

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

February 24, 2015

7:00 pm

Present: Board of Selectmen: Francis B. King; Sandy Cristo; Mary Krumsiek, Brian M. Ashmankas; William Borowski; Town Manager, Bob Spain, Edd Cote, and other concerned citizens

Chairman King called the meeting to order

Appointment to the Board of Registrars

Motion to appoint Frank Irr as a member of the Board of Registrars made by Selectman Krumsiek, seconded by Selectman Borowski.

Motion carried unanimously.

The Town Clerk has asked for the following additional Poll Workers to be appointed:

Precinct Two (2)

Shirley Huchowski

Motion to appoint the poll worker made by Selectman Krumsiek, seconded by Selectman Cristo.

Motion carried unanimously.

Precinct Three (3)

Shirley Gaboriault

Gloria Schmike

Motion to appoint the poll workers made by Selectman Krumsiek, seconded by Selectman Cristo.

Motion carried unanimously.

Armor Auto Body – Class II License-244 North Main Street

We are all set with all of the paperwork on this. The town clerk has stated that this is an approved use and the address is grandfathered for this use.

Motion to approve the Class II license made by Selectman Cristo, seconded by Selectman Krumsiek.

Motion carried unanimously.

Alaloosi and Kayal – Class II License-1460 Grafton Street

We are all set with all of the paperwork on this. The town clerk and building inspector has stated that this is an approved use and the address is grandfathered for this use.

Motion to approve the Class II license made by Selectman Cristo, seconded by Selectman Krumsiek.

Motion carried unanimously.

Renewal Drainlayer License to Lay Drains-Richard Record & Sons-Shrewsbury

Motion to approve the renewal made by Selectman Borowski, seconded by Selectman Krumsiek.
Motion carried unanimously.

Previous Minutes: Minutes of the February 10, 2015 meeting

Motion to approve the previous minutes made by Selectman Borowski, seconded by Selectman Ashmankas.
Motion carried unanimously.

Kenneth Elstein-Community Choice Aggregation Specialist. *see attached handout*

Mr. Elstein introduced a program that works with CMRPC and could offer electricity at up to roughly a third less than the current rates residents and small businesses pay to National Grid. He presented an overview of the group which purchases electricity provided by the nonprofit governmental entity based in Northampton; it currently buys electricity on behalf of more than 150,000 residential and business customers. National Grid rates have gone up more than 37 percent since last year, to 16.25 cents per kilowatt hour, according to Mr. Elstein and some are getting rates as low as 10.8 with this program.

Mr. Spain asked Jeff Dore who said the Energy Advisory Committee was already considering this proposal as well as two other scenarios and would make a recommendation at a selectmen's meeting whether or not to put it on the town meeting warrant. Mr. Elstein said that the town did very well in their current contract with Constellation Energy at 7.9%-that is almost unheard of now. Selectman Borowski asked several questions regarding the rate.

Terry Burke Dotson- discussed a possible local ballot question in reference to the restoration of Glass-Steagall, which would again protect depositors' money and force big banks to resolve their debts on their own. Mr. Spain suggested a citizen's petition once again for the town meeting warrant versus a ballot question. Ms. Burke-Dotson said that the Senator and Representative were not supportive of the home rule petition that passed at last town meeting so it was lost in legislative limbo. She explained that the people need to tell our congress what to do. Selectman Borowski suggested getting the signatures to put this on the Town Meeting Warrant as he would not support this going on the ballot.

Rosemary Scrivens- Economic Development Incentive Program: *see attached*

The Mass. Office of Business Development has offered to assist the town in attracting new business. The primary method it recommends is Tax Incremental Financing (TIFs) and a state tax credit program. They can be anywhere from 5-20 years with an exemption reduced rate 5-100% from Town Planner Laurie Connors said that this could be particularly helpful in trying to develop the area along Route 146, where a lack of infrastructure presents selling challenges. Selectman Borowski said that he is open to a "TIF" under the right circumstances; he is open to discussion and would love to have more businesses to discuss this option with. Selectman Cristo

asked if TIF's are normally given out by a city or town with a dual tax rate? Ms. Scrivens said yes more so than others because their commercial/industrial tax rate is higher such as the City of Worcester, who is one of the biggest users of the program in our state. Chairman King said that he is willing to listen. Selectman Cristo added that in the right circumstances she would listen as well and added that Laurie and Ms. Scrivens are asking the right questions. Selectman Ashmankas added that he would caveat it with if the business is not coming here anyway. Ms. Connors said that she is really trying to get business on Rt. 146 where it is difficult to get because of the lack of infrastructure.

Paul Nigosian- Chairman of the Board of Appeals. Mr. Nigosian told the selectmen that the long standing chairman of over 30 years just stepped down a few months back and that the Board is seeking an alternate member and a secretary, he's wearing a couple of different hats and learning. In one important case coming up, Cobblestone Village is looking on a height restriction in order to install a pitched roof rather than a flat one. Also, Murgo Trucking on Route 20 is operating out of a seven acre site, two acres in Worcester and the rest in Millbury and the acreage in Millbury is zoned residential and a development is going in behind that land. That owner has complained because Murgo is running a business on suburban land. Chairman King thanked him for coming in.

Selectman Krumsiek read the Notice of Public Hearing into record for the National Grid Pole Petition on Woodland Street. No one from National Grid showed up.

Motion to continue the public hearing to March 10, 2015 made by Selectman Borowski, seconded by Selectman Cristo.

Motion carried unanimously.

Continued Public Hearing from January 13, 2015 meeting:

The attorney for The Village Knoll has asked for another continuance of the public hearing until the next meeting.

Motion to continue the Public Hearing continued to March 10, 2015 made by Selectman Borowski, seconded by Selectman Krumsiek.

Motion carried unanimously.

Town Manage Report:

Mr. Spain is appointing Andrea Stump to the Parks Commission. Ms. Stump spoke saying that she was interested in getting more programs available to the citizens of Millbury.

Motion to concur with the appointment made by Selectman Borowski, seconded by Selectman Cristo.

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Spain is appointing Lisa Smith and Brian Dalton as part-time dispatchers per the Chief's request.

Motion to concur with the appointments made by Selectman Borowski, seconded by Selectman Krumsiek.

Motion carried unanimously.

Continuing his review of Board policies, he has reviewed the following policies:

- o R-1 Receipts Policy-no changes
- o R-2 Regionalization Policy-no change
- o S-1 Sexual Harassment Policy-no change
- o S-2 Street Opening Rules and Regs-no change
- o T_1 Town Counsel, Use of-no changes
- o T-2 Town Business Fund Policy-no change
- o V-1 Vehicle Use Policy-no change

The Town Planner Laurie Connor has created an economic development page on the Town's website. She did a really great job on that.

Budget: Initially it looks like a deficit of \$700k and he is in the process of balancing it. He doesn't have any state aid figures yet; so he has assumed they will be level funded. We met with the Vice President of Fallon and we negotiated the increase down to 4.5%. The budget presentation is Thursday, March 5th. Tish will notify you when the budget books are ready

Follow-Up Items: Committee Invites- the Cable Advisory will come next meeting. He said that National Grid has reneged on a promise to install a utility pole that would provide the power that would allow the South Main Street Bridge to reopen. He said that the town will now need to work with a private contractor.

Old Business

Selectman Borowski said that the Planning Board should be paid some type of stipend or none of the boards should get stipends.

Selectman Krumsiek asked when the South Main Street bridge will be opened? Mr. Spain explained that they are having issues with National Grid setting a pole and they need to hire a private company to set the pole. She then asked if the traffic queue would be backed up too much. Mr. Spain does not believe so.

Chairman King asked how the DPW workers were doing with this long winter. They are still working hard to clean corners and widen streets. We are now over \$200,000 in the hole for snow & ice. Chairman King suggested if we have another bad winter like this we should think of rest time for the drivers.

Final Reading of Mailbox Policy- Selectman Ashmankas said he was still concerned about the mailbox policy and the mailbox being placed in the town's right of way. He wanted to make sure that if a plow hit the mailbox that it would in fact be replaced. Mr. Spain said that they take it on a case by case basis and they do replace boxes if it was in fact our fault.

Mr. Spain added that this winter has been perfect for growing potholes. We are going to have a lot of patching and filling. We are hopeful to get more asphalt and buy more in bulk.

Dates to Remember:

Sunday March 1st at 6 PM -Blackstone Valley Community Chorus Open Call at
Douglas Municipal Center

Saturday March 7th from 10 AM to 3 PM Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce
17th Annual Home and Business Expo

Saturday March 7th from 2 to 5 PM Millbury Historical Society and Millbury Lions Club
Meat and Seafood Raffle

Tuesday March 10th at 5 PM -Nomination Papers due in the Town Clerk's Office for the
April 28th Annual Town Election

On a Good Note:

Selectman Krumsiek thanked Kevin K for getting Verizon for wiring the transfer station for cable and internet for free.

Selectman Cristo wants to organize an earth day cleanup around town on Saturday May 2nd or 9th. She is looking for volunteers and ask Rob McNeil to identify areas that need cleaning up. Selectman Borowski suggested contacting the environmental council at the high school.

Mail:

Letter from the Federated Church regarding a road race to benefit the food pantry on September 19, 2015.

Motion to approve the road race made by Selectman Borowski, seconded by Selectman Krumsiek.

Motion carried unanimously.

Letter from Laurie Connors regarding donations to the bark park totaling \$657.06.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

Selectman Ashmankas spoke regarding the MMA Annual meeting that he, Selectman Cristo and Selectman Krumsiek went to and discussed a visual budget that he thinks is a great idea to see how much each department spends and where the money goes. He would like to schedule the representative to do a presentation at one of the Selectmen meeting.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 pm made by Selectman Borowski, seconded by Selectman Ashmankas.

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Tish Hayes, Secretary

Francis B. King _____

Sandy J. Cristo _____

Mary Krumsiek _____

Brian Ashmankas _____

William Borowski _____