

Town of Milton
Board of Selectman Meeting
Monday, October 6th, 2014
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: Candace Cole-McCrea, Kestrel Cole-McCrea, Besty Baker, Pam Smith, Larry Brown, Pat Smith, Nancy Wing, Dennis Wing, Marion Trafton, Karen Brown, Richard Krauss, Kathy Wallingford, Joel Rest, Bob Carrier, Ellen Prang, Gail Pennell, Chip Gehres, Stan Nadeau, John Katwick, Dale Sprague, Nick Marique, Michelle Beauchamp

Chairman Gray called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm and welcomed everyone. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Acknowledgements

Chairman Gray acknowledged town employees with October birthdays:

Nick Marique, Noreen Mason, Sam Morrill, Samantha Lampere Jim Dubois, John Katwick
Chairman Gray thanked them for their service to the town.

New Business

CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) – Re: Request for funding - CASA advocates are formally appointed by a judge to handle cases of abused/neglected children (they are not attorneys). CASA handles 87% of these cases in NH. Their funding sources are: 32% from state; 23% federal, 13% fundraisers; 8% foundations; 14% individuals, 4% cities and towns; “other” 6%. The BOS took the request under consideration.

AIDS Response Seacoast – Richard Wagner (Executive Director) presented the request for funding for the organization. The group is based in Portsmouth, NH. They cover two counties in NH; Strafford and Rockingham. There are currently 1200 cases of HIV in the state of NH. Strafford and Rockingham counties account for 28% of all cases in the state. The organization currently has 110 clients. The goal is to keep the clients healthy and out of the hospital. The funding they receive is used for transportation for clients, utility and rental assistance. They also have a food pantry and food vouchers for clients. In addition, they have prevention education programs. Ninety-Two percent of their clients are low (or very low) income. There is an increase in HIV cases nationally. There are about 50,000 new cases each year in the U.S. The BOS took the request under consideration.

American Red Cross – Not present for the meeting. Decision tabled for a budget workshop.

NH Solar Garden Re: Status of Project – Andrew Keller spoke about the community solar program, which is a solar rebate program. Their goal is to build a solar garden to be located on the capped landfill in Milton. NH Solar Garden has already gone through much of the approval process. All the information for the rebate program has been submitted to the state. The engineering information has been submitted to PSNH. The lease with the town has been signed. The benefit to the town is that one cent/kilowatt rebate would be paid to the town. For example, if a particular Department uses 100,000 Kilowatts of energy, the town would be paid \$1,000.00. The town also benefits from the lease for 20 years (approximately \$13,000.00/year). The current projected rebate to the town is approximately \$17000.00 (with the loss of the school)/ year. They would like to get the rebate to \$20,000- \$23,000 in value to the town. The landfill site currently costs the town \$9,000/year and no methane can be produced at the site so it is not of much value to the town. The Solar Garden would zero that cost and would bring in additional money. This program has no effect on any other rebate programs available to the town and there is no outward cost to the town for this program. Precautions are being taken to protect the landfill cap (the settling has already taken place). If something should go wrong, and the Solar Garden is shut down, the town would not bear the cost of the shutdown.

Department Heads Re: 2015 Proposed Warrant Articles – Police Chief Richard Krauss, Fire Chief Nick Marique and Public Works Director Pat Smith presented and answered questions regarding the Warrant Articles. All Department heads met and worked on presenting the same Warrant Articles. They have been working on reducing the number of Warrant Articles. In 2014, \$1,116,054.00 was requested; the voters approved \$535,000.00. The amount proposed this year is \$598,024.38.

1) Lease of three town Dump Trucks – To determine if the town will vote to authorize the BOS to enter into a long-term lease/purchase agreement in the amount of \$494,760.00 (total over a 7-year period). The cost would be \$76,950.00 for the first year (to be continued for the next 6 successive years) for three Highway Dept. six-wheel dump trucks with snowplow and sanders.

2) Highway Road Construction – To determine if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$290,000.00 for highway and road reconstruction purposes. Approximately \$110,000.00 of this would come back to the town in gas taxes.

3) Herbert Down Fire Station Capital Reserve Fund – To determine if the town will raise and appropriate the sum of \$143,000.00 to be placed in the Herbert Downs Fire Station Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of producing finalized design and engineering plans for a new fire station to be bid on in late 2015.

4) Highway Grader Lease – To determine if the town will vote to authorize the BOS to enter into a long-term lease/purchase agreement in the amount of \$240,000.00, payable over a term of 10 years, for one Highway Dept. grader, and to raise and appropriate \$27,352.08 for the first years' payment for that purpose.

5) Rec Dept. Capital Reserve Fund – To determine if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000.00 for the creation of a free municipal playground.

6) Recording Equipment for Town Hall Meeting Room – To determine if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000.00 for purchasing video equipment for recording public meetings within the town hall meeting room.

7) Police Dept. Computer Radio Capital Reserve Fund - To determine if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,000.00 to be placed in the Milton Police Department Computer and Radio Capital Reserve Fund (to purchase a radio next year to replace an 11 year old radio).

9) Capital Improvement Plan – To determine if the town, having a Master Plan adopted by the Planning Board in 2005, will vote to authorize the BOS to appoint a Capital Improvement program Committee to prepare and amend a recommended program of municipal capital improvements projected over a period of at least 6 years in accordance with RSA 674:5

10) Library – To determine if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000.00 to be placed in the Milton Free Public Library Capital Reserve Fund to complete the next phase of the engineering report.

Pat Smith Re: Transfer of Funds – Request to transfer \$3.00 out of the Solid Waste Supply line (01-4324-620) and put \$1.00 into each of three accounts. M. Beaulieu moved to take \$3.00 out of the Solid Waste Supply Line (01-4324-620) and put \$1.00 into each of the following three accounts: the Solid Waste Equipment line (01-4324-740), the Misc. line (01-4324-890) and the Solid Waste Permit Fee line (01-4324-810). A. Rawson seconded. Motion carried.

Trustee of the Trust Funds: Filing Cabinets – Marion Trafton requested reimbursement for purchase of two filing cabinets for the town. Clarification - none of the filing cabinets were free as previously thought. Two file cabinets were purchased for the town at \$20.00 each (the other two were purchased for personal use). A. Rawson moved to pay M. Trafton \$40 for the cabinets. M. Beaulieu seconded. Motion carried. M. Trafton presented the receipt to E. Dionne for reimbursement.

Sewer Dept. 2015 Proposed Budget – Dale Sprague presented the proposed budget for the Sewer Dept. The BOS took it under consideration.

Request to Deed 286 Nutes Road Map 46 Lot 1 Back to Arthur Brown for Back Taxes Paid - (deeded to the town for nonpayment) Cash payment of back taxes in full was received on September 25, 2014 in the amount of \$13,932.98. A. Rawson moved to deed 286 Nutes Road Map 46 Lot 1 back to Arthur Brown. M. Beaulieu seconded. Motion carried.

Bid Openings on Three Antique Safes – There is one bid for the three safes. Mike Currier bid \$60 for all three and will pick them up. M. Beaulieu moved to award all three safes to M. Currier for the amount of \$60. A. Rawson seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

July 15, 2014 Meeting Minutes - Tabled

August 23, 2014 Meeting Minutes - Tabled

September 29, 2014 Workshop Minutes - Tabled

Expenditure Reports

Nothing new to report

Administrator Comments

E. Dionne – the town received a surplus payment from the health trust in Concord in the amount of \$815.21 for the dental insurance pool (calendar year 2013). It will most likely be the last of the surplus payments.

E. Dionne is asking the BOS to set dates for budget workshops.

E. Dionne will be changing the Admin budget proposal; \$1500 was put in to use a police cruiser (2010 Ford Explorer AWD) for town mail and bank runs.

Selectman Comments

M. Beaulieu – Visited town owned properties. On one he noted a padlock on front door but the back door was wide open (it had been vandalized). Pat Smith will take care of it tomorrow.

A. Rawson – Has visited the transfer station. He remarked that they are working hard and doing a great job and it is greatly appreciated.

Chairman Gray – Due to health reasons will not be participating on the BOS for a month or so. He will pass the gavel to M. Beaulieu. He is not resigning or stepping down.

Public Comments

Dennis Wing - read a letter written by Les Elder dated October 6th requesting that the BOS hold another open forum Special Meeting to discuss the concerns and issues that the residents of Milton have regarding the DES application process and what is required to move forward. There were many questions and concerns that residents were not able to voice as the purpose of the meeting was to talk about DES issues.

Chip Gehres – Re: A conservation area that needs to be posted for No Hunting. It is too close to homes and should be posted. He posted this area 10 years ago but since then, the signs have come down. Fish and Game does not have to be involved with posting the area. It must be posted every 50 feet at eye level. The BOS will see to it.

Larry Brown – Commented that the presentation that D. Sprague made on the Sewer budget was well done.

Chairman Gray closed public comments at 7:37pm. M. Beaulieu moved to adjourn at 7:49pm. A. Rawson seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Toni McLellan
Recording Clerk

Chairman Tom F. Gray

James Michael Beaulieu

Andrew Rawson