

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES
Monday, February 27, 2017 at 6:00 PM
Veterans Memorial Building Room 229
900 Main Street, Millis, MA 02054**

CALL TO ORDER: Sel. Neville called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. The following persons were present: Sel. James Neville, Sel. James McCaffrey, Sel. Catherine MacInnes, Operations Support Manager Karen Bouret, and Interim Town Administrator Suzanne Kennedy.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: 6:00 PM

Motion by Sel. Neville to enter in to 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, and the Chair does so declare.

(Police/Dispatch/DPW Contracts).

By Roll Call Vote: Sel. Neville—aye, Sel. McCaffrey—aye, Sel. MacInnes—aye.

RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION: Sel. Neville called the regular session to order at 7:00pm.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Sel. Neville announced the open positions for the May 1, 2017 election. Currently there are positions for the following: Board of Selectmen, School Committee (2), Moderator, Board of Health, Library Trustee, Planning Board and Constable (2). Papers must be pulled by March 9, 2017 and returned by March 13, 2017.

Sel. Neville announced that every year HessCo Elder Services celebrate the volunteers for this program. This year they served 164,966 meals on wheels, 3,695 seniors received health care insurance counseling from members of SHINE and 1,642 seniors received 328,289 hours of homemaker and personal care services.

Sel. Neville announced that the 3 Massachusetts Legislators visited the Town to talk with the seniors. Information is posted in the Senior Center and the BOS room with regards to the Senior Circuit Breaker Tax Credit which is offered by the state. If seniors meet the criteria they may be eligible for up to \$1,070 real estate tax break.

Sel. McCaffrey met with the BOS from the 5 area towns in December. The next meeting is scheduled for March 9, 2017 and he cannot attend that meeting and asked if other BOS could attend and represent the Town of Millis.

McCaffrey thanked the Department Heads who met today with the budget consultants about their roles in the new budget reporting process. He hopes that this reporting process be in place by end of this fiscal year.

Sel. Neville announced the current vacancies for Boards and Committees: 2 Council on Aging, 2 Cultural Council, 1 Finance Committee, 2 Housing Authority, 2 Local Emergency Planning Committee, 2 Recreation Committee, 1 Board of Assessors, 5-7 Disability Commission, 1 Tri-County Regional Vocational High School Representative and 1 Zoning Board of Appeals.

Mr. Jim McKay DPW Director informed the BOS about the notice of Water Violation that went out to residents with their water bills in February. The notice informs residents of a Violation of the monitoring and reporting requirements in March 2016. Mr. McKay assured that there were no violations with the drinking water and that there was a computer breakdown which did not produce the reports required. The system is currently checked every day to ensure that the system is working properly.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS

17-056 MILLIS YEAR END AUDIT PRESENTATION

Kathy LaPlant, Finance Director, introduced two auditors from Melanson Heath. The auditors reviewed the audit of basic annual financial statements and management letter for Millis for FY16. Additionally, Ms. LaPlant reviewed the long and short term debt schedule. Sel. MacInnes asked if sewer capacity debt can be charged to the general fund, since it's for future use by residents and not something used by existing sewer users. Sel. Neville said he'd reach out to town counsel. Sel. McCaffrey said he'd like to see trends, perhaps going back five years, on debt.

17-057 BUILDING PERMIT REFUND REQUEST – 99 FARM STREET

Building Commissioner, Mike Giampietro approached the BOS to discuss and answer questions with regards to the request from the owner at 99 Farm Street. The owner, Eric Johnson decided not to build on the property and instead sell to the abutter. Mr. Giampietro said about 60% of the work the Building Department does was complete prior to Mr. Johnson deciding not to build so the BOS decided not to refund the permit fees.

Sel. McCaffrey motioned that the BOS deny the request for refund of \$2,500 from the owner, Eric Johnson. Sel. MacInnes seconded and it passed unanimously.

SCHEDULED BUSINESS

17-058 TANKO STREETLIGHT RETROFIT AGREEMENT

Bob Weiss, Energy Manager, reviewed Energy Management Services Agreement and asked that the BOS authorize the Town Administrator to sign said Agreement. The Agreement is for installation and retrofit of 429 street lights in town and guarantees electric bill savings of \$13,655.60 per year during the term of the Agreement which represents 90% of expected energy savings. The Agreement also includes an Energy Audit.

Sel. McCaffrey motioned that the Town Administrator execute the Contract between the Town of Millis and Tanko Street Lighting, Inc. for the Energy Management Services Agreement for a period of 12 months following date of execution in an amount of and not to exceed \$140,464.60 subject to certification by the Finance Director of availability of funds. Sel. MacInnes seconded and it passed unanimously.

17-059 APPROVAL OF ENERGY AGGREGATION CONSULTANT CONTRACT

Rescheduled tentatively for March 13, 2017 BOS meeting.

17-060 GASOLINE CONTRACT NORFOLK COUNTY

Bob Weiss, Energy Manager recommended that the BOS sign the Contract that would start October 1, 2017 through September 30, 2018.

Sel. McCaffrey motioned that the BOS approve the 1 year agreement with Global Montello for diesel and gasoline at the following prices: \$2.3477 – diesel and \$2.2660 – gasoline October 1, 2017 through September 30, 2018. Sel. MacInnes seconded and it passed unanimously.

17-061 ABATEMENT APPLICATION 123 ACORN STREET

Sel. McCaffrey motioned to approve the adjustment to the Water Department Accounts Receivable Ledger in the amount of \$1,534.54 relating to the water bill at 123 Acorn Street.

17-062 MARIJUANA REGULATION DISCUSSION

Sel. McCaffrey wanted to update the BOS and participants at the meeting what the Town is doing to implement the law: The Regulation and Taxation of Marijuana Act. There was a meeting held with the BOH Director, School Superintendent, High School Principal, Chief of Police, Fire Chief, Planning Board (Jim McKay), Town Counsel, Interim Town Administrator and Sel. McCaffrey. This group was of the view that there needed to be more time talking amongst themselves and to bring to the public before anything is presented to the Board and to the Fall Town Meeting. Sel. McCaffrey noted that they do have any opportunity to extend another year before the Town is required to implement the law. Sel. McCaffrey recommended that a meeting be held in April to identify the Towns' options and plans.

17-063 REMOTE PARTICIPATION DISCUSSION

The BOS reviewed the Law 29.10 and it was agreed that they needed a better system or device to implement remote service. Sel. Neville is to review and research more on this subject.

17-064 ONE DAY ALCOHOL PERMIT

Sel. McCaffrey motioned that the BOS do approved the one day special alcohol to the Millis Lions Club for a Silent & Live Auction Fundraiser being held March 25, 2017 at the St. Thomas Large Hall, 974 Main Street. Sel. MacInnes seconded and it passed unanimously.

17-065 MILLIS YOUTH BASEBALL PARADE PERMIT

Sel. McCaffrey motioned that the BOS do approve the permit for the opening day parade for Millis Youth Baseball on Sunday, April 23, 2017 subject to coordination with the Millis Police and Fire Departments. Sel. MacInnes seconded and it passed unanimously.

17-066 WATER/SEWER COMMITMENT

Sel. McCaffrey motioned that the BOS approve the Water/Sewer Department Commitment to the collector in the amount of \$536,165.67 for Quarter 3, 2017. Sel. MacInnes seconded and it passed unanimously.

CONSENT ITEMS

Sel. McCaffrey motioned that the BOS approve the minutes of December 12, 2016, February 8, 2017, February 15, 2017 and February 16, 2017. Sel. MacInnes seconded with regards to the February 15, 2017 meeting for discussion about the amount per day that the DPW Employees are assigned to Water and Sewer. The motion amended and it passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Sel. Neville motioned for adjournment at 9:45 pm and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted: Maureen Canesi