

APPROVED
MINUTES OF THE MILFORD BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
July 29, 2019

PRESENT: Gary Daniels, Chairman Mark Bender, Town Administrator - excused
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. – Approval of New Member to the Milford Recycle and Solid Waste Committee.

Nancy Amato was previously a Selectman and a Selectman's Representative on the Recycling committee. After attending the Sustainability Fair in Wilton this past spring she became interested in becoming a member of Milford's Recycling and Solid Waste Committee. She was surprised to learn that something as simple as a plastic toothbrush takes 400+years to decompose in a landfill while the impact of a bamboo toothbrush is much, much less. There are many simple things we as citizens of Milford can do to reduce the amount and therefore the cost of solid waste, recyclable and non-recyclable items that we bring to our Transfer Station and she would like to help with that effort.

Selectman Dudziak made a motion to approve Nancy Amato as a new member of the Recycle and Solid Waste Committee. Seconded by Selectman Putman. All were in favor. The motion passed 5/0.

5:35 p.m. – Approval of Two (2) Land Use Change Tax (LUCT) Forms, Map 45 Lots 3-31 & 3-32.

Marti said that both lots are located in the Autumn Oaks Subdivision on Boynton Hill and construction for new single family homes has begun, rendering the lots ineligible for Current Use.

Selectman Putnam made a motion to approve the two Land Use Change Tax (LUCT) Forms for Map 45 Lots 3-31 & 3-32. Seconded by Selectman Dudziak. All were in favor. The motion passed 5/0.

5:40 p.m. – Request to Re-visit and Approve Abatement Denial for NNE Telephone/Consolidated Communications Map 30.

In summary: In June of 2019, the Board denied this abatement request based on calculations using the prior year's equalization ratio, which is the only ratio available at the time of final tax billing. The annual equalization ratio is determined by the DRA usually the January or February following the tax billing. This ratio is often used for abatements to determine reasonableness.

The recently developed statutes, rules and formula for calculating assessed value for taxable communication property is silent on the application of the equalization ratio, but it is reasonable to conclude that the same rights to abatement apply in the instance of tele-communication property as any other property.

A correction for that calculation error in determining the assessed value has been identified, resulting in a slightly reduced assessment for 2018 and requiring an abatement.

Selectman Dudziak made a motion to approve the Abatement for NNE Telephone/Consolidated Communications Map 30. Seconded by Selectman Dargie. All were in favor. The motion passed 5/0.

6:00 p.m. – Dispatch Discussion with Milford, Wilton and Mont Vernon Boards of Selectmen.

Chairman Daniels Introduced the Select Boards

Milford Select Board – Chairman Gary Daniels, Vice Chairman Paul Dargie, Selectman Mike Putnam, Selectman Laura Dudziak and Selectman Chris Labonte.

Mont Vernon Select Board – Chairman Jack Esposito and Selectman Kim Roberg

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Wilton Select Board – Chairman Kermit Williams, Selectman Matthew Fish and Selectman Kellie-Sue Boissonnault and Town Administrator Paul Branscombe,

Ground Rules

- Leave past history at the door
- The three towns that comprise the membership of MACC have important decisions to make regarding the future of our emergency communication services and it will be more productive for us to focus our collective efforts on seeking mutual solutions rather than rehashing our past differences
- Maintain decorum
- To enable clarity for those who are following our discussion, either live or remotely, strict decorum of the meeting will be maintained
- Every member of each board will have the opportunity to speak
- Be recognized by the chair, so that only one person is talking at a time
- Be respectful of other individual or board opinions
- Be patient when listening to others speak and do not interrupt them
- Stay on topic
- Address any concerns to the chair
- Maintain a positive attitude

Discussion

1. How does your town use MACC?

Wilton – Chairman Williams said they are full users of MACC Base except highway. They are happy with MACC Base. Fire Department is still on low band radio and will be transitioning to high band soon. They have three other towns that they service on their Ambulance.

Mont Vernon – Chairman Esposito said they use Amherst for Ambulance Service. They use MACC Base for Police, Fire and DPW. There have been very little problems over the years with MACC Base.

Milford – Chairman Daniels said they use MACC Base for Fire, Police and Ambulance. They also use MACC Base for Water Utilities and DPW only for notification purposes. All three towns serve each other with mutual aid. Chief Viola, Milford Police said they have no problem with the personnel of MACC Base. The problem they have is with hearing communication back and forth with MACC Base and between officers.

2. Does the current MACC service fulfill all your communication needs? If not, what communication needs are deficient or non-existing?

Wilton – Chairman Williams said some dead spots and some concern with ability to broadcast from multiple places at once. Sometimes someone from MACC Base has to actually search for someone from Wilton to figure out which antenna site they are closest to.

Chairman Daniels asked if the dead spots were from all the services or just some. Don Nourse, Wilton Deputy Fire Chief said there are challenges in infrastructure which is low band, old and undependable. They are looking to move to high band for better coverage. They have a lot of challenges communicating. They have been working with Jason, MACC Base Director to come up with a good plan. Chairman Daniels asked if going to high band fix the problems. Deputy Fire Chief Nourse they won't have to carry two radios like they do now. The infrastructure changes will fortify the high band capability for us to move off the low band frequency completely. Chief Olesen, Wilton Chief of Police said MACC Base does a great job and they know if they can't get in touch with us on one antenna, they will switch to another antenna. The bottom line is if we are out there and are in need of help, no matter what department, and MACC Base can't hear us, that's an issue. He had an officer in a dead spot and couldn't contact MACC Base, he ended up pushing the panic button on his portable which should have locked up MACC Base and no one responded. He then pushed the panic button on his laptop computer in the cruiser and he still couldn't reach MACC Base. He didn't have any idea if anyone could hear or come for him. This is a huge infrastructure issue and we need to resolve this matter to keep our people safe.

Chairman Daniels asked if this was a common in all services with MACC Base. Selectman Fish said it's geographically related to dead spots across all services. Administrator Bender asked if the incident Chief Olesen spoke about was recent. Chief Olesen said it was a couple of years ago. They now stress to their officers that if they are going to conduct

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a traffic stop in an area that they know if un-functional, try to put their lights on a little later to get the car to go a little further so that MACC Base can hear you.

Mont Vernon –Chairman Esposito said there are some dead spots in their town but it's not a significant issue. They are currently looking to get a transmitter put up in a cell tower at Lampson Farm which should solve all their problems. They don't have any problems with the communications with MACC Base. Selectman Roberg said their Police Chief has been happy with the services with MACC Base. In the past we had dead spots and they installed repeaters in the trunks of the cruisers. Mont Vernon has three cruisers. It isn't ideal because the radios have to be changed manually but it is successful. Wilton's Fire Chief is on the Board of Governors and he's frustrated that improvements to the infrastructure haven't been funded.

Milford – Chief Viola said his officers work with Wilton and there is a communications problem. He doesn't have an issue with MACC Base and the service he has an issue with the interoperability that we are dealing with. His officers can't communicate with one another on occasion and also communicating with MACC Base on occasion. They have to use their cell phones at times to contact MACC Base. For safety reasons, it's not the way to do it. They don't want to keep putting Band-Aids on it; all officers and emergency services need to feel safe on the road. If we are staying regional we need to hear the officers from the other towns, if we can't hear what they are doing there isn't any reason to be regional. A couple of years ago, all the Police Chiefs said the reason they want to stay on the same channels is because they want to hear what's going on with everyone. Our officers communicate with each other as well as with other departments.

Jason Johnson, MACC Base Director explained the reason the officer in Wilton wasn't recognized is because another officer in another town was transmitting at the same time and had the radio tied up. Our system didn't recognize the panic button being pushed either time because of the minute long transmission from another town. One of the key things is to be able to have officers from one end of the jurisdiction talk to officers on another end. The solutions that we've suggested all along, is a true simulcast system where an officer on a portable in Milford at the Amherst town line can hear an officer at the Temple Town line. This is not something that exists currently because it hasn't been funded. It needs to be done whether you stay with MACC Base or go on your own; all the infrastructure needs to be replaced.

Selectman Roberg referred to her notes from 2018, the cost to put in a multi-site repeater system for the towns for the Police Department was estimated at about \$250,000, she asked Jason if that would solve the problems. Jason said one solution the Board of Governors wanted them to look at a one shot deal as far as a multi-site repeaterized system that would help like he mentioned earlier with officers talking from one end to another. It would feed off of all the transmit sites at the same time. It was put together as a number of options and this was about \$200,000 to \$250,000 for a three site repeaterized system Police Department only channel.

Chairman Daniels said the only thing that our Fire Department expressed concern about was if the tower on federal hill would remain or not. Our Ambulance Department expressed concerns about contacting with MACC Base when they are at some hospital locations.

Selectman Labonte said that Ambulance Department communication issues were basically from the Manchester hospitals to MACC Base. He thinks that falls outside the scope. At some point we need to look at where we want to have radio communication.

3. A December 2018 estimate by Motorola Solutions and 2-Way Communications Service (handout) estimated a \$3.0 million capital equipment cost for a regional solution. This is being used only for reference. Understanding that this estimate could increase or decrease depending on the identification of issues that need to be addressed or the solutions chosen to resolve issues, how willing is our boards, to propose that your town bond MACC capital equipment costs at their current apportionment to achieve a \$3.0M regional solution?

As a reference only, Wilton is at 18% and it would be about \$540,000 - Chairman Williams said it's been talked about and if it fixes the problem then we are willing to do our share. He asked if Lyndeborough, who is not a member of MACC Base, only a customer who uses the equipment, would also be charged a fee for using the upgrades. They use about 8% of the service. Chairman Daniels said it would be up to MACC Base's Board of Governors to decide what if any cost would be charged with some input from all Boards.

Chairman Daniels asked if Wilton's Board was willing to propose such a warrant, how viable would your voters be towards it. Chairman Williams said their residents are concerned with the service and if we were able to say it is an appropriate solution that would take them into the future, their voters would support it. Selectman Fish said safety is very

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important and a major cost but they do prioritize these things and he feels the Town of Wilton would be on board. It's important that it's done right. He looks forward to Wilton moving forward with MACC Base.

As a reference only, Mont Vernon is at 11% and it would be about \$330,000 –

Chairman Esposito said Mont Vernon is the smallest town. We have done some exploration of what it would cost if MACC Base dissolved and we had to go somewhere else. The biggest problem in the past with the working agreement with MACC Base is the time period to repay these commitments. Mont Vernon's commitment would be \$330,000, how long a period would that be on the payback. That would be the determining factor. From the information that we've received, it would take about \$70,000 to change over to someone else which is less than we are paying now in annual fees. That investment would be about a three to four year payback. They don't have an issue with MACC Base, just the cost.

Chairman Daniels said he was thinking about a 10 year bond but each town could do whatever they wanted to. Chairman Esposito clarified that each town would do their own bond not one bond. Chairman Daniels said yes. Chairman Esposito said that each town has vested interest in the equipment and would lose it if we left; we need to look at that as well. Selectman Roberg stated, the Board of Selectmen in Mont Vernon haven't put this to a vote. Except for the above number she hasn't received anything stating the cost of anything or what is included in that number. In her research, Concord Emergency services handle 22 different communities. She doesn't know if her mobile radios are the responsibility of the communications center or the departments using them. What does the \$3,000,000 make up for the infrastructure? She can't answer the question. The Concord Emergency service said that when the 22 communities go to buy their mobile radios, it's the individual communities cost, not the centers cost. They just need approval from the center in order for their infrastructure to work on that communication. We know that there needs to be some infrastructure which is why we got a grant for the microwave system that we are looking to put on a tower at Lampson Farm. They are also looking at licensing. We can't survive on our own. She can't answer for the town or herself until she has more information.

Chairman Daniels said he views MACC Base as a system. They own the equipment upstairs and they are either leasing or own the towers. He's basically looking at the centralized equipment that everyone is going to use and receive a signal from. Basically MACC Base or the towns would take care of the communication on the towers. Each town would contribute to this pool of money so that MACC Base worked as a system not just as an individual town. Selectman Roberg said Milford is getting a good deal of it all, it uses maybe 80% or more. Mont Vernon and Wilton are not. Our stuff works and our officers are not at risk.

As a reference only, Milford is at 71% and it would be about \$2,130,000

Chairman Daniels said they have dealt with the communication problem long enough. He thinks people would accept. As far as the \$2,100,000, it would be around that much if we went on our own versus going with a regional. He doesn't know that it makes that much of a difference. It's hard to draw a line because a tower in Mont Vernon may help Milford. There is so much overlap. Communication has been set as our top priority.

Selectman Dudziak agrees we need a complete solution and she feels the voters are ready. Selectman Labonte agreed with Selectman Dudziak, communication has been on everyone's thoughts. He agrees that these numbers still don't spell what we get. It's a great start but he also questions terms on bonds and things. If we stay with MACC Base, shouldn't we be looking at the IMA and make it compatible and acceptable to all towns. He thinks the voters are ready to do something with communications but it needs to be clear as to what we are getting.

Chairman Daniels said these numbers were just a starting point and the IMA will be something we need to address.

Selectman Fish said it's important that our Boards jointly and independently recognize that we are never going to slice this accurately as a specific percent every year. We need to look at this as a moving average and as long as we are within that reasonable window of use by each community, that's how an effective IMA works. There are savings and efficiencies and synergies that go above and beyond that quantified number of trying to get to the exact amount. Selectman Roberg repeated that Mont Vernon can't go on their own. They understand that there is a price for not being able to do it on their own.

4. Should MACC be a system (owning all equipment and infrastructure) or a service (the three towns owning the central equipment, with towns providing their own remote equipment and infrastructure)?

Wilton – Chairman Williams said he assumes that you pay for your own radios. Who maintains and pay for for the antenna sites. Every antenna site is going to service more than one community and you can't really divide it percentage

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wise. It should be a system and owned and maintained by MACC Base. The maintenance and repair for equipment failing will need to be fixed immediately. MACC Base will know when something fails and send someone right away.

Selectman Fish agreed with Chairman Williams and feels MACC Base should maintain the infrastructure.

Mont Vernon – MACC Base operates all the antennas and maintains what needs to be done already. Towns buy their own equipment that they need for their vehicles.

Jason said if there is an issue with a transmitter site MACC Base handles the maintenance side of it as well as preventive maintenance. He doesn't think what Chairman Daniels was suggesting included equipment in the car or on officer equipment. The one case where that is different is the one piece owned by the Milford Fire Department. That maintenance is the Fire Department's responsibility. If there is an issue, it gets taken care of right away. We lease the site from the state. The State is responsible for their equipment. The biggest problem with Federal Hill is security and moving from low band to high band.

Chairman Esposito said MACC Base isn't broken; it just needs to be adjusted. If the towns buy their own equipment like they do now, that was the biggest bone of contention that started a year and a half ago. Chairman Daniels said it was because of Mont Vernon that he brought up the question. You are sitting in a better position than the other two towns. For you, it might be better to pay for centralized equipment so you can get a signal out of MACC Base and you can take care of your own infrastructure which you've already done. That's a question you will need to answer if we stay as a system because everyone will have to contribute money into the pool to take care of everyone's problems. Chairman Esposito said the town has never had an objection to doing that. He repeated that they feel MACC Base isn't broken. We have to make it better and fix it. We know there is cost involved in upgrading. If there is cost involved in the town's equipment, other towns shouldn't have to pay for it.

Chairman Daniels said we can all agree that upgrades need to be made. If we are going to put money into it, he wants to make sure the problems are fixed.

Selectman Roberg said Mont Vernon owns their tower and site but MACC Base owns the antenna. They are looking to explore their own frequency and put an antenna up on Lampson farm which will benefit us. Our Board of Governor said that all radio licenses for our existing tower should be maintained by MACC Base and all equipment should be the same with no exceptions. The existing towers that are operated by MACC Base should stay under their control. We can still have our own stuff and be part of MACC Base. The maintenance would pin us down. We were fortunate to get a grant and move forward.

Selectman Labonte said Mont Vernon having their own site is no different than Milford Fire having their own. If we went forward with this plan tonight, Milford Fire wouldn't have their own site, how would that work? Chairman Esposito said they want their own tower to enhance their communication not to change it. Selectman Labonte said he assumes Milford Fire put their antenna on Federal to also enhance their communications. Chairman Esposito this is not a precursor to leaving MACC Base. We have spots in town that don't get a signal and that's why we are doing this. It isn't our intention to leave MACC Base.

Chairman Daniels said this was the purpose of the original question, if you have dead spots in Mont Vernon should it be MACC Base's responsibility to put up an antenna to fix your dead spot problem or should it be Mont Vernon's responsibility. Selectman Roberg said they are not looking to wait two years to address any problems; we are looking into it now.

Jason said in the event that the Town of Mont Vernon brought in a new frequency, regardless of where they wanted to put it or own the equipment, it's fine. We only ask that they make sure we can communicate with it and have room for it in the consoles. As long as we can come to an agreement on how it's maintained, there are no issues. Mont Vernon's cell site would potentially be a good site to repurposing everything currently located at the Fire Station. There is room to grow for everyone on this.

Selectman Labonte asked if MACC Base can borrow money? How long of a term would the other towns be willing to sign for an IMA contract if it could happen? Chairman Daniels said 10 years. Chairman Esposito the former agreement said it had to be paid in 1 year and it's prohibited for them. Ten years would spread it out. Selectman Fish said it would depend on how long would this take us to where we need to go. He doesn't see it being a short term bond; he suggests a 10 years minimum.

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Chairman Daniels said a lot can happen in 10 years, the technology can be completely different. Chairman Williams said there wouldn't be that much difference between each town having their own bond or doing a bond that was managed by MACC Base. Each town would still have to vote on the bond. The problem would be if in one town the bond didn't pass. The IMA should be for a longer period of time and hopefully last longer than 10 years especially with a long term investment. Selectman Fish said would seem logical that we would synchronize the bond issuance to consistent terms. If we had one town go for 5 year and one town go for 10 years then the stars are not aligned when we need to upgrade the system or provide additional funding going forward. Chairman Daniels said or it would become the responsibility of that town to put money away until it's needed. He agreed that there wasn't much of a difference in each town or MACC Base doing a 10 year bond. In 2020 the apportionment will be reviewed again.

Selectman Dudziak asked if it would be the individual towns bonding or MACC Base. Chairman Daniels said that was the question that was asked. Selectman Dudziak said she thought Attorney Drescher said MACC Base couldn't bond. Selectman Roberg said they can't based on how the IMA is written now. It could be the individual towns or be re-written in the IMA.

Selectman Putnam said the question is would you guys be willing sign a 10 year contract in the IMA that would allow MACC Base to borrow that money for the 10 year bond and pay on the percentages based on the population like its set up now. Chairman Esposito said that is what they proposed a while back, they would support that. Wilton would support it. Selectman Putnam said if we had that clause in the IMA we would do a bond for whatever the amount, and all towns were willing to do their percentages, he doesn't see an issue with that. As far as the longevity of the equipment we can look into what would be needed then.

Selectman Labonte asked if Milford would support it. Chairman Esposito said if it was approved it would be an annual assessment and would not require a bond vote from the town. Chairman Daniels said the 10 year MACC Base bonding is one element of the proposed IMA, it is not the only thing. He would not be prepared to answer the questions tonight. Chairman Esposito said the funding would be through an assessment to each town so you wouldn't have to have the 2/3 majority vote for a bond issue.

Chairman Williams said he doesn't think we could do this without each town voting on the bonding unless we set up a multi-town structure that could vote as a group. It would still require a 2/3 vote for long term borrowing through each towns process. Whether it's MACC Base that's processing the payments or each town who handles their own bond and contributes money towards the capital expense, he doesn't think it makes a lot of difference.

Selectman Roberg said that Mont Vernon and Wilton signed the IMA with the 10 year numbers on it and Milford did not. She asked if Milford's individual Board members would weigh in on the 10 years. There has been concern about open communication and this is a large part of it. Chairman Daniels said for himself, there are some flaws in the proposed IMA that need to be corrected, for example each town shall pay their share on January 1st, they can't do that. We as a Board haven't talked about the ramifications of getting into a ten year commitment. We are the largest town and still growing. The IMA stated if a town pulls out they have to be committed to paying their share for the remaining years. What happens if other towns join? What provisions will be in there to split that up to lower the cost of the three towns currently in there. This is a whole discussion in itself. Maybe we want to go there the next time we meet; this is just the first of many meetings.

Selectman Putnam said it can be hammered out down the road, the question is, are we willing to sign a 10 year contract. We need to know that answer. The only problem is the equipment and how we will pay for it. Selectman Dudziak is in favor of a solution as long as it addresses all of Milford's communication needs. Selectman Dargie said his main problem with the agreement is the voting percentages. Milford has 50% of the vote and pays 71% of the cost. He feels the voting percentages should be based on the cost breakdown. He thinks that's been a lot of the trouble for the past 15 years. He doesn't have a problem changing the number from 71 percent to a higher number and instead of just doing population, incorporating usage as a factor. In the last proposal there was a change in the voting percentages on the operational side that he objected to. The agreement went from two votes to one vote for Milford. He thinks a 10 year contract is fine, it needs to be a long term agreement to catch up to whatever bonding occurs. Selectmen Labonte said there are a lot of things to work out in the IMA. This is a good start to sit at the table. He's for regional as long the details can make everyone happy. We are partners need to work together. He would consider a 10 year program as long as everyone was agreeable going into the details.

Chairman Williams said working as partners is the key. He wouldn't agree with a huge shift where Milford gets control of the vote because if there is a dispute, you always win. We can shift and do things on the IMA to work out the details.

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Selectman Fish said it's important that we have some type of variable to figure out each town's individual problems. There are multiple variables that come up with a different value each time. Somehow in this agreement we should figure out a mechanism where we address that so it's fair to the people that don't have the dead spots that are paying for the one that want them fixed. The emergency services have very specific needs to what they want. If we are going to go with the system we talked about where MACC base owns all of the sites and major equipment and each town deals with their own personal equipment that will be key to a successful agreement.

Selectman Roberg said a formula should be included in the IMA for new customers coming in from a shared cost. She also feels we need to come up with a way for MACC Base to retain some of the surplus for the improvements. She agrees that Milford having more than 50% from a town standpoint wouldn't be a joint partnership and that has to be discussed. Chairman Esposito said MACC Base has been working for 30 years, there is a lot of experience there and we really don't want to dissolve it. We need to work the best we can to resolve the problems that we do have which is financing and go on from there. He doesn't want to see it disappear because of a few petty things.

In summary, Chairman Daniels said we laid out where our towns use MACC Base and the problems that we are having. We are in agreement that we would be willing to put something before the voters asking for cost. It hasn't been determined whether it will be in a ten year bond of some sort with the towns or a MACC Base. He's hearing that we would be willing to put something before the votes and feel they would support it for the sake of communications and the towns would like to keep MACC Base together as long as it fixes our problems. We can't continue on like we've done in the past. We will go forward with discussion on the IMA. He asked what areas would people like to get into talking about at future meetings that will build upon what we started tonight.

Selectman Fish said he would like to talk about the IMA top to bottom, use common sense and work towards a mutually beneficial agreement. Chairman Williams said we need an equipment plan, what we are going to spend our money on. He referenced Milford's consultant and the results of that hopefully include something that is a multi-town version. There was some question as to what would be produced from that, it's a key component to this.

Chairman Daniels said he expects that the consultant will focus on Milford but if Wilton has their own problems, you may see something in the proposal that might fix some of your problems. The boundary of what we've asked our consultant to do is not a regional type thing. Our consultant will not be out there assessing the needs of each town. Selectman Williams said from a dead spot perspective, he's seen the analysis by vendors for free when we meet here before. The information showed what antennas needed to be and how, etc. No one had to pay them thousands of dollars to do that. Those problems can be solved; the question is what we have to do to rebuild the MACC Base system. We need a hardware plan that covers the whole system, not just for Milford if we are discussing doing an upgrade.

Chairman Daniels said we are working off a warrant article that was changed to give us an idea of what cost us. It will be looking at MACC Base and a Milford standalone as well. We have our set of problems and we are trying to figure out what it would cost us. Selectman Roberg said her notes for the next session would be to work on the IMA. She would like the MACC Base Board of Governors and MACC Base to update their plan for bringing the infrastructure to where it should be, it's a MACC Base task, not a Milford consultant task.

Chairman Daniels said the question is, at this point and time, does MACC Base have the resources to be able to do that. We received some things several years ago that didn't include some of the things we've talked about today. Whatever we have we need to throw it on the table and look at it and sort it out. It's time for our dispatch to be fixed; it will take money and a bond.

Selectman Labonte said would it be wrong to have each of the three towns to put forward their problems to MACC Base and ask them to provide a solution versus having Milford's consultant come up with a solution.

Chairman Esposito asked if the consultant hired to look at Milford is going to solve Milford's problem or MACC Bases problem or both. Chairman Daniels said we are looking at both sides of it. We didn't task them to solve MACC Base problem, we looked at the possibility of Milford possibly being a regional dispatch. We didn't go over the boundaries to say that we will spend Milford tax payer's money to do research in another town to find out their needs. We would assume that each Board knows what's best and what they need to fix their problems. That information can be given to the Board of Governors with a proposal that fixes everyone's problems.

Chairman Esposito agrees with working on the IMA, but if Milford withdraws from MACC Base that could change the whole thing. Chairman Daniels said that statement is true with every town. Chairman Esposito said as long as Milford

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is committed to stay we can make a commitment to see what it's going to cost us to stay but if there is doubt that you are going to stay with MACC Base, everything else is mute.

Selectman Roberg the infrastructure in MACC Base is old and we need to move forward. She would hope that the Board of Governors and MACC Base would guide her on whatever is needed to move forward. Chairman Williams said they don't have equipment experts in house. We are looking for someone from a vendor or consultant to tell us what we need to correct our problems. Jason isn't going to draw up an equipment plan that is what vendors and consultants are for.

Jason said he and the MACC Base Board of Governors have hired consultants and between them and the MRI report, they stated that all the infrastructure needs to be overhauled. It's just a matter of which vendor to go with and who's suggestions to take. The best you can get is 95% coverage. There are going to be problems no matter what we do. We have all the reports. He just needs the people sitting around this table to agree on a solution. Starting the dialog like this is huge, we've come a long way from where we were two years ago. He would like to see this cooperative spirit continue to get to something positive.

Chairman Daniels proposed that they start looking at the IMA next. Selectman Boissonnault asked that all meetings be televised. Chairman Daniels said he already stated that they would be. Selectman Boissonnault asked if the vendors coming forward with their findings would be televised. Chairman Daniels repeated anything in the future that has to do with dispatch would be televised. Selectman Boissonnault said she was disappointed that the pre-consultant meeting wasn't televised last month. Chairman Daniels said that meeting was for questions that the consultants had to clarify their charge. The consultants were invited to this meeting and any additional public meeting having to do with dispatch.

After some discussion, the Milford Board of Selectmen will be hosting an IMA work session on August 12th at 6:00. Selectman Boissonnault asked if they would be inviting the Board of Governor as well as MACC Base. Chairman Daniels said it's a public meeting; they can invite who they want. They are the ones who can give us answers.

Bobby Jones, ASFME Council 93 asked the status of the consultant RFQ. Captain Frye said they would be pushing it out and responses are due around the 22nd. The consultants wanted to watch this meeting to see what direction everything was going in.

Rodney Richie asked for better audio for next time. Chairman Daniels said they would work on it.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS. - There were no public comments at this time.

4. DECISIONS.

a) CONSENT CALENDAR. Chairman Daniels asked if there were any items to be removed from the consent calendar. Selectman Dargie asked that 4. a) 4 be removed for discussion. Selectmen Putnam made a motion to accept the consent calendar except for 4.a) 4. Selectman Dudziak seconded. All were in favor. The motion passed 5/0.

- 1) Permission for Community Action for Safe Teens (CAST) to display purple flags/ribbons on the Milford Oval in observance of International Overdose Day, August 31st.
- 2) Approval to NOT use the PA-28 Inventory Form for 2020
- 3) NH RSA (31:95(b)) Request for Acceptance and Appropriation of Unanticipated Revenues under \$10,000 – Donation to the Milford Police Department Training-Equipment Special Purpose fund \$250.
- 4) NH RSA (31:95(e)) Acceptance of Gifts of Property Under \$5,000 – Donation of a custom made kitchen table to the Milford Fire Department \$4,500.

Selectman Dargie formally recognized Scott Breeyear, former member of the Milford Fire Department and thanked him for the custom table.

Selectmen Putnam made a motion to accept the consent except for 4.a) 4. Selectman Dudziak seconded. All were in favor. The motion passed 5/0.

b) OTHER DECISIONS.

- 1) N/A

5. TOWN STATUS REPORT – Administrator Bender

APPROVED MINUTES OF BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING – 7/29/2019

a. Paving Update – Administrator Bender said we want to thank residents for their patience during our summer road-work. This week we will be top paving Prospect, Webster, Clinton and South Streets. This will be followed by paving on Ford, King, George and West Streets. Nashua Street will be mill and paved later in August. Paving on the 101A intersection started yesterday and will be on going until complete.

Selectman Labonte asked when Union Street will be paved. Administrator Bender said it's been delayed by the Water Department because of some work that needs to be done.

b. 2020 Operating Budget – Just a heads up, we are starting the 2020 budget process. Finance Director Paul Calabria will join us at the August 19th meeting to solicit board input/guidance for the operating budget and warrant articles.

6. DISCUSSIONS:

a) N/A

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments at this time.

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 June 27, 2019 (special meeting), July 8, 2019, and July 17, 2019 (work session). Selectman Labonte seconded for discussion and referenced some changes. All were in favor. The motion passed as amended 5/0.

10. INFORMATION ITEMS REQUIRING NO DECISIONS.

11. NOTICES. No notices were read.

12. NON-PUBLIC SESSION.

13. ADJOURNMENT: Selectman Putnam moved to adjourn at 7:50. Selectman Dudziak 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