

THE MILTON GAZETTE

February/March 2016

News from the Town of Milton, New Hampshire

February/March 2016

2016 Town/School Candidates

Candidates for Town Offices & Boards

Board of Selectman - (1 for 3 yrs.)

Mike Beaulieu & John Katwick

Budget Committee - Dennis Wing(1 for 1 yr.)

- Stan Nadeau (1 for 2 yrs.)

- Thomas McDougall (2 for 3 yrs.)

Cemetery Trustee—Bruce Woodruff (1 for 3 yrs.)

Fire Chief - Nicholas Marique (1 for 1 yr.)

Library Trustee - Laurie Palmeira (1 for 3 yrs.)

Moderator - Chris Jacobs (1 for 2 yrs.)

Planning Board - Larry Brown (2 for 3 yrs.)

Supervisor of the Checklist (1 for 6 yrs.)

Diane DuBois & Robert Ferris, Sr.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector - Michelle Beauchamp (3 yrs.)

Treasurer - (1 for 1 yr.)

Pam Arnold, David Buchanan & Mackenzie Campbell

Trustee of the Trust Fund - Stanley Nadeau (1 for 3 yrs.)

ZBA - Bruce Woodruff (1 for 2 yrs.)

- Mike Beaulieu & Larry Brown - (1 for 3 yrs.)

Candidates for School Offices & Boards

School District Moderator - Chris Jacobs (1 yr.)

School District Clerk - Lynette McDougall (1 yr.)

School District Treasurer - Kristine Giunco (1 yr.)

School Board Members - (2 for 3 yrs.)

- Stefanie Berry

- Larry Brown

- Luella Snyder



March Town Election

The 2016 Town Election will be held on
Tuesday, March 8, 2016 from 8:00 am - 7:00 pm at the
Assembly of God Church, 370 White Mountain Highway,
Milton NH 03851.

This will be the second session of the SB-2 process in which the town and school budgets and all warrant articles are voted on. Absentee ballots are available through the clerks office, all ballots must be received on or before 5:00 pm on 3/7/16. Anyone seeking additional information on the elections should contact the town clerk's office @ 652-4501 ext. 3.

Homeschool



The Milton Homeschool Group
Homeschool Prom
Fundraiser

The Milton Homeschool Group will be on hand selling food at the Presidential Primary to raise funds to help offset the costs of their 2nd Annual Homeschool Prom. Please visit their concessions when you come in to vote. All proceeds go directly to funding the prom and helping to make it affordable for all eligible homeschoolers.

Supervisor of the Checklist Session

The Milton Supervisors of the Checklist will be meeting between 11:00 am – 11:30 am

On Saturday, **February 27, 2016** @ Emma Ramsey Community Center for correction of the checklist.

RSA 654:27, 28; 669:5

Fire Station Pancake Breakfast

Come on down to the Milton Fire Station and enjoy a free pancake breakfast, take a tour of the fire station, check out the equipment, and ask any questions you may have about the proposed fire station. This event is sponsored by the Milton Public Safety Association; donations will be accepted with proceeds going towards the proposed Fire Station. The event will be held on **Sunday February 28th from 8:00am to 11:00** am at the Fire Station located at 460 White Mountain Highway. Milton Girl Scouts Troop # 10739 will be on hand with a Girl Scout Cookie Booth

Milton Fire and Rescue



March 2016

Fire Station Update

Now that 2016 is upon us we would like to update everybody on the status of the proposed fire station. On Tuesday, March 8, 2016, residents will vote once again on whether the Town of Milton should build a new fire-rescue facility. In 2016 now that the finalized plans are in place, it is time to begin building this much needed facility.

The town has previously presented proposals to residents in 2007, 2008, 2009, 2013 and 2014. Over the past few years, the fire department has reevaluated the needs of the town and the department. In 2014 the town extended our contracts with the design firms for the purpose of retaining the firms and making changes to the design without incurring additional costs to the town. The design plans were finalized after the residents voted to give us the money to finalize the architectural plans.

The design changes consist of a reduction in square footage from 12,000 square feet to 9,000 square feet, as well as more simplistic footprint and rooflines. The reduction comes from consolidating spaces, making spaces dual purpose, eliminating storage space, and slightly reducing the space around the vehicles. Additionally, the new square footage has reduced the number of bathroom facilities required by code. The revised design consists of all the same components as the previous plan just on a slightly reduced scale. Is the new proposal ideal? No, but it will work for what we need. The 2013 and 2014 proposal fit our needs for today and the future. The revised plan will fit our needs for "today" and "tomorrow" but the 25-year future is unknown. The department made a valiant attempt to address a wide array concerns from the residents and continue attempting to reduce the costs without reducing the quality of the fire station. Some expressed concerns about the flat roof; it is now peaked. Some expressed concerns about the size; it has been reduced by 25%. Some expressed concerns about the project cost only being estimated; we have finalized the design so it can be competitively bid in 2016.

There is a need for a new station in Milton; this need will not go away. The cost of construction continues to rise. Grant money for a new fire stations is no longer prevalent. The Town of Milton Department Heads came together to formulate a plan for our capital needs in Milton. Part of that plan is to complete the design for the fire station in 2015 and ask residents to fund the construction in 2016. Please feel free to contact the fire chief if you have any questions, comments, or concerns at any time.



Town Of Milton
Town Administrator
Resignation
Press Release - January 13, 2016

It is with regret that the Board of Selectmen announce that Town Administrator Elizabeth Dionne will be leaving the employment of the Town. Ms. Dionne's resignation came as a surprise to the Board of Selectmen as they were beginning the first step toward a potential contract renewal.

Ms. Dionne began with the Town during April of 2013. During her time with the Town she provided day-to-day management on behalf of the Board of Selectmen. She assisted and provided significant input on many projects in the Town, always with an eye on liability. Some of these projects included the NH Solar Garden at 803 White Mountain Highway, closing on tax-deeded properties, assisted and /or provided guidance to various boards and committees, updated procedures and policies, increased staff in the Town Hall, negotiated decent vendor contracts for departmental services and more.

"I have enjoyed my time in Milton very much and I will miss everyone I've met. Milton is a wonderful Town with lots of historical charm and beauty. I will forever be grateful to the Board of Selectmen for providing me the opportunity to work for them." Ms. Dionne was quoted as saying recently.

Ms. Dionne is leaving the town to pursue another career opportunity that has recently arisen. The Board of Selectmen will miss Ms. Dionne and wish her well with her next career choice.

Ms. Dionne has submitted a 30-day resignation to the Board of Selectmen and her last day will be February 12, 2016.

For questions please contact the Selectmen.
Chairman, Tom F. Gray (833-5701); J. Michael Beaulieu (944-5574); Andrew O. Rawson (534-1330).





News from Milton Town Hall

February Meetings @ Town Hall

Planning Board: Tuesday, March 1st (6:30 pm)
 Budget Committee: Tuesday, March 2nd (6:30)
 Library Trustees: Thursday, March 4th (6:00) ((Mills)
 Selectman Tuesday, March 7th & 21st (6:00 pm)
 Conservation Comm. :Monday, March 14th (6:30)
 Water District Comm.: Tues. March 15th (5:30) -
 (754 White Mountain Highway, District Office)
 Town House Committee: March 16th (4:30)
 Recreation Comm.: Wed., March 17th (6:00 pm)
 Town Forest Committee: March 22nd (6:00)
 Zoning Board: Thursday, March 25th (6:00 pm)
 Fire Department Wed., March 30th (5:30 pm)

Current Employment Opportunities working for the Town of Milton

Check out the Town Of Milton's
 Website at: <http://miltonnh-us.com/>

Town Clerk/Tax Collector's Hours

Monday	8:30 am - 4:00 pm
Tuesday	8:30 am - 4:00 pm
Wednesday	8:30 am - 4:00 pm
Thursday	8:30 am - 6:30 pm
Friday	8:30 am - 4:00 pm
Last Saturday of Month	8:00 am - 12:00 pm

The Milton Town Office will accept absentee ballots/ or honor requests for absentee ballots until 5:00 pm on Monday, March 7, 2016.



Town Administrator Position

full information on the Town Website

The Town of Milton, NH is seeking resumes for the position of Town Administrator. Milton is located in the central east region of the state with an annual population of 4,600 and a summer population of approximately 7,000. the Town Administrator reports to a three member elected Board of Selectmen and is charged with the overall day-to-day administration of the town government as the agent of the board. Milton is an SB2 Town with a \$4.2M budget, 30 full-time employees, 50 part-time employees, and various boards and committees. More information on the town and the job description and requirements can be found at www.miltonnh-us.com. Submit resumes, cover letter and salary requirements via US Mail to: Town of Milton, Board of Selectman, PO Box 310, Milton, NH 03851. or via e-mail to: TownAdmin@miltonnh-us.com. Position open until filled

The 2015 Tax Rate is \$28.60. Had the Selectmen not used \$499,075.00 out of the fund balance towards the tax rate which would lower the tax rate from \$29.99 down to \$28.60 and lower the fund balance from 12% down to 8.58%. Those figures were submitted to the DRA for their review and on November 23, 2015 the 2015 tax rate was approved by the DRA.

2015 Town Portion \$ 8.47
 2015 County Portion \$ 2.91
 2015 School Portion \$14.83
2015 State Education \$ 2.39
 Total: \$28.60

2014 Town Portion \$ 8.56
 2014 County Portion \$ 2.80
 2014 School Portion \$12.98
2014 State Education \$ 2.37
 Total: \$26.71

Some of the reasons for the increase in the tax rate are as follows.

- The approved School portion in 2015 increase by \$682,490.00.
- The County tax rate increased by \$42,136.00.
- The State Education tax increased.
- The Town budget having been voted down for several years in a row placed the Town behind on purchases, services, needs, etc. In 2015 the proposed budget and warrant articles passed which gave the Town and Town Departments a chance to catch up on needed purchases, repairs, and services, and also gave a 9% increase to the Town portion of the tax rate. However, even with the 9% increase the \$499,075.00 out of the fund balance helped to reduce the town portion.



Milton Free Public Library

Winter Hours

Sunday and Monday closed

Tuesday 3:30-7:30

Wednesday 12:00 -7:30

Thursday 10:00 - 12:00 & 3:30 - 7:30

Friday 1:00-7:30

Saturday 10:00 - 1:00

Fun Fan Fiction Winners:



2016 winners of the Fun Fan Fiction writing contest.

From left to right: Nikia Wight, Madyson Alexander, and Kayla Dunton

The Crafty Kninjas are back! Join the Kninjas Friday afternoons 3:30-5:00 starting September 11th. The Kninjas are primarily knitters, but all crafty people (of all levels) are welcome!

Yoga classes are available Saturday mornings at 8:30 AM. Please contact Betsy Baker for more information (603)473-2401

The Lakes Region Okinawan Karate meets Monday and Tuesday evenings. Please contact Sensei Howland. (603)557-1590 email uechitom@gmail.com.

Curiosity Creates— Build It! at the Milton Free Public Library

Curiosity is a fundamental indicator of a child's success and happiness in life and leads to a life-long love of learning. Curiosity developed through free play and self-direction can lead children to an interest in the fields of science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics (STEAM). As the only library in New Hampshire to be awarded the Curiosity Creates grant from the Association for Library Service to Children funded by Disney, the Milton Free Public Library is pleased to announce the date of our first event on Saturday, March 19th from 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM at the library. Young people age 6 through 14 are encouraged to sign up early, as space is limited. Please email the library at mfppl@metrocast.net, or call 603-473-8535. Note to parents: We welcome and encourage you to come play with your children, but be aware the upstairs space will be a "screen free" zone during creative play times.

One Thousand Books before Kindergarten:

The single most important thing you can do to prepare your children to read is to read to them every day. Research proves that children need to hear 1000 books before they begin to learn to read independently. Reading to children will increase their vocabulary and their listening and narrative skills. Reading with children will also help to instill in them self-awareness, confidence and an understanding of their place in the world.

HOW CAN I READ 1000 BOOKS? It's easy!

One book a day for three years=1000

Three books a day for one year=1000

Ten books a week for two years=1000

WHEN: Today! Register anytime when your child is between birth and five years old.

It's one of the best gifts you will ever give your child!



Nute Library

Sunday - Closed

Monday 9:00 - 5:00

Tuesday 9:00 - 5:00

Wednesday 9:00 - 7:00

Thursday 9:00 - 5:00

Friday 9:00 - 2:15

Saturday 9:00 - 12:00

Special Vacation Hours: Check Website!

A Fond Farewell: Best of Luck to Librarian Jody Gourlay as she begins a new adventure teaching school at the Milton Learning Center!

School Board Meetings: The Milton School Board will be meeting in the Nute Library Community Room on Wednesday, February 24th at 6:00 pm.

Ladies Craft Group:

Our open craft group meets every Monday in the Nute Community room from 1:00 - 3:00 pm. New members are always welcome!

Homeschool Book Club

Book Club will be meeting every other week for 6 sessions. The Homeschool Group have clubs from Pr-k to high school. They meet from 3:00 - 5:00 pm on every other Wednesday. Certain grades require purchase of books and materials. To reserve your child, please contact: February dates are 2/10 & 2/24.

MiltonHomeschoolGroup@yahoo.com

For more Information please check us out at:

<http://nutelibrary.books.officelive.com/default.aspx>

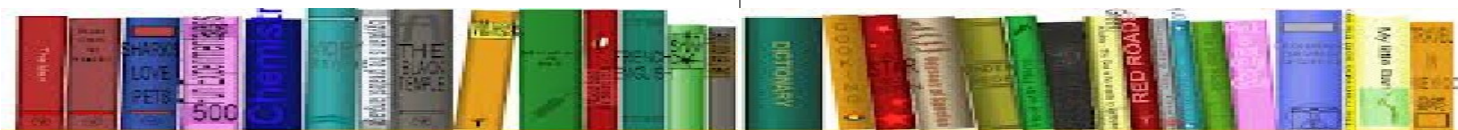
We look forward to hearing from you. You can contact the library at 652-7829, or check us out on the web at:

<http://www.milton.k12.nh.us/Nute/library/index.htm>



"There is no friend as loyal as a book."

Ernest Hemmingway



Milton Community News

Share The Help

Milton Community Services

Milton Town Office

Welfare Meetings are by appointment only.

Your must call the Milton Welfare Department at
603-652-4501 ext. 9

There is an answering machine and your phone call will be returned within three days. If you are in need of assistance please call to schedule an appointment to see if you meet the program requirements .



PUBLIC NOTICE TOWN OF MILTON, NH

Posted Roads: Unless specifically permitted by the written directive of the Public Works Director, it shall be unlawful for any person, partnership or corporation to haul, transport or cause to be transported by vehicle with a gross weight over eight (8) tons, any materials over the class V roads in The town of Milton from 1 am, February 2, 2016 through 11:50 pm, April 30, 2015 or as determined necessary by the Public Works Director.



Milton Women's Club
Community Church of Milton
7 Steeple Street
Milton, NH 03851
Monthly Meeting - All are Welcome!

The women's group is on break January - March, but will resume their programming on April 14th with a presentation by Jock McKenzie on the history of McKenzie's Farm. This is a really fun group of women! Please join them and learn a little about the history of one of our local businesses!



power Kickboxing Martial Arts You Can Master Faster!

Spring is around the corner! Lets get in shape!

Milton Parks and Recreation would like to offer a Kickboxing class at the Emma Ramsey Center on Saturday mornings. We would need at least 8 participants. The cost would be \$30.00 for 6 weeks. You would need to register to have a slot reserved for you. If you are interested and would like to sign up & reserve your spot. Call 652-4501 ext.8



NH Farm Museum
Rte. 125 - White Mountain Hwy
Milton, NH 03851
603-652-7840
info@farmmuseum.org.

2016 Hours & Admission

Open for school & group tours by reservation **May 10th thru November** Open to the public May 28th to mid-June weekends only 10 am – 4 pm.
June 22nd to Labor Day open Wednesday thru Sunday 10 am - 5 pm.
Open Labor Day thru October 30th Friday thru Sunday 10 am - 4 pm
off - season: Open for special programs and events only.
The last farmhouse tour leaves at 3:30 pm.



Milton Recreation & Milton PTA
will host an Easter Egg Hunt
On Saturday, March 19th



Nute High School Cafeteria
& School Yard / Inside in the event of rain.
Please enter the building through the cafeteria not the front entrance.

Pancake Breakfast

8:00 - 10:00 am

**All proceeds to benefit
Nute Class of 2017**

**Pre-K & 1st Grade from
9:00 am to 9:30am**

**2nd & 3rd Grade from
9:30 am to 10:00 am**

**4th & 5th Grade from
10:00 am to 10:30 am**

There will be craft activities set up in the cafeteria for hunters to take part in while the other groups hunt. Easter Bunny Photo Op!

Participants should bring a basket to collect their eggs in. The Easter Bunny will be on hand to meet the kids and pose for pictures for anyone bringing a camera.

After each group has had the opportunity to hunt, we will allow everyone to go back outside and find the remaining eggs. All hunters are encouraged to remove the candy and return the eggs so we can recycle them for next year!

Recreational Activities for March



Senior Bingo Program @Emma Ramsey Community Center Tuesdays: 10:00 - 11:30 am March 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd & 30th

Doors open @ 9:00. Coffee, donuts, fruit, cheese & crackers are served. In order to be in compliance with NH State Law, these senior bingo offerings are open to those who are 55 years old and older.



Senior Luncheon Tuesday, March 22nd Menu to be announced

The meal will be served immediately after the completion of the Tuesday bingo program. If you don't play bingo, you are still welcome to join us for the senior dinner. If you are interested in joining us, please call the recreation department phone and leave your name and number. 652-4844 ext. 8

This dinner will be prepared by the Recreation Department & Friends!

The senior luncheon program is open to area seniors who might not participate in other programs, but would still like to meet and socialize with the senior set. We host the meals once a month after one of the Tuesday bingo sessions.



Music Mill 35 Church Street Milton Mills, NH 603-473-2522

LIBERTY MUSIC GATHERING

An acoustic music jam open to all
Musicians and listeners welcome.



Everyone is invited to join this acoustic music jam that is open to all musicians and listeners alike!

Jam sessions are every other
Saturday evening.

March 12th & 26th, 2016
From 6:00 pm - 9:30 pm
Doors open at 5:30 pm
Sponsored by

Liberty Chapel, Milton Mills, NH.
Music instruction also available!



Children's Museum of New Hampshire
6 Washington Street
Dover NH 03820
Phone: (603) 742-2002
Fax: (603) 834-6275
Email: questions@childrens-museum.org

Choose Your Adventure Raffle

Raffle tickets on Sale through spring 2016

The children's Museum of New Hampshire annual car raffle fundraiser is back and tickets are on sale now for only \$100.00. We'll only sell 750 tickets so you have great odds of winning! The first place raffle winner can choose between a Nissan 370Z sports coupe valued at over \$30,000 or \$20,000 in cash. The second place winner will win a custom African Safari for 4 (airfare not included) from A-Way-To Africa Safaris valued at \$9,000.00. To purchase tickets, please call 603-742-2002 or purchase the tickets online. Winners will be chosen at a free drawing event for all ticket holders in the spring of 2016.



Winter Wildlife Walk Saturday, Feb. 27, 2016 10 am - 12:30 pm

Not much snow, but sun is
forecast for this fun and
educational winter outing!

Wildlife experts Charlie Bridges and Rich Cook from NH Fish & Game will
guide this walk through Branch Hill Farm forests down to the Jones
Brook and site of the old fish hatchery.

Learn about the habits and habitats of our local wildlife in winter
and how to spot signs of wildlife activity.

Co-sponsored by Branch Hill Farm. **FREE!** Registration



The Race will go on! Sunday March 6; 9:30 am Moose Mountain Recreation 107 Mountain Road, Brookfield

**Whether it's a snowshoe race, a fat bike race, or a muddy trail
race, you'll have a chance to compete and win!**

Volunteers needed to help with this fundraiser for MMRG! Call
Kari Lygren at 603-978-7125 or email info@mmrg.info.

Thanks to our sponsors! Wolfeboro Oil Co. & Ilex Wetlands

Branch Hill Farm NEW TRAILS Winter Walk **Saturday, March 12, 1 - 3 pm**

Forester Charlie Moreno leads us on new trails through Branch
Hill Farm woods down to the Branch River. Learn about recent
forestry practices on this tract of land.

Co-sponsored by **Branch Hill Farm** and the
NH Farm Museum. FREE!

For more information

Milton Homeschoolers & Youth Opportunities

Milton Homeschoolers

Milton Homeschoolers, we have a web site called "**Milton Homeschoolers**" to share homeschool events, news and pictures with homeschool friends and families. If you homeschool in Milton or in area towns and would like to find out more about our activities, learning events and field trips, please contact Claudine Burnham at:

MiltonHomeschoolGroup@yahoo.com

Kids Club

Kids Club is coming up on Friday, March 11th from 1-3pm at the Emma Ramsey Center, basement of Milton Town Office. This month's theme will be "Maple Sugar" and we will be learning about how Maple Sugar is made. We will have games, crafts, a lesson, snacks and more based on maple sugaring. Craft supply list will be provided upon rsvp.

Field Trip

Sugar Mama's Sugar Shack. Tentatively scheduled on, March 14th. We will be able to stay from 10:00 - 11:30 pm. The cost is \$2.00 per person. RSVP by March 9th.

Book Club

Book Club for all grade levels has started and we still have room for our Pre-K and 1-3rd grade groups. We meet every other Wednesday from 3:00—5:00 pm at the Nute Library. Please email to let us know of your interest.

Animal Project

Animal Project event is scheduled for March 19th at the Emma Ramsey 3:30 - 7:30 pm. Each student/family presents an animal and displays their findings on a presentation board, diagrams, models, etc. This event also includes a meal based on their animal topic to share with the joining families. For more information, please email above address.

Homeschool Prom Committee

We are looking for ambitious high schoolers who would like to organize, and fundraise for a high school prom this May. For those interested in this committee, please email: miltonhomeschoolgroup@yahoo.com. We will also be discussing prom ideas at Saturday's "Crew" night. Let us know if you'd like to join.



Nute Ridge Bible Chapel

99 Nutes Rd Milton, NH
03851
(603) 652-9383
Youth Activities



Teen Youth Group

Ages 3-11 yrs.

Ages 12—14 yrs.

Ages 15—18 yrs.

Milton Assembly of God Church

Sundays

9:00 am Children's & Adult Sunday School
10:00 am Sunday Service & Children's Church
6:30 pm Service

Tuesdays

9:00 am Men's & Women's Bible Study

Wednesdays

7:00 pm Service / Royal Rangers / Missinettes
All children and teens are welcome.

Please view our web site at www.miltonagchurch.org



The Community Church
of Milton
7 Steeple St.,
Milton, NH
603-652-7014

O Come Let Us Worship!

Community Church of Milton, NH
7 Steeple Street - corner of Dawson Street
603-652-7014 - Worship 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School September-June 10:00a.m.
Rev. Betsy S. Webber



Save the Date
6/11 & 6/12,
2016
Milton Town Beach

The Recreation Department would like to host a small business expo as part of the 2016 Milton Summer Kick-Off! This year, Milton is slated to host the 25th Anniversary National Championship Speedboat Race, which will bring more boats and people to the area than ever before. If you would like some real exposure for your business, and would like to participate in the 2016 festivities, please give us a call and we will save a spot for you! 603-652-4501 ext. 8

A Letter to the Residents and Tax Payers of Milton

In 2014 the Town of Milton Department Heads put forth an effort to establish a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for the town. Residents supported that effort at the March 2015 town meeting. At the same time we began working together to prioritize our capital needs in a team effort to move the town in a positive direction. Residents approved the lease to purchase several new pieces of highway equipment, an amazing new playground for our Milton families, needed repairs to the Milton Free Public Library and to finalize the design of the proposed fire station. In the summer of 2015 residents came together in a show of the largest community support we have seen in years to construct the new playground at the town beach. The Fire Department spent countless hours working with the engineers and architects to complete the design of the fire station. Public works took delivery of three new dump trucks and a new grader that immediately went to work improving town roads, all while the library was under construction for most of the summer.

In addition to our normal duties, we continued meeting to discuss the CIP. As time went on more questions arose and clear answers were not available. As Department Heads, we wanted to ensure the errors of the 2004 CIP were not repeated. We felt it most appropriate not to rush the plan through in preparation for the 2016 town meeting. Knowing the plan would need more time we once again reviewed our immediate needs and aligned them in an effort to afford a minimal tax impact. When we began meeting in 2014, it was determined that the number one priority for the Town of Milton was the construction of a new fire station. Department Heads agreed that a two year approach would be the best option (with 2016 being the year to seek approval for a bond to construct the building). The fire station has been put out to bid. The cost will only rise from here on. Now is the time to finalize this long overdue project. In addition to the construction of a new fire station, other priorities include the adoption of a Highway Department pay scale. This request, much like the Police Department's pay scale from a few years ago, is intended to bring public works wages in line with area municipalities. This is in effort to retain qualified employees. Additionally, funding is being requested to finalize the Milton Free Public Library's revitalization.

At first glance, you may ask how we can possibly afford this with our current tax rate. When we began looking at possible warrant articles to be proposed in 2016, our goal was to level fund the requests from 2015. With the priority projects identified, we looked at the impact they would have on the tax rate. With several of last year's warrant articles being one time expenditures; it was easily determined the projects could be implemented with little tax impact. The total requested funding for warrant articles in 2016 is \$30,919 more than 2015. The budget has increased by \$258,295.54, mainly due to the addition of the Public Works equipment payment approved in 2015; and the rising costs of town insurance and employee benefits. With that being said, the total increase if all warrant articles pass including the fire station and the budget would be \$289,215.44 or 79 cents per \$1,000 of your homes valuation. This increase could be easily offset by the Board of Selectmen applying funds from the unreserved fund balance. In 2015 the Board applied \$499,075 from the unreserved fund balance to the tax rate effectively reducing the town's portion by 9 cents. There is no reason to believe this historical practice won't happen again in 2016. If the Board applies the increase of \$289,215 from the unreserved fund balance to the 2016 tax, the town's portion of the tax rate will remain the same, while the much needed projects will be completed paying the way for a successful implementation of the CIP next year.

In 2015 we saw the largest turn out ever for a town election. As Department Heads, we ask for your support again to bring Milton to where it deserves to be. If there are any questions or concerns please reach out to any Town of Milton Department Head or a member of the Board of Selectmen. Please vote on Tuesday, March 8th 2016.

Respectfully,

Betsy Baker, Public Library Director
Brian Boyers, Code Enforcement Officer
Karen Brown, Parks & Recreation Director
Kathy Wallingford, Assessing Director
Nick Marique, Fire Chief

Michelle Beauchamp, Town Clerk/Tax Collector
Pat Smith, Public Works Director
Rachael Cote, Welfare Director
Richard Krauss, Police Chief