



**Town of Milton  
First Session  
Deliberative Minutes  
February 9<sup>th</sup> 2019**

Chris Jacobs, Town Moderator, declared the meeting in session at 9:03AM and led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance. He asked for a moment of silence for Dennis Wing, David Aubert, Russell Ellis Sr., Joan Ball, Brady Brown, Robert Taatjes and those that have passed.

*A total of 48 registered voters were in attendance.*

The Moderator introduced the following: Selectmen: Ryan Thibeault, Erin Hutchings, Andy Lucier; Town Administrators: Heather Thibodeau & David Owens; Town Clerk Michelle Beauchamp; Town Council Walter Mitchell; Budget Committee Members: Robert Carrier, Thomas McDougall, Larry Brown, David Carpus, Tammy Smith, Mark Currier, School Board Representative Peg Hurd and Water District Representative Justin Bellen; Supervisors of the Checklist: Karen Brown and Brittney Leach.

The Moderator noted that there would be a Candidate's Forum for all candidates running for School District and Town Offices on Sunday February 24<sup>th</sup> 2019 at 6PM at the Town Hall in the Selectmen's Chamber.

*The Moderator explained the rules of SB-2.*

The Moderator mentioned that there are some persons in the room that are not eligible to vote but may wish to speak to one or more of the articles. Those persons are: Town Attorney Walter Mitchell, Town Administrators David Owens and Heather Thibodeau, Assessing Director Kathy Wallingford and Police Chief Richard Krauss.

M.Beauchamp made the motion to allow those nonresidents to speak. L.Brown seconded. Majority in favor, motion passed.

The Moderator added Frank Bridges to the list. M.Beauchamp seconded. Majority in favor, motion passed.

The Moderator noted that the second session, Annual Town Meeting, would be held on Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup> 2019, at the Milton Assembly of God Church Community Room located at 370

White Mountain Highway and the polls for voting by official ballot will be open from 8am to 7pm.

**The Moderator read Article 1:**

To choose all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year for which there are vacancies, for such terms as may be permitted by law.

Board of Selectmen: 1 for 3 years; Budget Committee: 1 for 1 year, 2 for 3 years; Cemetery Trustee: 1 for 3 years; Fire Chief: 1 for 3 years; Library Trustee: 1 for 3 years; Planning Board: 2 for 3 years; Town Clerk/Tax Collector: 1 for 3 years; Treasurer: 1 for 1 year; Trustee of the Trust Funds: 1 for 3 years; and Zoning Board of Adjustment: 2 for 3 years.

The Moderator instructed the Town Clerk to place Warrant Article 1 on the second session ballot as read.

**The Moderator read Article 2: Amend Zoning Map**

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 1 as proposed by the Milton Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows: To update the Official Zoning Map of the Town of Milton to add the 52.4 acre lot known as Map 45, Lot 23, located off NH Rte. 75 and currently zoned Low Density Residential (LDR) to the existing Industrial-Commercial (IC) zoning district that straddles NH Rte. 75 between the Spaulding Turnpike and NH Rte. 125, thereby enlarging said zoning district by 52.4 acres. Copies of the map depicting the proposed zoning district enlargement are available for review at the Town Office and will be available the day of the election. (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Planning Board (7-0), Recommended by Board of Selectmen (3-0)

R.Thibeault made the motion to open the warrant article for discussion. A. Lucier seconded the motion. Majority in favor, motion passed.

*The Moderator opened the warrant article for discussion.*

R.Thibeault noted that the initiative had been proposed because the Land Use & Economic Development Chapter of the Master Plan recommends expanding the Industrial Commercial Zoning District that straddles NH Rt. 75 near Exit 17 of the Spaulding Turnpike. In addition, a 2013 Economic Development Strategic Plan prepared by the Milton Economic Development Committee specifically advocated development of this area because of its proximity to three phase power, railroad access, upland nature, and ability to access both a State highway and the Turnpike without having to traverse local roads. Additionally, any development would remain screened from abutting residential neighborhoods due the area's heavily wooded nature.

Bruce Woodruff added that this land was not slated for conservation.

Tom Gray made the motion to close further discussion. Andrew Rawson seconded the motion. Majority in favor, the motion passed.

The Moderator instructed the Clerk to place Warrant Article 2 on the second session ballot as read.

L.Brown made the motion to restrict reconsideration. T.Gray seconded the motion. Majority in favor, the motion passed.

**The Moderator read Article 3: Zoning**

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 2 as proposed by the Milton Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows: To amend Article II, Definitions, to add and modify definitions of special exception uses which have previously not been defined or modified, to define specific parameters of such uses, and to modify the definition of Special Exception to clarify that such uses must meet both general and specific criteria; to amend Article III, Section 3.5 Table of Principal and Accessory Uses in Zoning Districts, to modify said table to change a number of special exception uses to uses permitted by right, to change a number of permitted uses to special exception uses, and to change a number of not permitted uses to either permitted or special exception uses. In addition, to modify the table to add two new uses; Alternative Energy Producers/Providers as a special exception in all zones and the new use Agritourism as a permitted use in all zones to follow State Statute. To amend Article VIII, Zoning Board of Adjustment, Section I. A. Special Exceptions, by clarifying the requirements for approval and by modifying the general conditions required for approval to be in line with state guidelines for such conditions, and to add language requiring that specific criteria be met if included in the ordinance. To amend Article VIII, Zoning Board of Adjustment, by adding a new Section III. Specific Criteria for Certain Special Exception Uses, which adds specific criteria requirements for thirteen special exception uses. Copies of the complete text of Amendment No. 2 are available for review at the Town Office and will be available the day of the election. (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Planning Board (7-0) Recommended by Board of Selectmen (3-0)

R.Thibeault made the motion to open the warrant article for discussion. A.Rawson seconded the motion. Majority in favor, motion passed.

*The Moderator opened the warrant article for discussion.*

R.Thibeault noted that this initiative began with the Planning Board recognizing that some special exception uses made little sense, such as any proposed retail use in the Commercial Residential zone needing special exception approval from the Zoning Board of Adjustment to start the retail business. This is one of the changes made with this amendment, which also includes a comprehensive review of all special exceptions contained in the Table of Principal and Accessory Uses in Zoning Districts to determine what the reasoning was for deeming them special exceptions. The Board determined that the authors of the original Zoning Ordinance used the category for any use that they didn't understand, therefore the Planning Board took a fresh look at those determinations and proposed positive changes that do two main things; first, the proposed changes aim to simplify the regulatory process for new businesses and to encourage it, second, several of the special exception uses that the Board retained (and a few that were

added), had critical requirements added in addition to the current general criteria to help protect nearby residential properties and the Town. Finally, it was determined that many of the special exception uses were not defined at all in the definition section of the Ordinance, so that Board added generally accepted American Planning Association definitions to the proposal. In general, this huge task was an in-depth effort to modernize the Zoning Ordinance and is a positive change to Milton's Land Use Law.

B. Woodruff noted that it is a lengthy article, but the Planning Board has a statutory responsibility to explain the proposed changes. L. Brown added that the Zoning Board of Adjustment does not set policy, the Planning Board sets policy. He added that this was designed to simplify work, the board would have defensibility for those actions and the applicants had clear standards.

B. Woodruff noted as the Town Planner that previously there were no restrictions on buildings for shopping centers. The proposed restriction placed on special exceptions is to keep big box stores from moving to Milton and lose community character. He noted that the auto sales/equipment rental type use proposed restriction is to protect residential abutters and their quality of life.

B. Woodruff noted that with the proposed change, someone in the Low Density Residential Zone might be able to start an amusement park. He added that what was allowed by Special Exception would now be allowed by right through a site plan review with the Planning Board. He stated that the Planning Board has the authority to ensure that all commercial development is done properly.

B. Woodruff noted that with the proposed change, someone could approach the Zoning Board of Adjustment for an existing lot of record and ask for a special exception to erect a structure/septic system within the wetland as long as they comply with all other applicable requirements and all other options could not reasonably be carried out.

B. Woodruff added that the proposed change would also restrict the percentage of camping cabins allowed. He added that there would be mobile homes or manufactured homes allowed in camp grounds. All accessory structures would need to meet setbacks and all other applicable regulations. He stated that the proposed change would include a 250 foot vegetated screen buffer to the abutters property boundaries. B. Woodruff stated that all of these changes have been added to protect residential abutters.

Frank Bridges noted that the proposed definition of recreational facility includes an amusement park. He added that the Planning Board would then not be able to say that it was not an appropriate use in the Low Density Residential Zone, other than making sure the engineering was okay. He stated that the ponds are the most important assets in Milton and if this type of use is allowed on the lake we will not have the ability to enforce rules to protect it from being destroyed or be contaminated. This proposal would allow the septic areas in the wetlands so that the amenities can be expanded.

B. Woodruff noted that the Planning Board did not propose these changes based on a particular application, they reviewed the Master Plan where it talks about recreational uses and facilities.

He added that an applicant would still need site plan approval and the board would make sure that it is constructed properly and that fragile resources and ecosystems are protected and that it does not negatively affect the quality of life.

L.Brown stated that the Zoning Board of Adjustment exists to protect the property rights of the NH Constitution, it does not have the right to deny a person to develop their land and use it for a defined intent. He added that the Planning Board changing the criteria for an operation does not change such things as lighting, sound, noise, odor, screening, hours of operation, traffic, best practice, use of a septic field as defined by the State, or any other criteria required by Strategic Initiative Planning. He stated that if the Town does not have a definition, it has nothing to work with.

Cynthia Wyatt, Conservation Commission Member, read a letter from Norman Turgeon from the Three Ponds Protection Association who felt that some of the changes being proposed were not positive. Such as adding a definition for Recreational Facility to include amusement park as an example of a leisure and modifying the exiting requirement that Recreational Facility in the Low Density Residential Zone be permitted by right rather than by Special Exception. The TPPA is concerned that these changes could be detrimental to water quality of the Three Ponds.

T.Gray made the motion to close further discussion. K.Brown seconded the motion. Majority in favor, the motion passed.

The Moderator instructed the Clerk to place Warrant Article 3 on the second session ballot as read.

L.Brown made the motion to restrict reconsideration. Maureen Steer seconded the motion. Majority in favor, the motion passed.

#### **The Moderator read Article 4: Zoning**

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment No. 3 as proposed by the Milton Planning Board for the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows: To amend Article VII, Nonconforming Uses and Lots, by deleting Section C. Non-Conforming Vacant Lots, 1 through 3, and replacing it with a new Section C. Nonconforming Lots in Any Zone, and by deleting Section D. Existing Lots of Record, in its entirety in order to ensure that small, dimensionally nonconforming lots of record may reasonably be built upon. Copies of the complete text of Amendment No. 3 are available for review at the Town Office and will be available the day of the election. (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Planning Board (7-0) Recommended by Board of Selectmen (3-0)

R.Thibeault made the motion to open the warrant article for discussion. K.Brown seconded the motion. Majority in favor, motion passed.

*The Moderator opened the warrant article for discussion.*

R.Thibeault noted that a review of all the parcels in Town revealed that it had many substandard sized vacant lots of record, several located in both village centers created prior to the enactment

or amendment of zoning which sets minimum dimensional requirements for building making it so they may not be developed without a granted variance from the Zoning Board of Adjustment. He added that this proposal would take care of these problems.

B.Woodruff noted that the language makes sure that there is a measure of fairness for vacant lots of record that would have a hard time meeting the dimensional requirements to do any kind of building. It reduces setback and frontage requirements for lots of record recorded at the Registry of Deeds provided that it will support a land area of at least 5,000 square feet and a minimum width of 50 feet. In such cases the minimum side yard restrictions shall apply: a lot with a width of 110 feet or less and greater than 75 feet shall have a minimum side yard of 10 feet; a lot with a width of 75 feet or less and 50 feet or more shall have a minimum side yard of 6 feet. He added that individual lots which become nonconforming because of amendments to lot area requirement in any district may be built upon, provided that they are a minimum size to meet State requirements for the NH Water Supply and Pollution Control Commission for water and septic systems and can comply with the previous mentioned requirements. And sufficient off street parking is provided within the lot boundaries (defined as 2 spaces per dwelling). He added that it provides fairness to property owners and it is a vehicle for economic development possibilities in the two villages.

T.Gray made the motion to close further discussion and restrict reconsideration. A.Rawson seconded the motion. Majority in favor, the motion passed.

The Moderator instructed the Clerk to place Warrant Article 4 on the second session ballot as read.

**The Moderator read Article 5: Operating Budget**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate as an operating budget, Four Million, Six Hundred Seventy Six Thousand, Seven Hundred, Thirty Three Dollars and Thirty Seven Cents (\$4,676,733.37) not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be Four Million, Five Hundred, Sixty Three Thousand, Four Hundred, Twenty Three Dollars and Ninety Eight Cents (\$4,563,423.98) which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. (Majority vote required) Recommended by Board of Selectmen (3-0) Recommended by Budget Committee (6-3)

T.Gray made the motion to open the warrant article for discussion. A.Rawson seconded the motion. Majority in favor, motion passed.

*The Moderator opened the warrant article for discussion.*

E.Hutchings deferred to former Town Administrator Heather Thibodeau. H.Thibodeau stated that the proposal was an increase of \$168,368.37 over the 2018 budget and \$113,309.39 above the default budget. She added that passing of this budget is critical for the prudent management

of the Town. The increase is a result of employee costs (step plans); adding a ½ year School Resource Officer to the Police Department in 2019; and increases in operational cost (including merit and cost of living raises). This proposal will cost the taxpayer .40 per thousand; homes worth \$200,000 would see an \$80 increase per year.

H.Thibodeau noted that there was an increase in Health Insurance.

Virginia Long read a letter from Steve Panish regarding the need for raises for the Highway Department.

T.Gray made the motion to close further discussion and restrict reconsideration. A.Rawson seconded the motion. Majority in favor, the motion passed.

The Moderator instructed the Clerk to place Warrant Article 5 on the second session ballot as read.

**The Moderator read Article 6: Highway and Road Reconstruction Fund**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Hundred Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$325,000) for Highway and Road Reconstruction purposes as described in the recommended 2019-2024 Capital Improvements Program. Said amount will be partially offset by revenues from the Highway Block Grant estimated to be One Hundred Thirty Four Thousand Dollars (\$134,000). This will be a non-lapsing appropriation per RSA 32:7 VI and will not lapse until completed or by December 31, 2020 whichever occurs first. (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (3-0) Recommended by the Budget Committee (8-0-1)

T.Gray made the motion to open the warrant article for discussion. Humphrey Williams seconded the motion. Majority in favor, motion passed.

*The Moderator opened the warrant article for discussion.*

R.Thibeault stated that this is an annual article for road reconstruction.

T.Gray made the motion to close further discussion and restrict reconsideration. K.Brown seconded the motion. Majority in favor, the motion passed.

The Moderator instructed the Clerk to place Warrant Article 6 on the second session ballot as read.

**The Moderator read Article 7: Fire Department Equipment and Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$70,000) to be added to the Milton Fire Department Equipment and Apparatus Capital Reserve Fund previously established for the purpose of funding future capital expenditures as described in the recommended 2019-2024 Capital Improvements Program. This appropriation will be funded by transfer from the fund balance and no additional amount will be raised by new

taxation. (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (3-0)  
Recommended by the Budget Committee (6-2-1)

A.Lucier made the motion to open the warrant article for discussion. T.McDougall seconded the motion. Majority in favor, motion passed.

*The Moderator opened the warrant article for discussion.*

Nick Marique, Fire Chief, stated that currently there is \$95,000 in the fund. He added that monies are earmarked to replace the 15 year old air packs.

T.Gray made the motion to close further discussion and restrict reconsideration. K.Brown seconded the motion. Majority in favor, the motion passed.

The Moderator instructed the Clerk to place Warrant Article 7 on the second session ballot as read.

**The Moderator read Article 8: Highway Department Special Equipment Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty- Nine Thousand Dollars (\$29,000) to be added to the Highway Department Special Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established for the purpose of funding future capital expenditures as described in the recommended 2019-2024 Capital Improvements Program. This appropriation will be funded by transfer from the fund balance and no additional amount will be raised by new taxation. (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (3-0) Recommended by the Budget Committee (8-0-1)

R.Thibeault made the motion to open the warrant article for discussion. A.Rawson seconded the motion. Majority in favor, motion passed.

*The Moderator opened the warrant article for discussion.*

R.Thibeault noted that the current balance of this fund balance is \$844.99 as of December 2018. It is used for future purchases of DPW equipment.

D.Owen noted that the Undesignated Fund balance was \$1,564,119 as of the December 2017 Audit. He added that there was \$500,000 used to offset tax rate in 2018. He noted that the Department of Revenue recommends a minimum Fund Balance of 5% of the operating budget.

T.Gray made the motion to close further discussion and restrict reconsideration. A.Rawson seconded the motion. Majority in favor, the motion passed.

The Moderator instructed the Clerk to place Warrant Article 8 on the second session ballot as read.

**The Moderator read Article 9: Highway Department Capital Reserve Vehicle Fund**



To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty- Nine Thousand Dollars (\$49,000) to be added to the Highway Department Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund previously established for the purpose of funding future capital expenditures as described in the recommended 2019-2024 Capital Improvements Program. This appropriation will be funded by transfer from the fund balance and no additional amount will be raised by new taxation. (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (3-0) Recommended by the Budget Committee (8-0-1)

R.Thibeault made the motion to open the warrant article for discussion. T.Gray seconded the motion. Majority in favor, motion passed.

*The Moderator opened the warrant article for discussion.*

R.Thibeault noted that this fund is used to purchase DPW pickup trucks and snow plows. He added that the current balance is \$6,526.85 as of December 31<sup>st</sup> 2018. It will have no effect on this year's tax rate.

T.Gray made the motion to close further discussion and restrict reconsideration. M.Steer seconded the motion. Majority in favor, the motion passed.

The Moderator instructed the Clerk to place Warrant Article 9 on the second session ballot as read.

**The Moderator read Article 10: Municipal Buildings Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) to be added to the Municipal Buildings Capital Reserve Fund previously established for the purpose of funding future capital expenditures as described in the recommended 2019-2024 Capital Improvements Program. This appropriation will be funded by transfer from the fund balance and no additional amount will be raised by new taxation. (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (3-0) Recommended by the Budget Committee (9-0)

R.Thibeault made the motion to open the warrant article for discussion. T.Gray seconded the motion. Majority in favor, motion passed.

*The Moderator opened the warrant article for discussion.*

R.Thibeault stated that this fund is to be used for future design, construction and maintenance of town buildings. It will have no effect on this year's tax rate.

T.Gray made the motion to close further discussion and restrict reconsideration. A.Rawson seconded the motion. Majority in favor, the motion passed.

The Moderator instructed the Clerk to place Warrant Article 10 on the second session ballot as read.

**The Moderator read Article 11: Milton Free Public Library Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty- Two Thousand Dollars (\$52,000) to be placed in the Milton Free Public Library Capital Reserve Fund, previously established for the purpose of funding future capital expenditures as described in the recommended 2019-2024 Capital Improvements Program. This appropriation will be funded by transfer from the fund balance and no additional amount will be raised by new taxation. (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (3-0) Recommended by the Budget Committee (9-0)

E.Hutchings made the motion to open the warrant article for discussion. T.Gray seconded the motion. Majority in favor, motion passed.

*The Moderator opened the warrant article for discussion.*

E.Hutchings stated that this article is to continue the restoration of Milton Free Public Library. The balance was \$25,028.04 as of December 31<sup>st</sup> 2018. There will be no tax impact, the funding will come from the unreserved fund balance.

C.Jacobs noted that there are two capital reserve funds previously established, both of which are for buildings. L.Brown noted that the library has received LCHIP grants which require a match.

T.Gray made the motion to close further discussion and restrict reconsideration. H.Williams seconded the motion. Majority in favor, the motion passed.

The Moderator instructed the Clerk to place Warrant Article 11 on the second session ballot as read.

**The Moderator read Article 12: Town of Milton Technology Fund**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000) to be placed in the Town of Milton Technology Fund, previously established for the purpose of funding future capital expenditures as described in the recommended 2019-2024 Capital Improvements Program. This appropriation will be funded by transfer from the fund balance and no additional amount will be raised by new taxation. (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (3-0) Recommended by the Budget Committee (5-4)

T.Gray made the motion to open the warrant article for discussion. K.Brown seconded the motion. Majority in favor, motion passed.

*The Moderator opened the warrant article for discussion.*

E.Hutchings stated that this article is to update computers, software, hardware and other technological items that are used in municipal government. The current balance is \$6,088.75 as of December 31<sup>st</sup> 2018. There would be no tax impact, the funding will come from the unreserved fund balance.

T.Gray made the motion to close further discussion and restrict reconsideration. H.Williams seconded the motion. Majority in favor, the motion passed.

The Moderator instructed the Clerk to place Warrant Article 12 on the second session ballot as read.

**The Moderator read Article 13: Geographic Information System**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500) for the purpose of continued upgrades of the public web-based Geographic Information System (GIS) for the Town as described in the recommended 2019-2024 Capital Improvements Program. This appropriation will be funded by transfer from the fund balance and no additional amount will be raised by new taxation. (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (3-0) Recommended by the Budget Committee (9-0)

R.Thibeault made the motion to open the warrant article for discussion. T.Gray seconded the motion. Majority in favor, motion passed.

*The Moderator opened the warrant article for discussion.*

R.Thibeault stated that this would be used to create a public web based GIS system for the Town to aid in future planning and land use retention/retrieval. This will come from the unreserved balance and there will be no effect on this year's tax rate.

B.Woodruff clarified that the voters approved \$8,000 last year to create the public geographic web based system. The site is currently under construction. The \$2,500 will be used to develop new data set layers. You will be able to see things like the property map, boundary lines, building locations, assessment data for each lot. Future funds would be to create shoreland maps, flood plain maps, natural resource inventories, wetlands, soil maps, and zoning map. He added that this is a 5 year GIS plan. Future information could include culverts, bridges, roadway conditions, the fire department would get a water resource layer showing wet hydrants/dry hydrants.

T.Gray made the motion to close further discussion and restrict reconsideration. H.Williams seconded the motion. Majority in favor, the motion passed.

The Moderator instructed the Clerk to place Warrant Article 13 on the second session ballot as read.

*The Moderator called for a 5 minute break.*

**The Moderator read Article 14: Bridge Capital Reserve Fund**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) to be placed in the Bridge Capital Reserve Fund, previously established for the purpose of funding future capital expenditures as described in the recommended 2019-2024 Capital Improvements Program. This appropriation will be funded by transfer from the fund balance and no additional amount will be raised by new taxation. (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (3-0) Recommended by the Budget Committee (9-0)

R.Thibeault made the motion to open the warrant article for discussion. T.Gray seconded the motion. Majority in favor, motion passed.

*The Moderator opened the warrant article for discussion.*

R.Thibeault noted this fund would be used for future replacement of Milton bridges, which includes the Winding Road Bridge that has been red listed by the State of NH. He added that this is not the capital reserve fund for border bridges. The funding will come from the unreserved fund balance and will have no tax impact.

D.Owen noted that there was \$25,000 appropriated to this fund last year.

T.Gray made the motion to close further discussion and restrict reconsideration. A.Rawson seconded the motion. Majority in favor, the motion passed.

The Moderator instructed the Clerk to place Warrant Article 14 on the second session ballot as read.

**The Moderator read Article 15: Eradicate Invasive Species**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) for the purposes of eradicating invasive plant species from bodies of water in the Town of Milton. This is a special warrant article as described in the recommended 2019-2024 Capital Improvements Program. This appropriation will be funded by transfer from the fund balance and no additional amount will be raised by new taxation. (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (3-0) Recommended by the Budget Committee (9-0)

A.Lucier made the motion to open the warrant article for discussion. T.Gray seconded the motion. Majority in favor, motion passed.

*The Moderator opened the warrant article for discussion.*

A.Lucier noted that this is an ongoing battle to protect our largest natural resource, the Milton Three Ponds. It will come from the fund balance and will be an annual warrant article.

H.Williams noted that the Town has received grant money and funding from the State of Maine. V.Long added that there was funding from NHDES.

K.Brown made the motion to close further discussion and restrict reconsideration. T.Gray seconded the motion. Majority in favor, the motion passed.

The Moderator instructed the Clerk to place Warrant Article 15 on the second session ballot as read.

**The Moderator read Article 16: Conservation Commission Casey Road Fund**

To raise and appropriate Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) for the Town Conservation Fund, to help fund the Casey Road Conservation Land easement project, which will place a conservation

easement on 79 forested acres of Town owned land on Casey Road in Milton; the easement to be held by the qualified land trust, Moose Mountains Regional Greenways. (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (3-0) Budget Committee (8-1)

A.Lucier made the motion to open the warrant article for discussion. T.Gray seconded the motion. Majority in favor, motion passed.

*The Moderator opened the warrant article for discussion.*

A.Lucier deferred to V.Long from the Case Road Land Protection Committee.

V.Long stated that Casey Road Land Protection Committee is an advisory committee which would like to place a conservation easement on this 79 acre property. She added that the Town voted to place this land under conservation easement back in 2016 & 2018. This property is a wooded area which is great for recreational activity such as trails, it has a good wildlife habitat and water resources that need to be protected. We have raised over \$40,000 for the easement, however we were unable to get the Moose Plate Grant. This article will help make up for the loss of the grant. Janice Long added that this land would be an attraction for tourists.

T.Gray made the motion to close further discussion and restrict reconsideration. H.Williams seconded the motion. Majority in favor, the motion passed.

The Moderator instructed the Clerk to place Warrant Article 16 on the second session ballot as read.

**The Moderator read Article 17: Milton Cemetery Expendable Trust Fund**

To see if the Town will vote to allow all future proceeds received from the sale of Rights to Inter in Milton Town Cemeteries to be deposited into the Milton Cemetery Expendable Trust Fund pursuant to RSA 31:19-a and RSA 289:2-a. This is a corrective Warrant Article for the Warrant Article 9 approved in 2016. (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Board of Selectmen. (3-0)

A.Lucier made the motion to open the warrant article for discussion. H.Williams seconded the motion. Majority in favor, motion passed.

*The Moderator opened the warrant article for discussion.*

A.Lucier deferred to H.Thibodeau. H.Thibodeau noted that this was a house keeping measure to correct the approved 2016 warrant article. B.Woodruff noted that the prior warrant did not allow the Town to put any other money into the fund.

T.Gray made the motion to close further discussion and restrict reconsideration. A.Rawson seconded the motion. Majority in favor, the motion passed.

The Moderator instructed the Clerk to place Warrant Article 17 on the second session ballot as read.

**The Moderator read Article 18: Community Revitalization Tax Relief Incentive RSA 79-E**

Shall the Town vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 79-E, Community Revitalization Tax Relief incentive. Upon receipt of an application, the governing body will hold a public hearing to determine whether the structure is a qualifying structure, whether the proposed rehabilitation qualifies as a substantial rehabilitation and whether there is a public benefit to granting the requested tax relief. This RSA gives the Select Board another tool to encourage reinvestment in the designated area- compact areas of Milton and Milton Mills specifically the village center of Milton Mills and Milton. By adoption of RSA 79-E:

1. It is declared to be a public benefit to enhance downtowns and town centers with respect to economic activity, cultural and historic character, sense of community, and in-town residential uses that contribute to economic and social vitality.
2. It is further declared to be a public benefit to encourage the rehabilitation of the many underutilized structures in urban and town centers as a means of encouraging growth of economic, residential, and municipal uses in a more compact pattern, in accordance with RSA 9-B.
3. Short-term property assessment tax relief and a related covenant to protect public benefit as provided under this chapter are considered to provide a demonstrated public benefit if they encourage substantial rehabilitation and use of qualifying structures as defined in this chapter. (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (3-0)

E.Hutchings made the motion to open the warrant article for discussion. T.Gray seconded the motion. Majority in favor, motion passed.

*The Moderator opened the warrant article for discussion.*

E.Hutchings noted that this would benefit the Town because in order to revitalize the properties, we need to give them an incentive. If this passes, the Town will be able to give tax breaks for a short period of time to allow someone to come in and rehab the building. The Economic Development Committee supports this. D.Owen noted that the period of tax relief is up to 5 years. D.Owen added that if this passes, the Board of Selectmen will adopt rules and regulations governing the administration of this program.

L.Brown noted that the letter "s" should be added to the word "center" in the first paragraph. He stated that this is a tool to bring qualifying development and historic preservation to the Town.

L.Brown made the motion to make the correction. M.Beauchamp seconded. Majority in favor, motion passed.

T.Gray made the motion to close further discussion and restrict further consideration. H.Williams seconded the motion. Majority in favor, the motion passed.

The Moderator instructed the Clerk to place Warrant Article 18 on the second session ballot as amended.

**The Moderator read Article 19: Town Boat Ramp Revitalization and Construction**  
**(Submitted by Petition)**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00) to be added to the Milton Recreation Capital Reserve Fund previously established for the purpose of renovation and reconstruction of the Town owned boat ramp as described in the Capital Improvement Plan. This amount will be added to the existing \$15,000.00 that was appropriated in 2017 for anticipated construction to begin in 2019. (Majority vote required)  
Recommended by the Budget Committee (7-0-2)

E.Hutchings made the motion to open the warrant article for discussion. T.Gray seconded the motion. Majority in favor, motion passed.

*The Moderator opened the warrant article for discussion.*

E.Hutchings stated that the verbiage "not approved by the Planning Board" was not added to the warrant article. It was determined by legal counsel that this verbiage on a petition warrant article is beyond the role of the Board.

E.Hutchings stated that the ponds are the pearl in the oyster. She added that she feels it is important to have a boat ramp that is fully functioning and usable for all.

The Moderator noted that this is a petition warrant article and we cannot substantially change the wording to alter the petitioner's intent.

Peg Hurd clarified that the recommendation from the Budget Committee was not 7-0-2, it was 7-1-1. She made the motion to correct the recommendation. M.Beauchamp seconded. The Moderator noted that the second would need to be made by a Budget Committee member. Mark Currier made the second. The Budget Committee members were in favor.

E.Hutchings clarified that the Board of Selectmen met a month or so ago and voted to have the verbiage added to the petition warrant article which we had no right to do.

R.Thibeault noted that he was speaking as a resident. This warrant article was submitted in the Capital Improvement Program and has not passed as a recommendation of the Planning Board because they did not receive the amount of revenue the ramp brings in each year. He added that there is money in the Recreation Revolving Account from the boat ramp.

L.Elder stated that as a Recreation Commission member, he supports this article to complete the boat ramp upgrades. A.Rawson noted that he agreed with E.Hutchings that this is the pearl in the oyster. He added that the current condition is deplorable. Tim Long and A.Rawson noted that if the State took control of this boat ramp it would be open 24/7 and there would be no monitoring for the European Niad. C.Jacobs, as a resident, noted that if this was taken over by the State, it could become a policing issue/burden for the Town. L.Brown noted that the issue is how the boat ramp fits into the Capital Improvement Plan; whether or not it has been properly funded by the Recreation Commission with revenues coming into the Town; whether or not the design criteria are in place and by whom; the time frame of construction is; and what particular criteria

will be used to check boats. It is not part of the Capital Improvement Plan and the money will not come from the fund balance, it is new taxation.

A.Lucier made the motion to close further discussion and restrict reconsideration. L.Elder seconded the motion. Majority in favor, the motion passed.

The Moderator instructed the Clerk to place Warrant Article 19 on the second session ballot as read with the Budget Committee correction.

A.Lucier made the motion to have the Selectmen add their recommendation. E.Hutchings seconded. R.Thibeault noted that he felt planning was key and will take that into account with his vote. Recommended by the Board of Selectmen (2-1).

T.Long made the motion to adjourn at 11:52 AM. L.Elder seconded the motion. Majority in favor, motion passed.

The Moderator declared the First Session of the Town Meeting adjourned.

**A true record, attest:**



**Michelle Beauchamp, Town Clerk Tax Collector**

**A true copy of record, attest:**



**Michelle Beauchamp, Town Clerk Tax Collector**