



Town Of Milton
Remote Board of Selectman Meeting
April 6, 2020
Milton Town Hall

Board of Selectmen in Attendance: Chairman, Erin Hutchings, Andrew Rawson, Matt Morrill.

Other Attendees: Town Administrator, Ernie Creveling, Town Clerk, Michelle Beauchamp, and Public Works Director, Pat Smith.

Meeting Called to Order : Selectmen Hutchings welcomed all who joined the meeting via Free Conference call.com., and announced all the ways in which the residents could access tonight's meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance: The pledge of Allegiance was recited and the meeting began at 5:04 pm.

Public Comment: Please note that because this is a business meeting, and given the limitations of remote access, and in accordance with the Governor's Emergency Orders regarding public meetings and the Stay-At-Home Order, the Board will not be opening up public comments or discussion for this business meeting.

New Business: Discussion and/or Possible Actions

1.) Update Regarding Covid-19 (Novel Coronavirus) Activities: Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Michelle Beauchamp reviewed the Governors Executive Order #25 in regards to tax deeded properties and the impact to current unpaid taxes. The new order does not relate to past taxes and liens that are already in place, but does impact the taxes during the Covid-19 crisis.

2.) Update Regarding Covid-19 (Novel Coronavirus) Activities: Town Administrator, Ernie Creveling gave an update from both chiefs. Both Police & Fire Departments are currently operating efficiently. They both have supplies ordered and have receive some of them, but are still waiting for some supplies to be delivered. Both departments are ready to respond to whatever is needed and are monitoring the situation on a day-by-day basis.

3.) Update of Transfer Station Operations: Public Works Director, Pat Smith shared that he spent some time this past weekend observing the current transfer station process. He feels that some changes can be implemented by Friday (4/10/2020) to allow for the collection of paper and brush. The main objective to not have people crossing lines to discard their MSW, Co-mingles, paper & brush. The attendants will be there to instruct residents and inspect the yard waste. There will be signage posted with instructions. Notification will be put out on the DPW website & the Town of Milton Website tomorrow.

4.) Consideration of Boat Ramp: The recreation director has had some inquiries about when the boat ramp will be open. After discussion, it was decided to leave the property closed. The Governor's Stay-At-Home Order is still in place, and the town does not want to send the wrong message by opening the ramp. The board will revisit this again in a couple of weeks.

5.) Default Budget Discussion: Selectman Hutchings reviewed some of the ideas that she and the TA have come up with to address the monetary shortfalls in the current budget. The raises that were given out in 2018 & 2019 were not covered in the last two default budgets. The taxpayers have been very clear about not wanting an increase in taxes. There will have to be hard decision made moving forward into 2020, especially with the current pandemic the town is dealing with. The compiled suggestions will be put on the town website, so residents can see what some of the changes might be.

6.) The Milton Messenger: E. Creveling has been working on a blog that would be used in order to circulate information to the residents, and could be linked to the town website. The blog would be updated as needed but the target would be to update it at least once a month. The selectman were in favor of getting the blog up and running. The motion was:

- A. Rawson motioned to have the E. Creveling move forward with setting the blog up and linking it to the Town of Milton Website, seconded by M. Morrill. E. Hutchings called for a vote - Rawson (yes); Morrill (yes); Hutchings (yes).



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7.) Town-Owned, Tax Deeded Properties: The selectmen discussed the need to move forward with whatever process is the most beneficial for the sale of tax deeded properties. Some of these properties have been sitting in the town's hands for several years. E. Creveling stated that he had a template that he has used before for a sealed bid type of auction but cautioned that all legal issues with each property would need to be resolved before moving forward with any sales. Other types of auctions were mentioned as well. In the meantime, it was suggested that the properties are visited, and pictures are taken of the current conditions of each property, as well as gathering all important information about each of them, so they can review them before moving forward with any formal sales process.

8.) Revolution Food Pantry Request: Selectman Rawson shared that he had spoken to Betty, operator of the We Care Food Pantry in Milton. This past Friday, they served over 100 Milton Residents who were food insecure. The impact of the Covid-19 is being felt at the pantry. Selectman Rawson made a donation to the pantry, but he knows that they are hurting and in need of funds. Selectman Morrill asked if funds could be moved around from this year's appropriations. E. Creveling advised that they could not. Selectman Rawson would like to use some of this year's allocated funding for welfare to be able to help offset some of the operational costs of the pantry. The following motion was made:

- Selectman Rawson motioned to move \$2,000 from the welfare misc. line (01-4445-890) to the outside appropriations line, so they could give the needed funding to the We Care Food Pantry currently serving our Milton Residents. M. Morrill seconded the motion. E. Hutchings called for a vote. Rawson (yes), Morrill (yes), Hutchings (yes).

Old Business: Discussion and/or Possible Actions

1.) Consideration of Selectmen By-laws: Selectman Hutchings requested that the by-laws be tabled until May. The other board members agreed. The board will plan on having a workshop in May to address them.

Other Business That May Come Before the Board: TA, E. Creveling shared that he had discussed the Care Act with the town's attorney, and gave a general overview of some of the costs that could be recovered under the Care Act for municipalities in regards to the costs that towns are incurring dealing with the current Covid-19 Crisis. E. Creveling would like to have the ability to apply for the funds that the Care Act would cover. He will also contact Chief Marique to make sure that there is no overlap between the funds that have been set aside for Emergency Management, and the funds that are available under the Care Act. The following motion was made:

- E. Hutchings made the motion to allow the Town Administrator to apply for funds under the Care Act in regards to mitigating the expenses that the town has incurred during the Covid-19 Crisis. A. Rawson seconded the motion. E. Hutchings called for a vote: Hutchings (yes), Rawson (Yes), Morrill (yes).

Approval of Minutes: The following minutes were approved as written,

March 16, 2020(Public Minutes) & (Non-Public Minutes): A. Rawson motion, M. Morrill seconded.

March 20, 2020 (Public Minutes): A. Rawson motioned, E. Hutchings seconded.

March 24, 2020 (Public Minutes) & (Non-Public Minutes): E. Hutchings motioned, M. Morrill seconded.

E. Hutchings called for a vote: Hutchings (yes); Rawson (yes); Morrill (yes).

Expenditure Report: A. Rawson noticed that there were some expenses that didn't look right on the current expense report. The TA will review the current report with the bookkeeper on Friday, and make the necessary adjustments to the lines as needed.



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Administrator Comments : E. Creveling stated that he had already shared his comments earlier in the meeting, and had nothing further at this time.

Selectmen Comments:

A. Rawson: Selectman Rawson wanted to thank all the town employees who have stepped up during the current Covid-19 Crisis and helped out in whatever way was needed. He also wanted to thank the employees and residents for following the CDC Guidelines, so the town can continue to conduct business while remaining safe & healthy. Additionally, he wanted to extend his help to any resident whom might need extra help with getting their trash to the transfer station during the crisis. You can find his phone number on the Town of Milton Website under the Selectman's Page.

M. Morrill: No Comment at this time.

E. Hutchings: Selectmen Hutchings hoped that all our residents stayed safe and practiced social distancing during this crisis. She reaffirmed that the town will get through the crisis, as well working with the town's default budget, and move on to coming up with a workable budget for the year 2021.

Meeting Adjourned: E. Hutchings motioned to adjourn at 6:23 pm.
Hutchings (yes); Rawson (yes); Morrill (yes)

Respectfully Submitted:

Karen J. Brown
Recording Secretary



Chairman, Erin Hutchings



Vice Chair, Andrew Rawson



Selectman, Matt Morrill