# **Town of Milton**

#### Local Government Efficiency Task Force

#### April 13, 2021

#### **Meeting Notes/Minutes**

Members attending in person; Karen Golab, Tammy Smith, Larry Brown Mike Beaulieu, Kym Libby, Claudine Burnham, Doug Shute

**Online: Bruce Woodruff** 

Absent: John Giunco

Meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance

#### **Meeting Minutes**

- ✓ The minutes from March 24, 2021 were reviewed.
- ✓ Kym made a motion to accept the minutes as written.
- ✓ This was seconded by Bruce. A roll call of all voting members agreed to accept the minutes.
- ✓ Doug abstained as he was not at the last meeting
- ✓ Motion carried.

#### **MED Survey (Milton Economic Development)**

- $\checkmark$  We resumed review of the survey questions.
- ✓ A lengthy discussion was had regarding whether or not we could review all of the responses to question 12 because some of the

answers contained employee names or a department specifically and we could get into legal trouble for discussing in accordance with 91A regulations.

- Karen reviewed the responses to question 12 and highlighted in red the responses she felt we should not be discussing due to 91A regulations.
- Larry made a motion for the chair to read the responses to the last question and leave out responses that contained names, departments etc.
- Another option was to bail on this question for now, have Julius print this question and redact any responses containing names, departments etc.
- Karen made a motion to send the information to the attorney and have the attorney let us know specifically which responses from question 12 we can discuss and which responses we can't. She suggested we circle back to question 1 and try to identify economic and efficiency opportunities while we await further direction on question 12.

2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike

Roll Call Vote

Larry-yes Doug-yes Kym-no Claudine-yes

- ✓ It is agreed we will have the attorney notify Julius with the responses we can and cannot read from question 12.
- ✓ Kym feels the committee is not completing what the committee was tasked to do by the Board of Selectmen.

#### **Question 1: Economic Development Opportunities**

- Potential Economic Development--Make improvements to the boat ramp to increase the use and have the town retain ownership.
- Efficiency-find a way to automate collection of usage fees to use the ramp

**Economic Development**--Exit 17 and 18 from the turnpike has great potential.

Discussion strayed away from question 1. Other questions asked;

- ✓ Should we be looking at tax rates and assessing?
- ✓ Is there a schedule for a town wide assessment?
- ✓ State law every 5 years it must be done. People can request an assessment in the interim. Assessments have been done on market value.

#### Bundle tech services/fiber optics

- The town can't afford to pay a full-time tech. If we did, we would also need to have a budget for upgrades when needed.
- The BOS is asking department heads to provide updates of what is going on in their departments for the purpose of a future town newsletter.
- ✓ RSMS (road surface management survey) was discussed-should we look into this software? This software evaluates road conditions and projects repair costs.
- What stunts development and growth is that departments are lacking staff and any natural disasters will curtail any plan you may have made previously.
- Karen attended a community roundtable last year with Strafford regional planning. There was good conversation around recycling. She asked if anyone on the committee wanted to dig into that further.
- Part of that discussion also involved community services for seniors. All communities are small and don't have resources to provide lots of services for seniors. The Idea of having a regional senior center that communities contribute to and can use would benefit all communities.
- Coast will provide transportation to smaller communities but has to be subsidized to cover their costs.

## Public Comment

✓ None

### **Other Business**

#### **Next Meeting**

✓ The next meeting for the task force is set for April 26, 2021 at 6 p.m.

#### **Adjournment**

- ✓ Motion to adjourn made by Doug
- ✓ 2<sup>nd</sup> made by Larry
- ✓ Roll call vote and all members in favor
- ✓ Motion carries.