

Town of Milton
Board of Selectmen Meeting
July 24, 2017
Milton Town Hall
Meeting Minutes

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

Public in Attendance: Bob Carrier, Kathy Wallingford, Betsy Baker, David Carpus, John Katwick , Betsy Baker, Brian Boyer, Larry Brown, Pat Smith, Tom McDougall, Lynette McDougall, Richard Kraus.

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

NEW BUSINESS – Discussions and Possible Actions:

- **Assessment Update:**

K. Wallingford discussed a little about the assessment update that needs to be done due to some of the sales where some properties sold for more than the assessed value.

Motion:

M. Beaulieu motioned to approve the memo from Corcoran to do an update, R. Thibeault seconded.

Roll Call:

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

- **Back bay Computers:**

S. Gagnon did a presentation on what services Back Bay will do for the town and he answered a few questions from the board.

- **Auction of Tax Deeded Properties:**

The board reviewed the list of properties that could be sold, and it was said that there was only one lot with building and land and the others where only small pieces of land. The board said that it would not be feasible to do an auction with such a small amount of properties and it costs a lot to do an auction. It was said that they should check with abutters to see if they may be interested in purchasing land. The board will review the tax cards and discuss this at the next BOS meeting.

- **Wavier for 254 White Mountain HWY:**

A. Rawson discussed the issue with the retaining wall. A. Rawson stated that as Selectmen they recognize that the process followed in the construction of the retaining wall was not performed in accordance with the town regulations, they fully acknowledge that the code enforcement officer made a mistake in dealing with this wall issue. A. Rawson stated the solution to this wall issue and to avoid costs and litigations and to put this matter behind them, a motion was made.

Motion:

A. Rawson motioned that in exchange for the land owners agreement to provide the town with a written unconditional release of liability and indemnity and hold harmless agreements in this event of any future failures of this wall the town will not pursue this matter or take legal action

against the land owner with regards to enforcement of its codes regarding this wall as it currently stands. This agreement is to be drafted by the town attorney and signed by the land owners within 60 days.

Discussion:

R. Thibeault asked when was this discussed, A. Rawson stated that he discussed this with the attorney and the attorney said that this would be the best resolution to this matter for all parties. R. Thibeault asked if anyone had been told about this and why, all board members were not involved. A. Rawson stated that this is what the attorney advised the town does, A. Rawson stated that this is his motion and wanted to know if there was a second. M. Beaulieu seconded.

Roll Call:

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

- **Spencer Ricker Eagle Scout Donation:**

S. Ricker discussed the Eagle Scout Donation to renovate cemetery #83. After the project was completed he stated that they had left over funds as most of the stuff for the project was donated by Cameron's hardware. He has a check for \$249.62 to go to the Cemetery Committee. The board thanked him for all his hard work. J. Katwick thanked the Eagle Scouts for their hard work as well. J. katwick passed around photos of the project as it progressed and should it to everyone that was present at the meeting.

Motion:

M. Beaulieu motioned to accept the \$249.62 donation from S. Ricker Eagle Scout to be donated to the Cemetery Expendable trust fund, Seconded by R. Thibeault

Roll Call:

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

- **Two Capital Improvements Milton Mills Capital Reserve:**

J. Katwick spoke about the capital improvements that need to be done; the first one is to take down about 40 spruce and red pine trees behind the Milton Mills Cemetery and the lot line.

Motion:

M. Beaulieu motioned to have Urban Tree Services to come in and do the proposal for \$8,500 and expenditures to come out of the Cemetery Capital Reserve Funds, seconded by R. Thibeault

Roll Call:

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

The Next proposal he talked about was to repair the Tomb which will be \$675.00.

Motion:

M. Beaulieu motioned to have Frederick H Meyers to repair the surface of the Tomb for \$675.00 which will come out of the Cemetery Capital Reserve Fund, seconded by R. Thibeault.

Roll Call:

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

- **Cemetery Expandable Trust Fund:**

J. Katwick has a request to accept the final donation from the Milton Mills Cemetery Association for \$1,083.06; this will be put into the Cemetery Capital Expendable Fund.

Motion:

M. Beaulieu motioned to accept the donation from the Milton Mills Cemetery Fund in the amount of \$1,083.06 to be placed in the Cemetery Capital Expendable Fund, Seconded by R. Thibeault.

Roll Call:

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

- **Lease for Cell Tower at Industrial Park:**

H. Thibodeau talked about the Lease for the Cell Tower and discussed the new lease that was proposed and it was noted that the new lease would be a flat sum and the town would probably lose some money if they were to go with the new lease. M. Beaulieu stated that this should be tabled till the next BOS meeting so that they could get more information.

- **Complaint regarding protest fee for bounced check:**

John Barrette sent in a complaint about the protest fee that he received for a check that he wrote to pay his taxes and the check did not clear. A. Rawson stated that if they were to wave the protest fee for this one individual then it would be setting a precedent for others. M. Beaulieu stated that he feels that the \$50 protest fee was outrageous seeing as they are already charged \$15 for the bounce check, he feels that the town should do away with it. R. Thibeault stated that he agrees with A. Rawson.

Motion:

M. Beaulieu motioned to send John Barrett a letter saying thank you however due to town policy you will still need to pay the \$50.00 Protest fee, seconded by R. Thibeault.

Roll Call:

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

Old Business – Discussions and possible Actions

- **Old Fire Station:**

Motion:

R. Thibeault motioned to disclose the previously sealed reserve figure that the Board of Selectmen previously sealed under no public session, seconded by M. Beaulieu.

Roll Call:

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

The Board of Selectmen reserves the right to except or reject any bid below the previously set sealed minimum amount of \$80,000.

Motion:

A. Rawson motioned to allow H. Thibodeau to accept bids for the old Fire Station located at 460 Mountain Hwy; Milton NH up until 4pm on August 3rd 2017, bids will then be open in a public at the next BOS meeting on August 7th 2017 at 7pm. The Board Of Selectmen reserve the right to accept or reject any bid below previously set minimums in the amount of \$80,000, seconded by M. Beaulieu.

Roll Call:

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

- **Discussion with CEO regarding process**

B. Boyers discussed the process of how building permits are issued and approved or declined. The Board of Selectmen asked questions and B. Boyers answered to the best of his ability.

Approval of Minutes:

- **July 10, 2017**

R. Thibeault stated that on page 4 under R. Thibeault comments first bullet 7 lines down remove the word “no” before many. On page 5 first row it says B. it should say B. Graham.

Motion:

R. Thibeault motioned to approve the minutes as amended from July 10, 2017, A. Rawson seconded.

Roll call:

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

Administrator Comments:

- H. Thibodeau stated that she received a memo from Walter Cheney of Cheney property Management, they are interested in purchasing one of the land locked parcels of land, they abut 31-8 on 2 sides, and they would like to pursue buying this parcel from the town if the town has any interest in selling it. R. Thibeault stated that notification to all abutters should be sent out giving them the chance to also purchase this land.
- H. Thibodeau stated that she needs signatures for PSNH, they are requesting permission to install and replace poles in the town of Milton, and she is requesting signatures for the pole license.
- H. Thibodeau needs the board to accept a check for \$500.

Motion:

M. Beaulieu motioned to accept the generous donation of \$500.00, seconded by A. Rawson

Roll Call:

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

Donation was made by R. Thibeault to be donated to the ball field expendable trust fund. R.

Thibeault stated that he just added a little to the Selectmen’s stipend check he received, as he just wanted to give it back.

J. Katwick also thanked R. Thibeault for his generous donation.

- H. Thibodeau stated that she has been in touch with the carpet people and they said they could come in and finish the carpets next week. M. Beaulieu stated that it would be a good idea when the floors are complete to have the board go through and do a check list to be sure everything is complete and correct.

Expenditure Reports

- H. Thibodeau stated that the department heads will be getting a memo saying that it is time to start building budgets. H. Thibodeau stated that they are in pretty good shape for where they are in the time of the year.

Selectmen Comments:

- R. Thibeault stated that when the selectmen do the selectmen's agenda request that they include all information in the request. He said he tries to do the best he can and if he is missing information to please let him know.
- R. Thibeault mentioned the process of 254 White Mountain Hwy being an issue but stated that it needs to be discussed in non-public.
- M. Beaulieu stated that he just received this information tonight and he is asking for the board's guidance. This is about mileage and H. Thibodeau to date has gone over her mileage which was \$600 because she has three mandatory meetings a month that she has to go to. M. Beaulieu stated that for the rest of the year till they do a new budget, he is requesting that H. Thibodeau take the town car the night before a meeting, go to the meeting and return the car on the next work day otherwise they will have to move some money around in the budget to finish off the year. A. Rawson stated that they should be able to find extra funds in other lines to make it through the rest of the year.
- A. Rawson stated that the sentimental resale is hosting another second community yard sale on July 29th 9am-3pm if you would like to reserve a spot you can stop by their shop or you can call 973-3905.
- A. Rawson wanted to give an update on the European Naiade, they were supposed to start pulling some plants today but he is not sure if it happened because of the rain, and Wednesday they are supposed to start the herbicide, if anyone has any questions they can call the town hall and they can help them out.
- A. Rawson stated that on August 12th it is the woods water and wildlife festival that the moose mountain regional greenway is putting on at the branch hill farm and also on that same day in Milton Mills they are having a huge town wide yard sale.
- A. Rawson stated that they need to move forward with getting water put back in the veteran's park which is really town property. A. Rawson asked P. Smith if he can find out what the costs is going to be. P. Smith stated that they can put in a well for irrigation only in the water district. There was more discussion on this and some possible solutions. P. Smith stated that for now they should see about running a hose from the person that lives next to the park and just pay her the difference of what is used and what she usually uses until they can come up with a more permanent solution. A. Rawson stated that he would talk with S. Nadeau (water district commissioner) to see what needs to be done.
- A. Rawson stated that K. Brown will be holding volleyball sign ups soon.
- A. Rawson asked if there was anything that B. Baker had about the library, B. Baker stated that they had a story teller last week and that went very well. The summer reading program is going well and they have another 3 weeks of that.

Public Comments:

- D. Carpus stated that he was happy about the waiver on the stone wall.
- D. Carpus talked about the land lock properties and what else they could do with them based on information that he knew of from Florida and he was not sure if that could be done here in NH so if someone wanted to check on it.
- D. Carpus stated that any information like the pictures from J. Katwick that he passed around should be put on the new Town website.

- D. Carpus asked about the charge to remove all the trees when they are all cut and wanted to know if the charge was high because the logs are unusable, A. Rawson said that the logs were pine but J. Katwick stated that pine could be used in the outdoor boilers today and that he had some inquiries recently, he is reviewing to see if it makes sense to salvage the red pine.
- D. Carpus stated that the questions that R. Thibeault asked the code enforcement officer earlier, it may be good to list the questions and answers like a Q&A for the public.
- D. Carpus mentioned that it may be good to put in plants at the veterans cemetery that do not require a lot of water.
- T. McDougal stated that the computer that holds the video needs to be backed up if the new computer techs are going to be doing any changes.
- T. McDougall stated that he heard J. Katwick did not get three bids for the trees, he said that in the future when there are funds being disbursed there really should be three bids
- P. Smith wanted to give the board an update on the town road culvert. He received an email this week stating that the construction of the concrete culvert has been approved; they would like to plan a preconstruction meeting with H. Thibodeau and P. Smith on the 16th of August. Before that time frame P. Smith should have a schedule that he can provide the board of selectmen with on how the job is going to take place with dates and so forth. P. Smith would like to schedule a public hearing toward the end of August on a night that is not a BOS meeting as it could take a little time, he would have the contractor and himself and the two chiefs for safety questions how the job is going to go etc.
- L. McDougall would like to apologize to the Selectmen for the last BOS meeting when she became a little over passionate about some thoughts she was trying to get through to them.
- L. McDougall stated that they have had three new neighbors in the last month and wanted to know if there was anyone that goes and greets these people and let them know about when the selectmen meet, etc.
- L. Brown talked about the bounce check fees and why they might have gone up.
- L. Brown asked that we phone numbers are being read out that they should read them out slowly and say them twice so that everyone hears it.
- L. Brown stated that the Milton chamber of commerce used to provide the information to the new residents that moved to town.
- L. Brown made more comments pertaining to other topics mentioned above.
- J. Katwick stated that June 19th the board of Selectmen gave him permission to start a committee for the historical plumber school house review and he is proud to say that the telephone is ringing off the hook with people who want to join in, he has a good turn out so far and there will be more that will join.
- R. Kraus wanted to give an update on the dog warrant list, they had 87 when the board signed it they are now down to 37 unlicensed dogs, they have about 11 citations left to issue so there are about 19 citations still left out there unpaid, once the last 11 go out and if they are all not paid they will issue warrants.
- L. Brown stated that the next thing the board should consider is to establish a formal historic commission. J. Katwick agrees with L. Brown.

Other Business that may come before the Board:

None

Next meeting will be August 7 @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