

Town of Milton
Board of Selectman Meeting
Monday, April 20th, 2015
Milton Town Hall
Meeting Minutes

Members in Attendance: Chairman Tom Gray, Mike Beaulieu, Andrew Rawson, Elizabeth Dionne, Town Administrator. **Also in Attendance:** Toni McLellan, Recording Clerk

Public in Attendance: Pat Smith, Pam Smith, Evelyn Tingley, Bonnie Reideau, Nick Oakes, Rose Nason, Shawn Donnell, Luther Ellis, Clarence Nason, Tyler Smith, Wade Foss, John Reddington, Leo Howe, Michelle Beauchamp, Dale Sprague, Betsy Baker, Richard Krauss, Loretta Banks, Al Banks, Nancy Hubbard, Beulah Sather, John Katwick, Larry Brown

Chairman Gray called the meeting to order at 6:12pm and welcomed everyone.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

New Business

Highway Dept. – Chairman Gray presented Butch Nason with a 15- year certificate (December 20th, 1999 – December 20th, 2014) for dedicated service to the Town of Milton. The BOS thanked him for his years of service and hard work.

Dale Sprague Sewer Superintendent Re: Sewer Service at 585 White Mountain Hwy – D. Sprague informed the BOS of a potential connection fee for a sewer hook-up for an incoming business to the town. He inquired as to whether the BOS would like to charge a connection fee, or not. The fee would be a one-time hook-up fee and is not for a physical connection, but rather an allocation fee. In order to determine a connection fee (there is a bit of a gray area for commercial charges), the town can ask the developer to provide a number of years of documented water usage from other area businesses (such as Subway or Dunkin Donuts) that are roughly the same size footprint. Determining what the previous business (in the same location) was charged for water usage is another way to assess charges. E. Dionne will check with K. Ladisheff on the ERU's for the building.

Michelle Beauchamp Re: Appeal – Administrative Decision – On Tuesday, April 7th, 2015 an employee (that works for M. Beauchamp) was denied mileage reimbursement from home to a facility for training. The reimbursement request had already received approval from M. Beauchamp. It was awaiting a signature on the check from the Treasurer. Employees have been reimbursed for mileage costs from home to a training facility in the past. The part-time employee was not scheduled to work that day. E. Dionne stated that the current employee handbook simply

states that mileage costs can be reimbursed. It was her understanding that reimbursement for mileage can be given from the workplace to the training location. She had asked for the mileage to be resubmitted from the workplace to the training location. She sent a query out on the NH Municipal Managers Listserve that goes to other towns/cities regarding how they handle reimbursement for mileage. Half of the responses stated that only reimbursement from the workplace to the training facility is paid. The other half stated that the lesser of the two travel distances is reimbursed. Chief Krauss stated that if no town vehicle is available and the employee must use their own vehicle and they travel from home, he reimburses that employee for mileage from home to the training location. If the employee must use their own vehicle, town policy dictates that their vehicle is covered by the town (as a town vehicle) with insurance. The BOS made the decision to reimburse the employee for mileage from home to the training facility.

Police Chief Krauss Re: Cruiser Detail Expenditure - On July 1, a statute takes effect and NH becomes a hands-free state. There is no exception in the statute for law enforcement officials. Chief Krauss is requesting \$1,000.00 (approximately \$200.00/cruiser) out of the Cruiser Detail line to have compliant Bluetooth devices (voice activated) with a mount installed that would be hard wired into the cruiser. The device will not override the radio system. With this Bluetooth device, the officer pushes a button above their head to have a hands-free conversation. It is voice command controlled for hands-free outgoing calls. This is the most economical way to install a hands-free option. The Cruisers do not come with a hands-free option. The cost is \$169.95 and an additional \$20 for the phone grip/vehicle for 5 vehicles. M. Beaulieu made a motion for the Chief to expend approximately \$1,000.00 out of the Cruiser Detail Line to purchase Bluetooth devices for the Cruisers. A. Rawson seconded. Motion carried.

Annual Lease for Milton Mills Cemetery – Chairman Gray read the lease to meeting attendees. The lease reads: The Milton Mills Cemetery Association agrees to provide burial sites for all Milton Residents upon request at the then current rates in order to help the Town of Milton carry out its responsibility to maintain a public cemetery under RSA 289:2. Milton Mills Cemetery Association agrees to provide the Town of Milton with an “Option to Bury” contract at the cost of \$1.00 annually to guarantee that right. Each party shall have the right to terminate the agreement at year’s end. The parties agree that Milton Mills Cemetery will be the Official Town Cemetery under terms of RSA 289:2 for the contract year. M. Beaulieu made a motion to enter into the agreement with the Milton Mills Cemetery Association and approve the lease for May 1, 2015 to April 30th, 2016, and to authorize Chairman Gray to sign the document. A. Rawson seconded. Motion carried.

2004 CIP Expenditure Vote for Recreation – Two votes are needed to empty the CIP account. A. Rawson made a motion to expend the balance of the 2004 CIP Fund (\$4,780. 05) for the Recreation Dept. project at the Town Beach. Said funds are to be taken out of the General Fund.

A. Rawson made a motion to reimburse the General Fund in the amount of \$4,780.05. Said funds are to be paid out of the 2004 CIP Fund with all funds expended from the 2004 CIP Fund. The 2004 CIP Fund should then be closed. M. Beaulieu seconded. Motion carried.

549 White Mountain Highway Re: Water Bill – The bill is for the Ding-A-Ling restaurant. The amount of the bill is \$12,603.32. The restaurant has been vacant and the water should have been shut off. M. Beaulieu made a motion to deny payment to the water district for the Ding-A-Ling restaurant water bill in the amount of \$12,603.32. A. Rawson seconded. Motion carried.

Conservation Commission Resignation Notification and Acceptance Re: Barbara Berry – Chairman Gray read a letter of resignation from Conservation Commissioner Barbara Berry. In the letter, B. Berry states that while she has been proud to work with the Commission, she came to the realization that her work schedule does not allow her to attend meetings on a regular basis. She feels that she is not able to adequately fulfill her duties as Commission member at this time, but will continue to volunteer. She thanked the BOS for giving her the opportunity to serve. M. Beaulieu made a motion to accept the resignation of B. Berry as member of the Conservation Commission. A. Rawson seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

April 6, 2015 – Regular Meeting Minutes – There are two corrections to the minutes: page 2, “L. Elder to be sworn in at the next *BOS* meeting” should state “L. Elder to be sworn in at the next *Town Forest Committee* meeting” and on page 8, under “Public Comments”, 1st paragraph, “Chairman Gray asked *J. Katwick* to put him on the list” should state “Chairman Gray asked *P. Smith* to put him on the list”. M. Beaulieu made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. A. Rawson seconded. Motion carried.

April 6, 2015 – Nonpublic Meeting Minutes 1st and 2nd Session – M. Beaulieu made a motion to approve the minutes of the 1st session as written and to seal paragraph one indefinitely and release the remainder of the minutes to the public. A. Rawson seconded. Motion carried. M. Beaulieu made a motion to approve the minutes of the 2nd session as written and to release them to the public. A. Rawson seconded. Motion carried.

Expenditure Reports

Nothing new to report

Administrator Comments

E. Dionne - Re: The Applebee Road letter sent to NH DOT approximately 6-7 weeks ago. She received a response. The NH DOT has added the Milton concerns to their inspection list and they will be reviewing the list in June to make a determination. She will call Mr. Long.

Re: Fire Dept. Training - Fire Chief Nick Marique was unable to attend the meeting this evening. He would like to send 4 Fire Dept. personnel to a training (accounted for in his budget) in Maryland in July. He can use a town vehicle, or a personal vehicle and submit for mileage reimbursement. A. Rawson made a motion to allow Chief Marique to send 4 Fire Dept. personnel to the training in July 2015 using the Fire Dept. vehicle at an approximate cost of \$1,830.00. M. Beaulieu seconded. Motion carried.

Re: 2014 Audit - It will be conducted during the week of May 4th, 2015. Tammy may be able to meet with the BOS during that week regarding the 2013 Audit (completed in December 2014). E. Dionne will let the BOS know when she has a confirmed date.

Re: GIS Mapping Services - Fire Chief Marique is requesting a motion from the BOS to give Lakes Region Fire Department Mutual Fire Aid approval to come to Milton to do GIS mapping for emergency services. A. Rawson made a motion to give Chief Marique approval to have Lakes Region Fire Dept. Mutual Fire Aid permission to come to Milton to do GIS mapping, and to give authorization for a member of the BOS to sign the approval. M. Beaulieu seconded. Motion carried.

Police Chief Richard Krauss – Chief Krauss stated that the speed grant (Highway 16 Corridor) in the amount of \$6,640.00 has been awarded. The grant will allow for 22- 4 hour patrols in coordination with Ossipee and Wakefield. The grant allows the three towns to conduct 4- hour enforcement patrol blocks on the same day to prevent speeding and distracted driving. Chief Krauss is requesting a motion to give Chairman Gray permission to sign the grant. M. Beaulieu made a motion for Chairman Gray to sign the approval for Chief Krauss. A. Rawson seconded. Motion carried.

E. Dionne is requesting a town credit card. She is encountering situations where vendors will not accept a purchase order and will not bill the Town. For example, Best Buy will not bill in this manner in order to pay for the purchase of security cameras for the town. She is asking for the amount of \$2,500.00 on the card. M. Beaulieu made a motion to provide E. Dionne with a credit card with a limit of \$2,500.00. A. Rawson seconded. Motion carried.

Re: Memorial Day Services – E. Dionne received an email from Robert McKinley of the American Legion in regards to memorial services on Monday, May 25th, 2015. The services will start at the Milton Free Public Library at 10am. A parade will then proceed down Main Street stopping at the River Bridge to honor Navy Veterans and will proceed on to the Milton Mills Cemetery and return to the library.

Selectman Comments

A. Rawson – thanked Pat Smith, the DPW and volunteers for the Milton Clean-up Day.

Pat Smith stated there were over 200 bags of trash picked up by 101 volunteers in over 23 miles of road. A. Rawson commended them and stated that having a clean town reflects well on everyone.

Re: The Library – P. Smith reports that the trim on the southeast side of the building is being painted. The foundation has been sand blasted/pressure-washed and the roof is finished. They will remove the egress and the accessible ramp and will put up the new lift. The site inspection for the lift is scheduled. When this is completed, hopefully they will have the first LCHIP payment so they can continue with the work for the rest of the building. The upgrade is moving along quickly. B. Baker added that the work done on the interior is terrific.

A. Rawson reports that the Recreation Dept. has started moving the gates. Karen Brown is in the process of working with playground equipment vendors. The town will be looking for volunteers to help with this project. The basketball court and the playground at the beach will provide use for many years for town residents. He thanked the DPW and the Fire Dept. for fixing the nets and getting the baseball field moving along.

M. Beaulieu - The Boards that he serves on have not met recently so he cannot report on them. The Economic Development Committee meets next month. The Town Forest Committee meets on the 28th. The Budget Committee is meeting tomorrow.

The Branch River Valley Scenic Byway Trail meeting is coming up. He plans to attend.

Re: Town goodwill - M. Beaulieu stated that goodwill is alive and well in Milton and that there are people doing good things without due credit or thanks. He invited Beulah and Rick Sather (owners of Helping Hands in Milton) to be present at the meeting this evening as an example of that goodwill. He was in line at the Cumberland Farms a week ago. There was a gentleman in line in front of him talking about how a young couple moved in to Milton recently with nothing but a suitcase. The gentleman spoke of how he donated a couch, a bed, a TV with VCR and tapes. The gentleman behind the counter asked R. Sather if the couple needed anything else. R. Sather stated that they may need some silverware. In addition, for two years in a row, the Sathers gave 230 gifts to kids at Christmas. Their hope is to give 400 gifts next year. The BOS thanked them, and along with meeting participants, gave them an enthusiastic round of applause.

Re: Follow-Ups – The light at Route 125 - J. Katwick stated that the NH DOT removed the light. M. Beaulieu stated that the new “Welcome to Milton” has been installed. He inquired about the Town Vehicle – E. Dionne stated that a couple of items for the car are still pending. The logo is in process, but it has been registered, inspected and gas cards have been distributed. The policy has yet to be approved. She has asked the DPW Director to conduct a gas card/gas fob and visual inspection class.

Re: Status of the properties that are ready for sale – Chairman Gray stated that this will be addressed at the meeting with Attorney Sessler on May 6th, 2015.

Chairman Gray - Asked for an update on recording equipment for the town. On Friday, E. Dionne asked Chief Marique to follow-up on it. The equipment had to be ordered.

Re: Town Facebook Page - The town of Milton official Facebook page is up and running as of today. The name of the page is “Town of Milton” under which it states “Government Organization.”

On behalf of the BOS, Chairman Gray attended the Eagle Scout presentation for Joey Belanger. At the meeting, he presented a congratulatory letter from the BOS.

Re: Charles Street – Chairman Gray would like to either close the street or make it one-way. It is a dangerous intersection with a poor line of vision south and north from this street. Oncoming vehicles cannot be seen. He has also seen some close calls with pedestrians crossing into the town parking lot. He asked E. Dionne to have a conversation regarding this with NH DOT. P. Smith stated that the DPW had met with the NH DOT regarding closure of this road some time ago. At the time, they stated that the town can close the road. A permit would be needed. Chairman Gray asked other members of the BOS what they thought about this idea. Chief Krauss stated that he would like to see the road closed. It would reduce traffic and speeding coming around the corner and closure would decrease the likelihood of a pedestrian getting hit in this area. P. Smith was asked to provide a cost on guardrails, putting a road in and road closure.

Planning Board update – The Board is working on rewriting a Master Plan. The Board is currently reviewing a draft by Gerry Cogan. Subsequently, there will be a public hearing. They will be working on developing the CIP.

Re: The Rabies Clinic – Chairman Gray stated that the Clinic and registration at the town barn went well. It was very well organized.

He thanked P. Smith and volunteers for the Milton Clean-up Day this year. It was a demonstration of how much people care about the town.

M. Beaulieu reported (as part of an economic development update) that there was interest from the Conservation Commission for the strip beyond Ray’s Marina. There is also an entrepreneur interested in putting in a steakhouse restaurant.

Public Comments

B. Baker – This Saturday, April 25th, 2015, there will be a Welcome Spring children's party at the Public Library with The Cat in the Hat making an appearance.

J. Katwick stated that he was at Green Mt. Furniture 2 weeks ago. The lady that helped him stated that she comes to the Milton town beach at least once-twice/week. She has a friend with that comes up with her children from Dover to visit the beach. They wanted Milton to know that they come to the town because the beach is clean, friendly and well-managed. A. Rawson will pass along this message to K. Brown.

J. Katwick – Re: A follow-up on the March 16th, 2015 BOS meeting regarding town employee wages for CDL truck drivers. He recalls that M. Beaulieu stated that it is time to review the pay for Highway Dept. employees. Chairman Gray echoed this need. At the BOS meeting on April 6, 2015, the subject was discussed again noting that the town of Farmington pays more than Milton (CDL drivers). J. Katwick calculated that Farmington pays \$1.37 more. Chairman Gray stated at that meeting that Milton is not close to where they need to be for compensation. At that meeting, J. Katwick stated that he would help in addressing this matter. He wanted the BOS to know that he is indeed addressing the issue. His opinion is that this should've been addressed during the 2015 budgeting process. He stated that it is not good to have 3 dump trucks on order without a driver for one of them. He has requested to have this issue on the Budget Committee agenda for the meeting tomorrow evening. He is not seeking to increase the budget for this year stating that the voters have already accepted the budget but rather, he would like to review everything on the budget and make changes within the budget to offset this type of change for employees.

J. Katwick Re: the street lights. It appears that NH DOT has addressed the issue on Route 75. He has received calls about Milton Street lights. PSNH (Eversource) has remarked that the number of lights is high for the size of Milton. In the minutes from 5 weeks ago, it was stated that the BOS would look into the matter of street lights to determine in which locations lights could be turned off without compromising safety. J. Katwick inquired where the town was with reviewing the lights issue. Chairman Gray stated that nothing further had been done on this issue. When J. Katwick worked on this issue, he had a team made up of members from the Fire. Dept., Police Dept., Highway Dept. as well as nine residents of the town. A. Rawson offered to start a sub-committee to begin to work on this issue. J. Katwick offered to help. Chief Krauss recommended that the old list be pulled to save time. E. Dionne has a current list of town lights.

The question was posed if it is possible to have a recycling area at the dump for items such as furniture that could go to the needy. M. Beaulieu stated there this type of area at the dump did exist, but it was done away with for several reasons, the biggest among them liability.

There was an announcement that the Historical Society building will be open on Memorial Day and Fourth of July from 10am-1pm. Everyone is invited to attend meetings on the second Tuesday of every month at 7:30pm from April- December at the Historic Society building.

A. Goldenberg, a town resident, was present to discuss a town owned property. He stated that he had walked his property boundary with the Society for the Protection of NH Forests. There is a landlocked sliver of property that is supposedly owned by the town and is approximately 95% wetland. He has been planting winterberries there but subsequently found out that it is town owned. He would like to purchase the parcel, but is unfamiliar with how to proceed. The BOS and the Town Administrator stated that it is unknown who owns it and that it may not be the town. A. Rawson stated that Kathy Wallingford is working on this and will determine who owns it. There may be a fee associated with finding out who owns it if K. Wallingford has to hire someone to research the matter. A. Goldenberg will be notified when ownership is determined.

L. Brown – Volunteered for the Milton Clean-up Day but didn't officially sign-up so there were actually 102 volunteers (and 2 additional bags of garbage collected that can be added to the tally). He stated that the library is beginning to look great. When the Memorial Day Parade comes through, the building will look terrific.

N. Hubbard inquired as to whether the town was doing anything to attract business. She stated that LL Bean is looking to expand and may be interested. M. Beaulieu stated that the town is doing things to attract business through the revitalization program. They are offering tax incentives to businesses to move into the town. There is also the Exit 17/18 expansion happening. He stated that a steakhouse restaurant is interested in moving to the town. He has a vision for the Ray's Marina area as The Milton Village Center and to turn each of the 8 garage doors into a business. There is definitely business interest.

A. Banks inquired about the historical building in the middle of Ray's Marina.

J. Katwick stated that he has pictures of the original railroad station. He is reviewing all the historic places that were designated for the Scenic Byway because he is concerned that the State may not be happy with upkeep in Milton regarding the Scenic Byway and he doesn't want to lose it.

M. Beaulieu has a map dating back to 1959 that he showed to A. Banks. It depicted the old train depot.

L. Brown stated that the historical nature of the Plumbers Ridge residential community as a center of the scenic byway has declined by virtue of town refusal to enact site restrictions. The

ridge is now littered with commercial signs and are part of the destruction of this area. He felt the town had the authority to do something about this and didn't.

Chairman Gray closed public comment at 7:40pm.

Adjournment

Chairman Gray made a motion to go back into nonpublic session at pm under RSA 91-A: 3 II (a) through (e) following a 5-minute recess. M. Beaulieu seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Toni McLellan
Recording Clerk

Chairman Tom F. Gray

James Michael Beaulieu

Andrew Rawson