

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES
Monday, May 15, 2017 at 7:00 PM
Veterans Memorial Building Room 229
900 Main Street, Millis, MA 02054**

CALL TO ORDER: Sel. Neville called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The following persons were present: Sel. James McCaffrey, Sel. Catherine MacInnes, Sel. Loring Barnes and Town Administrator Michael Guzinski.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Sel. McCaffrey motioned to approve the Proclamation of Millis Fire and Rescue Headquarters Opening Day to be May 20, 2017. Sel. MacInnes seconded and it passed unanimously.

Sel. McCaffrey stated that the BOS received a copy of the Bill for Legislation for Land Swap from Senator Ross's office which has been approved and the Governor signed in preparation of the proposed construction of the new Clyde Brown Elementary School.

Sel. McCaffrey informed the residents of Millis that the BOS has received copies of two (2) complaint letters which were sent to the School Committee and the Elementary School Building Committee. These letters allege violations of state ethic laws and laws relative to campaign and political finance. The letters did not arrive in time to be posted for this agenda and that the BOS would post on a future agenda so that the issue can properly be addressed. He did however ask the Town Administrator to work with Town Counsel to develop an appropriate response to these complaints.

Sel. McCaffrey also stated further that these are significant complaints and that Town Counsel informed the BOS that the role of the Town in these matters is very limited. The laws of issue are specifically enforced by the State Ethics Commission and the Office of Campaign and Political Finance. The town does not have an enforcement role with respect to these matters. Instead the town must address these issues going forward. The intent of the BOS will be to work with the Town Administrator as part of an on-going training process. Town Counsel will provide training on ethics, campaign and political finance and laws and issues relating to those for all Town Boards, Committees and Commissions so that they can be sure that people have up to date information they need to operate as committee member.

The Town Administrator along with the Chairman of the Elementary School Building Committee will review the minutes of that committee to determine whether any official action of the committee gave rise to the complaints at hand. The preliminary indication is that the committee did not authorize and individual involvement in any town election. In addition, an independent review will also be undertaken by the School Committee relative to the actions that were taken by that Committee. Sel. McCaffrey closed by stating that this will be discussed and addressed once properly posted on a future agenda.

Sel. Barnes announced that May 20th the Millis Lions are going to be working on the Centennial Community Improvement Project. They will be refreshing the exterior of the Animal Control Shelter from 9-3. Sel. Barnes invited Millis Residents to attend.

Jim McKay, Deputy DPW Director addressed the BOS for Approval of the 2017 Water Ban. Mr. McKay reviewed the Regulations for Outside Watering Announcement which was distributed to the Town of Millis residents with their water bills.

Mr. McKay also stated that on June 1, 2017 the Consumer Confidence Report will be available on line.

Sel. MacInnes motioned that the BOS approve the Mandatory Water Ban for all Millis Residences' and Business' effective May 1, 2017 through September 30, 2017 whereas NO OUTSIDE WATERING IS ALLOWED BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 9:00AM – 5:00PM. Sel. Barnes seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Sel. McCaffrey announced that the Millis Lions requested to change the date of their 7th Annual White Cane Fundraiser from May 13, 2017 with a rain date of June 3, 2017 to June 3, 2017 with a rain date of June 10, 2017, 9:00am – 12:00pm

Sel. MacInnes motioned that the BOS approve the date change. It was seconded by Sel. Barnes and passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS

17-135 APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL ON AGING BOARD MEMBERS

Town Administrator, Michael Guzinski introduced Lisette Walter as candidate as a member for the Council on Aging Board.

Sel. MacInnes motioned that the BOS approve the Appointment of Lisette Walter to the Council on Aging Board. Sel. Barnes seconded and it passed unanimously.

Town Administrator, Michael Guzinski introduced Christine McCaffrey as candidate as a member the Council on Aging Board.

Sel. MacInnes motioned that the BOS approve the appointment of Christine McCaffrey to the Council on Aging Board. Sel. Barnes seconded and it passed unanimously. Sel. McCaffrey abstained due to conflict of interest.

17-136 STATUS UPDATE - CIVIL SERVICE LEGISLATION

Police Chief, Christopher Soffayer updated the BOS on the Civil Service Legislation and his communications with Town Counsel and State Senators and Legislators. Chief Soffayer was hopeful that everything will be approved in early July.

Sel. MacInnes left the meeting.

SCHEDULED BUSINESS

17-137 REVIEW AND DISCUSS BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

Sel. McCaffrey motioned to authorize the Town Administrator's recommendations on the following changes to the proposed budget:

Line item #1, General Government be reduced by \$5,300

Line item #8, Debit Service be reduced by \$10,000

Line item #2, Public Safety be increased by \$15,300.

Sel. MacInnes seconded and it passed unanimously.

17-141 CAR WASH PERMIT APPROVAL – MHS SOPHOMORE CLASS

The BOS has denied this request due to the Millis Mandatory Water Ban.

17-142 WATER/SEWER DEPARTMENT COMMITMENT TO COLLECTOR

Sel. McCaffrey motioned to approve the Water/Sewer Commitment to the Collector in the amount of \$520,476.41. Sel. Barnes seconded and it passed unanimously.

Sel. McCaffrey motioned to approve the transfer of the Water/Sewer Commitment for the month of April 2017 in the amount of \$1,984.88. Sel. Barnes seconded and it passed unanimously.

Sel. McCaffrey announced a change in the May 22, 2017 BOS meeting. The time has changed to 6:00 for Executive Session.

17-138 IDEAS FOR CITIZENS ENGAGEMENT

Sel. Barnes introduced her plan idea on Millis Citizen Engagement: An Open Invitation to Join Advisory Micro Project Groups Community. The Invitation is listed as follows.

“Millis residents have inquired about these issues, so to develop intelligence and create some momentum; the BOS is inviting participation in new, self-organized community groups. These are non-binding, unfunded advisory groups intended to strengthen the collaboration between town management and the resident and business constituencies it serves, as well as to ensure that Millis keeps pace with best practices in contemporary municipal management. Many have the potential to influence future town policy, economic development and shape our town’s long-term spending plan.” This would be an open invitation to Millis residents and businesses to participate in these groups. There are 3 main sections with 25 groups listed within. The 3 sections are: Communications, Bylaws & Policies and Community.

Two teen residents spoke to the BOS about creating a Skate Park. (The Skate Park issue is an item listed in the Community Section of the “Advisory Micro-Project Group”.) The BOS discussed and explained the procedure for requesting that a Skate Park be built in the Town. The kids did a great job stating their case and will return to the BOS with more information and research completed.

Sel. Barnes stated that she wished the Plan can be printed and available at Town Meeting.

17-139 BOS TOWN MEETING WARRANT ARTICLE ASSIGNMENTS
POSTPONED

17-140 SIGN PERMIT APPROVAL – SALON AMALFI
POSTPONED

CONSENT ITEMS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES POSTPONED

Sel. McCaffrey noted that the Town Administrator submitted Board Policies and Procedures which can be discussed and finalized at a future BOS meeting.

Sel. McCaffrey stated that the BOS would be going through the Warrant Articles one by one to vote formally to recommend approval or not. He noted that BOS will be prepared to address questions that arise at Town Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Sel. McCaffrey motioned for adjournment at 8:30 pm. Sel. Barnes seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted: Maureen Canesi