

Town of Milton
Board of Selectmen Meeting
May 6th, 2019
Milton Town Hall

Board of Selectmen Attendance: Chairman Ryan Thibeault, Vice Chair Erin Hutchings, Andy Rawson, Interim Town Administrator David Owen, Recording Clerk Danielle Marique

Public Attendance: Humphry Williams, Maureen Steer, Ernie Creveling, Roger Eaton, Betty Eaton, Bruce Woodruff.

Meeting call to order

R. Thibeault welcomed public in attendance reciting the pledge.

Public Comment

H. Williams: Questioned the cost of the fairy house project at the Town Beach. A. Rawson stated the total cost for the project was approximately \$1,600.00, half of the project was funded from the Beach Revolving Fund.

New Business:

1.) Introduction of Town Administrator

R. Thibeault reported and introduced the newly hired Town Administrator Ernest Creveling effective May 15th, 2019. Also thanked D. Owen for his time and assistance to the Town over the last 3 months.

3.) Hiring of Assistant Town Clerk/ Tax Collector

D. Owen stated both Michelle Beauchamp and himself conducted interviews for the Assistant Town Clerk/ Tax Collector and reached the recommendation of appointing Cris Mares Turner the position.

Motion: E. Hutchings moved to conditionally approve and sign the appointment for Cris Mares Turner as Assistant Town Clerk/ Tax Collector at \$14.00/hour, subject to the results of a criminal background check. A. Rawson seconded. 3-0

E. Hutchings stated the question of ability to hire staff while under default budget has been asked. The ability to hire staffing within default is due to the position being vacant, this is not for a new position they are for current outstanding positions that are unoccupied and previously budgeted for.

4.) Hiring of Land Use Clerk

D. Owen stated the hiring team for the Land Use Clerk position conducted interviews and provided their recommendation of Ashley Fortier.

Motion: E. Hutchings moved to conditionally approve the hiring of Ashley Fortier as the Land Use Clerk at a rate of \$18.00/hour, subject to the results of a criminal background check. A. Rawson seconded. 3-0

7.) Municipal Clerks Week Proclamation

D. Owen reported that this week marks the 50th anniversary of Municipal Clerks Week, Town Clerk/Tax Collector M. Beauchamp has requested the board approve the Town's proclamation.

A. Rawson stated all clerks deserve recognition for their hard work and commitment.

***Motion:** E. Hutchings moved to approve and sign the Proclamation recognizing the week of May 5-11, 2019 to be Municipal Clerk's Week. R. Thibeault seconded. 3-0*

Public Hearing

2.) Acquisition and Possible Disposition of Land Parcel; Tax Map 17, Lot 5

D. Owen reported that as the board recalls the parcel at Map 17 Lot 5 was gifted to the Town to which the board voted to approve the gift. To continue with State RSA 41:14a proper legal procedures were not followed then and the purpose of this public hearing is to remain in compliance with the RSA. The board welcomes any public input regarding this acquisition. No public comment.

***Motion:** E. Hutchings moved to continue this public hearing to the May 20th, 2019 Board of Selectmen meeting with a final board vote to commence the June 3rd, 2019 meeting. A. Rawson seconded. 3-0*

5.) Exit #17 Economic Revitalization Zone Update

D. Owen referred to Town Planner B. Woodruff for the ERZ Exit 17 discussion update. B.

Woodruff thanked D. Owen for his time serving the Town and the work completed especially with follow through of projects and communication.

B. Woodruff stated as previously discussed the purpose of the Economic Revitalization Zone is to offer short term tax credits to businesses. Currently there is 322 acres under the ERZ and has gone to the State for approval.

B. Woodruff also reported there have been draft agreements established for the Townhouse Bridge project and requested the agreement be reviewed from legal counsel. Board consensus agreed. E. Hutchings questioned the payment amount for Strafford Regional Planning membership dues for 2019. D. Owen stated dues are set at \$5,500.00, which feels this is a great asset and is adequate for the services provided to the Town, especially with projects requiring specialized concentration.

6.) Bolan Road Paving Discussion

R. Graham shared concern and a drafted proposed warrant article for the paving of Bolan Road. Stated there are safety and hazard concerns with the continual road conditions and fear emergency vehicles will not be able to access residents due to the conditions at times of heavy rain or during the spring thaw. D. Owen stated this is something that would go on warrant and would be additional to the already decided list of town roads to be paved or repaved for this year. E. Hutchings expressed there isn't reason why this could not be presented as a 2020 warrant article. B. Woodruff suggested this be included in the CIP under an additional item for the DPW.

***Motion:** R. Thibeault moved to have P. Smith create a CIP article to continue with the requests of this project. E. Hutchings seconded. 3-0*

R. Thibeault stated for clarification the CIP process that the Planning Board recommends to the Board of Selectmen to which the Board of Selectmen recommends to the Town residents for final vote. M. Steer suggested reviewing of the past resident legalities of the abandoned building at the corner of Route 125 and Bolan.

8.) New Beginnings Food Pantry

B. Eaton reported the name of the food pantry is currently Revolution Food Pantry with hopes of changing it in the near future. Reported 50 families from Milton are utilizing the food pantry and 850 families within all of Strafford County all the way to Dover. Stated there are no qualifications or income guidelines for clients receiving the bimonthly allotment of food.

Old Business:

9.) Town Vehicle & Equipment Surplus Bid Follow-Up

D. Owen reported the bids for the surplus vehicles resulted in the sale of the two retired police vehicles and the 1975 Ford tractor, no bids were received for any of the other vehicles or equipment.

***Motion:** E. Hutchings moved to approve the bid of \$2,055 for police vehicle #1, \$2,010 for police vehicle #2 and \$600 for the 1975 Ford tractor. A. Rawson seconded. 3-0*

***Motion:** A. Rawson moved to approve the after bid offer of \$250.00 for the highway department 2003 Ford pickup truck. E. Hutchings seconded. 3-0*

10.) Follow-Up Discussion on Auction Results

D. Owen reported that the auction of tax titled properties completed Saturday May 4th bringing in roughly \$130,000.00 to the Town with only one property not selling at this time.

11.) Follow-Up Discussion on & Potential Decision of Board/Committee Vacancies

D. Owen reported D. Marique has provided the list of open positions as well as the individuals of interest for each position with appropriate appointment sheets.

***Motion:** A. Rawson moved to approve and appoint B. Walden and B. Bourdeau to the 3-year Economic Development Committee terms. E. Hutchings seconded. 3-0*

***Motion:** E. Hutchings moved to approve and appoint R. Weiss to the 3-year Conservation Commission term. R. Thibeault seconded. 3-0*

***Motion:** R. Thibeault moved to approve and appoint L. Banks, A. Banks, P. Katwick, B. Carrier, J. Kimball and S. Babel to the 3-year Townhouse Stewardship Committee terms. E. Hutchings seconded. 3-0*

12.) Follow-Up Discussion Re.: Lockhart Field Status Letter to DES

D. Owen reported the given time requirement the NH DES gave the Town of 60 days has passed and would like to continue with the good standing efforts to notify DES with the Town's intended plans. Stated as part of the requirements the contaminated barrel would need to be removed. After requesting the DPW receive quotes for the project CYN Environmental Services contract would be for removal and disposal of the two 55-gallon drum barrels and the surrounding soil totaling \$3,660.00 which could be expended from the Unanticipated Expenses line. Reported that Credere Associates can provide a cost estimate for the remaining items

within the project list and the payment of work would be determined within the preparation of the 2020 budget. R. Thibeault expressed concern with the cost of the other items on the list and believes the continuance of the remaining projects would be dependent if they are subject to the appropriations related.

Motion: E. Hutchings moved to move forward with the drum work and approve the expenditure of up to \$3,660 from the Unanticipated Expenses account to pay for the removal and remediation fo drums and contaminated soil at Lockhard Field, as requested by NH DES. A. Rawson seconded. 3-0

Other Business

E. Hutchings questioned the status of the Solar Garden invoice that was received. D. Owen stated that there are two working parts towards the Solar Garden; revenue to the Town from the source of energy and payment in lieu of taxes. Solar Garden had requested payment from the Town for the difference in usage and the energy provided. The conclusion was to take the amount of the 'invoice' and apply it to the amount that would be brought to the in lieu of tax payment.

Meeting Minutes

Motion: R. Thibeault moved to approve the April 15th, 2019 special meeting minutes. E. Hutchings seconded. 3-0.

Motion: E. Hutchings moved to approve the April 15th, 2019 regular scheduled meeting minutes. A. Rawson seconded. 3-0.

Motion: E. Hutchings moved to approve the April 25th, 2019 special meeting minutes. A. Rawson seconded. 3-0.

Public Comments

None

Expenditure Report

A. Rawson questioned the TA Printing & Copy line 01-4130-610. E. Hutchings questioned the TA Equipment Lease line 01-4130-742. D. Marique explained that the default budget does not reflect both the photocopier lease as well as the postage meter lease as the postage meter lease cost was never taken into effect and that the total line may be reflective of this.

E. Hutchings questioned the TC/TX Legal Notice line 01-4140-391, GB Heat line 01-4191-420, GB Equipment Lease line 01-4191-742, Fire Mileage/Travel line 01-4220-840, Planning & Code Mileage and travel line 01-4240-840, and Sewer Equipment Maintenance line 02-4326-740.

D. Marique stated she would provide detailed reports for each line in question and any others that may come up in time. R. Thibeault stated the GB Heat would be from when the furnace at the highway barn needed to be replaced that the board previously approved of. Also stated the Town is under default therefor line totals may be showing higher than they should be. Expressed the Budget Committee really needs to focus on the 2020 budget and its preparation rather than the spending of the 2019 default budget.

Administrator Comments

D. Owen reported he is confident in handing the Administrative role over to Mr. Creveling and very pleased to have assisted the Town over the last 3 months. Thanked the Board of Selectmen for allowing him to serve the community.

Selectmen Comments

A. Rawson: Thanked D. Owen for such great help to the Town and welcomed E. Creveling.

E. Hutchings: Thanked D. Owen for his work and the tasks he managed to accomplish in such a short period of time.

R. Thibeault: Thanked D. Owen for his time stating it was a pleasure working with him and the ability of what was learned from his time serving the Town.

Motion: *R. Thibeault moved to adjourn. E. Hutchings seconded. 3-0*

Next Board of Selectmen Meeting Date:

Monday May 20th, 2019 – 6:00PM

Respectfully submitted;
Recording Clerk,
Danielle Marique

Chairman Ryan Thibeault

Erin Hutchings

Andy Rawson