

Town of Milton
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Planning Board
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April 19, 2022
Planning Board Meeting Minutes
6:00 PM

Present Members: Brian Boyers, Chair, Ryan Thibeault, Vice-Chair, Anthony Gagnon, Matt Morrill, Karen Golab, Paul Steer, Bob Graham, Larry Brown

Absent Member: Jonathan Nute

Staff Present: Bruce Woodruff, Town Planner; Suzanne Purdy, Land Use Clerk

Guest Speaker: Autumn Scott, Regional Planner, Strafford Regional Planning Commission

I. Call to Order: Chair Boyers called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

He introduced Autumn Scott to the board.

Autumn stated she and others have been updating Milton's stormwater quality regulations in the site review regulations to bring them into compliance with the MS4 permit, and to make future compliance measures easier.

This project was funded by the DES local source water protection grant. This effort is to guide any future developments or redevelopments that will discourage any non-point source pollution, protect groundwater and other natural resources. Planner Woodruff, L. Brown and SRPC have also provided outreach materials for community awareness.

Relevant materials used in their research were the Southeast Watershed Alliance's post-construction stormwater management standards which is a set of model regulation language that was created specifically to adhere to the MS4 requirements which were added to the permit in 2017. We also coordinated with the UNH Stormwater Center to clarify any questions that arose. We focused on Milton's Site Plan Review Regulations and aligned them with the Subdivision Regulations to avoid redundancy. We added minimum control measures sections four & five which ensure any impacts from construction are mitigated in development and re-development projects.

On the pollutant tracking and accounting project, this references a recent addition that we made to the regulations changes that were not in the last version sent to the board by Planner Woodruff. This tracking is a database created by NHDES in conjunction with

the UNH Stormwater Center, to help municipalities track land use changes and pollutant reductions for nitrogen sediment and other pollutants. There is a regional consensus that there is no easy way for towns to keep track of these LU changes and pollutant reductions. The system aims to facilitate regional coordination. It requires developers to use this system when they submit their site plan or subdivision applications. A municipal administrator will be assigned with the Stormwater Center and manage the submittals with their on-line system. These new regulations only pertain to new development or re-development projects. It basically streamlines what applicants need to do with their applications and makes MS4 reporting much easier for the town.

P. Steer asked if this is a final draft, and if these changes require a public hearing.

Planner Woodruff said yes to both.

L. Brown asked if Article 17 to achieve the water quality treatment; is there a mandatory section that requires that? A. Scott said she will add the word “help” in the section discussing using low-impact development.

K. Golab asked if the definition of low-impact development is in these documents. A. Scott replied the definition is in section 3A:2, landscaping techniques.

Planner Woodruff asked if the LID could be added to the definitions section of the Site Review Regs. He also asked if in the Subdivision Regs, the right-hand column comments point to the Site Review Regs.

K. Golab noted in the older version, the applicant is responsible for not disturbing the downstream existing attributes. She also noted that hypothetically, a huge development, the town’s share is actually an unnecessary hardship to the town.

Planner Woodruff said there is a cost-share formula applied, and it is important to add that back.

A. Scott added it would behoove the developer to control their storm runoff & have it absorbed into the ground on their site. She added if the board could look at what effect it would have on future development. These changes to MS4 reporting do not have to encompass the whole town, but it’s easier.

P. Steer made a motion to send these changes to a Public Hearing, with revisions, on May 3, 2022. Seconded by L. Brown. Motion carried unanimously.

II. Review of Hoyle Tanner Road Safety Audit, Intersection of NH 175 (Farmington Rd) with Governors Rd and Nutes Rd:

Planner Woodruff gave a brief summary of the report.

K. Golab noted there is a lot to be done in that intersection.

Woodruff said the crux of the accidents is to increase the side distance: clear brush, get a slope easement, take the grade down on the hump. He added a simple letter to DOT

Division 6 inquiring if we would be able to utilize some of their discretionary funds.

L. Brown added this report does not address other high-accident intersections such as Hayes; Hare Rd. He asked the board to refer to his handwritten narrative. He added at Governors and Nutes intersection, the brush should be cut; the high tree canopy should be left intact.

A. Gagnon noted they will only go on Hare Rd once.

Planner Woodruff said regarding Hayes Rd improvements, a land swap with landowners has been discussed; the DOT already spoke with them.

P. Steer compared this intersection to Estes Rd at Rte 202 in Rochester, heading into Barrington has flashing lights.

Planner Woodruff said a similar scenario is at Long Swamp and Center Rd at Rte 202 in Lebanon, ME, where they have caution lights that only turn on when there are vehicles waiting on Long Swamp or Center roads that warns Rte. 202 vehicles in advance.

P. Steer made a motion for the Town Planner to send a letter to Division 6 to inquire about available funding. Seconded by B. Boyers. All in favor, motion passed.

III. Review/Approval of Minutes: 4.5.2022, Meeting.

M. Morrill moved to approve the 4.5.22 PB minutes. Seconded by L. Brown. All in favor; motion passed.

IV. New Business: K. Golab and L. Brown have been named to represent the Town on the Strafford Regional Planning Commission. K. Golab noted this is an excellent opportunity for the town.

Planner Woodruff said he is working on a grant using ARCA funds to hire a consultant & purchase software & data collection for Asset Management Software for our Stormwater infrastructure assets. This will include swales, outfalls and storm drains. The pre-application is due June 1st. He believes the TA already spoke to the BOS about this. The RFP needs to be a qualifications-based process, not low bid. Milton can get up to 60K for QBS, 30K for storm water asset management, and 30K for sewer system asset management.

He also noted he received the updated Zoning map today & had a few corrections.

V. Adjournment:

***R. Thibeault motions to adjourn, Seconded by L. Brown. The vote is approved unanimously. The Motion Passes adjourning the meeting at 6:31 PM. ***