

Question One: What is the Town's greatest asset? (Rank in order of importance with 1 being most important)

Summary of Responses:

An overall evaluation of this question is the greatest assets are the natural habbitat, recreational and turnpike accesses.

Economic Development Opportunities:

Priority

Government Efficiency Opportunities:

Priority

Top Three Comments:

- 1) Lake
- 2) Rual, family, small town charm
- 3) Location

Overall Evaluations of Comments:

QUESTION COMMENTS:

- 1 keep milton small and charming
- 2 Lake

3 town water for all
4 lake is a great source of revenue
5 Room for growth
6 put all homes on town water, would have cleaner lake
7 rural character
8 feed the poor and elderly
9 lake
honest government officials, it seems like some have only their interests in mind and there are a lot of people that
10 hire their relatives and they are not doing the jobs
11 rural feeling
12 industrial park
13 Keep small town, zero growth in population
14 property relief opportunities
15 there are no other assets
16 sentimental family value
17 we are seasonal residents at mi te jo's
18 lake
19 town employees
20 N/A
21 Few neighbors
22 lower taxes
23 Railroad
24 Lack of development and desire to "grow"
25 Woodland setting / privacy
26 Proximity to the seacoast, train tracks, highways
27 rural neighborhoods
28 sense of place villages-places to go
29 Property owners around Milton three ponds
30 business opportunities
31 Quiet
32 Put anything here, because the educational system is ranked among the worst in New Hampshire.
33 Good mix of rural type housing with fields, wetlands, and woodlands with some residential areas between.
34 Farm land allowing for personal small farms
35 Peace & Quiet

36	Milton 3 Ponds
37	Freedom
38	NON- COMMERCIAL USE
39	our employees
40	Lake
41	None

Question Two: When it comes to growth and development, what us the Town's greatest challenge? (Choose only one)

Summary of Responses:
 The Town's greatest challenge providing business incentives/assistance for development in commercial and industrial zoning districts while protecting natural resourses and small town charm.

Economic Development Opportunities:

Priority

Government Efficiency Opportunities:

Priority

Top Three Comments:
 1) Taxes
 2) Education
 3) Need for business

Overall Evaluations of Comments:

QUESTION COMMENTS:

- 1 high taxes with no industrial business base to support it
- 2 high taxes
- 3 providing garbage pickup and mail delivery
- 4 taxes
- 5 high taxes
- 6 parking
- 7 Roads
- 8 leadership
- 9 any development could alter the "small town character" perhaps more specific positive advertising of existing resources such as yogi campground will bring more revenue to the town...
- 10 getting traffic to support businesses
- 11 poor school system
- 12 Pay off town debt
- 13 limit urban spread and limit govt
- 14 all of the above
- 15 clean up old boat store
- 16 availability of long term elderly housing
- 17 lower taxes
- 18 this town is unfriendly to new businesses
- 19 Trying to waste money on growth when the town is good as is
- 20 School system consumes too much tax revenue and provides very limited opportunities to our children.
- 21 Lower taxes
- 22 No new growth desired.
- 23 Reducing property taxes
- 24 Property Tax Rates
- 25 Informing people, those in the government and residents, of the need to improve the tax burden structure with in the town. The Town needs to start marketing its' self as a business friendly town.
- 26 Redacted

27 Education: Milton has the lowest performing schools in the state (at average income). This is a travesty. Rt 125
28 through town is a dump with decaying, paint-peeling buildings. Until this is cleaned up and the schools either
29 combined with Wakefield or Farmington or significantly improved, nothing else will matter. Businesses will not want
30 to be here and people will not want to move here.
31 Education
32 infrastructure costs - not a lot for water and sewer options for expanding business or multi family
33 Improving the educational system, as this will attach more families, which will spur economic growth and other
34 developmental goals.
35 NIMBY
36 Proving child care. Let Wild Wood Daycare take over the Milton Learning Center
37 Insufficient infrastructure
38 Providing an education system that people would move to the town to be part of, rather than moving out of town to
39 get away from.
40 Education
41 Any growth effort requires a platform to collectively express and define "vision". Educational settings are the nexus
42 of learning the values and skills to be aspirational thinkers of any community.
Reducing blight in the downtown area, and increasing usability and cohesion, as well as attractiveness of that area,
to attract more small businesses and increase a sense of community
Public parking in downtown area
Schools
High taxes that take money from people's pockets that could be used for their own version of development and
growth, not bureaucratic growth that is done inefficiently.
Needed infrastructure. Sewer, water, ect.
The towns people who don't want change

Question Three: What type of development is most needed? (Rank in order of importance with 1 being most important)

Summary of Responses:

The type of development most needed are to increase commercial uses in Milton and Milton Mills Villages, increase commercial or industrial uses on NH Rte. 75 and Exit 17, as well as, on NH Rte. 125 and Exit 18.

Economic Development Opportunities:

Priority

Government Efficiency Opportunities:

Priority

Top Three Comments:

- 1) Clean up and restore downtown.
- 2) More restaurants and grocery market.
- 3) No development.

Overall Evaluations of Comments:

QUESTION COMMENTS:

- 1 Keep Milton Mills, minimally developed. I sought this out when buying a house
- 2 clean up downtown
- 3 Rehab and renew historic structure. a) downtown apts are an eyesore into a museum with hands on experiences of rich historic area. b) have another area of handmade reasonably priced crafts, food artwork to be sold on consignment .. C) move pizza nook to area of old ding a ling make it a larger area for a family restaurant with more extensive menu.
- 4 resturants
- 5 all
- 6 more walking paths
- 7 more affordable rentals
- 8 low income housing
- 9 real grocery store
- 10 cleaning up: roads, parking, trash, property, water
more local child care facilities locally . older school aged children have school while younger siblings have to get care out of town in already full facilities with long waiting lists. what about the daycare that is in the industrial park?
- 11
- 12 protect open spaces
- 13 Offset property taxes with commercial businesses. since 2012 businesses that where open have closed
- 14 outdoor recreational activities
- 15 none
- 16 more small businesses
- 17 I moved here for the quiet , small town feeling
- 18 none
- 19 fix the problem to get the gas station off exit 17 finished and china pond finished
- 20 need less development
- 21 controlled non-industrial: Professional / High tech and Recreational leisure development
- 22 restaurants
- 23 no commercial/industrial
- 24 access to boat launch

25 lose the planner position
26 Remote work opportunities in high tech occupations that don't impact the natural environment and resources.
27 we are a bedroom community with recreation on lake. No new development
28 Grocery Store and Restaurants
29 Tear down houses and plant more trees
Update downtown Milton amen make it more inviting. It's a shame how run down it is with dilapidated houses and
30 buildings.
31 Investigate potential for railroad access.
32 don't increase commercial uses and housing, celebrate jewels of lakes that exist, cater to summer visitors
33 Lower taxes
34 We need a supermarket
35 No development. Just maintain. No new developments
36 More tourism-related businesses and food services
37 Make town more attractive to the public
38 Explore development opportunities on the rt16 corridor.
Milton is small. There has been ENOUGH development. People that have lived in Milton for decades, can no
39 longer afford homes. I would think the taxes we pay should suffice in running this small town.
40 No more housing
41 Recreational
Clean up or demolish the buildings along Rt 125 through town and put in decent buildings and/or parking to
improve the street appeal of the town. This will attract businesses and home buyers. Build cheaper housing
42 elsewhere if needed.
43 clean industry
44 stop cutting down trees
45 Services to encourage tourism for all seasons cater to property owners on lakes.
46 Rehab the downtown
47 adding to our recreational options
rank 2 - attractive, quality development in the villages and on 125 that preserves and enhances the "small village"
character and attracts high value development
48
49 more rental opportunities
50 Improving the educational system.
51 Prevention of degrading the natural beauty of the area by allowing development by outside investors
Adequate education for the kids in town, the rest follows if you have an education system that people are not trying
52 to get away from.
As the world goes the way of Dollar Generals, rural towns must seize the niche opportunity to
53 commercialize/leverage "small town charm" as it becomes evermore exotic.
54 Increased recreation and tourism
55 Public parking in the downtown area
56 Supporting privately owned local small business
57 Agro-tourism
Decentralized development - get the government out of the business of picking winners and losers and let the
58 people develop.
I think if you decide to open/allow more business in the downtown area, I think you will have to worry about traffic in
59 the pizza nook area
60 less conservation land in Milton/ Milton Mills
61 None

Question Four: What type of housing are most needed? (Rank in order of importance with 1 being most important)

Summary of Responses:
 The type of housing that are most needed are single family detached, other (see below comments) and Over 55 housing communities.

Economic Development Opportunities:

Priority

Government Efficiency Opportunities:

Priority

Top Three Comments:
 1) No new development
 2) Low income housing assistance
 3) Assisted living and nursing home

Overall Evaluations of Comments:

QUESTION COMMENTS:

- 1 none
- 2 none
- 3 none
- 4 none
- 5 none
- 6 none
- 7 none
- 8 none
- 9 none
- 10 none
- 11 none
- 12 none
- 13 none
- 14 subsidized/assistance... rochester says there isnt even a list for milton
- 15 none
- 16 low income
- 17 low income housing
- 18 low income
- 19 none
- 20 tiny houses
- 21 none
- 22 none
- 23 Education needs to improve - if it does, more people will move here and build homes
- 24 none
- 25 none
- 26 what is now available
- 27 mobile home parks
- 28 none
- 29 condos
- 30 none
- 31 low income/rent subsidized
- 32 none
- 33 none
- 34 none
- 35 none
- 36 none
- 37 none
- 38 none
- 39 none
- 40 none
- 41 cluster housing to preserve land
- 42 none
- 43 none
- 44 condo
- 45 none
- 46 none
- 47 none
- 48 none
- 49 none
- 50 no apt

51 none
52 nursing home or med clinic
53 none
54 ???
55 none
56 none
57 No new housing
58 People should clean up their current properties and comply with town ordinances
59 NONE!
60 More tax payers to lower the burden
61 none
62 Housing should be the least of priorities
63 none
64 Redacted [REDACTED]
65 No trailer parks
66 Tiny home & off-grid development.
67 Housing is fine. No growth needed.
68 none
69 Don't need more housing
70 Affordable starter homes
71 Owner occupied or none
72 no mobile homes
73 NO ADDL CONSTRUCTION NEEDED. Milton is beautiful due to the lake and surrounded wooded areas.. How much more should be lost to development..?
74 NONE
75 None - refurbishing existing homes is of primary importance
76 Let the market decide.
77 None
78 no additional houses please
79 right-sized housing for singles, empty nesters, and starting couples
80 Let homes and apartments be organically built with demand
81 No additional housing is needed
82 None. Residential isn't tax revenue rich on average. So no advantage to more crowding.
83 mobile homes and alternative housing like tiny homes
84 N/A
85 NO trailer parks
86 NONE
87 None. Too many residences being built now. Increases traffic dangerously in semi-rural areas. Increases need for road repairs and maintenance.
88 no more trailer parks
89 All of the above!
90 Whatever type of house a person decides to build for THEIR needs, not the town's needs.
91 Condominiums
92 None
93 duplex housing
94 None

Question Five: What is the most important issue for town government to focus on? (Rank in order of importance with 1 being most important)

Summary of Responses:
The most important issues for town government to focus on is in the following order: Economic development, natural resources, land use economic development and educational and cultural resources. The remaining issues were ranked within the range of similar percentages between 1 to 3% difference. Due to the close results of these issues, the survey answers that many have a variation of what they deem as most important issue for the town government to focus on.

Economic Development Opportunities:

Priority

Government Efficiency Opportunities:

Priority

Top Three Comments:
1)
2)
3)

Overall Evaluations of Comments:

QUESTION COMMENTS:

Question Six: What should be the Town's top capital improvement Priority? (Choose only one)

Summary of Responses:
 The town's top capital improvement priority overwhelming answer is the village (Milton Mills and Milton) redevelopment and revitalization.

Economic Development Opportunities:

Priority

Government Efficiency Opportunities:

Priority

Top Three Comments:
 1) Retain, preserve and improve town controlled buildings and public road infrastructures.
 2)
 3)

Overall Evaluations of Comments:

QUESTION COMMENTS:

- 1 Reduce the size of local govt, by consolidate and spread cost over population based on merging with other boardering communittees
- 2 Help our elderly citizens with taxes, garbage pickup and mail delivery
- 3 Public safety and roads all else is BS
- 4 stop spending over budget
- 5 Road maintenance, especially cleaning up roads after storms (brush, trees, dirt etc)
encourage and approve small businesses to grow. local people should be able to open local business without all the hoops our administration makes them jump through
- 6
- 7 bring in more developers
- 8 get rid of all the rundown building in downtown milton
- 9 preservation of 3 ponds
provide boat access to the downtown area the railroad tracks are a problem. Build a bridge so people can go to stores
- 10
- 11 Preservation of lake water quality
- 12 build a bigger high school with vocational center to attract more families
- 13 bridge
- 14 fix the bridge
- 15 get rid of "ding a ling" building not only an eyesore but possibly dangerous. demo and use for parking
- 16 Convert dam to hydro-electric station to power more street lights/future traffic lights
Downtown Milton. Help the owner of rays marina get his place ready to open and lease. It's been an embarrassment to the town for years men not the owner s fault.
- 17
- 18 Property values/taxes.
- 19 Lower taxes
stop passing ordinances stifling businesses, even if it is a pass thru business. Roads are there for public use and we get state and federal money to up keep the roads. not a good climate for business. Stop spending on money just to spend money.
- 20
- 21 Better schools.
- 22 Village redev/revitalization with a focus on youth, education, and redefining/strengthening town identity

- 23 telecommunications infrastructure to support new work-from-home white collar positions
- 24 Town sewer into Milton mills
- 25 Improve the capital of the people in the town by lowering the oppressive tax rate.
- 26 Water and sewer, education
- 27 Not sure I have enough info to make an informed decision and select

Question Seven: What should be the top economic development Priority? (Choose only one)

Summary of Responses:
 The top capital improvement priority is overwhelming in construction and development of retail and food-beverage businesses. Following priorities are the needs for recreation and tourism industry.

Economic Development Opportunities:

Priority

Government Efficiency Opportunities:

Priority

Top Three Comments:
 1) Overwhelming interest is to support resources and businesses to lower taxes.
 2)
 3)

Overall Evaluations of Comments:

QUESTION COMMENTS:

- 1 lower property tax
- 2 lower taxes
- 3 Rehab Downtown Milton
- 4 Lower taxes so the elderly dont lose their homes
- 5 Support free enterprise and keep a low bar for businesses to open here.
- 6 reduce taxes
- 7 increase revenue to town so taxes can be lower
- 8 beautify downtown
- 9 lower taxes
- 10 Limit government and lower taxes
- 11 time to leave it alone
- 12 low income housing development
- 13 jobs for local residents
- 14 taxes
- 15 ungate the beach or dont charge
- 16 Reduce taxes
- 17 Protecting natural environment, stewardship for limited summer visitors
- 18 Demand should govern economic development
 Businesses in general (manufacturing, cottage, services...) offer a climate (property tax breaks, shopping local, business gazette ...) to encourage small business, but to pursue larger business to locate to Milton. Property taxes, land prices and housing are only rising the closer you get to the seacoast. Milton needs a way to market itself to business and to continue to buy new vehicles for the Fire dept. Highway dept. police force every year is not economically smart for the Town.
- 19 Rec and tourism can have an important interdependent relationship with Cottage and Craft business for maximum economic impact.
- 20 Local businesses such as farm, artisan or food
- 21

Improving the community through cottage/craft business while building out telecom infrastructure to support work from home. High-tech job sector has transitioned to work-from-home due to COVID and this will not change back.

22

23

Rehab/reuse of residential structures

Lowering taxes so people have their own capital to develop how they choose with the money they made themselves.

24

25

Anything that brings about economic growth

Uses of natural resources campgrounds atv snowmobiling dirt bike tracks and the businesses that support it restaurants lodging campgrounds water parks etc,keeping town owned land for use for all the people not just uses of select few that make the decisions

26

Question Eight: Which of the following do you support or would like to enhance? (Choose all that apply)

Summary
 The top choice selected to support or enhance are trail and recreational activities following are cultural and festival events and entertainment.

Economic Development Opportunities:

Priority

Government Efficiency Opportunities:

Priority

Top Three Comments:
 1) Support: Business, farmers market, use of town meeting house, restaurants.
 2) Enhance: ATV trails and open trails along the river of the damn, downtown parking, natural resources.
 3) Create: Free education and lecture series, urgent care and grocery stores, skating rink, town docks, LGBTQ friendly events, dog park, bike lane.

Overall Evaluations of Comments:

QUESTION COMMENTS:

- 1 LGBTQ Friendly events
- 2 businesses
- 3 appearance of downtown
 Shore land protect form boats with balusters filled to capacity. Milton water levels are kept too high in the lake. the advanced erosion is heartbreaking and frustrating since a couple easy but efficient changes could be made
- 4
- 5 business support
- 6 town dock, downtown parking
- 7 lockhart field is healthy , not safe and needs to be addressed
 Our downtown in Milton is the front door of our community. Unfortunately that front door looks like it belongs on an abandoned building. It doesn't reflect what a great little community we have. Perhaps if our appearance was better it would attract developers for better housing and businesses.
- 8
- 9 none, all cost money
- 10 keeping the campground small
- 11 leave the people alone, lower the taxes, stop spending money on BS like this
- 12 Limit the number of out of state boats on the lake
- 13 clean up lockhart field or not allow anyone on that site. dangerous and possible poisonous
- 14 free events for poor or even homeless
- 15 resturants
- 16 skating rink either the ballfield or lockhart field
- 17 dog park
- 18 use the town meeting house for events after Covid is over
- 19 make milton a destination not a drive through
- 20 would support cost free/volunteer options
- 21 urgent care and small grocery store
- 22 farmers market
- 23 allow residents to use beach/lake without having to pay entrance fee
- 24 diversity

25 get a rec director that will do something besides hire relatives to do nothing
26 food opportunities, restaurants etc
27 lower property taxes
28 free town beach access. why do residents have to pay? isn't that part of our property taxes
29 minimal to no town funded enhancements
30 nothing. Milton pays too much in taxes now, can't afford to have anything enhanced
31 Less development
32 less is more... get rid of rec dept
33 none
34 wmur tv
35 farmers market
36 Town beautification, clean up dumpier properties. Tighten regulations and enforce
37 Uninhabited land
All activities should celebrate and respect the environment, limited scope and impact - small town character to remain
38
39 All those activities are in towns nearby. Quiet refuge is desired. No enhancement or costly activities.
40 Bike lanes & trails, open river downstream from the dam to the public, perhaps a trail along the river
41 NONE
Rehabilitation of downtown buildings could support much needed business including satellite grocery store, fitness studio and restaurants.
42
These activities are fine but how about getting sponsors to help offset the expenses of the events and not leaving it all to the Town. Town funds are not a discretionary account to be used for above list.
43
44 restaurants
45 keeping Milton rural
46 Access to ATV type trails
1) Adult education 2) Education in general 3) Appreciation of Milton's natural resources and threats to them 4)
Free lecture series by townsfolk on their interests and skills
47
48 We support all of these, but the three chosen would be the most beneficial.
49 Public parking
50 Small farms
In a post-COVID world, Milton should embrace our natural resources and support outdoor activities and events that other more industrial focused towns and cities can't offer
51
I would not support any of these things with someone else's money. But, if you lower my taxes and stop stealing my money, then I will have more of my own money to support the things I choose to support.
52
53 None spend the money on other project

Question Nine: How interested are you in keeping up with town news? (Choose only one)

Summary of Responses:
The majority of the responses for keeping up with town news was at 90%.

Economic Development Opportunities:

Priority

Government Efficiency Opportunities:

Priority

Top Three Comments:
1)
2)
3)

Overall Evaluations of Comments:

Question Ten: What forms of communication do you use today to keep up to date on town affairs? (Choose all that apply)

Summary of Responses:
 The forms of communications used by most was the town's web-site and second was the unofficial town Face Book Pages.

Economic Development Opportunities:

Priority

Government Efficiency Opportunities:

Priority

Top Three Comments:
 1) Word of mouth.
 2) Face Book
 3) Need some form of communication.

Overall Evaluations of Comments:

QUESTION COMMENTS:

- 1 word of mouth and it is pretty negative
- 2 neighbors
- 3 u tube
- 4 post office
- 5 neighbors
- 6 Redacted
- 7 none
- 8 xxx
- 9 Word of mouth
- 10 newsletter
- 11 rumor mill, word of mouth
- 12 sign in front of town office and sometimes sign at beach
- 13 utube
- 14 never heard of the milton gazette. asked neighbor, they said it was only about the rec and beach for kids
- 15 none
- 16 email
- 17 town report (I read it every year)
- 18 improve town website and update more regular
- 19 cumbies
- 20 Redacted
- 21 post office
- 22 word of mouth
- 23 I have no computer or web access, only landline phone , unable to get any info
- 24 Selectman meetings.
- 25 School postings
- 26 There is no place to find out updates.
- 27 YouTube
- 28 None.

29 Friends' emails
30 Word of mouth.
31 NONE
32 None currently
33 word of mouth, mailers
34 News 9 WMUR
35 All
36 Involvement with town boards / officers, personal contact
37 Listening to Informed residents
38 word of mouth and Nute Middle/High School
39 The Internet is great; Facebook is evil ... but for now a necessary evil as most residents use it
40 Redacted
41 Mailings, I got off Facebook because of censoring. But I do and have been very active in the town
42 MILTON HOME PAGE(NOT VERY OFTEN)
43 I call the Department or call a Selectman

Question Eleven: Going forward, how would you like to receive communication regarding current town news/affairs? (Choose all that apply)

Summary of Responses:
 Many responded they would like to receive communication about current town/news affairs in the following order: Town Website, Face Book and Milton Gazette. In comparison to question number 10, an increase was noticed for the need for the Milton Gazette or community newspaper.

Economic Development Opportunities: Priority

Government Efficiency Opportunities: Priority

Top Three Comments:
 1) Overwhelming comments were for email updates.
 2) Newspaper communication on town news/updates.
 3)

Overall Evaluations of Comments:

Survey Comments

- 1 Newsletter
- 2 emailma
- 3 u tube
- 4 community info forums / written or broadcast
- 5 post office
- 6 xxx
- 7 blank form
- 8 email newsletter
- 9 what is the gazette
- 10 current and upkeep of both town website and fb
- 11 email
- 12 need a town newspaper
- 13 email
- 14 Redacted
- 15 signs
- 16 never knew the town had a blog??
- 17 better utube - get a tech person for the town to organize all the meetings make it easy to find from the town website
- 18 email
- 19 instagram
- 20 instagram
- 21 none
- 22 Town wide newspaper
- 23 none
- 24 email
- 25 town report
- 26 post office
- 27 cannot be too much communication
- 28 mail
- 29 accessible to public... ie. postoffice , library , store
- 30 town website is a joke
- 31 have the town office have one night a week that they stay open later for people that work
- 32 Email
- 33 Outdoor signs updated regularly.
- 34 Email newsletter.
- 35 YouTube, Discord Server
- 36 None
- 37 Regular e-newsletters residents can subscribe to
- 38 Newsletter to property owners
- 39 WOULD NOT
- 40 Town Newsletter
- 41 Email
- 42 email, word of mouth, mailers/news letter
- 43 direct email server
- 44 email
- 45 Twitter, instagram,
- 46 newsletter sent directly to email addresses
- 47 All
- 48 email notification or article. It could just direct me to new content on the website, but I rarely just go there and look.
- 49 email direct
- 50 Email, Mass emails sent out to residents
- 51 mail
- 52 emails if a list was created along with FB
- 53 Expand the town website to include an opt-in email/text notification list - that plus Facebook will reach most people.
- 54 If it costs more tax money (theft), then none.
- 55 Redacted
- 56 Email from town
- 57 How about a town run facebook page
- 58 Email lists
- 59 Town-run Facebook
- 60 Something that gets pushed...email, newsletter
- 61 Email
- 62 I would like to see a town hard copy newsletter produced quarterly and available at local establishments and online. That would be nice. Maybe include a editorial from Town Administration or Town Planner.

221		Town government should focus on the revitalization of downtown Milton. The buildings are falling apart and it looks like a shithole. A little bit of paint or vinyl siding on old buildings like the ding a ling would go a long way. With that being said, applaud the folks who are involved in our town government. It's easy for people to sit behind their computer screens and judge but those are the people who never choose to get involved and help out the greater good of the community. Thanks to all your hard work.	1																
222		Transparency	1																
223		We need more fiscally responsible people. Taxes must decrease . I can move to a beautiful town like Tuftonboro and decrease my tax rate by over 50%. This town needs to stop pushing tax payers away.						1											
TOTAL PER CATEGORY			1	58	13	41	16	34	4	13	9	17	23	34	4	13	9	17	23