

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

March 7, 2013

7:00 p.m.

Present: Board of Selectmen: E. Bernard Plante; Francis B. King; Brian W. Stowell; Brian M. Ashmankas; Sandra J. Cristo; Town Manager, Bob Spain; Finance Director, Brian Turbitt, Finance Committee Chairman Michael O'Connor, School Committee Chairman Jen Nietupski, Mary Krumsiek, Tim Cluett and Edd Cote.

Town Manager Budget Recommendation for fiscal year 2014.

The budget is balanced and includes all expenditures and revenues.

Millbury's financial condition has been challenging.

See attached*.....

Selectman Ashmankas asked if we are using the levy limit. Yes it is almost to the entire 2 ½ %.

How much of the health care costs go to part-time elected officials? Approximately \$29,000.

There are four departments that were given more than they requested; Finance-Planner-Assessors and DPW. Mr. Spain adds the non-union salary increases.

Chairman Plante asked about Town Counsel budget- he wants to know if we will make it with that number? Mr. Spain looked at the trends over that last few years-before these three personnel issues the cost was trending \$85-90,000. He hopes that the problems will be wrapped up by the end of this fiscal year.

Selectman Other expense account- why is it so low?

Selectman Stowell asked about Police budget payouts-it that anticipated costs? Yes it is anticipated and could be used for fallback if not used. We are trying to budget for retirement so we are not caught short.

Chairman Plante said that we hired a new chief for a new direction in the police department. The Chief and Town Manager worked together to get him some more staff; we cannot give him everything he wants but it is a step in the right direction. We were able to get him to where he wanted to be for the first year.

Chairman of the Finance Committee wanted to make some comments on the budget presented tonight. He explained the review process which starts Saturday morning with the key department heads. We know we are limited by proposition 2 ½. The budget tries to cover all the

requests made by the municipal side and school side. It was able to be balanced with the assumption of \$182,000 removed from the budget. There are two special articles-one is a change in math books and the other for new switch equipment. Special Articles are identified historically as raise and appropriate with the intention of the paying for them in the next fiscal year. The two articles presented this year are ‘borrowing’ articles. He thinks it takes them out of what the norm would be. Priorities have to be made-borrowing should not be an option to pay back over three years. Other budgets include these items in their budget such as police cars, DPW equipment, etc. The school should budget for these items as well. He would ask the selectmen not to approve any articles with borrowing language in it. He would to ask the Town Manager and Superintendent to balance the budget without borrowing.

Chairman Plante said that he believes the Manger and Superintendent are working together; he would like to thank the Town Manager and his team for the work put in. He assumes any issues will all be worked out by town meeting.

Adjournment

Motion made by Selectman Stowell to adjourn at 7:50 p.m., seconded by Selectman King. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Tish Hayes, Secretary

E. Bernard Plante	_____
Francis B. King	_____
Brian W. Stowell	_____
Brian M. Ashmankas	_____
Sandy J. Cristo	_____

The Board of Selectmen