

Town of Milton
Remote Board of Selectmen Meeting
May 7th, 2020
Meeting Minutes

Electronic Meeting
Checklist During State Of Emergency

As Chair of the Milton Board of Selectmen, I find that due to the State of Emergency declared by the Governor as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and in accordance with the Governor's Emergency Order #12, this public body is authorized to meet electronically.

There is no physical location to observe and listen contemporaneously to this meeting, which was authorized pursuant to the Governor's Emergency Order.

We are utilizing the following for this electronic meeting:

1. *Conference call, for people who don't have the means to join via computer.*
 - a. All members of the Board of Selectmen have the ability to communicate contemporaneously during this meeting through this platform, and the public has access to contemporaneously listen and, if necessary¹, participate in this meeting by dialing the **toll free phone number (844) 855-4444** and upon the prompt, enter Access Code **145672 and push # (pound sign)**, or by clicking on the following website address: <https://join.freeconferencecall.com/miltonta> (the online meeting ID is **miltonta**)

If anybody has a problem joining the meeting remotely, please call (603) 545-4956 or email: miltonta@miltonnh-us.com.

In the event the public is unable to access the meeting, the meeting will be adjourned and rescheduled.

Please note that **all votes** that are taken during this meeting shall be done by **roll call vote**.

Let's start the meeting by taking a roll call attendance. When each member states their presence, please also state whether there is anyone in the room with you during this meeting.

Roll Call Attendance:

Selectman Andrew Rawson signified his presence

Selectman Matthew Morrill signified his presence

Select Board Chair Erin Hutchings signified her presence and recognized **Police Chief Richard Krauss** and **Town Administrator Ernest Creveling**, who were both in attendance.

All were appropriately socially distanced from one another.

¹ Public Participation is required only in the case of a public hearing or a quasi-judicial proceeding of a Planning Board or Zoning Board of Adjustment)

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➤ **Public Session – 4:00PM**

Chair Hutchings convened the meeting at 4 pm and asked attendees to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

➤ **Public Comment**

Please note that because this was 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 did not be open the meeting to public comment or discussion.

➤ **NEW BUSINESS – Discussions and/or Possible Actions**

1. Acceptance of State and Federal Funding for Covid-19 related activities under **RSAs 21-P:43, Appropriations and Authority to Accept Services, Gifts, Grants, and Loans and 31:95-b Appropriation for Funds Made Available During Year:**

- a. \$109,005 for GOFFER Funding
- b. Up to \$36,000 for the First Responder COVID-19 Stipend Program (CARES Act)
- c. \$4,288.00 in CARES Provider Relief to the Ambulance Account

Town Administrator E. Creveling explained that these three sources of revenue are for qualifying Covid-19 related expenses from:

- a. The Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery (GOFERR), which will cover expenses that are not otherwise covered for community activities, equipment and supplies incurred in response to the pandemic.
- b. The First Responder COVID-19 Stipend Program in the amount of up to \$36,000. Fire Chief Nick Marique and Police Chief Richard Krauss submitted their calculations for PD and Fire-Rescue staff who qualify for the First Responder COVID-19 Stipend Program, which covers from May 1 through June 30, 2020.
- c. The Department of Health and Human Services, in the amount of \$4,288, which has been deposited into the Ambulance account. Creveling read the following is from an e-mail sent by Natch Greyes, Municipal Services Counsel, New Hampshire Municipal Association: "...these funds are awards to certain health care providers for health care-related expenses or lost revenues directly attributable to COVID-19 included in the CARES Act. To the best of our knowledge, the awards appear to be limited to municipalities which provide ambulance services based on their share of 2019 Medicare fee-for-service (FFS) reimbursements or targeted distributions that will focus on providers in areas particularly impacted by the COVID-19 outbreak, rural providers, providers of services with lower shares of Medicare reimbursement or who predominantly serve the Medicaid population, and providers requesting reimbursement for the treatment of uninsured American."

Chair Hutchings made the motion to accept up to \$109,005 from GOFFER funding (Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery) allocated to the Town of Milton for certain Covid-19 related expenses; up to \$36,000 for the First Responder COVID-19 Stipend Program (CARES Act) in accordance with **RSA 21-P:43**; and \$4,288 in CARES Provider Relief in accordance with **RSA 31:95-b**, which has been deposited to the Milton Fire-Rescue Ambulance Account.

The motion was seconded by: Selectman Andrew Rawson

Vote:

X yes no Erin Hutchings | X yes no Andrew Rawson | X yes no Matthew Morrill

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❖ **Selectmen Comments**

Creveling brought up the matter of the boat launch and then handed it over to the Chair, as she had spoken directly with Recreation Director Karen Brown about it. Chair Hutchings recounted that they had discussed opening the boat ramp for the upcoming weekend at the last meeting on May 4th. She pointed out that it is going to be cold with the possibility of snow this weekend and she didn't see the point of paying someone to sit there attending the gate all weekend. The other board members agreed. Chair Hutchings went on to say that Karen Brown would be at the beach office on Friday, May 8th until sometime in the afternoon and was willing to allow people to launch while she is there. She pointed out that because Karen would not be there all day, that people need to make sure they know they will need to make sure they get their boats out prior to Karen leaving, otherwise they would have to call the Police Department to have them open the gate. In response to a clarification request from Chief Krauss, Chair Hutchings stated that the beach will **not be open and that people cannot congregate there**. This is only an opportunity for people to launch their boats.

Chief Krauss informed the Board that the State (NH DOT) is getting ready to start work on the railroad tracks near Exit 18 and that once they shut down that portion of the Spaulding Turnpike, the traffic on Route 125 will be very heavy. He stated that he hasn't received any notification that the state is starting earlier than the original start date (neither he nor the Town Administrator remembered exactly when the work would begin), but he wanted to let the Board know that the state has placed signage, which is presently covered, but still an indicator that the project is upcoming.

➤ **Adjournment**

Chair Hutchings made the motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Andrew Rawson.

The vote was unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 4:10 pm.

Vote:

 X yes no Erin Hutchings | X yes no Andrew Rawson | X yes no Matthew Morrill

Respectfully Submitted:

Ernest M. Cartier Creveing

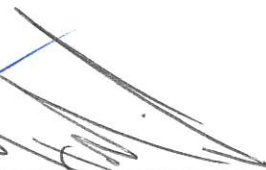
Town Administrator



Chairman, Erin Hutchings



Vice Chair, Andrew Rawson



Selectman, Matt Morrill

Date Signed: 05/18/2020