

Select Board Meeting 10/25/21

Sel. Jurmain called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. The following persons were present via Zoom: Sel. Pete Jurmain, Sel. Erin Underhill, Sel. Craig Schultze, Town Administrator-Michael Guzinski

Announcements

Jim McKay, DPW Director, said the assisted living project has begun and the elevator shafts have been built. Mr. McKay provided updates on paving projects in Town as well including Spring Street.

Karen Bouret DeMarzo thanked the Norfolk County Sheriff's Department Community Service Program for the volunteer work over the last two and a half weeks. Projects included landscaping at Oak Grove Farm, Prospect Hill Cemetery, Lansing Millis Memorial Building and indoor work at the Library.

21-273 Appointment of Snowplow Driver/Contractors

Sel. Underhill made a motion to appoint Kenneth "Alec" McColl and Mark Robbins as Seasonal Snow Plow Contractors effective 11/01/21 through 04/01/22 subject to successful results from a physical, CORI and drug screen. The motion was seconded by Sel. Schultze.

Sel. Jurmain polled the Board and the motion passed unanimously.

21-274 Appointment of a Cultural Council Member

Sel. Underhill made a motion to appoint Meaghan Quilop to the Cultural Council. The motion was seconded by Sel. Schultze.

Sel. Jurmain polled the Board and the motion passed unanimously.

21-275 Hearing: FY22 Tax Rate Classification

Sel. Underhill made a motion to open the FY22 Tax Rate Classification hearing at 7:15pm. The motion was seconded by Sel. Schultze.

Sel. Jurmain polled the Board and the motion passed unanimously.

Teri Gonsalves, Assistant Assessor, asked the Board to approve a single tax rate for fiscal/levy year 2022. Ms. Gonsalves said due to the low commercial base in Town, a single tax rate is recommended and always been adopted in the past.

Sel. Underhill made a motion to close the FY22 Tax Rate Classification hearing at 7:20 pm. The motion was seconded by Sel. Schultze.

Sel. Jurmain polled the Board and the motion passed unanimously.

Sel. Underhill made a motion to approve a single tax rate for Fiscal/Levy Year 2022. Sel. Schultze seconded the motion.

Sel. Jurmain polled the Board and the motion passed unanimously.

21-276 Approval of Re-Precincting Map

Kathi Smith, Assistant Town Clerk, asked the Board to accept as presented by the Town Clerk for the 2020 Re-Precincting Plan for the Town of Millis. Ms. Smith noted there were no significant changes to the plan.

Sel. Underhill made a motion to accept the 2020 Re-Precincting Plan for the Town of Millis as presented by the Clerk's office. The motion was seconded by Sel. Schultze.

Sel. Jurmain polled the Board and the motion passed unanimously.

21-277 Approval of Clyde F. Brown BAN Renewal

Sel. Schultze made a motion to approve the vote prepared by Locke Lord, bond counsel to the Town, relating to the Town's Bond Anticipation Note that sold October 19, 2021. The motion was seconded by Sel. Underhill.

Sel. Jurmain polled the Board and the motion passed unanimously.

21-278 Accept Annual Green Communities Report for FY21

Robert Weiss, Energy Manager, reviewed the Town's FY21 energy performance (See Table 2) and requested that the Board approved and sign the annual report to be sent in to the Department of Energy Resources (DOER).

Sel. Schultze made a motion to accept the Annual Green Communities Report for FY21 as presented for the Town of Millis. The motion was seconded by Sel. Underhill.

Sel. Jurmain polled the Board and the motion passed unanimously.

21-279 Review/Approve Hazardous Mitigation Plan Update Process

Mr. Weiss asked the Board to approve and authorize the DPW Director and Energy Manager to proceed with updating the Town's Hazardous Mitigation Plan and to seek a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Mr. Weiss noted that plans must be updated every five years. The plan looks at the Town's vulnerability to climate catastrophes and prepares strategies to prevent possible losses to public and private properties.

Sel. Schultze made a motion to approve and authorize the Town's Energy Manager and DPW Director to proceed with updating the Town's Hazardous Mitigation Plan and to seek a grant from FEMA. The motion was seconded by Sel. Underhill.

Sel. Jurmain polled the Board and the motion passed unanimously.

21-280 Hearing: 59 Island Road Opening Request

Mr. McKay said that he received a road opening request for 59 Island Road for natural gas but it was rejected by the Department of Public Works because there is a five year moratorium in place for newly paved roads. Mr. McKay said the gas company was informed that this road is under a moratorium. Mr. McKay informed the property owners, Stacy and Tom Cullen, of 59 Island Road that they could file an appeal with the Select Board.

Mike Giampietro, Building Commissioner, added that using propane as an alternative heating source is the alternative and the contractor told Mr. Giampietro that this was conveyed to the homeowner. Additionally there are some outstanding building permits that need to be addressed and noted that no permit was obtained for the work that was performed.

Stacy Cullen said they are asking for consideration of opening the road despite the circumstances because they have paid a significant amount for the new heating system and don't feel they have room for a propane tank for the interim. Mr. Giampietro said they do have space for a tank.

Sel. Schultze made a motion to close the road opening request hearing. The motion was seconded by Sel. Underhill.

Sel. Jurmain polled the Board and the motion passed unanimously.

Sel. Schultz made a motion to deny the request to open the road at 59 Island Road. The motion was seconded by Sel. Underhill.

Sel. Jurmain polled the Board and the motion passed unanimously.

21-281 Fall Annual Town Meeting Warrant Articles Discussion

Mr. Guzinski reviewed some minor language adjustments of Article 9 relating to the Charter changes.

Sel. Schultze made a motion to approve the minor language changes to Article 9 as presented. Sel. Underhill seconded the motion.

Sel. Jurmain polled the Board and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Guzinski said the Finance Committee recommended against the School's request for a Town-wide Social Worker as part of Article 2 but asked that this request be brought back in the Spring.

Mr. Guzinski noted that the town meeting procedures and warrant are posted on the homepage of the Town website at this time.

The Board asked for a representative of the School to be invited to discuss the Social Worker request at their meeting on November 1. The Board discussed voting on a funding for a few of the articles, as requested by Sel. Schultze, now that free cash has been certified. The Board asked if the Finance Director could be invited to the meeting on November 1 to provide a breakdown of the free cash numbers. Cathy MacInnes, resident and Chair of the Enterprise Funds Advisory Committee expressed concerns about funding of the water treatment plant by water users in Town.

21-282 Discuss Letter from Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Regarding Registry CIO and IT

Sel. Jurmain said he spoke to William O'Donnell Register of Deeds today and reiterated his concerns about the commissioners recommending eliminating the on-site Registry IT Technology Department.

21-283 Approval of Town HVAC Services Contract with Renault

Sel. Underhill made a motion to approve the three year maintenance contract with Renault HVAC & Controls, Inc. for preventative maintenance for \$30,645.00 per year. The motion was seconded by Sel. Schultze.

Sel. Jurmain polled the Board and the motion passed unanimously.

21-284 Board/Committee Liaison Updates

Sel. Underhill said she attended the Permanent Building Committee meeting. Ms. Underhill said the DPW project is coming along well and the committee looks forward to its completion.

Sel. Jurmain attended the Energy Committee meeting. Mr. Jurmain said the committee is working on a strategic plan for reducing the carbon footprint that they will be able to share with residents.

21-285 Approval of Annual Stormwater Utility Commitment

Sel. Schultze made a motion to approve the Stormwater Utility Commitment to Collector for FY22 for \$671,352.00. The motion was seconded by Sel. Underhill.

Sel. Jurmain polled the Board and the motion passed unanimously.

21-286 Approval of DRAFT Minutes

Sel. Underhill made a motion to approve the DRAFT minutes for 9/27/21. The motion was seconded by Sel. Schultze.

Sel. Jurmain polled the Board and the motion passed unanimously.

8:50 pm

Sel. Jurmain made a motion to enter executive session to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for union and non-union personnel for the Police Chief and Massachusetts Coalition of Police Local 171 and Millis Police Association Dispatchers and to discuss strategy with respect to litigation for Aqueous Film-Forming Foam (AFFF).

The motion was seconded by Sel. Underhill.

Sel. Jurmain polled the Board and the motion passed unanimously.

9:11pm

Following Executive Session, Sel. Underhill made a motion to adjourn. Sel. Schultze seconded the motion.

Sel. Jurmain polled he Board, and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Victoria Schindler