

**Town of Milton**  
**BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**February 24, 2022**

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Members:** Humphrey Williams (Chair), Peg Hurd, Bob Carrier, Mike Beaulieu, Claudine Burnham, Lisa Gautreau, Laura Turgeon, Larry Brown

**Public:** Billy Walden and Mackenzie Campbell – Representatives from the Milton Water District

Humphrey Williams, Chair, opened the session at 6:00PM.

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

**2.) Roll Call:**

a. Mr. Williams, Chair, led the roll call of members to determine if a quorum was present. Humphrey Williams (Chair), Laura Turgeon, Lisa Gautreau, Peg Hurd, Larry Brown, Bob Carrier, Mike Beaulieu. A quorum was present. Note: Claudine Burnham arrived after the roll call and approval of minutes.

**3.) Review / Approve Minutes:**

**Minutes of January 25, 2022:**

Ms. Hurd made a motion to approve the January 25, 2022, minutes with corrections. Ms. Gautreau seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: **Ms. Turgeon, Ms. Gautreau, Ms. Hurd, Mr. Brown, Mr. Beaulieu, Mr. Carrier, Mr. Williams all voted Yes. Motion Carried – 7 / 0 / 0**

**Minutes of February 5, 2022:**

Ms. Hurd made a motion to approve the February 5, 2022, minutes with corrections. Ms. Turgeon seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: **Ms. Turgeon, Ms. Gautreau, Ms. Hurd, Mr. Brown, Mr. Beaulieu, Mr. Carrier, Mr. Williams all voted Yes. Motion Carried – 7 / 0 / 0**

**4.) Milton Water District Budget Presentation:**

Mr. Billy Walden and Mr. Mackenzie Campbell, Representatives of the Milton Water District, attended the meeting to present their proposed 2022 budget. Mr. Beaulieu pointed out, while the Budget Committee may make recommendations or ask questions, they cannot make changes to the budget and will not vote on the budget.

Mr. Campbell explained the Stipend line-item increased slightly from last year. Mr. Williams asked for clarification on which positions are covered through the Stipend. According to Mr. Campbell, this covers the three members of the Commission, along with the Clerk and Treasurer positions. Ms. Hurd questioned why the Stipend was increasing, while the FICA line decreased. Mr. Williams said these are not salaried positions and are treated differently than a normal salaried position. After questioning from Mr. Beaulieu about the Advertising line-item, Mr.

Walden said with this budget they are trying to put items where they should belong.

Mr. Campbell said including the \$15,000 from Warrant Articles, the 2022 Budget is \$355,204. Mr. Williams asked if they had any information on revenues to present? Mr. Campbell said that information is still being worked on. Mr. Brown stressed when the Water District makes their formal presentation, it would be important to explain how much is still owed through unpaid bills and how they affect the fees, along with how the fees could be adjusted based on revenues. Mr. Walden said they have been aggressive with going after unpaid bills and have collected quite a bit. They will address the revenues and costs during the annual meeting. While the Water District is doing better than before, they continue to try and not to raise their rates. Ms. Turgeon questioned if a resident with an unpaid bill could have their water turned off? Mr. Campbell explained there is a process, and most people do pay their bill once they get a notice. They do not shut off water during the winter months and typically wait for the warmer season. They will also work with customers to arrange payment plans. For businesses, the process is slightly different, and they will pursue those unpaid bills, including placing liens against the property. They continue to work on securing grants to help minimize impacts of projects.

Mr. Williams suggested the Water District Representatives present on a quarterly or twice/year basis to either the Budget Committee or BOS. This would help the Town and residents understand what is going on with the Water District. With more information given to the public, it will help increase interest and garner public support. Mr. Walden agreed this could be very helpful and explained the public is invited to attend their meetings and read meeting minutes. Ms. Burnham agreed with the suggestion and said all town departments are invited to regularly present at BOS meetings. Mr. Williams thanked the Representatives for attending the meeting. Mr. Walden and Mr. Campbell thanked the Budget Committee for the opportunity to present.

**5.) Budget Committee Calendar for 2022-2023:**

Mr. Williams explained the 2022 upcoming meetings have been added to the website calendar.

**6.) Review Town Expenditure for January 2022:**

Mr. Williams explained there is no approved budget until the March 8<sup>th</sup> vote. However, upon review, the overall expenditures are under budget for January.

**7.) Other business that may come before the board:**

Mr. Williams said there was a suggestion for all the Boards and Committees to have tables at the upcoming March 8<sup>th</sup> vote. Residents would be able to stop by the tables and ask questions and receive information. This is a great opportunity to be in front of the residents and talk about the overall responsibilities of the Budget Committee. Both Mr. Carrier and Ms. Gautreau agreed to help with manning the table. Ms. Burnham said this idea came from Karen Golab as part of the Efficiency Taskforce.

**8.) Public Comments or Questions:**

Mr. Williams – it was good and informative to have the Water District attend tonight's meeting. He thanked all the committee for the past year. It was a good year and is grateful to the members.

Both the Town Report and the Voter's Guide will be coming soon.

**9.) Next Scheduled Meeting:**

March 22, 2022

**10.) Adjournment:**

Mr. Williams stated he would entertain a motion to conclude the meeting.

Mr. Brown made a motion to adjourn at 7:15PM; Seconded by Ms. Hurd. All were in favor.  
Meeting adjourned.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Amy Winslow-Weiss, Recording Secretary – Budget Committee**

**Approved March 29, 2022**