

Finance Committee Meeting

December 20, 2016 7:00 PM EST
Veterans Memorial Building, Room 206
900 Main Street
Millis, MA 02054

In Attendance:

Peter Jurmain, Chairman
Susan Vecchi, Vice Chairman
Craig Schultze, Clerk
Peter Berube
Jerry Nunnaley
Doug Riley
James McCaffrey, Board of Selectmen
James McKay, Department of Public Works

Peter Jurmain called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM

Water/Sewer Reserve Fund Transfer:

Peter Jurmain explained that the details of this could only be discussed in a Finance Committee Executive Session. The meeting was scheduled to allocate \$10,000.00 to conduct a Feasibility Study of a project's impact on the town's wells.

James McCaffrey's Overview: The town received notice from a potential seller that abuts the Town of Norfolk. The Town of Millis has the right of first refusal. The Board of Selectmen met in Executive Session to discuss their options. The Town of Norfolk is interested in purchasing this property to build a well to service their residents. Millis' interest to purchase this property is that it is near Millis' Wells #5 & 6. In order to determine the impact the Norfolk well would have on Millis' wells a Feasibility Study needs to be done. The date of the notice is November 15, 2016, the town has 120 days to respond and 10 days to object to the notice.

James McKay: When Wells #5 & 6 were built there were many restrictions on the wells from the DEP (Department of Environmental Protection). The wells are currently turned off due to this year's draught. Our wells would have further restrictions from the DEP if the Town of Norfolk builds a well at the proposed site.

The study would be a scientific analysis of the impact on the anticipated Exelon water sales and Millis' water supply. Wells #1 & 2 will be turned off in January for maintenance so Wells #5 & 6 will be turned back on at that time.

If the Town of Millis decides to purchase the property the estimated cost is \$550,000.00. The Town of Millis has power to take the property by "Eminent Domain" however the price of the property would likely increase and there is a time constraint on holding a Special Town Meeting for residents to vote. The study would be complete by early January. The Engineering Budget is already over extended.

The Norfolk well is being built on Norfolk property, the Millis property is a buffer around their proposed well.

Susan Vecchi made a motion to recommend a transfer in the amount of \$10,000.00 from the Water/Sewer Reserve Fund to Engineering Expense; Jerry Nunnaley seconded. Vote: 6/0 motion carries unanimously.

Minutes Approval:

Susan Vecchi made a motion to recommend approval of the December 6, 2016 Meeting Minutes as written; Jerry Nunnaley seconded. Vote: 4/0 (2) in abstention, motion carries.

Adjourn:

Craig Schultze made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:23 PM; Susan Vecchi seconded. Vote 6/0 motion carries unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Deirdre Gilmore