

**Milford Budget Advisory Committee
Approved Minutes
November 13, 2013**

Present: Matt Lydon, Rose Evans, Jim Roccio, Jolie Whitten, Peggy Seward,
Chris Pank, Karen Mitchell, Bert Becker, Steve Sareault

Absent: none

Guests: Paul Dargie (CIP committee), Chief Kelly (Fire) and Guy Scaife (Town
Administrator)

Business: Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM by Matt Lydon

Paul Dargie – CIP (Capital Improvements Plan)

**Purpose – to provide information and guidance to the Budget Advisory
Committee and Board of Selectman for the next budget year as well as how
future needs fit with capital investments for the town.**

- to be considered, the item needs to be 75K or more.
- each department is asked to put forth an individual plan for what is needed
and when it is needed.
- look at 6 year horizon and beyond

Top 5 items on CIP:

- 1) Fire – ladder truck
- 2) Bridge Projects – 13 bridges in Milford, 3 are red listed (do not meet
State State inspections each year) and 6 more are in bad shape
 - not being red listed does not mean not the worst off – this
rating is based on structural capacity as well as functional
use.
 - The \$250k cash warrant article is just to start the engineering
analysis of the bridge repairs
- 3 & 4) Sanders and Plows
- 5) Town Hall Renovation - \$500K

**Debt Study – Town has approximately \$20mil in open borrowing. The State
legal limit is 3% of valuation. Milford’s 3% would be \$37.2mil.**

Fire

**Chief Kelly presented the proposed 2014 budget for Milford Fire Department
with an increase of 1.6%. There were no significant changes in the budget
from 2013. The main item for discussion was the upcoming warrant article
for a ladder truck proposed at approximately \$770k. The current ladder
truck is a 1991 with 2300 miles on the truck and 3350 miles on the engine.
The truck itself is worth about 30k and likely no one would take it in a trade.
The average lifespan of a ladder truck comes in around 20 years. Most of the
equipment from this ladder truck would be able to be transferred to the new
truck. If anything major goes on this truck (which is a real possibility) the**

truck will go out of service and we will have to rely on mutual aid. The committee looked at pictures of various parts of the truck that were in need of significant repair or replacement.

Guy Scaife - Bridges

Regarding the \$250k cash warrant article, 90k would go to the Town's portion of the 80/20 split with the State to repair the Jennison Rd. bridge. The Town needs to have our part of the match when needed or we could risk losing our match from the D.O.T. The remaining \$160k would be used to do engineering on the remaining bridges. There is currently no State funding available to assist with bridge repair. Within the Town, we do not have the skill/expertise to estimate the costs and repairs needed on each bridge and therefore need to hire out State individuals to do this. The \$250k cash warrant article would be worded so that it can rollover to years needed (non-lapsing warrant article with years specified).

The meeting adjourned at 8:01PM.

Respectfully submitted by, Karen Mitchell, Secretary