

Joint meeting Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee
Regular Meeting 2016 Warrant Articles
Public Hearing Meeting Minutes
Milton School Budget Warrant Articles for 2016-2017
Tuesday January 12th 2016

Chairman Larry Brown called the meeting to Order at 5:30 pm.

Roll Call of seating Members: Chair Larry Bob Carrier, Maureen Steer, Lue Snyder, Thomas McDougall, Stan Nadeau (Water District Commissioner). Ann Walsh (School Board Rep.). Mike Beaulieu (Board of Selectmen Rep.) The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Re-organization of the Budget Committee: Bob Carrier has resigned as Chairman effective with the adjournment of January 7th a motion was made to accept his resignation by Lue Snyder seconded by Ann Walsh motion passed (8-0) with thanks for his service. A motion was made by Stan Nadeau to appoint Bob Carrier as Vice Chair and recording secretary second by Lue Snyder motion passed. (8-0)

Board of Selectmen: Chairman Tom Gray, Andrew Rawson Town Administrator Liz Dionne

SAU Administration Unit #64: Superintendent Micheal Tursi, Business Administrator Nathan Castle, Bob Adams Facilities Director

Milton School Board: Doug Shute, Tim Long, Paul Steer, Brandy Banks.

Also In Attendance: Tammy Smith, Bob Smith, Nick Marique (FD), Devon Pageau (FD), Richard Krauss (PD) Eric Knapp, George Knapp, Janice Long,

Article 2: Stan Nadeau had questions on the default budget and handed out a list to the BOS, TA and the BC lines that he feels need to be corrected. The issue is there should not be any raises (COLA) in the default budget. After reviewing the list The TA will adjust all the Salary lines as well as the FICA and Medicare lines. There were other lines that will need to be adjusted and some of the lines were contractual and cannot be changed. This was tabled until the next meeting. When the adjustments are made the default budget number will be restated.

The Chair recessed the regular session at 6:28pm.

The Chair opened the public Hearing at 6:30 pm on the proposed 2016-2017 Milton School District Budget and warrant articles.

Chairman Tom Grey asked the Chairman of the Budget Committee if they could recess the public hearing for the School district because the Selectmen needed to go in non-public session.

The Chairman called a recess at 6:30

The Chairmen opened the Public Hearing at 6:40pm.

Selectmen Mike Beaulieu and Andrew Rawson returned. Chair Tom Gray and TA Liz Dionne were not present The Chairman read all the articles and after each article asked if anyone wished to speak to that article.

Milton School District Warrant Article:

Article 2: This is the Milton School District Operating Budget

\$9,844,248.84 this amount will be offset by Federal Grant revenues of \$441,704 leaving a net budget amount of \$9,402,544.84, should this article be defeated.

The Default Budget is \$9,833,472.34, this amount will be offset by Federal Grant revenues of \$441,704 leaving a net amount of \$9,391,768.34

NOTE: The amount of \$441,704 will not be raised by taxation.

- The school board recommends this appropriation (4-0)
- The budget committee recommends this appropriation (4-1)

Article 3: This is the Milton School District adopt a School Administrative Unit 64 budget of \$958,071.24 \$414,078 for the forthcoming fiscal year to be assigned to the Milton School District.

This year's adjusted budget of \$948,078 with \$410,086 assigned to the school budget of the Milton School District will be adopted if the article does not receive a majority vote of all the school district voters. NOTE: The SAU#64 consists of the Milton and Wakefield School Districts.

- The school board recommends this appropriation (4-0)
- The budget committee recommends this appropriation (4-1)

George Knapp: What is the total of article 2 and article 3 is that going to be the school budget? Mr. Tursi: you take the total operation budget of \$9,844,248.84 and add Milton's apportionment of \$414,078 the total is \$10,258,326.84 and that will be offset by the federal Grant revenue of \$441,704 and your net total is \$9,817,326.84.

George Knapp: What is the school enrollment? Supt. Mr. Tursi: Approximately 600 students.

Article 4: This article is for up to \$50,000 for brick and mortar repair at Milton Elementary School.

Lue Snyder: When these articles start saying "special warrant article" that wording is important because that means if they spend \$35,000 and not the \$50,000. You, the taxpayers, pay only the \$35,000 the other \$15,000 returns to the voters.

Paul Steer: The repairs are going to be in the soffit area underneath the roof of the Elementary School where the brick work where the roof meets the wall. The mortar is getting weak and starting to crumble out and falling brick could fall on the students.

- The school board recommends this appropriation (5-0)
- The budget committee recommends this appropriation (5-0)

Article 5: This article is the 3 year lease agreement of up to \$279,034.40 of new computers for MES, Nute Middle, Nute High School and Library. The first year's payment on the lease is \$75,428.64.

NOTE: This lease contains an escape clause.

- The school board recommends this appropriation (4-0)
- The budget committee recommends this appropriation (4-1)

Mr. Tursi: This is the cheapest way to go. They would be under warranty. We wouldn't replace all the computers at once, we would replace the oldest first and the ones that we're replacing would be stored just in case and if the escape clause was enacted only those computers that we leased would go back. We won't be without computers. This lease would be going out to bid.

George Knapp: Why not use the \$75,000 and buy them and that way we would own them.

Paul Steer: By leasing them they are under warranty if they get damaged they are covered.

Andrew Rawson: why not put a warrant article for \$50,000 I think the voter's would probably vote for this instead of the lease.

Lue Snyder: I would like to see this warrant article taken out. I'm not against getting computers I just don't think this is the way to do it.

Doug Shute: We used to replace the computers when we had the SIG grant and now that's gone.

Tom McDougall: the escape clause I want the public to know that doesn't mean that next year you'll see a warrant article that says that you're voting on the escape clause. It doesn't necessarily work like that. You have to raise and appropriate the money to continue the lease year by year.

Article 6: this article in the amount of \$32,782 is for phase one of three phases to shingle the Milton Elementary School roof.

- The school board recommends this appropriation (5-0)
- The budget committee recommends this appropriation (5-0)

George Knapp: Are we going to shingle part of the roof or all of it? Bob Adams the Facilities Director: It's approximately 1/3 the first phase is the southern part of the roof that faces the playground.

George Knapp: What kind of shingles? Bob Adams: 50 year architectural.

This went out to bid and we received 3 bids for all three phases to do the work for phase 2

Stan Nadeau: The way it's worded we will see this back on the ballot next year for phase 2 if this is approved.

This is for 1/3. If phase 2 is not approved next year then the next 1/3 will not get done.

Bob Adams: If we put a warrant up the plan is this would take care of the kindergarten and the final phase will be the North side a 3 year plan.

Article 7: This article in the amount of \$5,000 is to purchase library media for the Nute High School and Library.

- The school board recommends this appropriation (5-0)
- The budget committee recommends this appropriation (5-0)

Doug Shute: Last year we forgot to put this in and the Library and the High School came to us and asked us to put \$5,000 aside to purchase new books.

Article 8: This the Capital Reserve Fund in the amount of \$25,000 to be placed in the Milton School District Building Maintenance Repair, Renovations and Capital Project Reserve Fund for the purpose of repairing and maintaining school buildings, with such amount to be funded from the June 30th 2016 unreserved fund balance (surplus) available on July 1st, 2016.

George Knapp: Why are we putting money in this fund? Doug Shute: This is for unanticipated expenses that may occur. Last year we were digging near the foundation of Classic Nute for the Harriman report and found a tank that was buried it had fuel in it. We had to have it removed along with some contaminated soil the cost was \$10,000. The anticipated balance as of November 30th 2015 in the CRF is about \$46,630. Ann Walsh: has the money for the \$10,000 tank removal been taken out. Nathan Castle: No. Ann Walsh: we like to keep about \$50,000 to \$75,000 in that fund in case we have an emergency during the year. Lue Snyder: Has the \$29,000 been taken out yet? Nathan Castle: not yet. Lue Snyder: They usually ask for \$50,000 until this year.

George Knapp: My point is what they should be saying is that \$39,000 has been encumbered then these questions would not come up.

Larry Brown: My understanding is that the school district does not have municipal authority to maintain a contingency fund the way the town does as unreserved fund balance, what it can do is to assign amounts to categories that reflect similar town emergencies from the town. Mr. Tursi: These monies are specific to any type of emergency repair and any unexpected expenses.

Erik Knapp: Could this fund be used for the two articles that concern repairs the brick & mortar or shingles? Ann Walsh: not as a warrant article. If we take the warrant article off, or if it got voted down, we could do that.

Larry Brown: The kind of public/committee discussion on the school district warrant also points out how to track the purpose and funding of town budget line items.

- The school board recommends this appropriation (5-0)
- The budget committee recommends this appropriation (5-0)

Article 9: This article in the amount of (\$25,000) to be placed in the expendable trust fund for the of educationally disabled children to be funded from (surplus) unreserved fund balance.

- The school board recommends this appropriation (5-0)
- The budget committee recommends this appropriation (5-0)

The Chair closed the Public Hearing at 7:42pm

A motion was made Stan Nadeau and seconded by Ann Walsh to send the warrant articles to the deliberative session. Motion passed (8-0)

The Chairman reopened the regular session at 7:47pm

Town Warrant Articles Regular Budget Committee Review/Discussion, and votes.

Article 3: Bob Carrier made the motion seconded by Maureen Steer to recommend the amount of (\$2,795,000) for the design and construction of a new Fire and EMS facility in the Town of Milton. with \$235,623.94 for the first years interest payment and bond issuance costs. There was no recommendation available from the Board of Selectmen (00) Recommended by the Budget Committee (5-2-1)

Article 4: Stan Nadeau made the motion seconded by Lue Snyder to recommend the amount of (\$290,000) for Highway and Road reconstruction purposes. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (3-0) Recommended by the Budget Committee (8-0)

Article 5: Ann Walsh made the motion seconded by Stan Nadeau to recommend the amount of (\$20,000) to be placed in the Milton/Maine Bridges Capital Reserve Fund. This covers 5 bridges that connect Main & N.H. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (3-0) Recommended by the Budget Committee (8-0)

Article 6: Mike Beaulieu made the motion seconded by Tom McDougall to recommend the amount of (\$24,000) to be placed in the Milton Free Public Library Capital Reserve Fund. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (3-0) Recommended by the Budget Committee (8-0)

Article 7: Tom McDougall made the motion seconded by Maureen Steer to recommend the amount of

(20,000) to be placed in the Milton Highway Department Truck Capital Reserve Fund.
The balance in that fund was not available but if the article passes there should be enough to by a pickup truck when needed.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (3-0)

Recommended by the Budget Committee (8-0)

Article 8: Mike Beaulieu made the motion seconded by Maureen Steer to recommend the amount of (\$19,837) fund a proposed step plan for the employees in the DPW, Solid Waste and Government Buildings Departments.

Stan Nadeau: We don't know how it will affect the proposed budget with the merit raises and COLA. This was tabled by consensus when more information will be available. The motions were rescinded.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (3-0)

Recommended by the Budget Committee (0-0)

Article 9: This warrant article is to establish an expendable Trust Fund to be known as the Town of Milton Cemetery Expendable Trust Fund for maintenance and upkeep of the cemetery. \$24,961 to be put in the fund. This affects article 10. This was tabled till the next meeting when more information will be available.

Article 10: Tom McDougall made the motion second by Ann Walsh to recommend in the amount of \$10,000 For the operating expenses of the Cemetery Trustees for 2016. Said operating expenses will be reimbursed from the Town of Milton Cemetery Expendable Trust Fund. Should this warrant article pass, operating expenses will be included in the operating budget annually beginning in 2017. This was tabled till the next meeting for more information. The motions were rescinded.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (3-0)

Recommended by the Budget Committee (0-0)

Article 11: Ann Walsh made the motion second by Tom McDougall to recommend the amount of \$5,000 for The purchase of commercial grade seating for the playground and basketball court at the Milton Beach to be placed in the Milton Recreation Capital Reserve Fund. There was some concern about how this was written it was for a specific item and the committee suggested they change the wording of the article. This was tabled and the motions were rescinded.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (3-0)

Recommended by the Budget Committee (0-0)

Article 12: Mike Beaulieu made the motion second by Maureen Steer to recommend the amount of \$500 to Be placed in the Milton Town House Capital Reserve Fund.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (3-0)

Recommended by the Budget Committee (8-0)

Warrant Articles 2,8,9,10,11 were tabled till the next meeting January 14th

The Budget Committee roll call votes on each warrant article.

	Article 3	Article 4	Article 5	Article 6	Article 7	Article 12
Maureen Steer	(Y)	(Y)	(Y)	(Y)	(Y)	(Y)
Ann Walsh	(Y)	(Y)	(Y)	(Y)	(Y)	(Y)
Tom McDougall	(Y)	(Y)	(Y)	(Y)	(Y)	(Y)
Stan Nadeau	(N)	(Y)	(Y)	(Y)	(Y)	(Y)
Lue Snyder	(N)	(Y)	(Y)	(Y)	(Y)	(Y)
Mike Beaulieu	(A)	(Y)	(Y)	(Y)	(Y)	(Y)
Bob Carrier	(Y)	(Y)	(Y)	(Y)	(Y)	(Y)
Chair Larry Brow	(Y)	(Y)	(Y)	(Y)	(Y)	(Y)

Public Comment: Nick Marique: In reference to the Capital Reserve Funds you will find this year like last year there's very minimal warrant articles and that was done in an effort to reduce the amount of requested warrant articles and hopefully level fund the entire budget. I think you'll find that the reduction in the warrant article totals from last year to this year is equivalent to the increase to the budget and the whole thing should be relatively flat of the total town request. At one point it was thing have changed I don't know where it stands right now but that was done purposely in an effort to keep things the same another year. The only article is the Fire Station the other Departments all pulled back.

Approval of Minutes: January 7th 2016 Bob Carrier made the motion second by Stan Nadeau to table the minutes till the next meeting. Motion passed (8-0)

New Business: Ann Walsh: do we have John Katwick resignation? Larry Brown: I spoke to him if he could make his resignation effective January 19th, so we can have an open slot to have a vote on the 9th with one more budget committee.

Next Meeting: January 14th at 5:30pm Followed by Public Hearing at 6:30pm.

Adjourn: Stan Nadeau made the motion second by Mike Beaulieu to adjourn. Motion passes (8-0) at 8:25pm

Submitted by Bob Carrier

Date Approved _____

These are draft minutes until approved

Chairman Larry Brown _____