

Town of Milton
424 White Mtn Highway
Milton NH, 03851



Board of Selectman
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9/18/20
Meeting Minutes
2:00 PM

Present Members: Claudine Burnham, Andrew Rawson

Absent Members: Matt Morrill

Staff Present: Ernest Cartier Creveling, Town Administrator; Julius Peel, Land Use Clerk, Pat Smith, DPW Director; Karen Brown, Recreation Director; Nick Marique, Fire Chief

I. Pledge of Allegiance:

Andrew Rawson, chair of the board leads the meeting in the pledge of allegiance.

II. Budget Review:

Andrew R. opens the meeting by noting the reason for having this meeting. He explains that because the previous job cuts would cause the default budget to decrease as well as the operating budget it would be counterproductive to the idea of getting below the default budget bottom line. Andrew R. asks Ernest Cartier Creveling, Town Administrator, to explain his budget changes.

Ernest C. explains that the alterations to the town hall operating budget are not much different than the last proposal because he did not remove any personnel. He does note that the budget did go down \$1,251 due to changes underneath the miscellaneous line. Ernie then suggests that Patrick Smith, DPW Director, present his budget changes next.

Patrick S. starts by saying that the changes proposed in his current budget were made because previous iterations of the budget were primarily made of employment alterations. He explains that since there are three different budgets that he oversees, he is attempting to cut as much as he can without unbalancing each department. To start, he reviews the building Maintenance accounts. In this he decreases the contract services line. In the Highway Budget Patrick S. notes that he will be decreasing professional services expenditures and gravel expenditures. Lastly, he explains that in the Waste Disposal budget he removed the previous cuts to the employees that were there. Although this

would have decreased the overall cost of the department, he asserts that as the town is growing the tonnage will only increase. He believes that by decreasing the labor that will only increase the strain on the department. Patrick S. wants to ensure that the community can keep the services that it has but wants the board to know that during the last few budget cycles the cuts have often come from the DPW budget. He does not believe that these cuts can continue the way they are, or the department will have to cut more services than it already has. Of these perceived cuts, cemetery maintenance was removed entirely for the year by Patrick. This was because he does not have the manpower to complete these tasks.

Ernest C. explains that with the proposed cuts by Patrick S. the number that needs to be made up to set this newly proposed budget below default is \$17,000. Nick Marique, the Fire Chief, explains that he cannot cover all these costs on his own. He explains that if he cuts his budget below a certain point, he will no longer be able to get this money back from the community as it continues to grow.

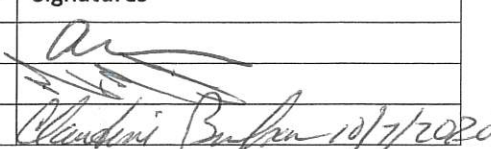
Andy R. motions to decrease the Welfare line by \$10,000. There was no Second. The motion fails.

Andrew R. expresses that cuts do need to be made somewhere and that they need to go into the joint budget meeting with an idea of what they plan on cutting. Nick offers to take 16,000 out of the full-time line and he will find a way to operate the bottom budget on his own. Andy states that he is not comfortable with this idea and that he would like to see cuts from elsewhere. He notes that the town will have to operate with a shortened budget for a while and that he plans on keeping the budget the same come next year if this budget passes.

***Andy motions to decrease the rent and mortgage line by \$8,500, 8,500 from Nick's full-time line and 4,000 from the unanticipated expenditures, Seconded by Claudine. The vote is approved unanimously. The motion passes. ***

III. Adjournment:

***Andy motions to adjourn, seconded by Claudine. The vote is approved unanimously. The motion passes adjourning the meeting. ***

BOARD MEMBER	PARTICIPATION			APPROVED ON <u>10/07/2020</u>			
	Physically Present	Attending Remotely	Not Attending	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	Signatures
Andrew Rawson	X			X			
Matthew Morrill	X			X			
Claudine Burnham	X			X			