

Town of Milton  
Board of Selectmen Meeting  
October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019  
Milton Town Hall

**Board of Selectmen Attendance:** Chairman Ryan Thibeault, Vice Chair Erin Hutchings, Andy Rawson, Town Administrator Ernie Creveling, Recording Clerk; Danielle Marique

**Public Attendance:** Erin Zajieck, Jeffery Zajieck, Sandi Woods, Dennis Woods, Karen Golab, Bob Carrier, Glen Bailey, Annie Dowling, Nick Marique, John Katwick, Richard Krauss.

**Meeting call to order**

R Thibeault welcomed all in attendance reciting the pledge.

**Public Comment: None**

**New Business:**

**1. Outside Agency Presentation; HAVEN**

A. Dowling from HAVEN shared a presentation from HAVEN and the services the organization offers to the town. HAVEN focuses efforts on prevention of sexual assault and violence with facilities open 24/7 to anyone in need. Support phone lines are open 24/7 as well. 28 Milton residents were assisted in 2018 and works closely together with the schools as part of the prevention program. Thanks the Town for their continued support.

**2. Economic Development Committee Member Resignation & Appointment**

*Motion: A. Rawson moved to accept the resignation of Sandi Woods from the Economic Development Committee. R. Thibeault seconded. 3-0*

*Motion: A. Rawson moved to appoint Jennifer Marsh of Rochester, NH an alternate for the Economic Development Committee for the remaining term to expire March of 2020. R. Thibeault seconded. 3-0*

E. Hutchings stated she would be holding possession of the appointment sheet for J. Marsh for their next meeting for swearing in of officer appointment.

**3. Cemetery Trustee Alternate Member Appointment**

*Motion: R. Thibeault moved to appoint Sandi Woods an alternate for the Cemetery Trustee Alternate for the remaining 1 year term to expire March of 2020. A. Rawson seconded. 3-0.*

S. Woods, present for oath.

**4. Silver Street Reconstruction Discussion**

R. Thibeault stated this was removed from the agenda due to the concerns being completed and no need to discuss further.

**5. Approval of Town Trick or Treat Crossing Guard**

J. Zajicek requested permission to continue with the volunteer efforts of crossing guard assistance in town during the town wide trick or treat on Halloween night.

*Motion: E. Hutchings moved to approve the in town trick or treat crossing guard assistance. A. Rawson seconded. 3-0*

**6. Fire Chief N. Marique**

**a) Approval of Partial Winding Road Renaming**

N. Marique stated per 911 when a driveway has 3 or more houses on it regulations state the drive must turn to a private road. Portion of Winding Road was agreed upon by the 3 impacted residents to rename the private road Sasquatch Lane.

**Motion:** E. Hutchings moved to approve the naming of the private road 'Sasquatch Lane' effective December 1, 2019. A. Rawson seconded. 3-0

N. Marique stated the process of reviewing all town roads will begin once information is received, potential adjustments may be required at a later time once material is reviewed and discussed.

**b) SCBA Air Pack Discussion**

N. Marique recommends continuing with the current vendor the Fire department has been working with, with their current airparks as they are very satisfied with the quality and customer service provided. N. Marique stated the quote is \$169,150 with additional equipment added to it with the state bid price being \$37,000 more than the quote received. Stated this is \$10,000 below the grant award and will continue with the amendment

**Motion:** E. Hutchings moved to approve Fire Tech & Safety for \$169,150. A. Rawson seconded. 3-0

**7. Police Chief R. Krauss**

**d) Winter Parking-Town Hall Lot**

R. Krauss stated that previously residents living on the south end of Charles Street have received written permission from the Board of Selectmen to park in the Town Hall parking lot.

**Motion:** A. Rawson moved for residents to contact the Town Administrator for parking approval. E. Hutchings seconded. 3-0

**b) Request Finalization for Car2 Replacement**

R. Krauss stated the truck cost without equipment is \$28,164. to be taken from the Police Detail account with the purchase of the equipment to come at a later date.

**Motion:** A. Rawson moved to expend no more than \$29,000 for the completed purchase of Car 2. E. Hutchings seconded. 3-0

**a) Phone System Discussion**

R. Krauss stated he received 4 quotes for new phone systems; Atlantic BoradBand and Verizon Wireless both being voice over ip, IntelChoice being a hybrid voice over ip and a hard line system, Consolidated being a hard line system. R. Krauss suggested to continue with a hard line system as it allows to remove and transfer to any location in the case of an emergency or building closure. R. Thibeault questioned the life expectancy of the system. R. Krauss stated the current system has been in place his time as chief in town and has been relocated twice in that time. E. Hutchings questioned the reasoning for the price differences. R. Krauss stated this was due to each company providing a

different system and functions that not all were the same exact options. N. Marique reiterated the suggestion of a hard line system as it provides a greater level of reliability. R. Krauss stated the approximate monthly costs after installation for the Verizon system would be \$300/month and Atlantic BroadBand would be \$363/month. Consolidated would be approximately \$130/month after the equipment purchase of \$13,000 and offer of \$430/year support plan. R. Krauss stated he would be available at the next meeting for a decision of which company to continue with.

**c) SRO Warrant Article**

R. Krauss stated the total amount of the proposed warrant article is not singularly the salary costs, it is including the costs associated with training, overtime, insurances and salary for 6 months of the year. The ability of SRO position allows to assist with the Safe School Act, teaching instances for students and faculty, building rapport with students as well as families and offers additional options for the DARE program. The 2021 Police operating budget would reflect a full year of this position compared to the proposed 6 month warrant article.

***Motion:** A. Rawson moved to have the town attorney review proposed warrant article verbiage for accuracy. E. Hutchings seconded. 3-0*

**8. Library CRF Spending Request**

***Motion:** R. Thibeault moved to approve spending \$148,634. To finalize the payment of the Milton Free Public Library Tower repair project. A. Rawson seconded. 3-0*

E. Creveling stated the boiler at the library was deemed non repairable by the contracted service technician. Due to the emergency need of heat in the building a replacement boiler was ordered from Strogens and flue liner repair totaling a cost of \$15,918. The new boiler will be delivered and installed the beginning of November with flue repair concluding afterwards. A. Rawson questioned where the money was going to be expended. E. Creveling suggested waiting until closer to the end of the year to see where monies are at but there is currently funding in the unanticipated line as well as potential under the Building Maintenance Government Buildings budget line.

***Motion:** A. Rawson moved to approve the purchase and repair of the Library boiler for a total of \$15,918. E. Hutchings seconded. 3-0*

**9. Casey Road Committee Discussion of Tax Map 41, Lot 81**

K. Golab stated an abutter's survey was provided and was found that a 3.04 acre parcel of Town owned land off Route 75 abuts the Casey Road easement project and would like to continue with the merger process. A. Rawson questioned what the plan was for the parcel. K. Golab stated there currently is no plan for the property, discussions would eventually take place. R. Thibeault stated there is no problem starting the process to see what the other boards feel of the proposal.

**10. 460 White Mountain Highway Discussion**

R. Thibeault stated the current proposal of the construction of the old fire station that has been presented to the planning board was for one office and three apartments. The Board was under a different impression of the plans of the property based on the August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Board of

Selectmen meeting. E. Hutchings stated she recalled being at the meeting as a member of public. A. Rawson stated he was impressed with how the progress of the building is going. R. Thibeault stated he would like to see the board of selectmen enforce and continue with the original intended use of a commercial building stating the Town could benefit from more businesses. E. Hutchings agreed but without any stipulations or conditions previously motioned and in writing it is difficult to enforce. A. Rawson stated the property is now back on the tax roll which is an improvement none the less and there are many vacant commercial buildings currently in town. W. Cheeney stated the current plans for the building show 4, one bedroom apartments with washer and dryer facilities and garage space and is hopeful to rent each unit for \$1,500-2,000/month. Stated at the beginning of the planning stages it was intended to have one apartment and seven storage units with an office. W. Cheeney explained that once a realtor takes over the sale of any property there are conditions and rules to be followed where all communication is directed and diverted with the broker and not the seller to buyer. R. Thibeault suggested the property become a commercial building. A. Rawson stated there are too many unoccupied commercial buildings in town to potentially have another and is pleased with the progress to date. E. Hutchings stated she would like to see the current plans follow through as the building is being brought back to life. W. Cheeney questioned if he was clear to continue with construction as plans state. R. Thibeault stated the planning board previously approved his construction and building plans so he is fine to continue as long as he is staying within the zoning requirements. W. Cheeney suggested to conduct a multi board meeting with the Economic Development Committee, Board of Selectmen, Planning Board to come together to devise and discuss a future plan for development.

**Motion:** R. Thibeault moved to appoint Town Administrator Creveling to schedule a joint meeting to discuss economic planning.

#### **Other Business: None**

#### **Meeting Minutes**

E. Hutchings moved to approve the September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 meeting minutes. A. Rawson seconded. 3-0

#### **Expenditure Report**

E. Creveling stated the town should be facing a total of 89.6% expended to date where current reports show 71% expended. Explained the report will show an over expended line for legal services and contract services due to ongoing litigations but there are relative savings in the full time salary line due to the position being empty since July.

#### **Public Comments:**

**L. McDougall:** Stated the growth in town was a great progress.

Questioned the amount of land that has been given to conservation and its relevance. Questioned what the Town is getting in return for services for the land transfer.

**G. Bailey:** Expressed concern with individual's property being no interest or right to anyone but the owners.

### **Administrator Comments**

E. Creveling stated the Town received \$74,099 revenue to distribute as part of the HB 4, this was an additional amount the school was given. Explained the school board would like to discuss their plans with the monies they received stating they may conduct and hold a special district meeting to expend in particular ways which may result in delaying the tax rate setting.

Stated the Waste Water Operator Contract would soon be amended to reflect a term date to calendar versus the current of yearly in April, more detail will follow in upcoming meetings.

Stated Strafford Regional Planning Commission presented a proposal for the completion of the MS4 report totaling \$1,489. Explained that he will currently continue processing and completing the report but will get back to the board in the upcoming weeks with the status of the report and may need to utilize the commission to finalize.

### **Selectmen Comments**

**A. Rawson:** Thanked W. Cheeney for his assistance in town. Questioned the status of town owned property auction. E. Creveling stated this is in progress status will be provided in upcoming meetings.

**E. Hutchings:** Thanked all who attended the SpookTacular event.

**R. Thibeault:** Thanked W. Cheeney for sticking to his word, explaining there are many working parts to the economic development.

R. Thibeault moved to adjourn the meeting and continue in a workshop session to discuss town budget progression. A. Rawson seconded. 3-0

### **BUDGET PROGRESSION WORKSHOP**

E. Creveling questioned what scenarios and options the board would like to review prior to the next workshop on October 28<sup>th</sup>. A. Rawson stated he would like to see all employees receive wages they deserve and requested the 2019 default number used as a baseline and adding in the wage increases as necessary. R. Thibeault stated there has been great progress so far however not to the extent of the proposed budget. Suggested not including any full time positions. E. Creveling stated as an approximate, there would be a difference of \$85,000 by removing the proposed full time positions. R. Thibeault suggested a potential of closing town hall to the public one day a week where employees are still able to work five days a week and public at 4. E. Hutchings stated there are too many big picture issues that have gone on and things need to be completed and currently there are attempts without the staff to do so.

**Motion:** R. Thibeault moved to remove any proposed full time positions from the proposed 2020 budget. A. Rawson seconded. 1-2

**Motion:** A. Rawson moved to remove anything but contract expenses and employee wages. \*No second, motion defeated.

R. Krauss stated the town has operated under 3 default budgets in the 15 years which provides a disadvantage from the beginning of each year, explained that things cannot continue to be put off constantly, it will be a bigger cost at that point. Suggested to remove proposed full time positions from the operating budget and place them individually under warrant article and have the residents vote to

what they find appropriate per department. Explained that including small raises in a default is not a resolution to the problem.

T. McDougall stated the Budget Committee wants to have the Board of Selectmen give their suggestions before the budget committee decides on their own budget number. Ultimately they would like the two boards coming together as a whole.

E. Creveling stated most of the default is complete will be finished for the meeting next week.

R. Thibeault moved to adjourn the workshop session and continue in nonpublic 91-A 3II (a). E. Hutchings seconded. 3-0

Next Board of Selectmen Meeting Date:

*\*Workshop Session\* Monday October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – 5:30PM*

Respectfully submitted;  
Recording Clerk,  
Danielle Marique

---

Chairman Ryan Thibeault

---

Erin Hutchings

---

Andy Rawson