



**Town of Milton
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
November 16, 2023**

ATTENDANCE:

Members: Humphrey Williams (Chair), Claudine Burnham, Andy Rawson

Staff: Chris Jacobs- Town Administrator, Chief Richard Krauss- Police Department

Humphrey Williams, Chair, opened the public session at 5:35PM.

Pledge of Allegiance: Humphrey Williams, Chair, led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Business – Discussion and Possible Actions:

a.) Boat Ramp Repair Grant Award – acceptance and signature:

Mr. Williams explained the town had received a grant earlier in 2023 for the boat ramp repair; this requires the BOS to vote to accept the grant.

Mr. Williams motioned to accept the \$93,000 grant with the authorizing signature by the Town Administrator and the Select Board Chair as back-up.

b.) Police Department – Request to sell surplus property: Chief Krauss explained since the trade-in of the 40-caliber handguns two years ago, some of the ammo has just been sitting unused in a storage locker. He reached out to a few communities which are still using the 40-caliber weapon; one is interested in purchasing the ammo at \$3.00/box; the total purchase would be \$150 which would go into the general fund.

Mr. Rawson motioned to sell the surplus for 40-caliber ammunition. Seconded by Ms. Burnham. All were in favor; the motion was approved.

Approval of Minutes:

Public Minutes:

November 6, 2023 – Ms. Burnham motioned to accept **11/6/2023 public minutes**. Mr. Williams seconded the motion. Ms. Burnham and Mr. Williams were in favor, Mr. Rawson abstained; the motion was accepted.

Winding Road Bridge Update: Mr. Williams provided information submitted by Mr. Pat Smith, Public Works Director. The actual bridge assembly has been completed; still waiting for approaches from both sides to be tarred (paved). They expect to tar (pave) early next week; after that traffic should open up on both sides. Chief Krauss said as the bridge will continue to be one lane only and due to an incline approaching the bridge, for safety reasons, the 5 MPH speed limit will continue over the bridge. Signs will be posted.

Boat Ramp Bids Update: Mr. Jacobs said he had been asked to look for bids. He received bids from two vendors. As part of the submission process, vendors were asked to submit \$5,000 bond. Only one of the bids included the \$5,000 bond. Mr. Jacobs recommended to the BOS that both vendors be advised that neither bid would be accepted.

Mr. Rawson expressed a concern that if something does not happen, the boat ramp would not be able to be used next year. He recommended having Horizon look at the lowest bid submitted; there is money to fix the ramp via a grant, it will not get any cheaper. We should continue to move forward. He worries there could be a lawsuit if the ramp is continued to be used.

Mr. Williams said the lowest bidder did not meet the obligation by not including the \$5,000 bond; therefore the lowest bid cannot be accepted. Mr. Rawson suggested finding out by the attorney if it could still be accepted. Mr. Jacobs said if we did accept the lowest bid as is, the entire process would be flawed and could possibly get the town in trouble. He recommended closing the current bidding process; after that the town could renegotiate with either of the vendors. He also said there are possibly less expensive options to pursue. He said Horizons designed a very expensive ramp, one that could be used by a very large boat. He agreed it would be best to renegotiate with one of the vendors and be clear about what exactly the town needs. The town does have a wetlands permit allowing the work to be done. Work would occur next fall, which is the low time. He also said he does agree with Mr. Rawson about the ongoing risk to the town of not having the repairs done. He recommended working with Pat Smith about possible temporary repairs which would help get through the summer, thus giving time to work out the best possible solution with one of the contractors. Mr. Rawson said something does have to be done. Mr. Williams agreed that the ramp cannot remain in the condition it currently is in.

Chief Krauss recommended sending letters to the two bidders, advising both of the interest to renegotiate and see if there are less expensive options. He also agreed with Mr. Rawson about the ramps needing repair.

Joint BOS/Budget Committee Discussion FY2024 Budget: Refer to 11/16/2023 Budget Committee minutes.

Adjournment:

Mr. Williams motioned to adjourn the public meeting. Ms. Burnham seconded the motion. All were in favor; the motion passed. The public meeting adjourned at 8:55PM.

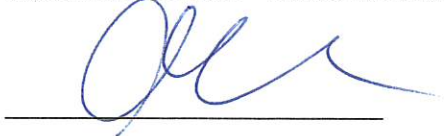
Given under our hands this 20th day of November, 2023.



Humphrey Williams – Chairman BOS



Claudine Burnham - Board Member



Andrew Rawson - Board Member

END OF MINUTES – November 16, 2023

