

Town of Milton
Board of Selectmen Special Meeting
Thursday, July 30, 2015
Meeting Minutes

In Attendance: Selectman Chair Tom F. Gray, Selectman Andrew O. Rawson, Town Administrator E. Dionne. SAU Superintendent Michael Tursi, School Board members, Paul Steer, Tim Long and Brandi Banks.

Public in attendance: Janice Long, Nancy Johnson, Bob Carrier.

Chairman Gray called the meeting to order at 5:30pm and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Financial Discussion with the School Board: T. Gray stated he was looking for ways to work together financially in order to save money and hopefully reduce the budget. Possibilities include purchasing together.

B. Carrier stated the CIP will help. Doing things electronically instead of photocopies in order to save paper. Possible sharing of photocopiers. Trade of services may help such as the Town maintaining the school parking lots and driveways in lieu of the school supplying custodial services to the Town buildings.

N. Johnson inquired about the school population decreasing or increasing.

M. Tursi advised it was pretty consistent.

M. Tursi advised the CIP will help to avoid spikes in the tax base.

Discussion ensued on the pros and cons of the Town doing the mechanical work on the buses, Diprizio's immediate response to fixing the buses to avoid transportation delays, and if changed to the Town's mechanics an immediate response would be needed.

B. Carrier suggested the schools end the contract with Waste Management and haul the disposables to the Transfer Station.

Discussion ensued on the possibility of a grant for a container, the space to put the container on, using the Town's roll-off truck to empty the container, mandatory recycling, and manpower to take care of the disposables.

A. Rawson stated that 20% of the Town's population is elderly and on a fixed income. Assistance with fund balance contributions would be helpful.

M. Tursi explained that their fund balance is automatically applied to the tax rate through the MS forms the SAU is required to fill out for the DRA (Department of Revenue Administration).

P. Steer explained that he understands the tax rate will increase significantly this fall, but the items had to be voted in. Everything had been voted down for years resulting in trucks falling apart, asbestos in the schools, etc. It was time to vote yes.

B. Carrier suggested reducing the Special Education line item.

M. Tursi explained that special education is expensive, but it's mandated of the School District.

Lue Snyder stated that the federal government mandates special education, which is expensive, however the federal government isn't paying the full percentage of what they should.

P. Steer questioned commercial and industrial businesses coming into town.

T. Gray answered that the Industrial Park is full. Ideas are always welcome. The Milton Economic Development Committee is working on the Exit 17 area.

P. Steer asked about the status of the Town House Bridge.

T. Gray explained the process for installing the bridge with NH DOT. The Town is in the "queue", on the NH DOT list, for the bridge replacement.

M. Tursi will review the budget and highlight areas that could potentially share services.

Everyone agreed that the next meeting should include the Public Works Director and the School's Maintenance Supervisor.

The next meeting will be set once the Budget Committee schedule is set and on the Superintendent's calendar.

Other Business: N. Johnson stated she has an issue with a neighbor causing noise with discharging automatic firearms at all times during the day and night. She has contacted the neighbor who is claiming she's harassing him. The Police Department won't do anything about it. She also advised another neighbor has been shooting in or near her back yard. She filled out a complaint form today.

T. Gray advised the complaint would be looked into.

T. Gray moved at 6:45pm to adjourn. Seconded by A. Rawson. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
E. Dionne, Town Administrator

Chairman Tom F. Gray

J. Michael Beaulieu

Andrew O. Rawson