

Town of Milton
Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting
Monday, November 16, 2015
Milton Town Hall
Meeting Minutes

In Attendance: Selectman Chair Tom F. Gray, Selectman Andrew O. Rawson, Town Administrator Elizabeth Dionne.

Excused: Selectman J. Michael Beaulieu.

Public in attendance: Bob Carrier, Betsy Baker, Louise Laplante, Bob Garnett, Davis Bloser, Bob Spear, Wayne Sylvester, James Bloser, Naomi Bloser, Rebekka Bloser, Gail Mypeck, Norm Turgeon, Bob Myrick, Larry Brown, Wendy Buchanan.

Chairman Gray called the meeting to order at 6:00pm and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

A moment of silence was held for the victims of terrorism which occurred over the weekend in France.

New Business:

Betsy Baker, Library Director of Milton Mills Public Library: B. Baker explained that the "Curiosity Creates" grant had been applied for and awarded to the Library for up to \$7,500.00 to create a children's interactive museum on the second floor which will be a "Maker Play" special area for a building kit, creative play kits, costumes, musical instruments, etc.

A Rawson moved to approve the application of the grant and to accept the grant. Motion seconded by T. Gray. Motion carried.

David Bloser, re: Eagle Scout Project: Mr. Bloser explained he is working on his Eagle Scout Project and he would like to refurbish the second floor of the Library. He will be clearing furniture out, vacuum, sweep, sand the floor. He will also be doing the thresh-holds. He will then vacuum up the dust, seal the floor, polyurethane it twice, sand, then repeat the process. There is carpeting in two spots which has been evaluated. He will be removing those spots and doing the same process. The cost will be \$1,100.00. He will be seeking donations. Mr. Fred Cameron has advised he will support the project with equipment or supplies. Mr. Bloser will be obtaining approval from the Scout Board first. The project will begin January 2016 because he needs time to fund-raise, obtain volunteers, obtain permission from the NH Historical Society.

T. Gray suggested he speak with John Katwick and Pat Smith-Public Works Director, and he will also need to fill out the applicable volunteer forms.

Robert Myrick, TPPA, re: European Naiad: Robert Myrick advised that an infestation of European Naiad has been discovered in Northeast Pond.

Norm Turgeon explained it's an invasive water plan which is a serious threat to ponds. It will take years to control, but with the full support of the area municipalities it can be controlled. Maine DPA, NH DES, York County have been brought in to view the area and confirmed the infestation. A survey was conducted of the waterways. Townhouse and Depot Pond showed no signs, but Northeast Pond and the channel did. In October 2015 this news made the

Portland Press Herald. The plant is an annual. The plants have thousands of seeds which spread. TPPA recommends a formal agreement with the Town of Milton, the Town of Lebanon Maine to share resources, create a citizen-based committee, funding from TPPA, Town budgets, grants, and form an agreement. The first year of funding which would be Spring/Summer 2016 the TPPA and the State of NH may be able to handle it. Future years will need additional funding resources. The plant creates a decline in water quality, lowers the oxygen level, provides for a decline in water-front property values, enables issues with boating, swimming and fishing, creates a decline in native habitat and animals. TPPA is looking for leadership from the Town of Milton. TPPA will be visiting Lebanon Maine to speak with the Selectmen. TPPA is looking for leadership to form the committee. The consensus of the Board was to support the proposal.

Bob Spear, re: Map 47 Lot 27 tax-deeded parcel: Mr. Spear advised he had placed his property up for sale at 212 White Mountain Highway and inquired about the possibility of himself or a potential buyer of his property purchasing the abutting Town owned parcel of land at Map 47, Lot 27. He also asked if the property could be subdivided the tax-deeded parcel.

T. Gray explained that the process the Selectmen use is to wait three years before selling a tax-deeded parcel. The three years will be up on March 29, 2016 and Mr. Spear or someone else is interested at that time to please come back to the Board. The proper way the Board sells a tax-deeded parcel is to do a sealed bid, auction, or some similar type of method which opens the sale up to anyone who may be interested. The Selectmen don't subdivide tax-deeded parcels.

Town Administration Budget: A. Rawson moved to approve the Town Administration budget at \$274,206.00. Motion seconded by T. Gray. Motion carried.

Minutes: T. Gray advised the minutes would be tabled until the next meeting.

Town Administrator Comments: E. Dionne spoke on the following.

1. Police Officer Melissa Curtin had resigned. A. Rawson moved to accept the resignation with regret. Motion seconded by T. Gray. Motion carried.
2. 2016 Warrant Articles. Did the Board want to have the Bridge Repair warrant article at \$40,000 again this year and were there any other warrant articles they wanted included in the warrant. The Board advised yes on the \$40,000 bridge warrant article and no on other warrant articles at this time.
3. Loader bid. Did the Board want a minimum bid on the loader that is to be sold. Pat Smith, Public Works Director had recommended \$20,000. The Board consensus was to list the minimum bid at \$25,000.
4. Health Insurance. The 2016 Health Insurance rates were in from School Care with a 6.5% increase. A. Rawson moved to approve the contract as presented. Motion seconded by T. Gray. Motion carried.
5. County tax. The County tax bill had arrived. \$1,040,019.00.

Selectmen Comments: A. Rawson advised Recreation basketball signups will be November 11th. Thanksgiving dinner will be this weekend in the Emma Ramsey Center. He will be working at Bingo.

T. Gray advised the Planning Board reviewed a lot line adjustment on Dawson Street. He suggested the Selectmen do a Thanksgiving basket for the basket drive by the Welfare Department. Tri-State Fire Protection has won the State bid for municipal fire extinguishers. The annual NHMA expo will be on November 19 and 20 in Manchester. The VFW is conducting

a toy collection for Christmas. The employees will be attending customer service training hosted by Primex on November 19th in the Emma Ramsey Center.

Public Comments: Louise Laplante of St. James Ave explained that her property has a 1921 deeded access to the lake in which the public is using. It has come to her attention that employees at the Town Hall are advising the public may use that right of way when in fact they may not be able to. She asked that a sign be posted at the Town Hall for the public which indicates legal advice may not be given. The same sign is used at the Strafford County Registry of Deeds. E. Dionne asked who the employees were. Ms. LaPlante did not know, but provided a letter from 2004 from the Town Hall indicating such. The Board consensus was to post the sign.

A Rawson moved at 7:48pm to adjourn. Seconded by T. Gray. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
E. Dionne, Town Administrator

Chairman Tom F. Gray

J. Michael Beaulieu

Andrew O. Rawson