rob McNeil said that we were making sure to get the updates and the non-detects became more frequent.

Selectman King asked how often it is monitored- quarterly now.

Chairman Plante thanked them for the continuance updates and for coming in with good news.

**Tom Cohan- Charter Communications.** Mr. Spain said that the contract is pretty well complete just a couple of clean up items. With the peg money we will be taping all of the boards and committee meetings and show them either live or taped. He will be meeting with the Cable Advisory Committee on October 17<sup>th</sup>. They have been talking for about a year now regarding the license renewal; they used the Verizon license as a template so that one company does not have an advantage over another. Charter has been keeping up their Heidi Vanderbrook , manager of public relations spoke regarding Charter Chanel 3 and the local programming that they cover. Millbury is a great community and have had 4 consecutive Charter Scholar Athlete recipients, they cover Millbury Football games and they aired the Bicentennial Parade among other programs.

Mr. Spain explained what the Cable Act has done- it only covers TV; not phone or internet. You cannot talk about channels or costs by law. The things that you can talk about are products that are offered.

**Rob McNeil is here with Ben Mosher** from CDM Smith- they have been working on the feasibility study to determine the development of an **aerobic digester** for about 8 months. The Town received a grant to conduct this feasibility study. A garbage ban is going into effect in 2014 by the State so there has to be the infrastructure in town to handle the garbage. Mr. McNeil toured a facility in Lewiston, ME that was just opened.

Ben Mosher explained the attached PowerPoint presentation\*.

They are looking into private developers for this; going it alone does not seem viable at this point because of the cost. They have reached out to private developers.

Chairman Plante is surprised at the cost. Mr. McNeil was very surprised as well.

Selectman Krumsiek asked what the trash is hauled in and amount of odor? It would be brought in by sealed trucks and he did not notice a strong odor of trash when he was at the facility in Lewiston, ME.

Tom Reilly asked if they were looking for a revenue stream from this as all the numbers seemed just to break even. Rob McNeil agrees- this was why the feasibility study was done.

Edd Cote asked if the trucks would be leaving empty or filled with the waste-there would be 20 coming in and 20 additional trucks trucking out the material; could be up to 80 trucks a day.

Selectman Cristo asked if there is a restriction how far apart these facilities can be. Mr. McNeil is not aware of any.

**Rob McNeil- DPW Update:** He would like to thank Marylou Mulhane and the Millbury Mothers Club – he did a presentation on recycling and it was a delightful time.

Fall events at transfer station: make use of the clothing collection bins; tire collection day with Mosquito Control on Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup> at the Transfer Station between 9 am and 2 pm-

some restrictions apply; brush chipping will be at the DPW Garage Saturday November 2 & 16; leaves and grass clippings continue to be collected until Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> weather permitting; thanksgiving closed, but open day after and Saturday. Moving forward with equipment lease, thanks to tm for moving that effort forward-will be ordering within a week 1 ton roller, medium skid steer, backhoe, pickup truck, dump trucks 8 and 10 wheel; trading in backhoe, dump trucks and pickup truck. We were cleaning out the salt shed for winter preparation and we noticed some pretty substantial damage- we have undertaken a pretty substantial rebuild of walls and floor-should be finished up in a week or so; we have a pretty leaking roof and hoping to repair the roof next year. Aquarion has committed to water main construction on Alpine Street starting on the 15<sup>th</sup>; Crew is moving forward with Ch. 90 paving starting with overlay on 700 ft on Auburn Rd; repaving floor on salt shed; milling and then overlay Beach St; from Brierly to West Main Street; West Main from Rhodes to Beach; North Main St from Ray's to Church Street and Grove Street intersection; Canal Street from Howe up to MCU northern lane; entirety of Howe Ave; Wheelock Ave from East Millbury Park up to 177 Wheelock; River Street from Elm Street to West Street. Budget for this is \$400,000.00.

Tomorrow at 6:30 MA DOT is having a meeting here to discuss the Rt. 146/West Main Street bridge and surrounding area. The project is upwards of \$20 mil.

Thursday evening we are hosting a McCracken Road/Greenwood Street improvements information session at 6:00 pm. They will be starting a traffic count and introducing the engineer.

Selectman Krumsiek asked about a cross walk from the bike path to Mike's truck stop. That is a MA Dot issue.

Selectman Cristo asked about the cemetery commission meeting minutes; bidding for grave opening went out with seasonal bids on July 31<sup>st</sup>; the contract has not been signed yet. The rates go into effect when the contract is signed; Selectman Cristo said that in their December minutes they were implementing a grave opening fee of \$200 – isn't this contracted out. Mr. McNeil explained that this is the administrative fee; researching and marking it out. There has not been a fee in the past- this was something that was researched and there was a lot of deliberation about these fees. The money goes right to the general fund unless there is a specific revolving fund like lot sales. Mr. Spain said that just the cost of doing that new area was exorbitant; we could at next town meeting put the admin fee in a revolving fund to be used for the cemetery. Selectman Cristo said that calling it a grave opening fee is like double dipping because the grave is opened by a grave digger, it is still an added tax on the people. Selectman Ashmankas asked if the fees go directly to DPW staff. The fees go into the general fund to maintain the level of service that people expect; the DPW is trying to move into electronic record keeping systems. Selectman Krumsiek said that after someone got buried a tree that they loved was taken down- can they people plant a new one. Sure this is definitely a possibility; the tree warden must have deemed this tree dead.

**Previous Minutes:**

Motion to approve minutes of the meeting for September 24, 2013 made by Selectman King, seconded by Selectman Ashmankas.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to approve minutes of the meeting for September 24, 2013 workshop made by Selectman King, seconded by Selectman Cristo.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Town Manager Report:**

Mr. Spain explained the changes in the new DPW contract:

- o Six one year steps; there are currently none.
- o A seventh step at fifteen years in lieu of longevity which is eliminated.
- o On call person
- o Can extend probationary period up to 13 additional weeks
- o Eliminated two ½ day holidays for future hires.
- o Converted “Birthday Holiday into personal day”
- o Clarified recall language when employee is called in early.
- o Clarified “coffee break” language
- o Changed method of sick leave and vacation accrual
- o Changing contracting and sub-contracting language
- o Wastewater staff required to get same licenses as all others creating a more universal workforce.

Mr. Spain thinks it’s a very good contract- this contract is a year behind everyone else; so the first year 3%. Selectman Ashmankas asked how long we will have universal licenses. They will have about 6 mos. and then they will get equivalent pay.

Standard and Poor’s is looking at our bond rating-we think we are in better shape.

The Order of the Purple Heart is a proclamation designating August 7<sup>th</sup> as Purple Heart Day. Mr. Spain would ask the Board to do this to honor those who paid the ultimate price in duty.

Selectman Krumsiek read the proclamation for Purple Heart Day.

Motion made by Selectman King, seconded by Selectman Ashmankas to sign the proclamation.

Motion carried unanimously.

A CodeRed test call will be going out tomorrow at 2:00 pm. If you have not gone online to sign up please do so. Most of the home phones will be in database, but please go online if you have a cell phone and there are many other things you can sign up for. Mr. Spain and EMA Director, Steve Kosiba were trained on the system. You can also get a mobile app and sign up for others towns as well. Selectman King asked if all home numbers would be put in the database as some of the homes have Worcester exchanges.

**Final Reading and acceptance of CORI Policy.**

Motion made by Selectman Ashmankas, seconded by Selectman Cristo to approve the CORI Policy.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Dates to Remember** read by Chairman Plante:

Fire Prevention Week – October 6 – 12, 2013

MA DOT Public Hearing Rt. 146/West Main-October 9, 2013 7:00 PM

Informational Session for McCracken Road/Greenwood St- October 10, 2013 at 6:00 pm

Hobo Railroad Turkey Train-Friday; October 11, 2013 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Fire Department Open House- October 9, 2013

**Mail:**

Letter from Laurie Connors regarding an anonymous donation of \$10,280 for the Butler Farm Bark Park.

Motion to accept the donation made by Selectman Ashmankas, seconded by Selectman Cristo.

Motion carried unanimously.

UN Proclamation read by Selectman Ashmankas. October 13, 2013 as UN Day

Motion to sign the UN Proclamation made by Selectman Ashmankas, seconded by Selectman Krumsiek.

**Citizen Speak:**

Henry Mingola- 14 Tainter Hill Road- wants to know when they are going to mow the triangle at Tainter Hill Road, he has been patient for 8 weeks.

**On a Good Note:**

The 5<sup>th</sup> annual Dig Pink volley ball game against BVT to raise money for breast cancer awareness will be on Friday, October 11, 2013; our thoughts are with Barbara King, the BVT Volleyball coach and Millbury resident-who was just diagnosed with breast cancer. October is

breast cancer awareness month and Selectman Krumsiek urged all women to get their mammograms.

**Adjournment**

Motion made by Selectman King to adjourn at 9:15 p.m., seconded by Selectman Cristo. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Tish Hayes, Secretary

E. Bernard Plante	_____
Francis B. King	_____
Brian M. Ashmankas	_____
Sandy J. Cristo	_____
Mary Krumsiek	_____

The Board of Selectmen