

Town of Milton
Board of Selectmen Meeting
November 6th, 2017
Milton Town Hall
Meeting Minutes

In Attendance: Selectmen Chair Andrew Rawson, Ryan Thibeault, Town Administrator; Heather Thibodeau, Recording Clerk; Danielle Marique

Public Attendance: Pat Smith, Pam Smith, Bob Carrier, Michelle Beauchamp, Dennis Wing, Nancy Wing, John Katwick, Aimee Krauss, Les Elder, Lynette McDougell, Howie Knight, Mickey Mallory, Tom Gray, Dawn Zahn, Fred Cameron, Michelle Hebert, Roger Hebert, Larry Brown, Norene Nason, Devon Pageau, Nicholas Nirgianakis, Ryan Clark, Carrie Driscoll, Brian Leahy, Bob Graham, Richard Krauss, Peg Hurd, Maureen Steer, Anne Bickford, Nicholas Marique

Chairman Rawson called the meeting to order reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Acknowledgements:

Births:

- Vanessa Segiensen-Bookkeeper
- Alexander Wood-Fire
- Johanna Howland-Library
- Shawn Donnell-Highway

Deaths:

- Leo Lessard
- Arthur Downs
- Katherine Lavoie

Old Business:

- **Discussion of Sale of town property**

A. Rawson would like to see property put in under sealed bid. Assessors have been out to the property and town attorney relied there would need to be a motion made to move forward. R. Thibeault stated he is concerned with not using an auction company there will be less advertisement and knowledge of the sale. A. Rawson suggests bringing the topic into nonpublic.

A. Rawson would like to take a moment to take knowledge and thank Danielle for the Selectmen's agenda notebooks, they have been very helpful.

New Business:

- **Employee promotions and Police/Fire Chaplain introduction**

R. Krauss would like to recognize the most recent certifications and promotions amongst the Milton Police Department.

- Officer Nirgianakis is the 6th DARE officer to the Town of Milton. Dare officers give children of the community comfort in knowing there is a trusted officer to relate to.

Officer Nirgianakis would like to thank Maureen Steer for her assistance and guidance in his journey becoming a DARE officer.

- Officer Leahy was recognized on October 13th at the state government level for providing commending assistance in a case from earlier this year in January.
- Chaplain Maureen Steer has been a resident of the town her entire life, retiring as a valued NH State Trooper a few years back. She will be nationally certified and ordained by the first of the 2018 year. The duty of Chaplain gives the ability to support and provide insight to fire and police personnel, as their daily duties are far beyond the scope of a typical civilian. She will also be available to assist in death notifications.
- Officer Hebert is one of the departments firearms instructor as well as the driving instructor for the department. Officer Hebert has been promoted and sworn in as Sargent.
- Sargent Favorite is a firearms instructor within the department as well as a tactical officer. Sargent Favorite has been promoted and sworn in as Lieutenant.

R. Krauss noted his thanks to everyone and that it is hard to keep officers for multiple years but to have a department where those officers can move up within the ranks of the department is terrific.

- **Wakefield Food Pantry report and acceptance of outside agency**

- Howie Knight, president of the Wakefield Food Pantry reports 17 families (2,214 total meals) from Milton have utilized the food pantry services from July thru October of this year. Would like to thank McKenzies farm for donating clients access to utilize their pick your own apples this fall. The Wakefield Food Pantry is asking \$2,500. from the town for the 2018 budget year. Quarterly reports will be provided to the Welfare Department as well as on request at any time. H. Knight added that November 18th will be their Thanksgiving basket distribution.

- **Acceptance of Robert Nichols water color painting donation**

- Robert Nichols donated a water color painting he completed to the Town Clerk office. R.Thibeault motioned to accept donation of painting. A. Rawson seconded. 2-0

R. Krauss asked the chairman to have Department heads read a letter to the board. Letter read by Michelle Beauchamp as follows;

To Milton Board of Selectmen,

Whereas, in our opinion, Selectman Beaulieu has created a hostile work environment that has resulted in undue stress and anxiety among town employees. Whereas he exhibits unprofessional, harassing and inappropriate behavior via verbal abuse, intimidation and bullying tactics, which has destroyed the moral of employees and forced employees to fear unjust disciplinary action. Whereas his actions have resulted in loss of experienced professional employees as well as adversely affecting the reputation of an employee while violating NHRSA 91:A-the Right to Know Law. He has proven to make poor decisions regarding the use of taxpayer funds and has publicly divulged information that was exempt from public disclosure. Therefore we the undersigned listed below, hereby formally express no confidence in the ability of Selectman Beaulieu to lead the Town of Milton or its employees and we respectfully request his resignation.

signed, Michelle Beauchamp-Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Richard Krauss-Chief of Police, Nicholas

Marique-Fire Chief, Pat Smith-Director of Public Works, Betsy Baker-Director of Milton Free Public Library

A. Rawson thanked M. Beauchamp and Department heads. Expressed he feels the same pain and suffering and is truly sorry. Continued to make the following motion to seek resignation of J. Michael Beaulieu. Whereas Selectmen J. Michael Beaulieu is in violation of the oath of office, we town officers, Selectmen, take the oath of the office and swear to uphold this prestigious role of the Town. We as a board have lost confidence in the ability of Michael Beaulieu to act, in particularly with integrity, and in a leadership capacity and bring honor to the sworn role of selectmen for the and bring honor to the sworn role of selectmen for the Town of Milton and serve our residents as required as his duty. Whereas the Town of Milton and Michael Beaulieu own reputations has been compromised by Michael Beaulieu for his nonprofessional and illegal actions including violations of RSA 91A and RSA 42 as well as repeated violations of the 91A statute, you have acted recklessly to the detriment of this Town. It is unfortunate things have come to this and that things have gone in this direction; it is very upsetting. Now therefore the Board of Selectmen find that Selectman Michael Beaulieu has violated his oath of office and public trust of state statue and therefore we formerly request your resignation from the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Milton. This will spare the town further embarrassment for all parties. Your immediate resignation will spare the Town further hardship, embarrassment and allow us to move forward with the true business of the Town as well spare yourself the personal legal costs that will be incurred when the Board of Selectmen move forward at the Superior Court level. Can I have a second?

R. Thibeault followed with stating his own letter, due to Selectman Beaulieu recent false comments and outburst at the last Board of Selectman's budget workshop, I am requesting him to resign immediately. His actions were inappropriate, disrespectful and he once again opened the town to liability. The Town of Milton needs to move in a forward direction, the only way this can be accomplished is to work as a team. Selectman Beaulieu's behavior and actions over the past year have demonstrated that he has no respect for state statues, the Town of Milton, and is not willing to be a team player. Mike Beaulieu, I once again will respectfully ask that you resign from your position on the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee immediately to save yourself and the town from any further embarrassment.

A. Rawson states H. Thibodeau is an awesome employee and does her job with 100 percent. She has shown great dedication that cares greatly for the town. Her job does not stay at her desk but at the Police Department, the Fire Department, and even in Concord. Truly apologies to her for this and wants to move forward again.

R. Thibeault states he has the most faith and confidence in her as a Town Administrator and putting the town forward and is a great team player.

T. Gray asked permission to present a town petition. Stated within the two days circulated 50 signatures have been obtained. We the residents of the Town of Milton by way of this signed petition are seeking the resignation of James Michael Beaulieu from the Board of Selectmen furthermore known as Mike. Mike has on a number of occasions violated a number of state statutes, violated the rights of several town employees and residents. This willful and blatant misconduct not only jeopardizes the sovereignty of the Board of Selectmen, it also has the potential of putting the entire Town of Milton in a precarious situation and possibly being sued for such actions. Because of these actions we the residents of the Town of Milton feel that Mike is unfit to continue to serve as our Selectman. We feel that Mike should step aside and allow the remaining Board members select a more fit individual to serve until the next election period.

A. Rawson questioned if anyone else in the audience had anything further to add to this topic of discussion.

J. Katwick stated; the Board of Selectmen stated concerns on June 19th, 2017 of their coworker Mike Beaulieu not working as a team with facts that were made by Mike over the last few months on transparency and honesty. Due to Mike's actions not acceptable for chairman of the Board of Selectmen, a motion was made to remove Mike Beaulieu as chairman. Motion carried by all three selectmen. Mike stated that he was throwing the towel in and stated that he is not going to attack anymore. My recommendation is Mike team building 5 months later still not being used by you and never was. Mike your performance at the recent November 1st Budget Workshop meeting attacking he Town Administrator in a public meeting was against the law and totally unacceptable. Mike before you cause the Town of Milton being sued for your unacceptable actions. I John Katwick, with many department heads, boards, committees and employees recommend that you resign as Board of Selectmen for the best interest of the Town of Milton.

R. Thibeault stated he is hoping Mike is watching the live feed video and hoping that he decides to resign on his own and that the ability to resign is on his own.

S. Nadeau would suggest making a time requirement on decision of resignation in fear of things not continuing. R. Thibeault suggested seeking legal counsel first.

R. Thibeault motioned that either himself or Chairman Rawson signs the checks from this point forward. A. Rawson seconded. 2-0.

R. Thibeault motioned to remove M. Beaulieu's ability to sign checks. A. Rawson seconded. 2-0.

- **Acceptance of Highway Safety Grant**

- R. Krauss stated receipt of the step grant; Join the Click Grant which is to insure drivers are using child safety precautions and typical safe driving during the morning commute. The total amount this grant brought in to the town this year was \$6,489.18.
- DWI Patrol grant allows extra officers on the street during overnight hours looking specifically for impaired driving. Total amount this grant brought in to the town this year was \$3,675.

R. Thibeault motioned to accept and sign each grant. A. Rawson seconded. 2-0

- **LCHIP Stewardship Agreement**

R. Thibeault motioned to sign and accept the LCHIP agreement. A. Rawson seconded. 2-0

- **Discussion of Complaint RSA 236:112**

- R. Thibeault stated the property in question is his residence and removes himself from the board for this discussion. A. Rawson states that the complaint originally filed by Tom Gray, a neighbor of property in question, was against the address of 272 White Mountain Highway containing numerous vehicles, as in an illegal junk yard. A. Rawson stated that B. Boyers has looked into this matter, there are no grounds for any concern due to the antique car aspect of the RSA. H. Thibodeau stated that B. Boyers will be looking into other properties in town for similar issues.

Approval of Minutes

R. Thibeault motioned to approve October 16th, 2017 minutes amended with minor grammatical changes. A. Rawson seconded. 2-0

R. Thibeault motioned to approve October 23rd, 2017 Budget Workshop minutes. A. Rawson seconded. 2-0.

Expenditure Report

H. Thibodeau states Vanessa is working very hard to adjust and make corrections. Six months without a bookkeeper is very hard to compensate. R. Thibeault states he knows this is a continual work in progress.

Administrator Comments

H. Thibodeau states she had the opportunity to attend the most recent Police award ceremony which is the second time within two years and commends the Chief of Police in his leadership for making something like this possible. Commends the Fire Chief and all other department heads, they are what make this town unique and is an honor to work with them.

Tax rates are being worked on and will be released shortly.

Thank you to all for the support and all that was accomplished last week.

Selectmen Comments

R. Thibeault states this meeting has been the most difficult meeting he has been a part of and that last week has been very hard for everyone and hopes the person in question makes the right decision which is in the best interest of the Town. Pleased to see the Department heads show so much teamwork and support. Happy to see the Town move in a positive direction. He's pleased to see such support. States that he has the upmost confidence and faith in the Town Administrator.

Conservation Committee will be hosting a guided walk on Casey Road on December 2nd. Conservation Committee would like approval of adding the Board of Selectmen title to their flyer for the walk.

P. Hurd added that teachers, administration and students will be involved. School board is concerned with facility usage and the appropriate billing.

A. Rawson states this has been an absolute difficult week, values every employee as a tax payer and as a Board of Selectmen. Employees make it very easy for the Board of Selectmen to shine and doesn't have to worry about anything at the end of the day knowing the environment is safe. Would like to thank Heather for the hours and long days she puts in, she is truly valued.

Public Comments

T. Gray would like to see the Jones Brook Park plaque saved and restored. R. Thibeault noted the conservation committee plans to look into it. J. Katwick volunteered to go and remove it to bring to the highway department.

B. Graham would like to remind everyone of the Veterans ceremony at Veterans Park Saturday November 11th 2017 at 11am. He would like to thank all who have worked on the park the last month.

C. Gehres would like to see the area of Rocky Point Road be reposted as a no hunting area due to safety and proximity of housing. P. Smith will look into this.

Questioned the annual revenue at the town landfill. A. Rawson states this is in progress.

L. Brown made reference to the NH fallen in comparison to our own police officers.

N. Marique would like to thank the DPW and residents during last week's storm. FEMA will be in town tomorrow to assess damage. H. Thibodeau would like to thank Chief Marique for his assistance and constant availability.

P. Hurd noted that Rochester Middle School is having a Veterans Memorial celebration Wednesday November 8th at 12pm, this is their 9th year.

B. Baker stated she is ready and available to present her budget;
Milton Free Public Library 2018 proposed budget presented by Betsy Baker

- Part Time Salary: reflective of cola and merit increase \$29,786
- FICA & Medicare both reflective of pt salary
- Contracted Services: \$3,200. Includes website hosting, fire alarm, book catalog hosting etc.
- Custodial Services: \$1.
- Electric: shows slight decrease, based on usage \$1,500.
A. Rawson states that 2017 is near expended and suggest leaving line at \$2000.
- Heat: \$3,500 shows a slight decrease
- Telephone: remains the same, includes two lines; fire alarm and fax
- Office Supplies: \$2,000
- Postage: Slight increase to \$80. for PO box rental fee
- Program Supplies: \$8,800 media, cds, books, dvds, magazines etc.
- Equipment Purchase:
- Technology: \$75. Hardware and software outside computer programs
- Mileage: request is level funded, overage this year due to one single conference that will not be a yearly expenditure.
- Miscellaneous: \$1.
Total Free Public Library proposed budget \$53,476.
R. Thibeault motions to approve and accept the proposed library budget. A. Rawson seconded.
2-0

A. Rawson made a motion to move meeting to a nonpublic meeting. R. Thibeault seconded. 2—0

***Meeting Continuation**

A. Rawson states board was under nonpublic following RSA 91A:3 II (e)

A. Rawson made motion to seek resignation of J. Michael Beaulieu. Whereas Selectmen Michael Beaulieu is in violation of the oath of office, we town officers, selectmen, take the oath of the office and swear to uphold this prestigious role of the Town. We as a board have lost confidence in the ability of Michael Beaulieu to act, in particularly with integrity,, and in a leadership capacity and bring honor to the sworn role of Selectmen for the Town of Milton and serve our residents as required as his duty. We respect to hear a response within 7 days, date being November 13th, 2017. R. Thibeault seconded. 2-0

A. Rawson made a motion to move meeting back to a nonpublic meeting. R. Thibeault seconded. 2-0

Respectfully Submitted,

Danielle Marique

Chairman Andrew Rawson

Ryan Thibeault

Michael Beaulieu