



# ***SELECTBOARD AGENDA & MEETING NOTICE***

***April 25, 2022***

\*\*\*Indicates item added after the 48 hour posting  
**bold underlined** time = invited guest or advertised hearing  
(all other times are approximate)

Location: Gill Town Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

5:15 PM Call to Order (If the meeting is being videotaped, announce that fact. If remote participation will occur, announce member & reason, & need for roll call voting)

## Warrants

FY22 #21 Vendors (\$26,774.90) & Payroll (\$22,768.06) – reviewed & signed on 4/11/22

FY22 #22 – review & sign

## Old Business

- Review of Minutes from 3/28/22 and 4/11/22

## New Business

- Correspondence – emails from Sue Kramer and Judd Greenstein regarding Gill Police Department participation in regional grant providing a behavioral health clinician for co-response
- Request from Police Chief for increase in number of vacation days that can be carried over from FY22 to FY23
- Review and Sign Warrant for May 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Town Election
- Town Meeting Warrant Article – Acceptance of Cove View Lane as a town maintained road
  - Background – Mass DOT has rejected the Chapter 90 project to resurface Cove View Lane because it is not on their list of Town of Gill accepted roads
  - Town Clerk is doing research on history and any prior votes
- Town Meeting Warrant Article(s) – requested by the Board of Assessors
  - Change income eligibility to receive \$500 Senior Exemption (MGL Ch. 59 § 5 Clause 41C) from \$15,000 single/\$20,000 married to \$20,000 single/\$30,000 married
  - Change asset limit eligibility to receive \$500 Senior Exemption (MGL Ch. 59 § 5 Clause 41C) from \$28,000 single/\$30,000 married to \$40,000 single/\$55,000 married
  - Change age eligibility to receive \$500 Senior Exemption (MGL Ch. 59 § 5 Clause 41C) from age 70 to age 65
  - Change amount of Senior Exemption (MGL c. 59 § 5 clause 41C) from \$500 to \$1,000
  - Accept MGL Ch. 59 § 5 Clause 41D to provide an annual increase in the income and asset limits used to determine eligibility for the exemption provided to senior citizens under MGL Ch. 59, § 5 clause 41C. Increase is the percentage increase in the US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index for the previous year as determined by the Massachusetts Commissioner of Revenue, to be effective on July 1, 2022. Base limits in FY22 are as noted above.
  - Accept MGL Ch. 59 § 5 Clause 17E to provide an annual increase in the asset limit used to determine eligibility for the \$175 exemption provided to senior citizens under MGL Ch. 59, § 5 Clause 17D. Increase is the percentage increase in the US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index for the previous year as determined by the Massachusetts Commissioner of Revenue, to be effective on July 1, 2022. Base asset limit in FY22 is \$40,000.

- Appointment – Thomas Chabot, 52 Center Road, as a Firefighter through 6/30/22
- Other business as may arise after the agenda has been posted.
- Public Service Announcements, if any

Adjournment

**Other Invitations/Meetings:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>
Mon 5/9	5:30 PM	Selectboard meeting	Gill Town Hall, 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor
Mon 5/23	TBD	Selectboard meeting	Gill Town Hall, 2 <sup>nd</sup> floor

## Ray Purington/Gill Selectboard

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**From:** Ray Purington/Gill Selectboard <administrator@gillmass.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 11, 2022 1:29 PM  
**To:** Greg Snedeker (gksnedeker@gmail.com); Charles Garbiel (charlesgill42@yahoo.com)  
**Subject:** FW: social work and policing

Greg and Charles – FYI, in case you also heard from Sue Kramer, or hear from her in the coming days. Ray

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**From:** Ray Purington/Gill Selectboard [mailto:administrator@gillmass.org]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 11, 2022 1:28 PM  
**To:** 'Randy Crochier' <hxydad77@yahoo.com>  
**Subject:** RE: social work and policing

Great response! I'll share it with Greg and Charles.

Ray

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**From:** Randy Crochier [mailto:hxydad77@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, April 10, 2022 8:47 PM  
**To:** Sue Kramer <sueofgill@gmail.com>  
**Cc:** Ray Purington/Gill Selectboard <administrator@gillmass.org>  
**Subject:** Re: social work and policing

Sue,

Thank you for reaching out to me and providing me with your input. I will have another discussion with Chief Redmond and do some additional research on my own as well. I do hope you also reached out to Greg and Charles. It is surprising how little I (and I am sure they) am contacted by Gill residents wanting to weigh in on what is happening in town.

At this time, we have already approved this grant funded position shared by five police departments. It is my understanding that the position has been filled. That person is an employee of CSO and is training in Greenfield with an approximate start date for the five departments in this grant of about May 1, 2022. A second grant pays the time for an officer in either plain clothes or at a minimum not full police uniform, to spend a day a week in each community. This shift will not lessen or "normal" police coverage, but will augment it. During this person's day in Gill, our office will get them to a scene if needed in any of the other covered communities so that we all benefit from five day a week coverage.

While this discussion was on a posted agenda, no persons, other than Chief Redmond came forward to speak to it,. It is unfortunate that we cannot turn back the clock and maybe talk about this in a meeting, let it come out in the papers, and then discuss and vote at the next meeting, maybe then more people may know it is being discussed. While I can't move the clock backwards on this one, I assure you that I will try hard to always consider that option for future items that have major social change implications.

I know that the model we have approved is the model being utilized by our neighbors in Greenfield, Montague and Deerfield with reportedly good success. The fact that CSO was willing to hire a new staffer and duplicate their program to serve the five police departments in this new grant shows at least some support from the local mental health community in my mind. That said, it certainly isn't the only model way to use to address today's mental health challenges and difficult situations. It is my belief that as a nation we need a much more robust mental health system that includes reducing the stigma of seeking treatment.

I believe that the police officers in Gill, as well as our surrounding towns do work hard to deescalate situations and only use force when and if needed and only as appropriate to make the situation safe for all. .

Please feel free to contact me at any time and again, thank you  
Randy

On Saturday, April 9, 2022, 03:20:22 PM EDT, Sue Kramer <[sueofgill@gmail.com](mailto:sueofgill@gmail.com)> wrote:

Dear Randy,

I know that the town of Gill is considering sharing a regional social worker who would be embedded in the police department. It sounds like a good idea at first, because a social worker has the unique skills needed in a mental health emergency. He or she is more likely to offer support to a person-in-crisis and de-escalate the situation, rather than respond with force.

However, I've read in the news that embedding social workers in the police had not worked all that well for communities that have tried it, and that there are even disadvantages to having a social worker managed by the police. Do we really want mental health care to be police-centered? Perhaps strengthening the mental health agencies in the community is a better solution than giving a new job to an already overburdened police department.

I think we should take our time looking at various models for social work and policing. We need public discourse about this subject, and careful consideration of all the alternatives before we decide on the best plan for Gill.

I appreciate that you are considering ways to improve local policing but I urge you to hold off on signing any regional agreements until there has been discussion between the police, social workers, and other interested community members.

Thank you.

Sue Kramer  
Boyle Road, Gill



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## Ray Purington/Gill Selectboard

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**From:** Randy Crochier <hxydad77@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 12, 2022 8:19 PM  
**To:** Chris Redmond; Ray Purington/Gill Selectboard  
**Subject:** Fw: Mental Health / Policing

FYI

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** Randy Crochier <hxydad77@yahoo.com>  
**To:** charlesgill42@yahoo.com <charlesgill42@yahoo.com>; gsnedeker@gillmass.org <gsnedeker@gillmass.org>; Judd Greenstein <judd@juddgreenstein.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 12, 2022, 08:18:04 PM EDT  
**Subject:** Re: Mental Health / Policing

Judd,

Thank you for reaching out to me and providing me with your input. Much of this response is what I sent to another Gill resident with similar questions.

I have committed to have another discussion with Chief Redmond and do some additional research on my own as well about this subject.

At this time, we have already approved this grant funded position shared by five police departments. It is my understanding that the position has been filled. That person is an employee of CSO and is training in Greenfield with an approximate start date for the five departments in this grant of about May 1, 2022. A second grant pays the time for an officer in either plain clothes or at a minimum not full police uniform, to spend a day a week in each community. This shift will not lessen or "normal" police coverage, but will augment it. During this person's day in Gill, our office will get them to a scene if needed in any of the other covered communities so that we all benefit from five day a week coverage.

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I know that the model we have approved is the model being utilized by our neighbors in Greenfield, Montague and Deerfield with reportedly good success. The fact that CSO was willing to hire a new staffer and duplicate their program to serve the five police departments in this new grant shows at least some support from the local mental health community in my mind. That said, it certainly isn't the only model way to use to address today's mental health challenges and difficult situations. It is my belief that as a nation we need a much more robust mental health system that includes reducing the stigma of seeking treatment.

I believe that the police officers in Gill, as well as our surrounding towns do work hard to deescalate situations and only use force when and if needed and only as appropriate to make the situation safe for all.

Please feel free to contact me at any time and again, thank you  
Randy

On Monday, April 11, 2022, 09:41:09 PM EDT, Judd Greenstein <judd@juddgreenstein.com> wrote:

Hello Gill Selectboard members,

Thank you all for your continued service to our town during this difficult stretch. We all very much appreciate the work that you do.

I'm writing because it has come to my attention that Gill is considering being a part of a multi-town hire that would embed a social worker with our police force. I would like to urge you to withdraw from this coalition on behalf of the town, and open this topic for public discussion. To be clear, I do not fault you for moving in this direction. When I first heard about the proposal I thought it was an excellent idea, and a step in a positive direction toward a greater diversity of solutions for people in challenging situations, and one that would shift the onus off our police force to be the first responders to nearly every situation.

However, there is a pushback from the Greenfield community against a similar arrangement in their own town, and in speaking with the organizers of that movement, I have become convinced that expanding the domain of the police force into mental health is not the right direction for us as a society to go. Fortunately, there is a movement in our region to establish a mental health alternative that avoids policing altogether! This [petition](#) is an effort to galvanize support for these efforts, and Jo Comerford has been working actively to help bring the policies outlined within to fruition. This is a very real movement with a lot of action and force behind it. I would like to see Gill consider being a part of that movement.

I recognize that I and others are coming late to this proposal, but hopefully there is still time to reconsider our involvement in it, and urge a broader discussion across our partner towns.

Thank you for reading, and again, for your continued service to our community. I look forward to hearing back from you at your earliest convenience.

Best regards,

Judd Greenstein (25 Green Hill Rd)



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# GILL POLICE DEPARTMENT



Christopher J. Redmond  
**Chief of Police**  
196B Main Rd  
Gill MA 01354

*Emergency 911*  
Fax (413) 863-0157  
Station (413) 863-9398  
Email [chief@gillmass.org](mailto:chief@gillmass.org)  
<http://gillmass.org/police>

**TO :** Gill Selectboard  
**FROM:** Chief Christopher J. Redmond  
**DATE:** April 21, 2022  
**RE :** Vacation Carry Over

*Dear Honorable Selectboard;*

I am requesting that the board consider allowing additional vacation time to be carried into FY23. Staffing shortages, and the addition of a co-responder program slated to start within a couple of weeks, will limit further time from being used for the remainder of this fiscal year. Based on current projections, I would anticipate approx. 2-3 weeks for Sgt. Bassett and myself be carried into the next fiscal year, in addition to the eighty hours allowed by the personnel policy.

If you have any questions, please reach out to me, as I am unable to attend the selectboard meeting on 04-25-2022 due to family commitments. Thank you.

Respectfully;

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Redmond", written over a horizontal line.

**Christopher J. Redmond**  
*Chief of Police*

***Annual Elections: Monday, May 16th, 2022***

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN  
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

## Franklin SS

To either of the Constables of the Town of GILL

**GREETINGS:**

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of said town who are qualified to vote in Elections to vote at Precinct 1, Town Hall, 325 Main Road, Gill, MA

On **MONDAY, THE SIXTEENTH DAY OF MAY** in the year 2022 from 12:00 PM to 8:00 PM for the following purpose:

To cast their votes in the Annual Election for the candidates of political parties for the following offices:

Selectman/Sewer Commissioner – one three-year term  
Board of Assessors – one three-year term  
Cemetery Commissioner – one three-year term  
Board of Health – one three-year term  
Board of Health – one two-year term  
Library Trustee – one three-year term  
Treasurer – one three-year term

Here of fail not and make return of this warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said voting.

Given under our hands on this..... day of ....., 2022

Chair: .....

*Greg Snedeker*

.....  
Charles Garbiel

Charles Garbiel

.....  
Randy Crochier

*Randy Crochier*

### Gill Selectboard

A true copy. Attest..... Town Clerk of Gill

Date: .....

**Franklin SS.**

Pursuant to the within warrant I have notified and warned the inhabitants of the Town of Gill by Posting up attested copies of the same at Town Hall, Main Rd.; Post Office, Mt. Hermon; Gill Tavern, Main Rd.; and Riverside Municipal Building, Route 2, seven days before the date hereof as within directed.

..... *Constable of Gill*

..... *Date*

*Last day to publish warrant for Town Election is May 9, 2022 or seven days before Election.*





# *Gill Fire Department*

196A MAIN ROAD • GILL, MA 01354-1805 • (413) 863-8955 • FAX: (413) 863-0126

April 21, 2022

Gill Selectboard:

On April 21, 2022 the Gill Fire Department Board of Engineers approved for appointment to the Gill Fire Department the following name.

Firefighter:

Thomas Chabot

Fire Chief

Gene Beaubien



# TOWN OF GILL FIRE DEPARTMENT

## APPLICATION FOR EMPLOYMENT



Date: 4/21/22

### Personal Information:

Name: Thomas Chabot Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: 52 Center Rd 61111 MA Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
(No. Street / City / State)

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ SSN: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you eighteen (18) years of age or older? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Do you have a valid Massachusetts Driver's License? ☒ Yes ☐ No List state, number, expiration date, and type/endorsement: Class B lic Permit

### Education and Training:

Name/Location	Course of Study	Years Completed	Degree
High School: <u>Granfield High School</u>	<u>College prep</u>	<u>4</u>	
College: <u>Granfield Comm College</u>	<u>Criminal Justice / EMT</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>Associates</u>

Please list any information regarding your qualifications, skills, and experience in FIRE/EMS positions such as licenses, trainings, certifications, etc. Include copies of all certificates if possible.

First Responder & Law Enforcement Since 2014

### Employment History:

Present employer: Hadley Police Dept  
Address: 15 East St Hadley MA 01035  
Supervisor: Lt. Mitchell Kuc Telephone: 413-584-0890  
Position Title and Duties: Patrol Officer  
Reason For Leaving: Not intending to  
Dates of Employment: 11/1/17 - Present

Past Employer: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Position Title and Duties: \_\_\_\_\_  
Reason For Leaving: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dates of Employment: \_\_\_\_\_

Past Employer: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Position Title and Duties: \_\_\_\_\_  
Reason For Leaving: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dates of Employment: \_\_\_\_\_

May we contact the employers listed above? ☒ Yes ☐ No If no, indicate which: \_\_\_\_\_



**Please Read And Complete Carefully:**

- 1 If hired, can you provide proof of citizenship and legal right to work? ☒ Yes ☐ No
- 2 Have you ever been fired or asked to resign from any job? If yes, please list employer, date, and reason below. ☐ Yes ☒ No
- 3 Is there any reason that you could not adequately perform the essential duties of the position for which you have applied? ☐ Yes ☒ No
- 4 Have you been cited for any moving violations in the last three years? ☐ Yes ☒ No
- 5 Have you had any motor vehicle accidents in the last three years? ☒ Yes ☐ No
- 6 Has your driver's license ever been suspended, revoked, denied, or canceled? ☒ Yes ☐ No
- 7 Has your medical certification (EMTs) ever been investigated, suspended, or revoked? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Explain in full detail all "Yes" answers below (other than #1 above).

Suspended Due to Suspensible events prior to 2009

Are you currently charged with or have you ever been convicted of a felony? (Include any finding or plea of guilt.) If yes, provide a detailed description including dates, locations, charges, and disposition. Additional documentation may be necessary.

No

**Additional Information:**

Briefly describe why you wish to become a member of this department.

I would like to serve the community I am privileged to live in

Please provide at least three (3) professional/work-related references to whom you are not related.

	<u>Name</u>	<u>Employment/Job Title</u>	<u>Contact Number</u>
1	<u>Cro Billy Kimball</u>	<u>Firefighter Gill F.D</u>	
2	<u>J. Mitchell Line</u>	<u>Police Officer Hadley PD</u>	<u>413-584-0890</u>
3	<u>Harry Santiago</u>	<u>Hadley Police Officer</u>	<u>413-234-9947</u>

You may provide any other information that you feel is relevant to the review of your application.

I certify that all information provided in this application is true and complete. I understand that any false information or omission may disqualify me from further consideration and may result in my immediate dismissal if discovered at a later date.

I authorize the investigation of any or all statements contained in this application and also authorize and hold exempt any person, school, current and past employers (except as previously noted), and organizations from any legal liability in making such statements. I hereby fully waive any rights or claims I have or may have against all current and/or former employers and their agents, employees, and representatives, and damages that may directly or indirectly result from the use, disclosure or release of any information by any person or party, whether such information is favorable or unfavorable to me. I further waive any claim against the Town of Gill, the Gill Fire Department and its agents and representatives, and any outside agency utilized by the Town of Gill or the Gill Fire Department as a result of any information which is obtained in this investigation.

I understand that this application or subsequent employment does not create a contract of employment nor guarantee employment for any definite period of time. If accepted for employment, I understand that I have been hired at the will of the Town of Gill and the Gill Fire Department and my employment may be terminated at any time with or without cause and with or without notice, at the option of the employer or myself.

*The Town of Gill is an Equal Opportunity employer.*

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 4/21/02

## Ray Purington/Gill Selectboard

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**From:** Ray Purington/Gill Selectboard <administrator@gillmass.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 12, 2022 3:19 PM  
**To:** 'StevenE - Montague Town Administrator'; 'Brian Beck'  
**Cc:** 'Greg Snedeker'; 'Matt Lord'  
**Subject:** RE: Community Representative to GMRSD Bargaining

Hi Steve,

Brian just called me to relay what he learned from the District's legal counsel – it's ok for the District to move forward tonight with Matt as the appointed town rep to the negotiations process. I let Brian know that at Gill's Selectboard two weeks ago none of our SB members had time they could commit to the process, and they did not come up with names of others who might be willing/able to serve.

I will include a vote to ratify Matt's appointment on their next agenda (April 25), and do not anticipate anything but a resounding voice of support and gratitude.

Thank you Matt for taking this on.

Ray

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**From:** StevenE - Montague Town Administrator [mailto:StevenE@montague-ma.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 12, 2022 8:41 AM  
**To:** Brian Beck <brian.beck@gmrsl.org>  
**Cc:** Tracy Rogers (administrator@gillmass.org) <administrator@gillmass.org>; Greg Snedeker <gksnedeker@gmail.com>; Matt Lord <mattl@montague-ma.gov>  
**Subject:** Community Representative to GMRSD Bargaining

Hi Brian

The Montague Selectboard met last night to consider candidates to serve as the community representative to GMRSD bargaining. Reflecting on the importance of participation, Matt Lord agreed to serve in that role to the extent his schedule will allow. The decision came too late to notify Gill's Selectboard so they did not, to my knowledge, make any vote that would signal their agreement with Matt's appointment to the role. We assume that can be addressed at a later time, as negotiations begin May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

In any event, I would ask that you work with Matt, Ray, and Greg to move the process forward. Thanks very much for your proactive outreach and response to questions related to this topic.

Steven Ellis  
Montague Town Administrator  
One Avenue A  
Turners Falls, MA 01376  
413-863-3200 x110  
[www.montague-ma.gov](http://www.montague-ma.gov)

Pronouns: Him/His (or just call me Steve)