

Town of Milton
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
February 28, 2022

SCANNED
3-22-22

ATTENDANCE:

Members: Claudine Burnham (Chair), Andrew Rawson, Matthew Morrill

Staff: Chris Jacobs, Town Administrator

Public: Kym Libby

Claudine Burnham, Chair, opened the public session at 6:00PM.

1.) **Pledge of Allegiance:** Claudine Burnham, Chair, led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2.) **Public Comment:** There were no public comments.

3.) **Announcements and Community Calendar:**

- Town and School elections will be held March 8, 2022, at the Nute High School. Polls open at 8AM and close at 7PM.
- Yogi Bear Campgrounds is looking to hire 30 young people for the summer and are currently taking applications.

4.) **NEW Business – Discussion and Possible Actions:**

a.) **Department Head updates:**

Library – received via email and attached to BOS packets.

Recreation – received via email:

Basketball was well attended with 77 players. Thanks to all the parents and children who participated. Senior program – Bingo averages 45 players; January there was a spaghetti dinner and February soup and sandwiches. There is interest in having spring soccer – looking for coaches to donate their time. Camp Three Ponds – for the upcoming camp season, reservations and applications will be starting soon (a list has already been started). Kid's Night Out have been well attended with positive parental feedback.

Easter Hunt – plans are underway. Will be accepting donations of baskets, eggs and candies.

Public Works – Pat Smith:

The Public Works Department has plowed, sanded and salted as needed; roads cleared and maintained sidewalks and parking lots. Have done maintenance on all the equipment and washed the salt from them.

The department has steamed culverts that were frozen to help relieve the ice buildup in the roadway. Have maintained Bolan, Hare, Mason and Teneriffe Roads with stone due to abnormal thaw. Cut up and removed fallen trees in the right of way.

Public Works crew has been helping Solid Waste with trucking of our waste.

Roads have been posted to reduce spring load limits, effective March 1st.

Ms. Burnham is hopeful that in the future more departments and committees will attend meetings and inform both the BOS and town of what is happening in their respective areas. As an example, at the last Budget Committee, representatives from the Water District were

there and presented an update which was very informative and helpful. Ms. Burnham also explained at the upcoming vote there will be tables to visit with representatives (and/or flyers & other information) about the various committees and boards.

Mr. Jacobs – on Friday, they received a request from Paey Construction for an exemption from the current exemption from Milton Ordinance RSA 41:11 to allow them to access their property at 76 Piggott Hill Road. This was in response to the recent road postings. Mr. Paey does not anticipate more than a few times and would be in contact with authorities to let them know ahead of time before using both Piggott Hill and Allen Hastings Road. This is an annual request from them.

Mr. Morrill made a motion to approve the exemption submitted by Mr. Paey of 76 Piggott Hill Road. Mr. Rawson seconded the motion. All were in favor; the motion was approved.

b.) Dam Report regarding the Milton Dam (letter of 2/11/2022):

Mr. Jacobs read his memorandum to the BOS: The Town was copied on an inter-office memorandum between the State's Dam Bureau to the State's Engineering & Construction (E&C) section.

The purpose of this memorandum was to alert the E&C Section that the dam has deficiencies that are of a hydraulic, structural and maintenance nature. As a licensed professional engineer and the TA, I feel the memorandum does not represent the urgent need to move forward with the work outlined in the memorandum. If the lake has to be drawn down during a summer construction period, it will result in loss of revenues to businesses that rely on the summer tourism; summer beach program and gate fees would suffer.

Property owners along the lake would probably lineup for abatements because without water in the lake their values would drop. The Town is not in a position to offer abatements to owners if the lake is drawn down for a significant amount of time.

The water precinct would be impacted by a very low drawdown since portions of the waterline from the well field would be exposed to freezing temperatures if the work occurred during the winter.

Of even bigger concern was that the hydrology and hydraulic analysis was last calculated in 1999. Since then, we have undergone a significant flooding event in 2006. During that time over 50 homes around the lake experiences significant flooding damage. With the increase in property values and construction I suspect the impact today would be even greater. I'm also aware for certain project types we are now using a 500-year design event (due to the region experiencing rain intensity and amounts equal to a 500-year design event). In 1999 the analysis showed the dam would overtop the 2.5 times the 100 year in-flow design event. Analysis based upon the 500-year event would show increased flow and flooding.

Based on these outlined concerns, I recommend the Board:

- 1.) Write a letter to the Dam Bureau and Engineering & Construction (E&C) Section requesting a new hydrology and hydraulic analysis be conducted that reflects the potential impact to the dam and properties around the lake;
- 2.) Request the Dam Bureau call for an updated Emergency Action Plan (EAP) to reflect the downstream impact with the updated hydrology and hydraulic analysis;
- 3.) Request the Dam Bureau determine a cost estimate to repair or significantly improve the dam to extend the dam life out another 50 years. If this cannot be accomplished, then the cost for a full replacement be determined. Mr. Jacobs sent an email to Corey Clark, PE on

February 18th and is waiting for his response.

Mr. Jacobs explained the report indicates the Dam has a safety rating less than one indicating the structure is unsafe. He would like the BOS to authorize him to write a letter to the Dam Bureau and to the engineers asking the state to move the timeline forward (the letter would be from the BOS). He also would like the Dam Bureau to update their Emergency Action Plan (outlining what would happen if the Dam were to experience a full breach). Mr. Rawson agreed it would be prudent to submit a letter outlining all of the concerns. Mr. Jacobs said this letter would also be sent to the Governor. Mr. Morrill said he had a concern if this were moved up and a drawdown would not be best done in April because what would happen if there was not enough rain prior to the summer months. Mr. Jacobs also wondered how this would impact the European Nyad efforts. Mr. Jacobs said it would be best to get the concerns out early on so this would not be passed over.

c.) Lockhart Field correspondence with NHDES:

Mr. Jacobs received an email from DES with the representative admitting that due to COVID there were some things that were pushed back.

For Lockhart Field they were looking for an AUR document that would go to abutters to Lockhart Field that there is a landfill there. When the monitoring wells were installed, there was a round of sampling, but no continued rounds of sampling. This work has been done in cooperation with Strafford Regional Planning (under the grounds field grant) with Credere Associates. Mr. Jacobs said he reached out to Credere and asked for a cost contract. He also explained there are no funds that were designated in the proposed budget to cover the costs. Mr. Rawson indicated he believes this will be OK and can find the revenue to cover. Mr. Jacobs will find out the sampling costs and the groundwater report and permit costs.

d.) Approval of contract with CAI Associates, Inc.:

Mr. Jacobs explained CAI Associates updates the tax maps for the town and provide hosting abilities to look at the information on their website. This is for \$1,500 per year. This is covered under the proposed budget.

Mr. Rawson made a motion to accept the CAI contract for \$1,500. Mr. Morrill seconded the motion. All were in favor; the motion was approved.

e.) Applebee Road Landfill – groundwater sampling proposal:

At the request of Ms. Burnham after she met with Mr. Katwick concerning the Applebee Road Cemetery. At that point Mr. Katwick explained there was supposed to be a third groundwater test done at the Applebee Road Landfill area. Within the Capital Reserve Fund, there is ~\$2,401. Mr. Jacobs contacted Eastern Analytical who had done the last round of testing. The new round of testing would cost \$4,268 which is substantially more than previous testing. This is due to current testing now includes PFAS since the state is gathering more information on PFAS. He suggests even with the additional \$2,000 it is important to have the final testing.

Mr. Rawson made a motion to approve \$4,268.50 for Eastern Analytical to conduct the testing. Mr. Morrill seconded the motion. All were in favor; the motion was approved.

5.) OLD Business:

a.) **79 Charles Street renovation update:** Mr. Jacobs sent a letter on February 10th. The owners did then get a building permit; the owners indicated they will be demolishing the building.

b.) **Intent to raze 549 White Mountain Highway** – letter sent 2/10/2022: Mr. Jacobs received a response from the owner thanking the town for helping her to take down the property. The assessor contacted the property owner clarifying the town would lien the property to cover the costs. The property owner is OK with moving this forward.

Mr. Jacobs said the above should help the town understand that progress is being made. Mr. Rawson stressed it's important for residents to understand that specific policies and procedures must be followed.

6.) **Other Business That May Come Before the Board:** There was none.

7.) Approval of Minutes:

Non-Public Minutes:

There were no non-public minutes.

Public Minutes:

February 9, 2022– Mr. Rawson made a motion to accept the 2/9/2022 Public meeting minutes as written. Mr. Morrill seconded the motion. All were in favor; the motion was accepted.

Mr. Jacobs explained he reviewed 2021 meeting minutes to make sure all had been posted to the website. In doing so, he determined the May 3, 2021, minutes had not been signed by the BOS (those minutes were signed during this meeting).

8.) Public Comments Relative to Current Meeting Topics:

There were no public comments.

9.) Expenditure Report:

February's report will be ready for the March 7th meeting.

10.) Town Administrator:

- Our next meeting is March 7, 2022.
- Pat Smith cannot attend tonight's meeting and has submitted his report (read earlier during Department updates).
- Town vote is March 8, 2022.
- The Annual Report went to the printer on Friday, February 25th with the expectation for mailing by March 2nd.
- The Voter's Guide went to the printer on February 25th with the expectation for mailing by March 2nd.
- The Town Assessment to Sales Ratio has fallen dramatically. In 2019, it was 96.6% and 2020 was 93.8%. In 2021, that number decreased to 68.2%. What this means is if we wait until 2024 to do the re-evaluation, there will be a great shock to the residents with a huge rise in their overall values, along with the corresponding tax rate dropping would mean a large number of residents

could be unprepared to pay the bills generated by the re-evaluation. He recommends the town consider an encumbrance at the end of the year to begin preparing for this. Ms. Libby questioned when the last evaluation occurred? Mr. Jacobs said it was in 2019 and needs done every five years. He also said the opposite could happen and perhaps the actual prices would not be so inflated.

- I will be working from home on March 9th. I will be out of the office from March 10 to March 18. Brittney will prepare the Board agenda and packet for the BOS meeting on March 21st.
- We were contacted by relatives of Mrs. Wilchinski of Pineland Park. They will repay a welfare lien from August 2018 and redeem the property. Mr. Jacobs recommended \$2,300 to \$2,400.
- The State DES has re-issued the discharge permit for the Wastewater Treatment Plan as of February 23rd.

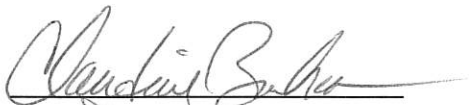
11.) Selectmen Comments:

- Mr. Rawson – it is great to see Karen Brown and the Recreation be so busy. He also wanted to express his appreciation for Pat and his department – this has been a tough winter with all the ice and weather.


12.) Adjournment:

Mr. Morrill made a motion to adjourn the public meeting and enter into the Non-Public meeting. Mr. Rawson seconded the motion. All were in favor; the motion passed. The public meeting adjourned at 6:50PM.

Given under our hands this 21 th day of March, 2022.



Claudine Burnham – Chairman BOS



Matthew Morrill - Board Member



Andy Rawson - Board Member

END OF MINUTES – Feb 28, 2022

