

APPROVED
MINUTES OF THE MILFORD BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
December 23, 2019

PRESENT: Gary Daniels, Chairman Mark Bender, Town Administrator
Paul Dargie, Vice Chairman Tina Philbrick, Recording Secretary
Mike Putnam, Member - Tyler Berry, Videographer
Laura Dudziak, Member
Chris Labonte, Member

1. CALL TO ORDER, BOARD OF SELECTMEN INTRODUCTIONS & PUBLIC SPEAKING

INSTRUCTIONS: Chairman Daniels called the public meeting to order at 5:30 p.m., introduced Board members and then led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Daniels indicated that those people in the audience who want to speak or add to the discussion should please use a microphone in order to be heard on the PEG Access live broadcast.

2. APPOINTMENTS: (Approximate times)

5:30 p.m. - Public Hearing for The Acceptance for Expenditure of Unanticipated Funds over \$10K NH (RSA (31:95)b)) - Contribution in Support of the Milford Recreation 15 Passenger Bus. Chairman Daniels opened the public hearing, there were no speakers, Chairman Daniels closed the public hearing.

o	Hitchiner Manufacturing	\$10,000
o	Frank E. Kaley Fund	\$15,000
o	Recreation Commission	\$15,000

Selectman Putnam made a motion to accept the Unanticipated Funds over \$10K. Seconded by Selectman Dudziak. All were in favor. The motion passed 5/0.

5:35 p.m. - Community Media Personnel Addition – Tim Finan, Bruce Dickerson and Chris Gentry

In summary, Granite Town Media and the IT department would like the Boards approval to add a full-time Media Technician to the Community Media Department. This position would be fully funded (salary and benefits) by the Community Media Revolving Fund. Chris Gentry, the current Media Manager was tasked to expand the department, he has accomplished that and more, but he hasn't been able to help Bruce with IT. Some of the meetings go later than 10:00 pm and the part-time students can't work past that time. It's getting harder to recruit students to help. Chris is a single dad and his son is in 1st grade. Most late nights and weekends he has his son tag along with him. GTM would like to add a full-time person, their hours will be 12:00 pm until 8:00 pm.

Selectman Putnam made a motion to approve this full-time Media Technician position. Seconded by Selectman Dudziak. All were in favor. The motion passed 5/0.

5:50 p.m. - Pumpkin Festival De-brief – Wade Scott Campbell and Zoe Zantaff

In summary: Wade provided the 2019 Financial Report for the Milford Pumpkin Festival from the Granite Town Festivities Committee. They lost their vendor coordinator and president but still pulled it off. They didn't do fireworks this year, but they will have them next year. They are asking to remove \$15,000 off the Pumpkin Festival Warrant Article of \$23,000 for support services. They are hoping that the Pumpkin Festival will be 100% funded next year.

Zoe said this has been fun but a lot of stress. They are still learning. This needs to be run as a business and we need to make sure we have a financial foundation. Wade said Lions Club and Rotary are a huge benefit to the Pumpkin Festival, without them we may not be able to do this.

Chairman Daniels commends them for their work. Selectman Labonte asked if the town had a list of what was spent for the \$23,000 warrant article. Administrator Bender it was for Police, Fire, Ambulance and DPW support and they would get the details. Pumpkin Festival Financials:

Total 2019 Income = \$61,828.36	Total Expenses = \$37,683.43	2019 Funds after Expenses = \$24,144.93
Total Funds Available = \$41,435.21		

6:05 p.m. - Library Presentation – Warrant Article – Betsy Salon, Kathy Parenti and Lynn Coakley

Kathy handed out flyers to the audience. Betsy gave an overview of what you get for your membership at the library. There are about 400 to 900 people who come into the library every day. The trustees hired a space planner to study the flow of patrons and service points.

Kathy said this plan is different from the last two plans. She presented a power point presentation of all the changes. The current building is 20 years past its expiration date. The 1980 renovations are beginning to fail. Since 2016 the trus-

APPROVED MINUTES OF BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING – 12/23/2019

tees have invested over \$218,000 into the library through donations, etc. Kathy reviewed the new layout. The total budget is \$3,450,000. They raised \$662,000 and anticipate a need for \$2,540,000. Kathy showed a video of the potential new addition. **(Please note: these numberS were incorrect and verified after the meeting, the correct numbers are: they raised \$697,000 and will need to appropriate \$2,763,000).**

Selectman Dargie asked them to describe what is being changed for parking. Lynn said they would be adding 4 additional handicap parking spaces, an area for the Blue Bus and large passenger van to drop off elderly patrons. If there is additional money left over they will address more parking but that will require an engineering study and drainage clarification. Lynn said they are also working with the town parking committee to see if there is some way the library and the Town could benefit from some type of mutual agreement, there isn't a plan at this point. Selectman Dargie in favor of adding money to the project and fixing the parking. Lynn said the recommendation for the amount of parking for their size building would be 75 spaces dedicated to their patrons. They currently have 44 spaces. There isn't very much space to play with.

Selectman Dargie said if you are working in one of the stores in town, there are no parking requirements. Lynn said the town doesn't have any parking requirements, but recommendation from the American Library association does. Selectman Putnam said that is just someone's opinion. Chairman Daniels said they won't shut down the library because you don't have enough spaces for parking.

Kathy said they will also need \$9,150 for asbestos removal; it's already in the library budget. The work was started in October but they can't come back until January 6th.

Chairman Daniels asked them to share their thoughts about going up against a communications warrant article. Lynn said they thought that was coming last year so they waited. Chairman Daniels said communications affects four different emergency services in town. Betsy said it isn't competition, they provide two different services, and this is in response of what the community asked for. Kathy said their construction manager said the cost goes up between 7% to 10% each year. Chairman Daniels said that is typical for everyone. He said they did a great job and it's well thought out. He is just concerned of the competition because of two large warrant articles.

Selectman Putnam made a motion to approve the \$9,150 for asbestos removal at the Library. Seconded by Selectman Dudziak. All were in favor. The motion passed 5/0.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS - The Board would like to announce that John Shannon III. of Las Vegas Nevada has accepted the position of Town Administrator to replace the current Town Administrator, Mark Bender.

John is currently the Director of Administration for the Southern Nevada Health District in Las Vegas where he was responsible for all Administrative Division Services, programs and activities including Financial Services, Human Resources, Information Technology, Facilities and Health Records. John also manages the development and implementation of administrative division goals, objectives, policies and priorities as well as providing oversight to the district budget and the budget process, grants, contracts, liability and central purchasing activities and establishing within resources and policy appropriate district service and staffing level.

A former Navy Officer, John has a Master's in Public Administration, carries an active U.S. Government secret Security clearance and has vast experience in developing public relationships between different levels of government to meet community needs. It is anticipated that his first day will be January 27, 2020 leaving time to work with the current Town Administrator who will be retiring on February 20, 2020. This announcement will be in the paper within the next week.

4. DECISIONS.

a) CONSENT CALENDAR. Chairman Daniels asked if there were any items to be removed from the consent calendar. There were no items to be removed. **Selectman Putnam made a motion to accept the consent calendar as presented. Selectman Dudaizk seconded. All were in favor. The motion passed 5/0.**

1) Request for Acceptance and Appropriation of Unanticipated Revenues under \$10,000 (31:95(b)) - Contribution in Support of the Milford Recreation 15 Passenger Bus and K9 Fund.

- o Leta Markham \$5,000 Bus
- o Phyllis Baker \$ 100 Bus
- o June Ramsey \$ 100 Bus
- o Jerri Rollins \$ 30 Bus

APPROVED MINUTES OF BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING – 12/23/2019

o Faye Richey \$ 250 K9 Fund

b) OTHER DECISIONS. N/A

5. **TOWN STATUS REPORT** – Administrator Bender provided information to the Board to include the 2020 options 1 through 4 Road Reconstruction Proposal, a summary of the proposed 2020 Operating Budget Expense Analysis, a Milford Municipal Bridge Listing, a copy of the Bridge Capital Reserve Fund Analysis and a copy of the Capital Reserve Expenditures Listing.

a) 2020 Draft Warrants

WARRANT ARTICLE 3 - WADLEIGH LIBRARY RENOVATION AND EXPANSION PROJECT – \$3,400,000 (\$2,540,000 BOND and \$660,000 DONATIONS)

Chairman Daniels thought they did a great job laying out their plan but communications must come first. He will vote in the negative.

Vote to not support this article 3/2 with Chairman Daniels, Selectman Putnam and Selectman Labonte opposed.

WARRANT ARTICLE 4 – MILFORD EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS DISPATCH CENTER, INFRASTRUCTURE AND EQUIPMENT PROJECT - \$2,400,000 BOND

Administrator Bender read the re-written warrant article just to get us started knowing that this is just a draft of all of our warrant articles and can be changed.

Selectman Labonte asked how Chairman Daniels meeting went with the Board Chairs from the other towns last week. Chairman Daniels said they were initially shocked at the price that they were looking at for their towns. They had concerns about the significant renovations on the 4th floor and that cost. We talked about the concept of building new at the Police Station. A new thing introduced in the study that he stressed to the other members that would be beneficial to them is that if we stay as a regional dispatch CTA recommend the creation of a Governance Committee and a Finance Committee. Each town would have a member on their representing each of their emergency services using it. Selectman Dargie asked if the two committees be advisory or running it. Chairman Daniels said advisory.

We are still trying to figure out what the survey figures mean because the survey was done for Milford. He didn't think that they took into consideration that Mont Vernon was constructing a tower on Lampson Farm which will cover all of Mont Vernon as well as part of Wilton and some of Lyndeborough. Chairman Daniels encouraged Wilton to find out what it would cost them, but the concept is so that each town would be responsible for their own infrastructure. It's important to note that you may see the figure for Wilton that is high, but it doesn't mean that Wilton needs to spend all that money in one year. If they were to replace their antenna that they have a High Mowing with a tower, it would take care of more towns and maybe it would be a one year project. He thinks they came away feeling like there was hope. He expresses to them that each of the Chairs has to be responsible for their own towns. But if there was a way we could make it work with the towns staying together as regional, and it benefited each town, this is what he would prefer to do. We need to figure out what those numbers represent for Mont Vernon and Wilton and how much they might be able to lower them. The wording on this article is structured so that we have the option of going either way because there is only about a \$300,000 difference. The article is put together without the expectation of the tower because it is not a done deal.

Selectman Labonte feels like the decision has been made before there was even a vote. Everything that Chairman Daniels mentioned comes back to either a Milford standalone Facility or a Milford Regional Facility. There hasn't been any discussions about either staying with MACC Base or updating MACC Base. He was upset because he would have liked to meet with the Chairs from the other towns. Note: this was only a meeting of the Chairmen of the Boards for each town. He stated that according to the Selectmen's Rules and Procedures, "No member, including the chairperson or vice-chairperson, shall conduct any town business outside a regular scheduled meeting without the prior knowledge and approval of the Board at a meeting". If it's not appropriate for him to meet with another Board without discussing it with the rest of the Board, why was it appropriate for Chairman Daniels to have a meeting with the other Boards.

Chairman Daniels said it's appropriate for anyone to go and talk to members of the other towns which he believes some people have done already. He didn't see the need to get all the Boards together to discuss this and this isn't the first time they've met. There was some concern after the presentation that it was already set and that Milford would be going alone and he wanted to share with the other Board Chairs that the decision hasn't been made yet and the numbers

APPROVED MINUTES OF BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING – 12/23/2019

still leave the possibility that the other towns may be able to participate. However, going back to the comment that it would cost more to retrofit at MACC Base than to build new, he didn't hear any disagreement from the Board Chairs on that. To try to setup a new system at the same time that you are running an old system in the same area, it's his understanding that there will need to be new wiring, new codes to be updated and there is a significant amount of work that will need to be done. He wanted to get a feeling from the other Chairs, based on what they heard and if there was a possibility that they would want to stay together as a regional as opposed to just saying, because of the cost, we are not staying.

Selectman Labonte asked, when did this board made a decision that they are not doing anything with MACC Base. Chairman Daniels said they didn't. Administrator Bender said he had to write something for the warrant article, if you want to write something else, have at it. Chairman Daniels said it's a place to start from. The Town appropriated \$85,000 to have a study done. We are basing this on the results of the study, it's open for amendments.

Chairman Daniels asked the Board how they felt about the language. Selectmen Labonte and Putnam don't like it. Selectman Labonte didn't have any amendments. He's been asked for plan B through this whole process. What CTA gave us was a recommendation. Do we have any proposals that are still good from MACC Base that we can use as a comparison? He heard that repeaters won't work and the new proposal is recommending them. Chairman Daniels said he recalls them saying that the repeaters could be programed so that they don't interfere with each other. He understands that repeaters are necessary to be able to talk in buildings.

Selectman Labonte said it understands that we need to upgrade. CTA showed that we could save \$54,000 which was off MACC Base's proposed budget of 2020. If you look at the 2020 budget it's anticipated that \$60,000 is coming back to Milford. That shows a \$6,000 savings staying with MACC Base. It's just playing with numbers. Chairman Daniels said he was on opposite sides of the vote with Selectman Labonte about giving MACC Base an additional \$60,000. When something is budgeted, he doesn't expect it to come back. Once this Board approved the MACC Base budget, they have free range to spend that extra \$60,000. Selectman Labonte said it's no different from how the town runs their budget. Some line items are under run and all he's told is that they shuffle money from one place to cover another place and that is his biggest concern about Milford having their own dispatch center. Amherst had a hard time pulling out what their system actually cost. If we put a dispatch center in the bottom of a \$15,000,000 budget, we have a lot of departments now that can't tell you what number is what because this overruns and we pull it out of something that underruns. We run a bottom line budget in Milford. He feels that with having it at MACC Base even if the budget is over-inflated at \$60,000 the oversight and the meticulous picking of those budgets, it's all right there and not a case of sliding more money in. A lot of the public he's spoken to have concerns about regional, it's worked fine for 30 years with MACC Base and he's in favor of it if it can be done.

Selectman Putnam agrees with Selectman Labonte about the regional aspect of it. He would like to see it stay that way. The equipment needs to be upgraded and he doesn't want to see it in the Police Station because all of a sudden they will be using the dispatch as secretaries and taking them away from their primary duties like answering the window. The communications center should be separate on its own standalone system not attached to any department. We already have the governance and financial committee in place up there and it's been working. We need to run it like a partnership. We can't get 70% of the vote just because we pay 70% of the bill. We need to compromise. The CTA system is just a matter of opinion, it looks like it will work but there are no guarantees. Chairman Daniels said it still has to go through a permitting process, it doesn't mean it's going to be updated tomorrow.

Jason Johnson, MACC Base Director said it was good that CTA mention alternatives. He referenced CTA's numbers in the report on our web site. The page number 93 through 94 gives you MACC Base alternatives, the pdf numbers are you on pages 111 through 113. It gives you different numbers of what it is going to cost. CTA estimated \$1,660,000, the Town of Milford's share only being \$1,180,000. The Town of Mont Vernon is \$190,000 and the Town of Wilton, \$290,000. There are challenges with the space in MACC Base. We've continued operations despite changing radio systems over. We use to have a third console and the only reason we only have two now is because of money. Some of the things that CTA speaks about have already been done. There is already fiber between the Town Hall and the Police Department and it just needs to be connected. Things in this report are things that we've been proposing for years. The IMA is still an option for the three towns to get together as far as financial challenges. He did like the additional coverage in CTA's recommendation. There are other options than going on your own.

Chief Viola clarified, out of respect to the Board, that if Dispatch comes to the Police Department, he feels it would be run correctly. He has confidence in his people and knows they would do a good job. If they make a decision based on if they feel like the department heads are not doing a good job, or won't do a good job, he thinks they are totally wrong. If they are making your decision on, it's a communication thing and would rather keep here, that's also fine. Every de-

APPROVED MINUTES OF BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING – 12/23/2019

partment head in this town has done a great job; they take the town seriously and in the town's best interest especially since half of us live here. He wants to make sure the decision is based on communication, not based on supervisory or the director or management of it. Management wise he guarantees they would do a great job, he has all the faith in the world of the people he works with and all the Department heads in this town.

He takes exception that Selectman Putnam feels it would be a problem. There is no basis to that. Selectman Putnam said he didn't mean to insult him and maybe he came across wrong. There is always potential for years down the road that people to come in and decide to change things around. He's very proud of this town and all the Department Heads, volunteers, Police Officers and everyone. Chief Viola just wants to make sure the Board is making a decision based on what it best for the town. Every Director in this town does their due diligence, we bring the best projects forward and we all work well together.

Karen Blow, Milford resident said Administrator Bender had to come up with something for the language of the dispatch warrant article he presented. CTA was asked to give us solutions to this, they did their job and their top solution was a Milford Standalone. These surveys have been done several times with the same results. She's heard from the other Boards that they want but they don't want to pay their portion and they want Milford to absorb the larger amount. If Milford has 71% of the cost, they should have two votes. Someone said last week that Milford needs to be a good neighbor. She thinks that Milford has been and continues to be a good neighbor. She listened tonight about budgeting; she can say that every Department Head here works hard on their budgets. Mr. Bender takes a red pen and weans those line items down. One of the BAC members mentioned that there is no fat. A few weeks ago MACC Base got \$60,000 in their budget for "just in case". That is a disservice to our Department Heads who have to keep trimming. She hopes that they make a decision on if it's going to be Milford only or community, and she's good with that provided everyone pays their fair share, and where it's going. The can keeps getting kicked and we have to make a decision and keep our officers safe. Please move it forward.

Jason said relative to the amount of money in the budget, \$40,000 of that is the emergency repair and replacement budget. The rest is relative to insurance in the event that an employee is qualified to get it. He isn't going back to three towns to get the money. Officer safety is the primary concern of everyone upstairs. As fair share, it's all addressed in the IMA, it's strictly population based. There are other ways to come up with the cost and it's all addressed in the IMA.

Bob Labonte, Milford resident said money problem was part of the problem with previous Boards. Any money that came back to this table, it wasn't left to MACC Base. Chairman said the IMA dictates that money left over at the end of the year goes back to all the towns. Bob said, bottom line, people vote on this or they don't, it's still up to the people. Jason agreed that the unspent money goes back to the towns, over the past decade MACC Base has returned a quarter of a million dollars. Some of the town earmark the returned for emergency communications. It's up to the Boards.

Captain Frye said, in reference to the comment that it would be financially better if the Town of Milford did own it, we currently over budget at MACC Base because we have to. At the beginning of this year they had \$230,000 in surplus, which shouldn't have been there. The Director at MACC Base wears many hats in MACC Base. Having it with the Town of Milford would allow them to be in control the money, run it lean, and not over budgeting. Having HR and Finance available would free up the Director to manage the employees. There is always the \$40,000 in there for emergency fixes. There are plus's as far as the Town running another department.

Chairman Daniels restated that the warrant article, the way that it's written, allows us to go either way. There are still things that we need to work with, with the other Towns. His preference is Regional because it would end up saving us money if the figures are correct in the study. This further benefits for the other towns, there are ways those numbers can be reduced to lower the cost for them.

Selectman Labonte asked Chairman Daniels if he was referring to Milford standalone versus MACC Base or Milford standalone only or just Milford Regional. Chairman Daniels said Milford standalone versus Milford regional. Selectman Labonte clarified that if we go to the Deliberative session and voters say they don't want to have a Milford only, communications center, they can't change the warrant because you can't change the intent. This is tying the voter's hands and if this passes and goes to the Deliberative session the only option for a voter who chooses not to support a Milford only system is to reject the warrant article and get no communications period.

Chairman Daniels said we could have another warrant article that if this one fails, we take up that. Selectman Labonte said he feels that by doing it this way we are endangering the whole communications system by not getting any upgrades and staying where we are. Chairman Daniels said that is a possibility in either case. Administrator Bender said last year we had a warrant article that was amended and voters asked us to do a study. We found a completely inde-

APPROVED MINUTES OF BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING – 12/23/2019

pendent and out of state firm, highly regarded, 30 years of experience in this field. They came back with a specific recommendation an alternative recommendation that allows a regional dispatch. The cost is similar to the Town of Milford. They included MACC Base in their study and MACC Base was not recommended. It comes down to fulfilling what the voters asked us to do. The study was comprehensive, legitimate and the results were well presented. That is the way this warrant article is structured.

Selectman Labonte asked when the last opportunity would be to change the wording of this warrant article. Chairman Daniels said after the Budget and Bond hearing. Selectman Dargie said at the Deliberative Session. Selectman Labonte said that would be in changing intent. Chairman Daniels said the only thing you can change at the Deliberative session on a bond article is the amount. There was some disagreement. Selectman Dargie said whether its MACC Base or Milford only, it's the same subject. Selectman Labonte said he isn't willing to take that chance. Administrator Bender asked if they wanted to use money from the fund balance to lower this. Selectman Dargie said he would prefer to leave as the full tax impact.

Selectman Labonte would like legal verification from Town Council on how late we can go with changing the wording. Chairman Daniels said he believes the answer to your question is what the wording is going to be. Selectman Labonte said he would like legal definition as to when is the latest date that we could change this to a MACC Base only system. Chairman Daniels will get him that answer.

A motion was made by Chairman Daniels to adopt the language of this warrant article. Seconded by Selectman Dargie. The motion passed 3/2 with Selectman's Labonte and Putnam opposed.

WARRANT ARTICLE 5 - RECONSTRUCTION OF APPROXIMATELY 11 MILES OF TOWN ROADS - \$2,000,000 BOND

Administrator Bender said there was a request to put together some options for roads. Option 1 is to use the money in the budget. Option 2 is an additional \$400,000 appropriation on top of what is budgeted. Option 3&4 are an additional \$600,000 appropriation on top of what is budgeted.

Rick Riendeau, Public Works Director presented four options and a map for review. The map was updated so everyone can see where all the work has taken place since 2010. They have done a good job on the outside and now they are going to tighten it up and do the inside. They pulled some money from drainage and stormwater because there wasn't enough to finish the two major culverts that need to be replaced next year.

Option 1 is \$321,800 in the paving budget with another \$41,000 from drainage and stormwater. The plan was to finish off Ponemah Hill Road, Union Street, Garden Street, Osgood Road and West Street. He added Cottage Street. All together it comes to \$378,685 which is close to the proposed budget of \$362,800. We would reclaim Cottage Street and Mill Elm Street which leaves us at \$359,634 with approximately 3.48 miles of roads.

Administrator Bender clarified that this finishes the two culverts discussed earlier this year. Rick said yes. Selectman Labonte asked if Ricks preference was to get 1 ½ top on before stone chipping it? You have a weak base at 2 ½. He doesn't mean it as an insult. Rick said yes and no. The base is actually enhanced by reclaiming. It won't be exactly as it was before. He's confident, stressing that it's all budgetary, that this is based on a number to come up with a plan. Stone chipping meets the budget criteria. We currently have roads that have been chipped sealed and are holding up very well.

Option 2 Starting with the total paving budget of \$321,800, drainage and stormwater for \$41,000 and road appropriation of \$400,000. The base is again, Ponemah Hill Road, Union Street, Garden Street, Osgood Road and West Street. They would reclaim Cottage Street and Ball Hill and Mill Elm Street, Mont Vernon Road, Amherst Street and Grove Street. We have an issue with flooding on Amherst Street down by the Chop Shop. We would need to put in an overflow. We would do the Armory Road and Ball Hill Road culvert repairs and fix drainage on Mont Vernon Road and Amherst Street. We would also have money in for engineering on Amherst Street which is a big issue. We've had a sink hole in front of the Catholic Church, three sink holes between the Church and Summer Street and there are large caverns and voids under the duck bank that runs down to the middle of Amherst Street.

Administrator Bender said option 2 with the appropriation of \$400,000 is \$762,800. Rick's plan uses \$725,691 which leaves us with a little contingency of about \$37,000. This does approximately 4.39 miles of roads. Selectman Labonte asked where this falls with the OCI and Cartograph, is this picking some of the worst roads or is it just location you are going after. Rick said now it's closing in on location. He's been trying to get the high volume roads so he's been mix-

APPROVED MINUTES OF BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING - 12/23/2019

ing them with OCI's which are all over the place. Amherst Street OCI is 60.96. Mont Vernon Road is 55.89. Ball Hill Road is 57.96. The short section of Elm Street is 72.21. Cottage Street is 55.11. Ponemah Hill Road is 52.09 but will end up around 80. Administrator Bender said we need to do some surface treatment there. If we did a \$400,000 appropriation, the tax impact will be 0.247, but there is no tax impact on a bond for the first year. We did a \$600,000 option to show you what could happen if we wanted to do a bond or if you wanted to do a full appropriation. With either amount in the appropriation the warrant article can be written to raise and appropriate the full amount with the tax impact or it could be written to use money from the fund balance.

Rick said **Options 3 & 4** are based on the \$600,000 appropriation, the base paving and drainage would come to \$962,800. It would be the same base roads and more effort into Amherst Street for engineering, drainage, reclaiming and paving. Administrator Bender said the work on Amherst Street totals about \$438,000 in this option. A comment raised at the last meeting was to put a focus on Amherst Street. Rick said the 4th Option moves some of the top coat around into chip seal and puts more money into the drainage on Amherst Street. The final total will be \$921,800 and about 4.07 miles of roads. Administrator Bender said the last two options would leave us with a contingency of about \$41,000.

Chairman Daniels asked if Amherst Street could be taken care of through the Bridge Repair Capital Reserve. Administrator Bender said no, it isn't a culvert, its storm water issues. Selectman Putnam asked what is under Amherst Street from the Church to the river? Rick said a large culvert that you can walk in. We can't find out where stuff goes in under the Catholic Church and where it comes out. There a lot of unknowns on Amherst Street. Selectman Labonte said should find out where that water goes underneath Amherst Street before anything is done to the road. Rick agrees which is why there is engineering cost in there.

Administrator Bender said option 2 gives us more flexibility and allows us to do top coating that needs to be done, drainage and paving work and it gives us some money to start looking into Amherst Street. It also allows us to solve some drainage problems. Contingency in option 2 is \$37,000.

Selectman Labonte said he assumes they would come back to the Board in the spring depending on how the winter goes. Rick said yes and this is a proposal and it could change but its close. Selectman Putnam asked if the overflow at the chop shop would work like single structure and a pipe to the river. Rick said yes something simple like that or tying it in but he needs to look at it more.

Chairman Daniels would like to see more going towards fixing Amherst Street versus doing more roads. Rick agrees to a point, but there is a big unknown. This gives us time to really look at what is going on for Amherst Street. Selectman Labonte asked if the money lapse at the end of the year if we don't use it, or can we hold it. Administrator Bender said it depends on how the warrant article is written. Selectman Dargie said it can be written as non-lapsing. Chairman Daniels said his concern is that you're putting out \$400,000, you've identified a problem area, but you are only using a small amount on trying to track down that problem. Administrator Bender said it's \$45,000 for engineering. Rick said he isn't sure if it will be easily found. Chairman Daniels said he doesn't mind putting out money to find out what the problem is but he's is concerned about the other \$350,000. Rick said the remaining \$350,000 will be on the other road issues.

A motion was made by Selectman Dargie to change this warrant article from a \$2,000,000 bond to a \$400,000 appropriation. Seconded by Selectman Putnam. The motion passed 4/1 with Chairman Daniels opposed.

Administrator Bender asked if they wanted to use any fund balance in this warrant article. Selectman Labonte asked if there is a chance to adjust it and know what the fund balance is. Selectman Dargie prefers to put it at the full tax impact, we can look at the fund balance separately and decide what we want to use for taxes.

WARRANT ARTICLE 7 - TOWN OPERATING BUDGET - \$15,261,695

Administrator Bender said we made the changes that were discussed last week, including encumbering at \$150,500 which leaves us with an operating budget of \$15,261,695 compared with a default budget of \$15,271,749. Selectman Labonte referenced the latest bridge and referenced the 2019 budget at \$14,764,173. He went back and checked and the approved budget from 2019 was \$14,717,252. Administrator Bender said the additional money was for the collective bargaining agreements and things that were approved by warrant articles that said they would be added to the overall budget.

APPROVED MINUTES OF BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING – 12/23/2019

Selectman Labonte referenced the Community Development vehicle for \$30,000. He looked into cars and found five that could be bought for DPW for under \$14,000 brand new. There is still \$10,000 in the DPW budget for under capital vehicles. He was told it was for the plow frame and you have since taken the plow frame out at \$3,000. If we were to change that amount to \$14,000, it would allow DPW to buy a vehicle and you can remove \$30,000 off as far as Community Development. Administrator Bender said the \$30,000 is already out of Community Development.

Selectman Labonte said it comes down to how you do your bridge and numbers. He had a whole thing drawn out on that, whether you're spending out of 2019 money or 2020 money no matter how you look at it, he looks at it as if its encumbered in 2019 it still reflects on what a 2020 budget would have been. It's just that fact that we had surplus money that we didn't spend in 2019 but in truth could go back to the voters.

Administrator Bender asked what the vehicles were that you could buy for \$14,000. Selectman Labonte said a Ford Festiva, Chevy Spark, Chevy Sonic, Hondi Accent and a Mitsubishi Mirage. He assumes under state bid you can get a better price. This way you get a new vehicle that comes with a three year warrantee. Your expenses on it can pay your repairs. You can make up the difference in adding \$4,000 to the budget.

Administrator Bender said that is a vehicle that would be used at Public Works or are you suggesting that be the vehicle they buy for Community Development. Selectman Labonte said no, Community Development can stay with their vehicle and this one can go with DPW. During a storm, most of the time Rick ends up in a piece of equipment when plowing snow so you won't get into an issue of having a vehicle that you can't maneuver.

Administrator Bender said Public Works did a nice job repairing the ambulance vehicle that was repurposed to them. We got four or five years of useful life out of that and he thinks they can do the same thing with the vehicle from Community Development. Lincoln has looked at vehicles and the latest amount was around \$26,000 not \$30,000 so it will be lower than what he had budgeted. Selectman Labonte repeated the information above. Administrator Bender said they wouldn't be buying the plow frame. Selectman Labonte said you already took the plow frame out. Administrator Bender said we took \$3,000 out of \$13,000 there is still \$10,000 in there. Selectman Labonte said that Administrator Bender said he pulled the whole plow frame out. Administrator Bender said he did not, he was very clear in the reductions last week, we reduced DPW capital vehicles by \$3,000, not the full amount. He thinks we will get more bang for the buck with DPW repurposing the other vehicle and its size suited for Public Works. We are still buying a new vehicle and the difference is about \$12,000.

Chairman Daniels said there are still a couple of weeks to review this before the Budget and Bond Hearing.

Vote to support this article 4/1 with Selectman Labonte opposed.

WARRANT ARTICLE 10 - NASHUA STREET PEDISTRIAN SAFETY and SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENT PROJECT - \$750,500 (State pays \$600,000; Town pays \$150,100)

Selectman Putnam made a motion to remove warrant article 10 from the warrants. Seconded by Selectman Labonte for discussion and asked Selectman Putnam why he didn't want it. Selectman Putnam said between warrant articles 10 and 11 we will have to raise \$300,000 to match we never had sidewalks down there and don't need them now. They were never approved because of maintenance. We are worried about competition for the communications center and these are low on the priority list. Selectman Labonte asked what the maintenance cost would be on 7,500 feet of sidewalk. Administrator Bender said it would be about \$170 per plow for each snowfall plus on going expenses.

Selectman Putnam made a motion to remove warrant article 10 from the warrants. Seconded by Selectman Labonte. The motion passed 3/2 with Selectmen Dargie and Dudziak opposed.

WARRANT ARTICLE 11 - OSGOOD ROAD, MELENDY ROAD, AND ARMORY ROAD PEDESTRIAN SAFETY SIDEWALK AND BICYCLE LANE PROJECT - \$763,000 (State pays \$610,400; Town pays \$152,600) BOND

Selectman Putnam made a motion to remove warrant article 10 from the warrants. Seconded by Chairman Daniels for discussion. Administrator Bender said he would like to see one of the sidewalk warrants on to give the voters an opportunity to choose. Selectman Putnam said if we were getting 80% of the voters out there, we would be getting an accurate count. We only get 17% to 23% of the voters that vote for this and it's not a fair shot.

APPROVED MINUTES OF BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING – 12/23/2019

Arene Berry, Milford resident said even if you only get 17% to 18% of the voters, that is more people getting a say than just the five voting at this table. Chairman Daniels said we just put \$400,000 in on road maintenance and it's another \$150,000 for this. His focus is on communications. Selectman Dudziak said it's a no brainer, it's an 80/20 split and she thinks there is a safety issue. Last Monday Chairman Daniels indicated that he was against this because there wasn't even a raised sidewalk. She clarified with Lincoln and there will be a raised sidewalk. She sees students walking all the time, just because there hasn't been an accident so far doesn't mean we shouldn't make improvements to prevent that from happening in the future.

Chairman Daniels said that wasn't his comment, his comment was that there is a wide enough area in the breakdown lane to accommodate another car. It's wide enough for people to stay off the road. We can't build sidewalks on every street. Selectman Dudziak agreed but when you have an opportunity where 80% is going to be paid out of federal funds, it's a no brainer. Selectman Putnam said federal funds come up all the time we will probably get some next year and the year after. Selectman Dargie said that isn't true, he agrees with Selectman Dudziak. He feels that this is a top priority and we should be doing both of them. Administrator Bender said last year we applied for the CMAC grant and we were shut out, there were too many other competing projects.

Bob Labonte, Milford Resident said he agrees with Selectman Putnam, you have to stop somewhere. You just have to say no. You put \$20,000 into key fobs and this is not Metropolis, it's little hick town Milford. It was \$20,000 for the fobs and \$1,000 a year for maintenance instead of just turning a key. He looked at Administrator Bender's expression and said he didn't appreciate it. Administrator Bender doesn't live here but he certainly doesn't consider Milford a hick town. Bob said he didn't mean a hick town. Administrator Bender said he said it. Bob said, small town Milford, like small town Amherst. You have to stop somewhere.

Selectman Putnam made a motion to remove warrant article 10 from the warrants. Seconded by Selectman Labonte. The motion passed 3/2 with Selectmen Dargie and Dudziak opposed.

WARRANT ARTICLE 12 - AMBULANCE AND EQUIPMENT LEASE-PURCHASE - \$45,180 (Annual Lease Payment \$45,180: \$75,000 Paid From Capital Reserves; Total Purchase Price \$296,400)

Selectman Putnam said it's getting to the point where we are turning these ambulances over every five years. Administrator Bender said the two ambulances that we have 2013 that are in frontline service. This is replacing the 2001 ambulance that is our reserve. One of the 2013 ambulances will become the ready reserve and there will be another one due in 2023. Selectman Putnam clarified that this will give us some distance between them. Administrator Bender said yes.

Eric Schelberg, Ambulance Director said the objective is to then be on a five year replacement cycle and each ambulance will be in the fleet for fifteen years. Administrator Bender asked Eric how many miles were on the ambulances. Eric said 3B has 111,000 miles and 3A has 163,000 miles but take away 160,000 on the motor. The 3B will go to the ready spare.

Peggy Seward, Milford Resident questioned the non-appropriation language "capital reserve funds may be used for multiple payments under a financing agreement for a purpose for which the capital reserve was established. If the financing agreement is a lease/purchase payment, the lease/purchase agreement may not contain "an escape clause" or "a non-appropriation clause". How does this work with this warrant article. Administrator Bender requested a copy of the language to review.

Peggy clarified that capital reserves are used to prove to the town that by putting money in them each year, when it comes to bigger expenditures like this year, you're not being hit so much because you are using the capital reserve to buy it. The capital reserve total is about \$75,000 and we are taking out that same amount and in five years, when we want to buy another ambulance. There is a different warrant article to add \$25,000 back in to this account. It's confusing to the general public to take out \$75,000 but put \$25,000 back in. It doesn't make sense. Just take out \$50,000 this year and don't add any more into the capital reserve this year, it doesn't need to be added to every year.

Administrator Bender said he could answer part of Peggy's first question. He read the copy and it says capital reserve funds may be used for multiple payments under financing agreements for the purpose for which capital reserve was established. We are not using the capital reserve funds for multiple payments; we are using them as a down payment to reduce the amount that we have to lease. We would need a non-appropriation clause.

Selectman Labonte asked what he could do to change the wording that Peggy used. Chairman Daniels said there would be another chance to change things at the Budget and Bond hearing. Selectman Putnam said if you go with Peggy's

APPROVED MINUTES OF BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING – 12/23/2019

wording, you are only going to put a \$50,000 down payment on it and it will increase the lease payment. Why don't we just leave it the way it is. Selectman Labonte said he would go with that for now. Chairman Daniels clarified that Peggy said to only use \$50,000 and not put an additional \$25,000 in the capital reserve account and remove that warrant article.

Vote to support this article 5/0

WARRANT ARTICLE 13 - PUBLIC WORKS WHEEL BUCKET LOADER LEASE-PURCHASE - \$22,980 (Annual Lease Payment \$22,980; \$80,000 Paid From Capital Reserves; Total Purchase Price (\$145,000))

Selectman Labonte said this changed from what we had last week. We were going to trade in the old one, now there is no trade in and we are keeping the old one. If we were to do this he would want to see a reduction in the rental of \$18,000. Administrator Bender said we could do that in the 2021 budget, you can't take it out of the budget until you know this is going to pass.

Selectman Labonte asked what's the guarantee was that if we get this, that the money isn't going to be spent for 2020. Administrator Bender said its \$15,000. He asked Paul if they could write in the warrant article that if this passes the budget will be reduced by \$15,000. Paul said they can't put that in the warrant article. Selectman Dargie agreed, they couldn't do that on the school side a while ago.

Vote to support this article 4/1 with Selectman Labonte opposed.

WARRANT ARTICLE 14 - BRIDGE REPAIR AND/OR REPLACEMENT CAPITAL RESERVE - \$75,000

Administrator Bender gave an overview of the Bridge Capital Reserve Fund Analysis. There are two red listed bridges both on Hartshorn Road. Prices came back for the upper bridge at between \$85,500 to \$242,000. The reference check on the low bidder was positive. If you include some engineering cost we could do this at about \$100,000 which will be below budget for that culvert. The other red listed bridge remains open to the public for transport.

2019 Activity

W/A 11	75,000	
Interest	3,295	
Engineering Hartshorn Road over Hartshorn	(20,288)	
Mason Road Culvert (Completed 12/2018)	(77,532)	
Total 2019 Activity	(19,525)	

Balance 12/3/19 **607,631**

2020 Planned Activity

W/A	75,000	
Hartshorn Road over Hartshorn	(100,000)	
Emergency Culvert replacement	(90,000)	
Engineering Mason Rd over Great Brook (2023)	(50,000)	
Total cost is \$685,000. Town share is \$137,000.		
Total 2020 Planned Activity	(165,000)	(165,000)
Projected Balance 12/31/20		442,631

2021 Planned Activity

W/A	75,000	
Emergency Culvert replacement	(90,000)	
Engineering Mason Rd over Great Brook (2023)	(50,000)	
Total 2020 Planned Activity	(65,000)	(65,000)
Projected Balance 12/31/21		377,631

Selectman Putnam made a motion to keep warrant article 14 at \$75,000. Seconded by Selectman Dudziak. The motion passed 4/1 with Selectman Labonte opposed.

WARRANT ARTICLE 15 - DPW VEHICLES AND HEAVY EQUIPMENT CAPITAL RESERVE - \$40,000

Vote to support this article 5/0

WARRANT ARTICLE 16 - FIRE APPARATUS REPLACEMENT CAPITAL RESERVE - \$25,000

APPROVED MINUTES OF BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING – 12/23/2019

Vote to support this article 5/0

WARRANT ARTICLE 17 - TOWN FACILITIES RENOVATION AND MAJOR REPAIR REPLACEMENT CAPITAL RESERVE - \$25,000

Vote to support this article 5/0

WARRANT ARTICLE 18 - AMBULANCE VEHICLE REPLACEMENT CAPITAL RESERVE - \$25,000

Vote to support this article 5.0

WARRANT ARTICLE 19 - KEYES PARK EXPANSION COMMITTEE PROJECT CAPITAL RESERVE - \$25,000

Vote to support this article 5/0

WARRANT ARTICLE 20 - PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT CAPITAL RESERVE - \$20,000

Vote to support this article 5/0

WARRANT ARTICLE 21 - POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENT PORTABLE RADIO REPLACEMENTS from THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT CAPITAL RESERVE - \$22,800

Vote to support this article 5/0

WARRANT ARTICLE 22 - ASSESSING REVALUATION CAPITAL RESERVE - \$15,000

Vote to support this article 5/0

WARRANT ARTICLE 23 - SOCIAL SERVICES - \$40,000

Vote to support this article 5/0

WARRANT ARTICLE 24 - NON-EMERGENCY COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION BUS SERVICES – \$32,000

Vote to support this article 5/0

WARRANT ARTICLE 25 - PUMPKIN FESTIVAL SUPPORT - \$23,000

Selectman Putnam made a motion to reduce warrant article 25 to \$8,000. Seconded by Selectman Dudziak. All were in favor. The motion passed 5/0.

WARRANT ARTICLE 26 - CONSERVATION FUND - \$20,000

Selectman Putnam made a motion to remove this warrant article from the warrants. Seconded by Chairman Daniels. Chairman Daniels said they already have \$120,000 in their account. Administrator Bender said one of the budget reductions approved last week was the \$30,000 stewardship endowment. He's requesting that we retain this with the \$20,000 in funding because if that project goes forward, and it isn't in the budget, the only resource for it will be this fund. Selectman Labonte said he disagrees. He feels that Conservation shouldn't get penalized a \$30,000 fee that was incurred by a direct expense by the gravel operation.

Selectman Putnam made a motion to remove this warrant article from the warrants. Seconded by Chairman Daniels. The motion failed 3/2 with Selectman's Dargie, Dudziak and Labonte opposed.

A motion was made by Selectman Dargie to support warrant article 26. Seconded by Selectman Dudziak. The motion passed 3/2 with Chairman Daniels and Selectman Putnam opposed.

APPROVED MINUTES OF BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING – 12/23/2019

WARRANT ARTICLE 27 - ANNUAL LABOR DAY PARADE SUPPORT - \$10,000

Vote to support this article 4/1 with Chairman Daniels opposed.

WARRANT ARTICLE 28 - SUMMER BAND CONCERTS SUPPORT - \$9,000

Vote to support this article 5/0

WARRANT ARTICLE 29 - INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION FIREWORKS - \$8,500

Vote to support this article 3/2 with Chairman Daniels and Selectman Putnam opposed.

WARRANT ARTICLE 30 - MEMORIAL, VETERANS & LABOR DAY PARADES AND RECOGNITION SUPPORT - \$6,500

Vote to support this article 5/0

WARRANT ARTICLE 31 - VETERAN'S TAX CREDIT AND ALL VETERAN'S TAX CREDIT

Vote to support this article 4-0-1 with Chairman Daniels abstaining.

WARRANT ARTICLE 32 - TAX CREDIT FOR SURVIVING SPOUSE OF VETERAN

Vote to support this article 5/0

WARRANT ARTICLE 33 - TAX CREDIT FOR SERVICE CONNECTED TOTAL DISABILITY

Vote to support this article 5/0

WARRANT ARTICLE 34 - INCREASE THE PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR ELDERLY - \$0

Vote to support this article 5/0

WARRANT ARTICLE 35 - WEST MILFORD TAX INCREMENT FINANCING DISTRICT REVOCATION - \$0

Vote to support this article 5/0

WARRANT ARTICLE 36 - BROX PROPERTIES PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT FUND REVOCATION - \$0

Vote to support this article 5/0

WARRANT ARTICLE 37 - NEW MUNICIPAL AND TRANSPORTATION CAPITAL RESERVE FUND PAID BY AN ADDITIONAL AUTO REGISTRATION FEE - \$0

Chairman Daniels made a motion to remove warrant article 37 from the warrants. Seconded by Selectman Labonte. The motion passed with Selectman's Dargie and Dudziak opposed.

6. DISCUSSIONS:

Selectman Dargie referenced an e-mail about sports betting. He would be in favor of putting it on the warrants. It would be unlikely that we would have one in Milford. Selectman Dudziak agreed. Administrator Bender said this is the NH lottery HB480 authorized establishing legalized sports betting in NH. Some can be done by the internet. There will be ten local facilities that are authorized to conduct this and it may be extended to other lottery facilities.

Selectman Dargie made a motion to put the NH Lottery on the warrants with the appropriate language. Seconded by Selectman Dudziak. The motion passed 4-0-1 with Selectman Labonte abstaining pending additional information.

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS: Selectman Putnam asked Arene if the \$45,200 dollars for the recreation bus the grand total. Arene the total collected to date is \$51,334. The cost of the bus is estimated at \$70,000. Selectman Dargie asked if they wanted to have a warrant article for the balance. Arene said the fund raising is going well and there may be some more significant funds coming in. She is hesitant to do a warrant article for the bus because DRA said if we have a warrant article for the \$19,000 and the warrant failed, they can't purchase a bus at all even with fully donated funds under the no means no. Paul said they would have to have two warrant articles and if the \$19,000 one failed, the other one would need to say that they could raise all the funds privately to purchase the bus. Arene said even if the second one failed they would have no bus for a year. Administrator Bender said we have until January 10th and if needed, we could do a petition warrant article.

Chairman Daniels said at the last MACC Base meeting the chair of the Board of Governors had expressed extending the IMA for one year. It currently goes until the end of 2020. Does this Board need to do anything at this time. Selectman Putnam said no we can extend it another year at any time. Selectman Labonte said don't you have to give a year's notice if your leaving in the current IMA. Selectman Dargie said the IMA expires at a certain date. If you leave at the same time that it expires then you don't have to give notice.

Peggy Seward when the Waste Water Treatment was build, it was paid for by the town. It now needs about \$6,000,000 in repairs and it should be paid for with some town money instead of just water/sewer user fees. The school is paid for by everyone whether you have children there or not. Next year there is another \$2,500,000 coming from the Waste Water Treatment facility for repairs. People are commenting already that you won't get things passed on the warrants. The BAC is meeting with the Water Commissioners on Thursday.

Selectman Putnam said they did an engineering study a few years back on how much water/sewer utilization was from the users and the town. The engineers said around 27% of that cost benefits the entire town. That would be a number he would recommend if Peggy needs something to work with. Peggy is just for the Board to look at this.

Chairman Daniels asked Selectman Putnam what would happen if the articles Peggy spoke about didn't pass. Selectman Putnam said we won't get equipment and may not see EPA permits. There are many things coming and they have been waiting fifteen years for a permit down there from EPA. They have come up with all kinds of mandates in the past year dictating that we need to do this and that and that is well over \$10,000,000. In his opinion, we will do what we can afford to do. This is his opinion only.

Selectman Dudziak this is the same discussion they had with the Planning Board recently. She thinks that is \$4,500,000 and it won't pass and the town can get fined. Chairman Daniels said it makes interesting dynamics when people who have lived in town all their lives and not had to pay for water/sewer and all of a sudden they have to. Selectman Labonte said there would be two warrant articles for this and one passes and one fails. Captain Frye said the ultimate question is you can't discriminate on whether you are a water/sewer user or not. There are many people in town who have wells and don't use the system so you don't know who's voting for what.

Selectman Putnam said this is just preliminary and this is the first it's been brought up at this level. Captain Frye said you are basically making users of the system pay for it without equal representation. Selectman Dudziak said if it doesn't pass and the town is fined, all of the residents are paying. Selectman Labonte said if you put 27% on all the tax payers, what happens if it doesn't pass and the water user's one passed for the other 73% and you don't have all the money you are looking for. Selectman Putnam said that is something they will need to discuss at a later date.

8. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS/DISCUSSIONS.

a. FROM PROJECTS, SPECIAL BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES.

b. OTHER ITEMS (that are not on the agenda).

9. APPROVAL OF FINAL MINUTES. Selectman Putnam moved to approve the minutes of December 9, 2019 as presented. Seconded by Selectman Dudziak. All were in favor. The motion passed 5/0.

10. INFORMATION ITEMS REQUIRING NO DECISIONS.

11. NOTICES. Notices were read.

12. NON-PUBLIC SESSION.

APPROVED MINUTES OF BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING – 12/23/2019

774
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13. ADJOURNMENT: Selectman Dudziak moved to adjourn at **8:52**. Selectman Dargie seconded. All were in favor. The motion passed 5/0.

Gary Daniels, Chairman

Laura Dudziak, Member

Paul Dargie, Vice Chairman

Chris Labonte, Member

Mike Putnam, Member