

Town of Milton
Budget Committee Meeting
Milton Town Hall
Tuesday November 15, 2016 6:00 P.M.
Public Session Meeting Minutes

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Brown called the regular meeting to order at 6:05 pm and welcomed everyone.

Roll Call: Mike Beaulieu (Selectmen Representative) Maureen Steer, Tom McDougall, Bob Carrier, Chairman Larry Brown, Lue Snyder (School Board Representative), Stan Nadeau (Water District Commissioner), Dennis Wing, Brenda Pabon (Recording Clerk), Caitlin Magargee Absent.

Public in Attendance: Andrew Rawson (Selectmen).

Call to Order – Quorum

Minutes Review/Approval:

- M. Steer motioned to approve the October 18, 2016 minutes with any additions or corrections as may be necessary. Seconded by S. Nadeau.
Corrections needed for the Minutes of October 18, 2016,
 1. T. McDougall stated that he was not present at the September 20, 2016 meeting; the count for approval of the minutes should be changed to 7-0-1.
 2. M. Steer stated that question 1 2nd paragraph near the end of the sentence, it says vented it should read vetted. Further down the page the line that starts with T. McDougall, should be changed to “if something is donated there should be a record showing what the donation value is in case the insurance company should ask what the value of that item is then you would get at lease the value of the donation.”
 3. D. Wing on page 4 last paragraph delete “Dennis Wing: RSA States the town and village” as he did not respond with that answer.All in favor, Motion carried 7-0-0.
- S. Nadeau motioned to approve the November 7, 2016 Special Meeting with any additions or corrections as may be necessary. Seconded by M. Steer.
Corrections needed for the November 7, 2016 Special Meeting.
 1. S. Nadeau stated that the last paragraph line 10, where it says “S. Nadeau stated that he objected to, etc.” S. Nadeau stated that he did not make that statement, instead it should be corrected to “That he attended the Board of Selectmen meeting out of respect for the position of the Board of Selectmen, they do not have any control over the Budget Committee Board and that proper protocol would have been to have this complaint go directly to the Budget Committee Chair. He also stated that he would not attend another Board of Selectmen meeting called for a complaint if it ever happened again, he hopes it never does.

2. M. Steer stated that the word “regarding” should be spelled out and not abbreviated as re.

All in favor, Motion carried 7-0-1, Lue Snyder was not in attendance at the November 7th Special Meeting.

New Business:

Town Report – The percentage from warrant articles & regular operating expenses and what categories are affecting the total budget (the expenses are not where they should be.)

- M. Beaulieu handed out the current expenditure report. Sewer is at a little over 74% as of 11/10/16 and that is with the warrant articles taken out to date. S. Nadeau stated that the warrant articles are a separate issue on their own and are not part of the budget.
- L. Brown asked if the preparation of the percentage of the budget spent a State Statute or a useful policy of the Selectmen, M. Beaulieu stated it was not a State Statute. L. Brown stated that it is not a Statutory requirement to every month have a percentage that is on the decimal to anything DRA says you must have in a given month. It is a tool for the Selectmen to see where the general expenses of the town are at.
- L. Brown asked M. Beaulieu (Selectmen’s Representative) if he felt that the percentage reflects how expenditures are going for the year and that encumbrances are being properly addresses. M. Beaulieu stated Yes.
- L. Brown had a conversation with H. Thibodeau about concerns with this being the middle of November. L. Browns understanding is that much of the process work by the department heads is done and that each department is as lean and effective as possible. M. Beaulieu stated that the selectmen are looking for a fair and sustainable budget. L. Brown also had a conversation with Nathan Castle. N Castle believes that the school district will be ready to present their budget approximately around December 6th. The school budget is still on hold at this time as they are still in contract negotiations.
- L. Brown ask M. Beaulieu if he could check with H. Thibodeau, if on November 29, 2016 at the budget Committee meeting, they could meet with DPW, Police and/or Fire Departments to review a major division of the town, M. Beaulieu stated he would have to get back to the board after speaking with H. Thibodeau.
- S. Nadeau stated that there was a letter for the tax rate that the town took \$770,000 out of the general fund and wanted to know what the balance was, M. Beaulieu stated that the balance was \$1,100,070. S. Nadeau asked if that figure falls on the low or high side of the DRA subjections, M. Beaulieu stated that it was about in the middle. S. Nadeau asked if it was a far assumption that next year they can’t do the same, M. Beaulieu stated that they would not know till next year comes. S. Nadeau said that the fact that the people are happy with the tax rate going down by \$.20, the fact was that next year could be a double edge sword because if that contribution is not there next year it could affect this year and next year.
- L. Snyder stated that \$338,000 came from the school to help with the tax rate, \$200,000 came from the school’s budget \$138,000 came from revenues that where not spent.

- B. Carrier stated that on Page 4 of the expenditure report (Contract Assessing) it is a \$73,000 budget and all that came out was \$15,073, that is nowhere near where it should be at this time of the year. M. Beaulieu will check into that.
- L. Brown asked if the DWI grant that the Police department applied for is something that would not take affect next year or will it come in automatically?
- S. Nadeau asked about the budget, on page 6 of the expenditure report pertaining to the police department, line 731 Vehicle purchase lease \$31,000 there has been nothing taken out of that yet, is this due at the end of the year? M. Beaulieu was not sure and will find out. S. Nadeau also asked on page 7 Line 435 the Hydrant fees due to the water district of \$4,200 have not been paid? M. Beaulieu will check into that as well.
- A. Rawson stated that the Vehicle lease payment will be made in November as it is every year.

What is the actual bond and interest for the Fire Station?

- B. Carrier asked what the actual cost of the Bond and Interest for the fire station. L. Brown stated that in the 2016 warrant in article 2 says “to raise and appropriate \$2,795,000 for designing and construction of a new Fire and EMS facility and to future raise and appropriate \$235,624 for the first year’s interest payment and bond issuance cost.” M. Beaulieu handed out another report with the bond and interest expenses. The total cost of the interest is \$660,048 over a period of 16 years.
- A. Rawson stated with the hard work of the treasurer, Nick and the board of Selectmen they could get the interest down about 300,000, it was supposed to be close to \$1,000,000, saving the taxpayers a lot of money.
- L. Snyder believes that the taxpayers need to know the total cost of the fire station including the interest rate, all information was present to the tax payers before voting took place. Total cost of the fire station is \$3.445 Million Dollars.

School Report

- L. Snyder states that the School budget is not being held up by teacher negotiations as that is a separate warrant article. The reason for the holdup is that they are going through the budget as there are still things that have not been put into the budget for money yet. Special ED has an increase of \$258,000 which has not been looked at yet. They are considering grants that may be paying for things. They have a grant that will be coming in that may pay for the computers in the high school. There is a \$10,000 grant that will be used for computers at the elementary school. They took the cost of computers out of the presented budget to tighten up on everything. They are still taking money out of the elementary school budget and have not considered the high school yet. They are organizing a Grantee committee.
- L. Snyder stated that the school will be fixing a sump hole, the replacement cost is close to \$40,000 out of Maintenance and Repair. Also, another \$7,000 will be coming out of the Maintenance and Repair for a water pipe. There are other repairs that need attention but these are the two top ones.
- L. Snyder stated that they have a technology fund and would like to put \$25,000 dollars a year into the trust to build it up so if computers need to be replaced the money will be there.

Old business:

Discussion measurements templates, comparable data.

- B. Carrier stated that this should come off the agenda, this will be removed from the agenda

By-Laws

- B. Carrier stated that this should come off the agenda
- S. Nadeau stated that there is a law saying that By-Laws must be reviewed within so many days of the election. This will be taken off the agenda for November 29th meeting. Board decided to vote on the By-Laws now, motion was made to approve the By-Laws as written. Seconded by L. Snyder. All in favor. Motion carried. 8-0-0
- Vote took place, this will not be on the agenda anymore.

Milton School District Budget Totals Template

- B. Carrier stated that this should come off the agenda, this will be removed from the agenda.

Concerns with residents with assessing policy's that don't concern the Budget Committee

- M. Beaulieu asked the chair L. Brown to read the RSA 32:1 which is the general rule of the budget committee so they can pass information to the new members and reminder to old members. Chair L. Brown recited a section from the bottom of the agenda which is on every agenda. He stated that if anyone wants to read for themselves a non-statutory publication by the local government center which comes from the basic law of budgeting 2011 edition they may. The Chair L. Brown declines to read what M. Beaulieu asked him to read. This reading was mainly for educating new members and reminder for current members.

Any other business that may come before the Board.

- None

Public Input:

- None

Members Comments:

- None

11.15.16 BC MTG

Next Meeting:

- Tuesday November 29, 2016

Adjournment:

- Motion to Adjourn at 7:25 pm. All in favor. Motion stand. 8-0-0

Respectfully Submitted by:

Brenda Pabon – Recording Clerk

Date Approved: 12/15/2016 BLP

These are Draft minutes until approved by the Board of Selectmen