

**SELECT BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, July 29, 2024
Veterans Memorial Building Room 229
900 Main Street, Millis, MA 02054**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Rosenfeld called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

The following persons were present Chair Ellen Rosenfeld, Vice Chair Erin Underhill, Clerk Craig Schultze, Town Administrator Mike Guzinski, and Benefits Coordinator Victoria Schindler.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Select Board Meeting will be livestreamed on YouTube! More information will be posted on the Town Facebook and website before the next meeting.

III. OPEN SESSION ITEMS

24-143 Consider & Possibly Vote on a Request for a Proposition 2 ½ Operational Override

The Board stated the timeline to get this item on the ballot. The state law states we must have the submit the question by the first Wednesday in August preceding the vote. The Select Board's next meeting is August 12, they are holding a special meeting to discuss and vote to make the deadline.

Robyn Briggs Chair of the School Committee is requesting the Board vote to put this question on the ballot to be able to bring back the 15.8 positions that the school lost. She is also requesting the additional \$80,000 that was given in chapter 70 state aid be allocated to the school.

Bob Mullaney Superintendent of Schools strongly urges support because bringing the positions back will only benefit the children. He also stated the original cuts were 6.8 at the beginning of FY24 and now the additional 15.8 for FY25. They are only requesting the 15.8 FY25 positions.

Multiple residents gave their input regarding their thoughts on putting this item back on the ballot.

Fire Chief Barrett and Police Chief Soffayer stated they do not want to be part of this override because they do not agree with the timing. They both stated positions are needed but this is not the way. They both suggested there needs to be a comprehensive plan to address staffing issues moving forward.

DPW Director Jim McKay stated the positions are needed but he is leaving the decision up to the Select Board because they are our elected officials.

Sel. Underhill made a motion to place on the Town Meeting Warrant as well as the Presential Ballot a Proposition 2 ½ Ballot question that reads *"Shall the Town of Millis be allowed to assess an additional \$1,124,760.00 in Real Estate and Personal Property taxes for the purposes of providing for the general administrative costs of operating the Schools and DPW for the Fiscal year beginning July 1st, 2024."* Sel. Schultze seconded the motion. Sel. Rosenfeld polled the Board, Schultze – yay, Underhill – yay, Rosenfeld – yay. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Sel. Underhill motioned to adjourn at 8:40pm. Sel. Schultze seconded the motion. Sel. Rosenfeld polled the Board, Schultze – yay, Underhill – yay, Rosenfeld – yay. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by Victoria Schindler