

APPROVED  
MINUTES OF THE MILFORD BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

March 9, 2020

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Gary Daniels, Chairman	John Shannon, Town Administrator
	Paul Dargie, Vice Chairman	Tina Philbrick, Recording Secretary
	Mike Putnam, Member	Rich Addonizio, 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. Chairman Daniels presented Selectman Putnam with a granite stone for his years of dedicated service serving as a Selectman for the Town of Milford from 2007 to 2020.

**2. APPOINTMENTS: (Approximate times)**

**5:35 p.m. - Review and Approval of four Property Abatement Applications Map 50 Lot 4-5, Map 43 Lot 45, Map 40 Lot 13 and Map 41 Lot 16 – Marti Noel**

In summary: The Abatements presented tonight are all submitted for approval. After review of each of the four requests reviewed, adjustments were made to the property record card either from a personal review of the property or from information provided by the property owner which resulted in a net reduction in value. Assessing recommends the Board approve the abatements recommended for approval as presented tonight.

Selectman Putnam made a motion to approve the four Property Abatement Applications as recommended. Seconded by Selectman Dudaizk. All were in favor. The motion passed 5/0.

**5:40 p.m. - Review and Approval of two Land Use Change Tax Applications, Map 50 Lot 1-6 and Map 45 Lot 3-30 – Marti Noel**

In summary: The owners of the above referenced parcels have each applied for a building permit to construct a new home. Construction on current use land requires the affected areas to be removed from Current Use. The property owners are aware of the action being taken tonight regarding their property. The Land Use Change Tax is based on 10% of estimated market value of the affected area at the time of removal from Current Use. Assessing recommends the Board approve the Land Use Change Tax recommended for approval as presented tonight.

Selectman Putnam made a motion to approve the two Land Use Change Tax Applications as recommended. Seconded by Selectman Dudziak. All were in favor. The motion passed 5/0.

**5:45 p.m. - Ambulance Purchase Authorization – Eric Schelberg**

In summary: this is to request permission from the Board, pending approval of Warrant Article 12 at town vote, to purchase one PL Custom ambulance supplied by Sugarloaf Ambulance/Rescue Vehicles and the durable equipment. The total purchase is \$296,400 as itemed next to each item below.

The department received three bids for an ambulance from the following vendors:

- Sugarloaf Vehicles: PL Custom Medallion Series - \$222,931
- Bulldog: Osage Super Warrior - \$221,065
- Autotronics – Braun Chief XL - \$223,924

Selectman Dargie asked if there were any legalities about this Board approving something that comes up in a warrant. There could be different Board members after the vote. Eric said the current Board recommended moving forward with this warrant article. We are now just waiting for the legislative body to approve the warrant. Chairman Daniels agreed. Selectman Labonte agreed with Selectman Dargie, although the voters may approve the spending, the Board ultimately has the authority to decide where to buy the vehicle. Selectman Dargie said if there are three votes in favor of people who are already on the Board, it really doesn't matter.

Selectman Dargie asked why Eric didn't go with the low bid. Eric said PL Custom vehicle was selected as the ambulance of choice based on specification requirements, price being comparable to the other two vendors plus the ability to provide superior road mobile service. We also may be able to reduce the price by about \$700.

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Selectman Putnam made a motion to approve purchasing an ambulance with PL Custom Medallion Series contingent on Warrant Article 12 passing on March 10, 2020. Seconded by Selectman Dudziak. All were in favor. The motion passed 5/0.

### **5:55 p.m. – Scope of Bonding Authority – Paul Calabria**

In summary: It is in Town Counsels opinion that the Select Board has the legal authority to refinance outstanding loan agreements previously entered into in connection with borrowing authority previously authorized by the Town's annual meeting. The purpose of the refinance is to revise the terms of the loan agreements to obtain more favorable interest and payoff terms to take advantage of fluctuating rates. This will not increase the aggregate borrowing previously authorized. This will lower the rates from the twenty year notes from 3.25% to 3.05% and the ten year notes from 2.8% to 2.55%.

Chairman Daniels asked if there was a type of closing cost involved to re-finance. Paul said no. Selectman Labonte asked if we know what this will save us in finance charges. Paul will get that information for the next meeting.

Selectman Dargie asked if this works like a payment goes down over time as opposed to the Bond bank where you make the same payment, but they just send you back money. Paul said the payment goes down and it's retro back to March 1, 2020.

Selectman Putnam made a motion to allow Paul Calabria, Town of Milford's Finance Director to refinance outstanding loan agreements to obtain more favorable interest rates as recommended. Seconded by Selectman Dudziak. All were in favor. The motion passed 5/0.

### **6:00 p.m. - Potential Location for Hutchinson Statue – Charlie Annand**

In summary: The Historical Society would like to place a statue of the Hutchinson Family Singers at Keyes Field around where the new band stand is. The statue design has not been finalized. They are looking for a place to house it and then they can continue. They are asking permission to proceed with their plans to put the statue in the spot they are suggesting. This spot is on town owned land. They would like it put closer to the Korean Memorial.

Selectman Dargie asked if they have a rough description of the statue, will it be a small one or a big one? Charlie said they don't have a size yet. Selectman Dargie said originally the Vietnam Memorial was going to be on the spot where the Historical Society wants their statue. Even though it is being put somewhere else, there is always a possibility that it will go next to the Korean Memorial. He would rather this statue not be put in that area. He's supportive of having the Hutchinson statue somewhere near there.

Charlie said if they know there is a spot for them in that general area they can continue in their planning. Town Administrator Shannon said he would get together with Lincoln and his staff to see if they can find alternate spaces within that area where they can put the statue. He will have this information for the next BOS meeting on March 23, 2020.

Mark Genovesi, Historical Society President said it sounds like the Vietnam Memorial location is in a state of flux. In talking to Lincoln, the area outlined seemed to be an ideal spot. They can nuance the location. Chairman Daniels said they will have to determine how big the statue will be and how much space they will need. Charlie said they have a meeting on April 8<sup>th</sup> and they should get more information then.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENTS** – Kathy Parenti, Library Trustee Chairman, gave a brief summary for the Library warrant article. The Trustees were elected to manage the library and related funds for the benefit of the town. They presented what they believe to be the best solution to address the issues with the library and provide the services, programs, and updates requested by the citizens of Milford. Several years have been spent gathering community input. It isn't a Taj Mahal. This project is largely about addressing long-standing facility issues, renovating existing space, and providing a small 3,000 square foot addition that will allow the library to provide the service and programs that are most heavily used by its patrons in a clean, comfortable, and safe environment. She asks that everyone please support Warrant Article #3.

Steve Trombly, Milford resident said he's asked questions for several years now. It's a big expense. You don't just save it all up and try to get it down all in one year. A little should be put into it every year. Last year he asked what it really needed and the reply was windows and a new roof. This year they still have the same problems, and the fire department wants a sprinkler system. We need to come up with a plan to put some money into each year so we don't have

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to have a large tax impact. He would like someone to take the charge to get this going. Chairman Daniels said he heard that the Library Trustees were considering a capital reserve account for building.

Lynn Coakley, Library Trustees Treasurer said they put a capital reserve bond warrant article out a few years ago and it didn't pass. They will try again.

**a) CONSENT CALENDAR.** Chairman Daniels asked that 4. a) 1) be removed from the consent calendar. Selectman Putnam made a motion to approve 4. a) 2 through 4. a) 4 on the Consent Calendar. Seconded by Selectman Dudziak. All were in favor. The motion passed 5/0.

1. Request for Approval of revised Granite Town Media's Bylaws.
2. NH RSA (31:95(b)) Request for Acceptance and Appropriation of Unanticipated Revenues under \$10,000 –
  - Donation from The Milford Rotary Club Foundation for the Recreation Bus Special Purpose Fund - \$5,050.
  - Donation from Arthur L. Keyes Memorial Trust for the Recreation Bus Special Purpose Fund - \$7,500.
  - Donation from the Amato Family Fund Grant through the NH Charitable Foundation for the Recreation Bus Special Purpose fund - \$5,000.
3. Request for Approval to Nominate Celeste Barr to the Local River Management Advisory Committee.
4. Approval of Notification of Intent to Cut, Map 23 Lot 2-4 through Map 23 Lot 2-7 and Map 7 Lot 10

In regards to 4. a) 1, Chairman Daniels said he noticed that alternates could only miss so many meetings a year. He asked Tim Finan that if a decision was being made, and they are using an alternate, is there any kind of a requirement that the alternate know what is going on, or are you just going to let them blindly vote without knowing what they are voting on.

Tim said that is true with every alternate on every committee in town. We have four or five people who are alternates that come to every meeting now anyway. They would all be up to speed regardless. Chairman Daniels asked, if you have multiple alternates, is it the Chair that decides who decides who is serving so they can look at the attendance of the alternates. Tim said yes.

Chairman Daniels made a motion to approve 4. a) 1 on the Consent Calendar. Seconded by Selectman Putnam. All were in favor. The motion passed 5/0.

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

1. N/A

### **5. TOWN STATUS REPORT – John Shannon**

a) Voters Guide Information - The 2020 Voters' Guide was printed the weekend of February 29th. Copies were distributed at Town Hall, Wadleigh Library, Milford High School, Shaw's, Market Basket and other various places around Town. In addition to handouts, the voters guide was posted on the Town's Web site and social media sites.

Selectman Labonte said he would like to pass along information/responses as far as the voters guide. People noticed this year that there were no ads in the voters' guide. The telegraph normally produces the guides and they didn't this year so we did them in house.

Tina Philbrick, Executive Assistant, said the telegraph told me we would get the guides, then they called to say they would be late because they were having issues getting sponsors for the ads to pay for the guides. They ended up not providing anything. Some of us got together and put the voter's guides together in a small print shop. We will be going out to bid next year. Hopefully we will have the voters' guide sent to all our residents. We will also ask the school to help pay for it next year.

Selectman Labonte said a lot of people felt that the voters' guide was more of a political advertisement this year because historically, in Milford, we haven't had a voter's guide where it actually asked you to please vote yes or please vote no. He agreed with those people. He feels that the voter's guide is put out as information to let a voter decide how they want to vote. In his opinion, and many other people who voiced their opinion on it, he feels that it was basically missing that comment, "I am so and so and I approve this message" like you see on TV.

Tina said this did come up before the previous Town Administrator left and he asked her to see if we had included please vote yes, or please vote no in any past voters guides. In the 2012 voters guide the Ambulance Facility was able to put a topical description in the voters' guide for warrant article 3 which ended with "please vote yes". In 2018 the

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Fire Department was able to put a topical description in the voters' guide for warrant article 3 which ended with "please vote yes". Typically Department Heads who are in favor of the articles, and work on the articles can put topical descriptions in the voter's guides. This may have also been done when we voted for a new Police Station, but she didn't have information going that far back. So, historically, this has been done in the past.

### 6. DISCUSSIONS:

a) N/A

### 7. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

### 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 February 24, 2020. as amended. Seconded by Selectman Dudziak. All were in favor. The motion passed 5/0.

### 10. INFORMATION ITEMS REQUIRING NO DECISIONS.

a. Treasurers Report - January 2020

### 11. NOTICES. Notices were read.

12. NON-PUBLIC SESSION. Selectman Putnam made a motion to go into non-public in accordance with (RSA 91-A:3,I(c)) Reputation February 10, 2020 (6:30) and (RSA 91-A:3,I(e)) Legal February 24, 2020 and Review of Potential unsealing of non-public minutes August 19, 2019, September 9, 2019, September 30, 2019, October 14, 2019, October 28, 2019, December 9, 2019, December 16, 2019, December 23, 2019, January 27, 2020, February 10, 2020. Selectman Dudziak seconded. All were in favor. The motion passed 5/0

13. ADJOURNMENT: Selectman Putnam moved to adjourn at 6:25. Seconded by Selectman Dudziak. 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