

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES
December 2, 2013
Veterans Memorial Building, Room 229
900 Main Street, Millis, MA 02054

CALL TO ORDER: Sel. Vecchi called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. The following persons were present: Chairman Charles Vecchi, Vice Chairman Andrea Wagner, Clerk Christopher Smith, Town Administrator Charles Aspinwall, Operations Director Jennifer Cederberg.

PURPLE HEART COMMUNITY: The history of the issuance of the Purple Heart was reviewed. Representative David Linsky and Senator Richard Ross thanked the presenters of the plaque given to the Board of Selectmen. Senator Ross Read a citation from the Massachusetts Senate and Representative Linsky read a citation from the Massachusetts House of Representatives. Rep. Linsky noted that there are only 25-30 communities who have received the Purple Heart designation.

FIRE DEPT. APPOINTMENTS: Chief Richard Barrett noted that there has not been a Lieutenant promotion in the Fire Department since 2007. He reviewed the process that the candidates went through and noted that all 6 were excellent. He asked the Board to appoint William Shulz and Robert Conrad.

Motion by Sel. Wagner, seconded by Sel. Smith, that we do approve the TA's appointment of William Shulz as a Fire Department Lieutenant. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Sel. Wagner, seconded by Sel. Smith, that we do approve the TA's appointment of Robert Conrad as a Fire Department Lieutenant. The motion passed unanimously.

Chief Barrett went on to request that Rev. Munroe-Nathans be appointed as a Fire Department Chaplain.

Motion by Sel. Wagner, seconded by Sel. Smith, that we approve the TA's appointment of Jennifer Monroe-Nathans as a Fire Department Chaplain. The motion passed unanimously.

The Town Clerk swore in the three new members of the Department.

ORG. STRUCTURE OF THE FD: Chief Barrett reviewed the current composition of the Millis Fire Department and requested to appoint a Training Captain to the Department. He noted that an on-call Captain Training Officer would work well for the Department. Sel. Smith clarified the different levels of Fire Department staff and their rank.

Motion by Sel. Wagner, seconded by Sel. Smith, that the Millis Fire Department Organizational Structure be reorganized and have two captains, one designated as a Training Captain and one designated as an Administrative Captain. The motion passed unanimously.

ROAD OPENING PERMIT: Mr. Aspinwall stated that he and Mr. McKay visited the site in question and met with the applicant and the representative from Columbia Gas. He stated that there are a lot of drainage structures in the older paved portion of the street which would be disturbed if the digging were to take place in this area. He further noted that the gas company would need to drill a pit in the middle of the road and stated that due to the newness of the road, he does not recommend that the Board approve the road opening permit. He said it is imperative to keep the Town roads in good

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condition. The gas company representative stated that the property owner has offered to pay for the bond for the road should the area being interrupted were to fail at a further date. He also noted that there will be 5 properties effected and that the applicant has furnaces that are getting to the point that they need to be replaced.

Mr. Aspinwall reviewed the utilities in the area that the applicant proposed to dig through. Sel. Vecchi stated that he is trying to review and determine what is best for this Town and that the Town's concern is not the ledge that is present or the length of the gas line. Sel. Smith clarified which is the better location to place the gas line. He asked if the road opening could be approved contingent upon fixing the other 13 failed areas in Town. Mr. Aspinwall stated that these repairs have to happen anyway.

Motion by Sel. Wagner, seconded by Sel. Smith, to grant a Street Opening Permit to Columbia Gas, the south section of Forest Road, for the purpose of installing a new gas main for Forest Lane, that the applicant shall maintain a bond in the amount to be determined by the Town and that bond shall remain in place for the remainder of the moratorium period, that the work must be completed by December 20th with all construction details approved by the DPW. The motion passed unanimously.

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS: Chief Barrett reviewed the cooperative agreements and noted that though they have no interest in current property available, this would leave the door open for the future in case equipment or vehicles become available that the Department can use.

Motion by Sel. Wagner, seconded by Sel. Smith, that we approve the Federal Excess Personal Property Agreement and the Department of Defense Program Cooperative Agreement. The motion passed unanimously.

2013-2014 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE:

Motion by Sel. Wagner, seconded by Sel. Smith, that we do close the Town Hall, Library and DPW for the Christmas holiday on Tuesday, 12/24/13, at 12:30 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Sel. Wagner, seconded by Sel. Smith, that the Town of Millis close the Transfer Station on 12/25 and also on 1/1/14, and that the Transfer Station will be open 12/26 and will operate on regular Saturday hours and will be open on 1/2 and will be open regular Saturday hours. The motion passed unanimously.

BUILDING PERMIT FEE WAIVER:

Motion by Sel. Wagner, seconded by Sel. Smith, to waive the building permit fee of \$200 for the Millis School Department for the construction of a storage building on the Millis MS/HS grounds. The motion passed unanimously.

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COMMITMENT:

Motion by Sel. Wagner, seconded by Sel. Smith, that we do commit to the Collector the amount of \$607,696.94 for the second quarter for FY14 water/sewer department quarterly bills. The motion passed unanimously.

INTERFUNCTION TRANSFER:

Motion by Sel. Wagner, seconded by Sel. Smith, to approve an Interfunction transfer in the amount of \$6,800 from the Library custodial services account to the Library wages-staff account. The motion passed unanimously.

NOTE RENEWAL:

Motion by Sel. Wagner, seconded by Sel. Smith, to execute a note with Eastern Bank in the amount of \$72,000 for the Causeway Street Culvert at an interest rate of 1%. This is a one-year note. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

Motion by Sel. Wagner, seconded by Sel. Smith, to approve the regular session meeting minutes from 11/18/13 and the executive session meeting minutes from 11/18/13. The motion passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 8:52 p.m.,

Motion by Sel. Vecchi to enter into executive session to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the government's bargaining or litigating position. Also, to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel; to actually conduct collective bargaining and contract negotiations with non-union personnel to emerge only to adjourn and the Chair does so declare. By Roll Call Vote: Smith – aye, Wagner – aye, Vecchi – aye.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer G. Cederberg, Operations Director