

APPROVED  
MINUTES OF THE MILFORD BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING  
July 8, 2019

**PRESENT:** Gary Daniels, Chairman Mark Bender, Town Administrator - excused  
Paul Dargie, Vice Chairman Tina Philbrick, Recording Secretary  
Mike Putnam, Member Hazen Soucy, 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. – 2<sup>nd</sup> Public Hearing in accordance with RSA 147:1 Local Regulations – Ordinance for “Fletcher Site Land Use Restrictions.**

Chairman Daniels gave a brief summary of the public hearing. The purpose of the hearing is to implement a Town Ordinance pursuant to NH RSA 147:1 Local Regulations. The ordinance (Chapter 5:34) is referred to as “Fletcher Site Land Use Restrictions”. The 1998 Consent Decree with the EPA requires the Town of Milford to implement activity and use restrictions to protect the low permeability cap on the Elm Street property (Lot 25-12) and a portion of the abutting cemetery (Lot 25-13). Practical restrictions include recreation land use only and no disturbance of the surface without prior contact with the US EPA and NH DES. These protections are similar to the groundwater management zone (GMZ) restrictions implemented in 2018.

Chairman Daniels opened the Public Hearing, there were no questions, he closed the public hearing. Selectman Putnam made a motion to accept this ordinance. Seconded by Selectman Dudziak. All were in favor. The motion passed 5/0.

**5:40 p.m. – Eversource 314 Line through Heron Pond**

Eversource representation included Tim Kelly, Project Manager, Sarah Hodlet, Outreach Coordinator and Nick Golon, licenced Engineer and Sr. Project Manager with TF Moran, a consultant firm helping with the environmental permitting and siting of the improvements.

In Summary: The 314 distribution line serves over 5,800 customers in the greater Milford area, and is in need of upgrades. This line crosses Heron Pond, with five poles located in the pond itself. Those wooden poles have been identified as deteriorated and in need of replacement are in excess of 40 years old. One pole on each side of the pond will also be replaced to complete the design and improve system reliability.

This 314 structure replacement project will improve electric reliability in the greater Milford area. Additionally, by replacing the poles in and next to the pond with three, self-weathering steel poles, the environmental impacts will be less and future maintenance within the pond itself will be greatly reduced. To further reduce future maintenance, the wire will also be replaced as part of this project. They will be working within the power line corridor off Perry Road and Heron Pond Road in Milford. The new design will replace two land base structures and a center structure in the pond. These would be self-weathering steel structures and we would be eliminating five structures from within the pond. They will be using only conductors in the new poles and they would remove the old lines and cut off the old poles within the surface of the water.

They will need access from both the East and West side of the pond and would attempt to use Perry Road to access the eastern side. They would like to use a laydown area adjacent to their right-of-way to store their mats and poles until needed. They would like to access the western side via the Heron Pond School when the school is out of session. There is also a gated road on the other side of Perry Road that they could consider. Tentatively, they would begin in late August and completion should be in September.

As far as permits, Nick said there is already a track record for what needs to be done for this project. They had a pre-application meeting with New Hampshire Environmental Services in May. They had a conference call in June with the Army Corps of Engineers. They also met with New Hampshire Fish and Game who will be monitoring the project from start to finish. These permits will met both State and Federal requirements.

Sarah is in charge of outreach and they will be sending out letters to land owners and other stake holders so they can be aware of the project. Selectman Putnam asked if the conductors will be oversized for future expansion. Tim said yes. Selectman Putnam asked about self-weathering. Tim said it’s a sheen that protects from rot. Selectman Putnam asked if

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they would be using the existing easements on the access roads or building a new road. Tim said they would be using the existing easements.

Selectman Dargie asked about the matting. Tim said they are laid down and stacked until they are just above the water to be used like a road. Selectman Dargie asked if the new line would be next to the existing one. Tim said it would be almost on top of the existing one. Administrator Bender asked how many mats would be used and how many would be on a truck. Tim said between 500 and 600 mats. He doesn't know how many on a truck. Chairman Daniels asked about the process for removing the other poles. Tim said they would be cut just below the water line and removed by boat, the permitting agency will recommend the best way to remove the poles.

Selectman Labonte asked what hours would Eversource be working for this project. Tim said 7 am until 5 pm five days a week.

Suzanne Fournier, Milford resident had some questions. She clarified that Sarah already sent letters to property owners. Sarah said no, she plans to send them to areas where needed. Suzanne mentioned the brook on the eastern side of Heron Pond and asked how they will be protecting Birch Brook. Tim said they would try to reduce the impact in that area. He wasn't sure where Birch Brook runs through. He feels the structure is on the East side of the brook.

Suzanne asked about the poles being put in. Tim said the poles would be an H frame structure with a stone apron, a design typical of this type of installation. Suzanne asked if the mats would come up to meet the level of water on Heron Pond. Tim said yes. Suzanne showed a poster of the area to verify the routes. She doesn't feel they should use the alternate road as it's a sensitive area with various vernal pools and wildlife. She questioned the laydown mats in a specific area and feels they may have to be placed in another area because the turtles have already nested in that area. She suggested that the old poles be cut above water for nesting purposes for some animals and old wires be left as well. She let them know when the BROX Environment group meets if Eversource would like to meet with them.

Selectman Putnam asked if this group knows about improvements that were planned at Kaley Park. The group said no, they will follow up. Administrator Bender said he would follow up.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENTS.** - Suzanne Fournier thinks that gravel operation has moved into the next 14 acres. She is concerned about the reclamation and grading. They may be still working that area because of undone piles. She is also concerned about the large low slopes. She recommends the Board go out to the area. They also brought in stumps and stones in the old pit she feels stumps can cause instability.

Bob Labonte, Milford resident asked whose job is to reclaim the pit, the towns or the contractor and does it just get covered over. Administrator Bender said it gets covered over with the materials that they moved, they are not required to bring in additional materials. Bob replied, you may never have any growth there. Administrator Bender said it would be the same growth that they had before. Bob said then it wasn't planned out in the beginning. Administrator Bender said the plan was laid out before the operation started and it was public information.

### 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. Selectmen Putnam made a motion to accept the consent as presented. Selectman Dudziak seconded. All were in favor. The motion passed 5/0.

1) NH RSA (31:95(b)) Request for Acceptance and Appropriation of Unanticipated Revenues under \$10,000 – Monadnock Paper Mills, Inc., gave a donation of \$200 to the Milford Fire Department Rescue Special Purpose Fund.

### **b) OTHER DECISIONS.**

1) N/A

### 5. TOWN STATUS REPORT – Administrator Bender

Paul Calabria, Finance Director said the investment policy should be reviewed at least annually by April 30<sup>th</sup> by the Board of Selectman, and changes made as warranted, followed by re-adoption by the governing body. He is presenting it tonight with no changes from last year and requesting re-adoption for the ensuing year. In addition to the re-adoption of the Investment Policy, he also requested a renewal of the Treasurer Delegation which was also due by April 30<sup>th</sup> as required by that policy.

Paul said there are some RSA's that have been updated and they will be included in the package for next year. Chairman Daniels asked that there be a document that indicates all documents that need to be approved annually.

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Selectman Putnam made a motion that we-adopt the investment policy and Treasurers Delegation as presented. Seconded by Selectman Dudziak. All were in favor. The motion passed 5/0.

### 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.

Selectman Labonte asked around what time will the procedure for patching and trenching be done. Administrator Bender said starting this week they will come in and mill about 5 to 6 inches on Nashua and Elm streets. They will base pave it after the compacting test is done. In August they will do a curb to curb milling of about 1 ½ inches and then top pave. It follows the town's guidelines. Selectman Labonte asked when they will start milling. Administrator Bender said they are hoping to start Wednesday for Nashua and Elm Street. There is more work on Union Street to be completed by Water Utilities before they can finish it.

Chairman Daniels thanked the public for their patience on these areas that have long needed work done.

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

9. APPROVAL OF FINAL MINUTES. Selectman Putnam moved to approve the minutes of June 17, 2019 and June 24, 2019. Selectman Dudziak seconded. All were in favor. The motion passed 5/0.

### 10. INFORMATION ITEMS REQUIRING NO DECISIONS.

11. NOTICES. Chairman Daniels read the notices.

12. NON-PUBLIC SESSION. A motion was made by Selectman Putnam to go into a non-public in accordance with NH RSA 93-A3,II(b)) Personnel. Seconded by Selectman Dudziak. The motion passed by roll call vote, Selectman Putnam yes, Selectman Dudziak yes, Selectman Dargie yes, Chairman Daniels yes, and Selectman Labonte yes. 5/0.

13. ADJOURNMENT: Selectman Putnam moved to adjourn at 7:20. Selectman Dudziak seconded. All were in favor. The motion passed 5/0.

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Gary Daniels, Chairman

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Laura Dudziak, Member

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Paul Dargie, Vice Chairman

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Chris Labonte, Member

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Mike Putnam, Member