

Town of Milton
Board of Selectmen Meeting
September 25, 2017
Milton Town Hall
Meeting Minutes

In Attendance: Selectmen Chair Andrew Rawson, Mike Beaulieu, Ryan Thibeault, Town Administrator Heather Thibodeau.

Public in Attendance: Anne Barth, Stan Nadeau, Pat Smith, Pam Smith, Larry Brown, Peg Hurd, Bob Carrier, Richard Krauss, David Carpus, Nick Marquie, Michelle Beauchamp.

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

OLD BUSINESS – Discussions and possible Action

- **Water District**

- M. Beaulieu said that after much foot work the board decided to drill a well at the memorial veteran's park so the veterans could have water when they are working down there. This decision was not made without first making sure that everything was in place and that they could do it. The cost is low as they are getting it at cost so it is really being donated to the town for the veterans.

- **Discussion to install hydrant in downtown (Re. Durgin Fund)**

M. Beaulieu said that there was a discussion about putting a hydrant in downtown to help the community. Under the Durgin fund it states that the funds are to be used to help the whole town of Milton and putting a hydrant in downtown would only help just the downtown not the whole town. It is M. Beaulieu's opinion that they do not need another hydrant downtown as there is already one there.

R. Thibeault stated that he has not seen enough information on one side or the other side to make a decision on the hydrant. R. Thibeault stated that in his personal opinion it is not the right time to be discussing this. R. Thibeault said that the water district has not even meet yet since the Selectmen's last meeting and feels they should give them a chance to meet.

N. Marquie stated that he was not recommending it.

S. Nadeau stated that it is not a hydrant; it is a pipe that will be accessible 12 months out of the year. The town has an old water system that is capable of pumping hundreds of gallons a minute, everything else is thousands of gallons a minute, if the town catches on fire he does not believe they will be able to put it out. This was thinking outside the box to try and help the downtown community.

A. Barth whom is an abutter to the property, she said that she had attended a selectmen meeting a few years ago looking at purchasing the property and at the time there was a discussion raised as there was a deed issue. A. Rawson said that selling that piece of property would not fall within the guidelines of the Durgin fund where it had to benefit the whole town.

Motion:

Andrew Rawson motioned to table the Hydrant discussion till future notice, Seconded by R. Thibeault.

Roll Call:

M. Beaulieu (Abstained), R. Thibeault (Yes), A. Rawson (Yes), Motioned carried 2-0-1

○ **Fees to Water District**

M. Beaulieu said that it was his understanding, that work for the water district, fees are waived, S. Nadeau said that it was only for minor repairs, anything major is a different issue. M. Beaulieu said that everyone else has to pay these fees. In M. Beaulieu's opinion the Board of Selectmen should no longer waive the fees for the water district; it is the only entity in the town that does not pay the fees.

A. Rawson asked P. Smith how often he was waving fees. P. Smith said about 10 or 12 times and the fees would be different every time depending on the size of the cut.

R. Thibeault said that in his opinion they should not be discussing this at this time. He would like to put the past behind them and continue to work together as a group and move forward.

Motion:

M. Beaulieu motioned to no longer waive of the fees for the water district, seconded by A. Rawson.

Roll Call:

M. Beaulieu (Yes), R. Thibeault (No), A. Rawson (Yes), motion carried 2-1

NEW BUSINESS – Discussions and Possible Actions:

• **Review Audit & Management Letter**

H. Thibodeau said that the board has a copy of the audit. Melanson & Heath completed the audit of the town and made some recommendations which they will handle internally. H. Thibodeau read a little of the report. Melanson & Heath is asking the board to approve it and H. Thibodeau will sign off on the management letter and then they will all get bound copies.

Motion:

M. Beaulieu motioned to accept the audit for the annual financial statements for the end of the year ended December 31, 2016 from Melanson & Heath, seconded by R. Thibeault.

Roll Call:

M. Beaulieu (Yes), R. Thibeault (Yes), A. Rawson (Yes), motion carried 3-0

Public Hearing:

- A. Rawson opened the public hearing for the Highway Block Grant of \$110,217.34 at 6:30pm.
L. Brown asked does the accompany language specify any particular expense that those funds are already committed to.
P. Smith said that it is supposed to be for unplanned/unscheduled work, it's something that is not even in the works at this time so it is money to go toward a future project that they can plan from this point forward.

L. Brown said that these funds are not prededicated to a mandatory shovel ready project, A. Rawson stated no.

L. Brown asked if these lapsing funds to a date X if not used, H. Thibodeau said yes they have to use the funds no later than the end of 2018.

A. Rawson closed the public comments

A. Rawson motioned to accept the \$110,217.34 for the highway block grant, seconded by R. Thibeault.

Roll Call:

M. Beaulieu (Yes), R. Thibeault (Yes), A. Rawson (Yes), motion carried, 3-0

Continued - NEW BUSINESS – Discussions and Possible Actions:

- **2018-2023 Capital Improvement Program Recommendation.**

N. Marquie said that as the Selectmen know the planning board has been working on this plan since April, all the department heads put their projects forward. The planning board had presentations from each department, the planning board went over them, asked their questions, and then rated and ranked all the projects, put them in order, and made their recommendations in conjunction with the town planner. The three or four months' worth of work is in a packet in front of the Board of Selectmen and on the town website for the residents to review.

A. Rawson said that the Recreation department is paying for better than half the ramp cost. He said that it is near the bottom of the list. A. Rawson said that it is a big deal to fix up the town beach and he would like to move the boat ramp reconstruction up the list. P. Smith said that the board can do what they want they do not have to follow the list. R. Krauss said that all the board has to do tonight is accept the recommendations after they accept it then they will have another meeting where the board of selectmen will make their decision, and then after they make their decision then they send a letter to the planning board replying to the what they chose out of the list of recommendations.

N. Marquie wanted to thank Bruce for all his hard work.

Motion:

M. Beaulieu motioned to accept the planning boards CIP program recommendations, seconded by A. Rawson.

Roll Call:

M. Beaulieu (Yes), R. Thibeault (Yes), A. Rawson (Yes), motion carried, 3-0

Approval of Minutes:

- **September 11, 2017**

Motion:

R. Thibeault motioned to accept the September 11, 2017 meeting minutes as written, seconded by M. Beaulieu.

Roll Call:

M. Beaulieu (Yes), R. Thibeault (Yes), A. Rawson (Yes), Motion Carried 3-0

- **September 13, 2017**

Motion:

R. Thibeault motioned to accept the September 13, 2017 meeting minutes as written, seconded by M. Beaulieu.

Roll Call:

M. Beaulieu (Yes), R. Thibeault (Yes), A. Rawson (Yes), Motion Carried 3-0

Expenditure Reports:

- H. Thibodeau stated that there are still a few things that need to be fixed in the report. The postage line is still an issue and right now they are trying to deal with Pitney Bowes. H. Thibodeau will have it fixed by next meeting. Part-time salaries is over but it is not truly reflective of what has gone on, the full-time salaries line is way under and she had explained it a little bit last time. A few lines on the treasure is over due to the new deputies that were hired and needed back ground checks.

Administrator Comments:

- H. Thibodeau said that everyone must have noticed the difference in the building, she wanted to say thank you to the highway department who worked over the weekend in the heat, they worked about 22 hours and now they have a nice new wall and the finance area is enclosed. They also discovered that there is black mold in the ceiling, again the highway department will be taking care of it, and she wanted to give them a big thank you.
- H. Thibodeau said that the town employees had a nice cook out and they wanted to thank the board for allowing them to be able to do that and all the department heads and the people that contributed to the cook out.
- H. Thibodeau said that there have been some glitches with emails which are managed by go-daddy, some of the emails either did not make it to the person at town hall or did not go out from town hall, that have been going on for a little while and they are working on it.
- H. Thibodeau read a letter that was sent to Tom Gray, for all his service to the town as he was stepping back from town business and the town had decided to disband the solar ambassador role, but thanked him for all his work with the town.
- H. Thibodeau said that N. Marquie needs a higher credit increase on his card from \$2,000 to \$5,000, as the board knows there was an issue with one of the ambulances and he did not have enough on his card to pay the repair bill to get the ambulance out of the garage. N. Marquie said that it has happened before were over the course of a month we put small charges on the card then something comes up like a repair to an ambulance and the card it full.

Motion:

M. Beaulieu motioned to increase the fire departments credit line to \$5,000 from \$2,000, seconded by R. Thibeault.

Roll Call:

M. Beaulieu (Yes), R. Thibeault (Yes), A. Rawson (Yes), Motion Carried 3-0

H. Thibodau said that they are working on budgets and they are due by October 6th, October 2nd they are having the next Board of Selectmen meeting on October 2nd and she would like to know if the board can meet at 5pm to do a special meeting with the treasurer and certain department heads with those who do deposits.

Selectmen Comments:

- R. Thibeault said that he thinks they are doing better as a board, they are continuing to work together. R. Thibeault said that he just wants to bring this up as it is a concern that he has heard from a few people, he feels that when they are talking to town employees they should be cautious of how they say something because sometimes it could come across as an order when it was not.
- M. Beaulieu wanted to thank the highway department as well for all their hard work this weekend, they did a great job.
- A. Rawson said that the town is going to be doing the trunk a treat again this year, it will be in November , they have another business that is going to be jumping on board with them, so it will hopefully be a little bit bigger this year.
- A. Rawson has a meeting on thirsty and he and a couple of the conservation people are going to walk the new town forest, there are some buildings down there are need to come down so they are going to walk down and take a look at them to get some different ideas on how to get rid of them

Public Comments:

- D. Carpus made a suggestion about the property that maybe a small group or wider group is brain storming to what can be done with the property and then evaluate and determine what is the most beneficial for the town.
- D. Karpus made some comments pertaining to the Water fees; he said that he can see the argument both ways.
- D. Carpus asked if there was a policy written up that is related to financial policy in terms of how the departments do finance related things; M. Beaulieu said yes there is a policy.
- D. Carpus asked if the town line walk ever get done. M. Beaulieu said no. D. Carpus asked if Milton was the oldest town, if so then Milton needs to be the one to initiate the walk or if Wakefield is the oldest then they need to initiate the walk. He said that the RSA states that there can be fines for not doing it and the Selectmen do not have to do it and they can pick someone to do it.
- L. Brown said that the RSA stated that superior court can set the fine amount.
- L. Brown said that the Budget Committee is looking at Tuesdays in November for presentations from Department heads. On the CIP excellent work.
- L. Brown said that a complete discussion on the Hydrant as R. Thibeault said would be good as there are still many questions that are not answered.
- L. Brown asked if the Melanson & Heath report is public and will it be available for public viewing.
- L. Brown said that there is a nice new wall and suggested that they put the minutes and other stuff that is thumb tacked on that wall around the corner.
- L. Brown suggested that the wall could become an annual photo contest for the town for pictures of merit and beauty.
- P. Hurd said that Wednesday night the subcommittee of the conservation committee is going to the school board to give a presentation to the school about using the conservation property for educational purposes and they are very excited.

- P. Hurd said that something that bothers her is she feels that so many things that are brought up in the selectmen meetings just fall through the wayside and a couple of the questions that she has been having is an update on the old school house, and how is the solar garden at lock heart field doing. She would like the board to do updates on things after a couple of weeks to see where it is going. M. Beaulieu said that he likes the way the board is moving and they do a good job and they will do more follow up. H. Thibodeau said that there is no solar garden at Lock Heart field right now; the board has decided to suspend any future development until a few more things get ironed out. A. Rawson said that it is J. Katwick's baby and he is working on it and he has some good ideas.
- N. Marquie said that Andy is leaving the Fire Department and wanted to thank him for his service and he will be greatly missed.
- B. Carrier said that there are still corrections that need to be made and the one that sticks out the most is the police department fuel line is way too low, H. Thibodeau said it is not accurate, B. Carrier said that it needs to be accurate for the budget committee so he needs a good number in the budget.

Other Business that may come before the Board:

None

Next meeting will be October 2 @6pm

Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn and go into non-public made by A. Rawson, Seconded by R. Thibeault, All in Favor, Motion carried 3-0

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Pabon, Recording Clerk

Chairman Andrew O. Rawson

J. Michael Beaulieu

Ryan Thibeault