Town of Milton Planning Board Tuesday, April 7, 2015 Milton Town Hall Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Chairman Brian Boyers, Tom Gray, Peter Hayward, Larry Brown, Timothy Long and Bob Graham.

Public in attendance: Selectman Mike Beaulieu, Selectmen Andrew Rawson, George Knapp, Kari Lygren, Janice Long, Barb Hughes, Eric Knapp and Cynthia Wyatt.

Chairman Boyers called the meeting to order at 6:31pm and appointed Bob Graham as a full voting member.

Public Comment

M. Beaulieu addressed Chairman Boyers as a Selectman and stated the purpose of the Master Plan is for the future of Milton. He asked if there were any thoughts about zoning changes to allow landfills. Chairman Boyers stated once you mention it in the ordinance it opens the door for landfills. It is better off to leave it alone because if it is not mentioned in the zoning then it is not allowed. M. Beaulieu asked if someone presented it on a petition warrant article again would we have to go through this all over again. Chairman Boyers stated yes if you have 25 registered voters sign a petition it has to go to vote. Selectmen Rawson stated the people of Milton have come out and spoke that this isn't something the townspeople want and asked if there was anything else they could do. Chairman Boyers stated we have permissive zoning, if it's not mentioned in the zoning ordinance then it is not permitted.

Kari Lygren stated she went to a Milton Matters meeting and they are trying to get the School Board more involved with them being such a large part of our budget. She asked if the School Board could use the meeting room here at the Town Hall to hold meetings. B. Boyers stated that is up to the Selectmen. A. Rawson stated he thinks what the School Board was asking is if when we get our video equipment they could go on Metrocast with their meetings and hold them here. M. Beaulieu stated he would like to get students more involved and maybe have a student on every board. T. Long asked if B. Boyers would be opposed to that. B. Boyers stated he is not opposed to that.

Eric Knapp stated he knows there is nothing they can do to stop petition warrant articles but there is a surprising lack of distinction in the ordinances as to what is an acceptable use so he would like to see some rules put into place to stop this. He then stated based on the ordinance there are all these rules about how to operate businesses but no rules around manufacturing. He wants the ordinance to be more restrictive and thinks this is a justified request. B. Boyers stated all of that information and restrictions are in the Site Plan Regulations. L. Brown mentioned the trick would be to state "that any operation which is, in the future, made elicit shall conform to the following specifications that are listed here as general guidelines to any type of operation".

Cynthia Wyatt asked for instance if a company came in and wanted to burn for energy, she wanted to know what the town had in place to protect the air quality. B. Boyers stated EPA takes care of that. Eric Knapp stated Bob Bourdeau said after elections we will make sure this never happens again. P. Hayward mentioned this was before the Town Attorney told us the rules.

Kari Lygren asked if there was any way to change the zoning in that zone to residential instead of industrial. B. Boyers explained many years ago there was spot zoning which has caused problems now. If someone wants to change the zoning in a particular area they would have to do a petition warrant article and it would have to go to the voters.

B. Boyers stated as far as the Master Plan goes, the Planning Board is not going to do surveys this time. They are going to work on the vision statement then have a public hearing for public comment. Eric Knapp asked if the effort was made to gather that information would they be able to present it. B. Boyers stated yes.

Close public comment

Approval of Minutes

T. Gray motioned to approve the March 3, 2015 meeting minutes. Motion seconded by P. Hayward. T. Long abstained. Motion carried.

Election of Officers

T. Long motioned to nominate B. Boyers for Chairman. Motion seconded by L. Brown. Motion carried. L. Brown motioned to nominate P. Hayward for Vice Chair. Motion seconded by B. Boyers. Motion carried.

Discussion on Master Plan Update

As there was not a full board it was decided to table the Master Plan discussion until the next meeting when the Town Planner will also be in attendance.

Other Business

- L. Brown mentioned the board's responsibilities for the CIP. He would also like to move that any application that has been granted an extension should be brought to an end.
- T. Long mentioned the lack of ability to obtain some sort of business or industry that is greener. He then passed out a letter from Les Elder regarding Tax Increment Financing.
- L. Brown motioned to adjourn at 7:15pm. Motion seconded by B. Graham. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Ladisheff Land Use Clerk