

**Public Notice**  
**Budget Committee**  
**Milton, New Hampshire**  
**Public Hearing**  
**January 13, 2015**

The Chairman of the Budget Committee called the meeting to order at 5:04pm  
The Board of Selectmen opened their meeting at 5:04pm

**Roll Call:** The Chairman called the roll of seating members: Chair Bruce Woodruff, Bob Carrier,  
Larry Brown, Devon Pageau, Jennifer Crone, Eric Ohlenbusch, Ann Walsh (School Board Rep.)  
Absent (Water District rep.) A quorum was present

**Selectmen:** Chairman Tom Gray, Mike Beaulieu (Budget Committee rep.) Andrew Rawson,  
Liz Dionne (Town Administrator.) A quorum was present

**Department Heads in Attendance:** Kathy Wallingford (Assessor), Michelle Beauchamp (Town Clerk),  
Nick Marique (Fire Chief), Richard Krauss (Police Chief)

**Discussion and Vote on Proposed 2015 Town Budget and Warrant Articles:**

Chairman B.Woodruff opening remarks I would like to go into the discussion of the budget in regard to increases and decreases that we were discussing with the Departments and I've since taken a look at a couple of notes that I made there were a couple of others we talked about I don't know if we settle that or not.

Chairman Woodruff: started with the first item in the budget on page 2 of the 2015 proposed budget in the Town Clerk Dept. We talked about if the vehicle was going to be available for Town business. (This is in reference to the 01-4140-840 Mileage/Travel line.)

Chairman Woodruff: do we know yet whether this is going to happen and if there's an ability to reduce that line.

Liz Dionne: The Police vehicles have been ordered I don't know when it will happen, but we will be getting a vehicle from the Police Dept.

Chairman Woodruff: The point on this if we know prior to the deliberative session on February 7<sup>th</sup> and there's a chance to amend the budget then and re vote on our recommendations.

Liz Dionne: If you vote to remove the mileage from all the different lines like I mentioned before I caution you on doing that because if someone is using the vehicle and someone else needs to use it they'll have to use their own vehicle and they will have to put in for mileage.

Chairman Woodruff: I don't think we ever talked about getting rid of all the money from all the depts.  
Just some of it.

A.Rawson: I talked to the Chief his new cars are supposed to be in by the end of the month and said he would be turning over one of the old cruisers to the Town by the 2<sup>nd</sup> week in February.

Chairman Woodruff: This closes the book on that issue.

**NOTE:** When the new cruisers come in one of the old cruisers will be turned over to the Town after all the Police equipment is removed and the car refurbished.

Chairman Woodruff: Under the Trustee of the Trust Fund it's an 8 cent difference it looks like we're recommending 8 cents more than they ask for maybe we can fix that.

Through the course of the presentation we talked about a very small number of changes we may make while noting the budget is what it should be.

The following lines are proposed reductions and increases.

**Government Building:** line# 01-4194-742 Equipment Lease reduce this by \$500.00  
line# 01-4194-640 Vehicle Fuels reduce this by \$500.00

L.Brown: In the conversation Pat mentioned the incidental uses of fuel for lawnmowers, chainsaws etc.  
I don't believe it was a major issue.

### 1.13.15 Budget

**Solid Waste/Recycling:** line# 01-4324-640 Vehicle Fuels reduce this by \$1,000

**Contingency & Bonding:** line# 01-4721-899 Unanticipated Expense

Devon ask if this could be reduced to \$16,000 or 17,000

**Outside Appropriations:** Some members want to put back the full amount asks for by CASA which was reduced by the Selectmen from \$500 to \$325.

The Chair asks the Committee on how they would like to proceed. It was suggested we go through every dept starting with the Town Administrator and work our way down and take one item at a time.

**Government Building:**

**Vehicle Fuel:** line# 01-4194-640. There was a discussion on how much was spent last year and could we reduce this line. It was also noted that if the vehicle fuel became critical he could supplement it from the Cemetery Maintenance Line. The other discussion was is the State beginning to adjust the fuel contract that the Town signed into?

Chairman Woodruff: We're not going to take a vote on any of these unless it's really contentious. My consensus lets pen it in until we get to the bottom line at the end and will talk it over with BOS to see if we can come to an agreement on this. This is the one that he could go down to \$6,500.

**Equipment Lease:** line# 01-4194-742. There was a discussion on this line.

The Committee agreed to pen this in \$500.00 reduction.

**Police Dept:**

Vehicle Fuel line# 01-4210-640. Chief Krauss offered to reduce this line from \$23,000 to \$20,000

J.Crone: Is this the line that we wanted to split the difference?

Chairman Woodruff: Yes. The Chief offered to reduce that line by \$3,000. He said if it becomes a problem he could use some of the money from the Detail Revolving Fund.

The Chairman asks the Committee what they would like to do. D.Pageau: reduce by \$3,000

**Solid Waste/Recycling:**

Vehicle Fuel line# 01-4324-640. There was a discussion about what was spent and what the fuel adjustments are going to be after the State contract adjustments are made for the next 6 months.

L.Brown: Regarding the cost of fuel it is likely that the cost of gasoline driven by close to recession factors under worldwide basis the increase efficiency of vehicle use in the U.S. and developing markets in natural gas and solar there will be a five year slowly rising curve on gasoline. They spent about \$13,000.

Liz Dionne: keep in mind that the 2014 books are still open.

Chairman Woodruff: We will pen this in to reduce this line from \$16,000 to \$15,000

**Outside Appropriation:**

CASA: There was a discussion about putting the requested amount to \$500.00. The Selectmen reduced this to \$325. There was a discussion on whether a vote was taken. After further discussion it was only a consensus.

B.Carrier: I would like to keep it at \$500.00. Chairman Woodruff pen in \$500.00

**Contingency & Bonding:**

Chairman Woodruff: We had a discussion at the last meeting after the BOS left the other meeting and ask the Town Administrator why the unanticipated Expenses line 01-4721-899.

This line has been increased to \$20,000 and nothing has been spent in 2014. There was a discussion on whether we could reduce this line between \$14,000 and \$20,000.

J.Crone and D.Pageau feel that \$16,000 would be a good number.

The Chair would like to hear from the BOS. Tom Gray: we can live with \$17,000.

The Committee pen in \$17,000

L.Brown: ask the Town Clerk how are the tax receipts coming in? M.Beauchamp they are coming in at a comfortable rate.

L.Brown: In the last 2 years what was our Bond TANS? L. Dionne: I don't know I was informed by the Treasurer that the \$6,000 would cover the interest.

### 1.13.15 Budget

L.Brown: did we have TANS in the last 2 years. T.Gray: No.

Chairman Woodruff: The question is have you ever gotten close enough to we're you would have to take out a TANS?

L.Dionne: In 2015 it might be close. I had a discussion with the Treasurer about cash flow from now till June it will be tight.

Chairman Woodruff: My next question is if we have to get a TAN have the rules changed with bank institution that the Town deals with from what it used to be that they would not allow you to borrow less than a million. We have changed Banks and the rule was different you could get a half million the interest rate on half a million is a lot less than a million. The BOS and TA do not recommend reducing this line.

D.Pageau: ask if we could take money out of the unanticipated expenses line. T.Gray: No. You can't budget for that. You need this to be on a separate line

A.Walsh: Is the COLA included in the default number? L.Dionne Yes.

Chairman Woodruff: ask the committee is there any other reductions that they would like to make. Hearing none. Can we get a revised bottom line total with these changes we penned in?

D.Pageau: The bottom line is \$3,938,609.46.

Chairman Woodruff: The default budget is \$3,931,212.04. The difference is 7,397.

The Chair ask the Selectmen what they think about those changes that we penned in to change the BOS recommended Budget of \$3,946,434.38 to these penned changes of \$3,938,609.46?

T.Gray: The consensus is that the Board is ok with that.

Chairman Woodruff: I would accept a motion to propose the Budget Committees Budget that's going to get a recommendation from both the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee. I will accept a motion.

D.Pageau: I will make a motion to recommend the Budget Committee request of \$3,938,609.46 for the 2015 Town Budget. Second by L.Brown (Discussion)

L.Brown: does \$9,000 represent ¼ of 1% on this budget? L.Dionne probably a little less.

Chairman Woodruff: The 2014 budget was 5.6%.

#### The Vote:

Chairman Woodruff: If there's no further discussion I will call the vote all those in favor of the motion to recommend the 2015 Town Budget \$3,938,609.46 say I those oppose. The motion passes (7-0)

The Board of Selectmen was in the process of making a motion to recommend when they were interrupted.

The Department heads that were present wanted a discussion with the BOS with a new proposal.

Fire Chief: N.Marique \$7,000 is not a lot of money and we think that we will come up with the \$7,000

Police Chief: R.Krauss this is the problem if there's a \$7,000 difference and they vote the default budget there are things that won't get done.

Instead of me hiring an animal control Officer and a marine patrol Officer. The marine control Officer will also be the animal control Officer. You can take \$3,000 out of my Part time line #01-4210-12. To cut it closer to the \$7,000.

N.Marique: I will reduce my bottom line budget by \$3,000 I will make it work. The difference between that budget passing and then getting a default budget that more than \$3,000 and people in this Town will vote to save \$7,000.

Chief Krauss: The difference in my department alone for a default budget is \$5,000 so we won't get an upgrade for our internet service so we don't hook in to dispatch. We don't get internet in our cruisers we stay on our old system. This keeps us on the antiquated list that were on right now and we'll have to wait a whole year before we can hook up to that system. There's a lot of things we don't get to accomplish.

N.Marique: I think it's more important for us to have budget pass than worrying we're will come up with the \$3,000.

Chairman Woodruff: The Dept. Heads are talking to the Selectmen and not the budget Committee at this point.

M.Beauchamp (TC): I will reduce my Mileage/Travel line by \$600.00 line# 01-4140-840.

K.Wallingford: I can take \$500.00 out of my Postage line # 01-4152-625.

T.Gray: ask Nick what line that \$3,000 will be taken out of.

Chief Marique: Take it out of my Part Time line 01-4220-120.

K.Wallingford: has offered to reduce her Postage line by \$700.00 instead of the \$500.00 offered earlier.

The additional reductions from the Dept heads total \$7,200.

Chairman Woodruff: If the Selectmen proposed budget is changed and they keep the changes we have made we get to a new lower total I would be asking the person who seconded the motion to move to reconsider our original motion we voted on.

There was further discussion between the Selectmen and the Dept. Heads about the reductions they have offered.

J.Crone: We have historically had a lot of turnover is something like that what's it going to do with the moral of the turnover? Chief Krauss: There's no dept they can go to right now.

As for moral the Officers will have to accept the changes that need to be made.

Chief N.Marique: I will take \$100 out of my vehicle fuel line# 01-4220-640.

### 1.13.15 Budget

There was a discussion on reducing CASA in the Outside Appropriation from \$500.00 that was put in by the BC and the Selectmen reduced it to \$325.00. It was decided to raise it to \$350.00.

#### Vote To reconsider:

L.Dionne: The new budget number is \$3,931,159.46 this a decrease of \$7,450 and is below the default budget.

L.Brown: rescinded his second and move to reconsider D.Pageau: rescinded his motion and moved to reconsider.

Chairman Woodruff: I don't think there's any more discussion to reconsider. I will call the vote all those in favor to reconsider this motion say I those oppose motion passed (7-0)

The Chair asks for a new motion to recommend the 2015 Milton Town Budget of \$3,931,159.46.

L.Brown made the motion to recommend second by E.Ohlenbusch. (Discussion)

A.Walsh: I don't like doing that I understand why we have to do that because of the 5.48% increase will probably would get voted down over \$7,000. It would be nice to see the Town Budget where it's supposed to be.

We are working in that direction I think.

Chairman Woodruff: I feel the same way I think were good on what we agreed on the \$3,938,609.46, but I will vote for this. I think our recommendations will go a long way. I think will get a budget passed this year.

D.Pageau: the 5.2% increase over last year.

There was no further discussion on the motion .The Chair called the question all those in favor of the motion to recommend a \$3,931,159.46 2015 Town of Milton Budget say I all those oppose motion passed (7-0).

Chairman T.Gray: ask for a motion to recommend a \$3,931,159.46 2015 Town of Milton Budget.

M.Beaulieu made the motion to recommend second by A.Rawson motion passed (3-0).

Chairman Woodruff: We now have the money Warrant Articles.

#### Warrant Articles:

Article 6: This Article pertains to the operating budget which is \$3,931,159.46 should this be defeated the Default budget shall be \$3,931,212.04

Chairman Woodruff ask for a motion to recommend

L.Brown made the motion to recommend second by E.Ohlenbusch (Discussion) hearing none the Chair called the question all those in favor say I those oppose.

Chairman Gray asks for a motion to recommend.

M.Beaulieu made the motion second by A.Rawson motion passed.

Recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)

Recommended by the Budget Committee (7-0)

Article 7: This is the long term lease of 3 HWY 6 wheel dump trucks. (\$494,760) payable over a term of 7 years.

This lease/purchase agreement does contain the municipal funding escape clause.

Chairman Woodruff ask for a motion to recommend

L.Brown made the motion to recommend second by J.Crone (Discussion) hearing none the Chair called the question. All those in favor say I those oppose motion passed.

Chairman Gray asks for a motion to recommend.

M.Beaulieu made the motion to recommend second by A.Rawson motion passed.

Recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)

Recommended by the Budget Committee (7-0)

Article 8: This in reference to the HWY Block Grant (\$290,000)

Chairman Woodruff asks for a motion to recommend.

L.Brown: made the motion to recommend second by A.Walsh (Discussion) hearing none the Chair called the question. All those in favor say I those oppose motion passed.

Chairman Gray asks for a motion to recommend.

M.Beaulieu made the motion to recommend second by A.Rawson motion passed.

Recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)

Recommended by the Budget Committee (7-0)

### 1.13.15 Budget

**Article 9: This in reference to the Herbert Downs Fire Station Capital Reserve Fund (\$143,000) this is to produce and finalize design and engineering plans for a new fire station to be bid on in late 2015.**

**Chairman Woodruff asks for a motion to recommend.**

**E.Ohlenbusch made the motion to recommend second by L.Brown (Discussion) hearing none the Chair called the question. All those in favor say I those oppose motion passed.**

**Chairman Gray asks for a motion to recommend.**

**M.Beaulieu made the motion to recommend second by A.Rawson motion passed.**

**Recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)**

**Recommended by the Budget Committee (7-0)**

**Article 10: This is a long term lease/purchase agreement (\$240,000) over a term of 10 years. To raise and appropriate (\$27,352.08) for the first years payment. This lease/purchase agreement does contain a municipal funding escape clause.**

**Chairman Woodruff asks for a motion to recommend.**

**A.Walsh made the motion to recommend second by E.Ohlenbusch (Discussion) hearing none**

**The Chair called the question. All those in favor say I those oppose motion passed.**

**Chairman Gray asks for a motion to recommend.**

**M.Beaulieu made the motion to recommend second by A.Rawson motion passed.**

**Recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)**

**Recommended by the Budget Committee (7-0)**

**Article 11: This is the Milton Recreation Department Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of constructing a free municipal playground. (\$20,000)**

**Chairman Woodruff asks for a motion to recommend.**

**E.Ohlenbusch motion to recommend second by J.Crone (Discussion) A.Walsh: The previously established has that always been for the purposes of checking the playground? The answer is no, this was used for whatever they needed. A.Walsh: so this \$20,000 would still go into the Capital Reserve Fund. Chairman Woodruff: This \$20,000 is earmarked for the playground.**

**L.Brown: will it require a separate line and if something comes up for \$30,000 is this \$20,000 touchable?**

**It's not touchable because it's for a specific purpose.**

**D.Pageau: I thought we were going to try to go for the bare minimum this year and get only what we need.**

**The Chair called the question all those in favor say I those oppose I motion passed.**

**Chairman Gray asks for a motion to recommend.**

**M.Beaulieu made the motion to recommend second by A.Rawson motion passed.**

**Recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)**

**Recommended by the Budget Committee (6-1)**

**Article 12: This is the Milton Free Public Library Capital Reserve Fund (\$20,000)**

**Chairman Woodruff asks for a motion to recommend.**

**L.Brown: made the motion to recommend second by E.Ohlenbusch (Discussion)**

**L.Brown: I would like to compliment Pat Smith for the detail quick and orderly attention he has paid to the punch list. It's a pleasure to see his work. He has been instrumental in starting to Sheppard the massive repairs and capital investment that the Library requires.**

**The Chair called the question motion passed.**

**Chairman Gray asks for a motion to recommend.**

**M.Beaulieu made the motion to recommend second by A.Rawson motion passed.**

**Recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)**

**Recommended by the Budget Committee (7-0)**

**Article 13: This article is for purchasing video and recording equipment**

**Chairman Woodruff asks for a motion to recommend.**

### 1.13.15 Budget

**L.Brown:** made the motion to recommend second by **E.Ohlenbusch (Discussion)** **T.Gray:** recommend to the Budget Committee cutting that in half. We got a grant for \$5,000 from Metrocast for this purpose. The other \$5,000 would be for installation and other things. The original article that was read was to raise and appropriate \$10,000. The Chair read as presented the amended article made by the BOS to the Budget Committee to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 for the purchasing and installing video and recording equipment to be used for recording and publishing various Public meetings within the Town Hall meeting room. The Chair asks for a motion to that amended language. **L.Brown** made the motion second by **E.Ohlenbusch. (Discussion)** hearing none the Chair call the question, all those in favor say I those oppose motion passed.

**Chairman Gray** asks for a motion to recommend.

**M.Beaulieu** made the motion to recommend second by **A.Rawson** motion passed.

Recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)

Recommended by the Budget Committee (7-0)

**Article 14:** This is the Milton Police Department Computer and Radio Capital Reserve Fund (\$2,000)

**Chairman Woodruff** asks for a motion to recommend.

**E.Ohlenbusch** made the motion to recommend second by **J.Crone (Discussion)** hearing none the Chair called the question all those in favor say I those oppose motion passed.

**Chairman Gray** asks for a motion to recommend.

**M.Beaulieu** made the motion to recommend second by **A.Rawson** motion passed.

Recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)

Recommended by the Budget Committee (7-0)

**Article 18:** This the Milton/Maine Bridges Capital Reserve Fund (\$40,000)

**Chairman Woodruff** asks for a motion to recommend.

**B.Woodruff** made the motion to recommend second by **L.Brown (Discussion)** hearing none the Chair called the question all those in favor say I those oppose motion passed.

**Chairman Gray** ask for a motion to recommend.

**M.Beaulieu** made the motion to recommend second by **A.Rawson** motion passed.

Recommended by the Selectmen (3-0)

Recommended by the Budget Committee (7-0)

**Chairman Woodruff:** This is all of the money articles. We are ready for the Public Hearing.

Is there any unfinished business? If not I would like a motion to recess.

**L.Brown:** made motion to recess the meeting second by **E.Ohlenbusch** all those in favor of recessing the regular session of the Milton Budget Committee say I those oppose motion passed.

### Public Hearing

This is the proposed 2015 Milton Town Budget and Warrant Articles and any other business that come before the Budget Committee.

The Chairman of the Budget Committee opened the Public Hearing at 7:01pm

**NOTE:** There was no one from the public in attendance.

The Chairman read the Budget Committees bottom line number for the 2015 proposed Town Budget.

This was unanimously recommended by both the Budget Committee and the Board of Selectmen.

The Total number for the Town of Milton proposed 2015 operating budget \$3,931,159.46 that represents a 5.2% increase over last year's budget. The Chair was looking for input from the public on the proposed total operating budget. Hearing none.

**Chairman Woodruff:** We will move on to the 2015 Warrants, specifically those warrant articles that have money appropriations where the Budget Committee made recommendations.

The Budget Committee Members took turns reading the warrant articles with money appropriations, and after each warrant article that was read, the Chair ask if anyone would like to speak to the article.

### 1.13.15 Budget

The Warrant Articles listed above with a brief description the recommendations have not changed.

The Chair ask if there's any public comment for the entire budget presentation for 2015.

L.Brown: Question it says 2015 Warrant State of N.H. does that requires us to bring to the public attention those items which do not have dollars in them?

Chairman Woodruff: No, Our authority is to hold a public hearing and solicit public comment on only those items that appropriate monies.

The chairman declared the public hearing on the 2015 Town of Milton proposed budget concluded at 7:12pm.

The Chairman asks if there was any reason to re-open the regular session other than to adjourn.

L.Brown: made the motion to come out of recess and public hearing to adjourn, if there's no other business.

Second by J.Crone. All those in favor say I those oppose motion passed. At 7:15pm

Submitted by: Bob Carrier

Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_