

Select Board Meeting Minutes 04/27/20

Chair Barnes called the meeting to order at 4:00pm.

The following persons were present via ZOOM: Chair Loring Barnes, Vice Chair Jim McCaffery, Clerk Pete Jurmain, Town Administrator Mike Guzinski, Operations Support Manager Karen Bouret, and Finance Director Carol Johnston.

Announcements

The Town Clerk discusses the 6/1/20 Election and Absentee/Early ballots. They are now available, please call/email to request an early ballot. The Town Clerk's office is also looking for Election workers.

The 6/8 Annual Town Meeting will be deferred to the end of the month.

Sel. Barnes made a motion to reschedule the Spring Annual Town Meeting to 6/29/23. Sel. McCaffery seconded the motion. Sel. Barnes polled the Board, Barnes – yay, McCaffery – yay, Jurmain – yay. The motion passed unanimously.

The Millis Emergency Management Committee gives a brief COVID-19 update. Board of Health Director John McVeigh strongly encourages all residents to wear masks and continue social distancing.

20-087-Discuss Status of Memorial Day Observation

Police Chief Chris Soffayer, Fire Chief Rick Barrett, and BOH Director John McVeigh recommend the Town postpones or cancels the Memorial Day Parade.

Sel. Jurmain made a motion to postpone the Memorial Day outdoor public events until later in the year. Sel. McCaffery seconded the motion. Sel. Barnes polled the Board, Barnes – yay, McCaffery – yay, Jurmain – yay. The motion passed unanimously.

20-088 Discuss Status of Wells 1& 2

DPW Director Jim McKay reviews the status of Wells 1&2. He is asking the board for a member to join a meeting with the DEP on Wednesday to discuss the results of the PFAS testing in Wells 1&2.

20-089 Municipal Vulnerability Project Grant Presentation – Flooding Assessment

Economic Development Director Bob Weiss, Kleinfelder representative Betsy Frederick, and Andrew Goldberg reviews the Flooding Vulnerability Assessment and MVP project grant. The Towns top priorities include implementation of culvert upgrades and stormwater infrastructure repair plan, preparing municipal facilities for the effects of climate change. Launch a public education campaign on climate change to inform the citizens, Prevent wetland contamination with stormwater management. Next steps include the Select Board signing a 25% match agreement by May 2020, Secure the match agreement at an Annual Town Meeting June 2020, the project duration will be from August 2020-June 2021, in summer of 2021 the opportunity to begin final design and construction of recommended solutions.

20-090 Economic Development: Proposed Cannabis Manufacturing Facility at 1375 Main Street Advesa Industries

Representatives from Advesa Wellness review their presentation for a proposed Cannabis Manufacturing Facility at 1375 Main Street. Advesa is a Economic Empowerment Priority Applicant and looking to benefit the community in Millis by employment 15-25 employees, with at least 75% being hired from disproportionately impacted communities as determined by the cannabis control commission. Their manufacturing model offers jobs in every skill range, offering employment to a diverse array of Millis

residents. The facility design is zero waste, and due to our mechanical extraction methods does not emit odor into the air with the interior or exterior of the facility.

Sel. McCaffery made a motion to authorize the Town Administrator and Town Counsel to enter into negotiations to develop a Host community Agreement to be presented back to the Board for discussion and approval Sel. Jurmain seconded the motion. Sel. Barnes polled the Board, Barnes – yay, McCaffery – yay, Jurmain – yay. The motion passed unanimously.

20-091 Economic Development: Proposed Cannabis Manufacturing Facility at 1480 Main Street GTE Millis, LLC

GTE Millis, LLC reviews their presentation for a proposal for a cultivation site at 1480 Main Street. The presentation states the site is compliant with the Mills zoning bylaw, the property will be fenced with no signage, there will be 75 job available with hiring preference to Millis residents, there will be 24/7 video monitored surveillance security, the odor control will meet/exceed the requirements of 310 CMR 7.00: Air pollution control.

Sel. McCaffrey made a motion to authorize the Town Administrator and Town Counsel to enter into negotiations with GTE to develop a Host community Agreement to be presented back to the Board for discussion and approval. Sel. Jurmain seconded the motion. Sel. Barnes polled the Board, Barnes – yay, McCaffery – yay, Jurmain – yay. The motion passed unanimously.

20-092 Economic Development: Reopening Millis Task Force Proposal

Economic Development Committee Chair Nicole Riley proposed a temporary Reopening Millis Task Forces as a non-policy outreach group to offer a helping hand through information to support the return to Millis businesses.

The Board agrees with the Task Force and thinks it will be a great thing for the businesses of Millis.

20-093 DPW Study Presentation

Bernard Lynch and Carl Valente from Community Paradigm Associates reviewed results from their review of the DPW study. The project issues include the allocation of all DPW funding sources, management practices, organization's structure, staffing levels, and operational management. Their recommendations include moving forward with acquisition and utilization of computerized maintenance management system (CMMS) and building resources for implementation. Institute policies and procedures in COOP using APWA accreditation as template. Develop a 5-year strategic plan that considers service demands and resource allocation staffing, capital investments and finances. Develop calendar guide work-annually, monthly, and weekly. They listed many other goals, and all can be read on the DPW webpage where the study is posted.

20-094 FY21 Budget Presentation

Town Administrator Mike Guzinski, Finance Director Carol Johnston and the Board discuss the proposed budget and the various cuts being submitted.

Sel. Barnes proposed to have a budget meeting on Friday to take time to review the budget.

Sel. Barnes made a motion to adjourn at 8:30pm. Sel. McCaffery seconded the motion. Sel. Barnes polled the Board, Barnes – yay, McCaffery – yay, Jurmain – yay. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by Victoria Schindler