

APPROVED
MINUTES OF THE MILFORD BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

September 14, 2020

This meeting was conducted pursuant to the State of New Hampshire Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, temporary modification of public access to meetings under RSA 91-A. As such, the meeting was conducted online using these connection instructions that were listed on the posted meeting agenda: "The Public is encouraged to participate remotely, call in on your phone @ 1-646-558-8656 and enter the meeting ID# 860 8909 9619 and the password is 369218 or join the Zoom Meeting @ [https://zoom.us/j/860 8909 9619](https://zoom.us/j/860_8909_9619). Please try to log in 5 minutes before the meeting's scheduled start time in case you run into any technical difficulties".

PRESENT:	Gary Daniels, Chairman	John Shannon, Town Administrator (Zoom)
	Paul Dargie, Vice Chairman (Zoom)	Andrew Kouropoulos, Videographer
	Laura Dudziak, Member (Zoom)	Tina Philbrick, Executive Assistant (Zoom)
	Chris Labonte, Member	
	David Freel, Member	

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

Chairman Daniels declared that an emergency exists and he was invoking the provisions of RSA 91-A: 2, III (b). Federal, state, and local officials have determined that gatherings of 10 or more people pose a substantial risk to the community in its continuing efforts to combat the spread of COVID-19. In concurring with their determination, he also finds that this meeting is imperative to the continued operation of Town government and services, which are vital to public safety and confidence during this emergency. As such, this meeting will be conducted with a quorum of this body physically present in the same location, and two members participating via Zoom. Information for accessing this meeting can be found on the Town web site in the red banner.

Chairman Daniels welcomed members of the public accessing this meeting remotely. Even though this meeting is being conducted in a unique manner under unusual circumstances, the usual rules of conduct and decorum apply. Public comments will be limited to three to five minutes per person. Any person found to be disrupting this meeting will be asked to cease the disruption. If the disruptive behavior continues thereafter, that person will be removed from the meeting.

All votes that are taken during this meeting must be done by Roll Call vote. Members who called in from home were asked to state their name and state whether there was anyone in the room with them during this meeting, which is required under the Right-to-Know law.

Roll call attendance: Paul Dargie, yes, (zoom) no one is present. Selectman Dudziak, yes, (zoom) no one is present. Selectman Labonte yes, present in the BOS room, Selectman Freel, yes, present in the BOS room, and Chairman Daniels, yes, present in the BOS room

2. APPOINTMENTS: (Approximate times)

5:30 p.m. - MS-1 Report and Update Summary - Marti Noel, Assessing Director

In summary: the MS-1 Report, otherwise known as the Summary Inventory of Value for the Department of Revenue is an annual report listing the total property value and covers the total exemptions, credits, and specialty property valuations. Net valuation for 2020 including utility values is \$1,656,349,157. This represents an increase of 3.4% over 2019. The breakdown includes:

- Residential growth at 1.6%
- Utility values at 0.8%, and
- Valuation updates to large multi-family property values at 1%.

Residential property value represents roughly 82% of our property base and Commercial property value represents roughly 16%. The remainder is utilities and current use land.

Exemption and Credit Report - For 2020 there are a total of 93 Elderly Exemption recipients, up from 86 in 2019. A majority of recipients are receiving the highest category of the exemption amount. The total elderly exemption for 2020 is \$11,568,100 representing \$300,424 in taxes. The total amount of exemption has increased \$2,204,100, over 2019, representing \$57,240 in taxes.

The number of Veteran's Tax Credit recipients is slightly down at 513 for 2020 from 526 for 2019. All Veteran's credit amounts were increased by \$100 as approved by the town election in 2019.

Blind Exemption and Solar Exemption have had minor increases in # of recipients as well.

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Revaluation Update -The next full re-assessment is scheduled for 2021. A full reassessment will include a request for Income and Expense Questionnaires and analysis of sheets for all commercially coded properties. This measures income and expense attributable to the property in terms of rents and maintenance costs.

Milford has approved a contract for Revaluation with KRT Appraisal Services for \$80,000. The town has \$45,000 of that amount in a capital reserve fund created for this expense. In each of three years after the 2016 Revaluation, the town elected to contribute \$15,000 towards this expense; last year the town elected not to contribute the \$15,000. The remaining cost will be part of the Assessing Budget for 2021. The Department of Revenue will not permit any delay of the 5-year mandatory revaluation due to COVID-19.

2021 Warrant Articles for Consideration

Blind Exemption - This exemption has not increased in over 12 years. Taxes on a \$200,000 home have increased by almost 40% in that time frame. Marti would like the BOS to consider whether a Warrant Article should be written to increase this amount. The current exemption amount is \$15,000. There are 8 recipients in 2020, so it is an underrepresented minority of taxpayers who would have difficulty preparing a Petition Tax Warrant. She proposes doubling this amount to \$30,000; however, the final determination for the Warrant Article would be at the approval of the Board members.

Chairman Daniels asked what the \$30,000 represents in taxes. Marti said it would be about \$3,108 and would increase to \$6,238. Selectman Dargie said he expected the multi-family properties to be higher. Marti said there are not many multi-family properties. They all received an increase similar to properties last year which was a 30% to 40% increase this year.

Selectman Dargie referenced page 3 in Marti's document where it said the municipality does not use the DRA utility values but earlier Marti mentioned that we benefited from the use of the DRA utility value, he asked Marti to explain. Marti said the DRA developed a utility value and shared it in past years with the towns. This year all towns are required to use the new formula that was developed. It may be the same as the DRA's value but they won't know until the value is published in December.

Selectmen Dargie made a motion to increase the Blind exemption from \$15,000 to \$30,000 as a warrant article next year as recommended by the Assessor. Seconded by Selectman Dudziak.

Selectman Labonte asked what other towns do for Blind exemptions. Marti said it's all over the place but the minimum is \$15,000. Selectman Freel asked why increase it to \$30,000. Marti said the current blind exemption is \$15,000 off the value of their home. Selectman Dargie said the \$6,238 is split between 8 people. Selectman Freel asked why double it. Marti said she picked that number because taxes since 2008 have increased by 40%.

A roll call vote was taken with Selectman Dargie yes, Selectman Dudziak yes, Selectman Labonte yes, Selectman Freel yes, and Chairman Daniels yes. The motion passed 5/0.

Selectmen Dargie made a motion to accept the MS-1 Report. Seconded by Selectman Dudziak. A roll call vote was taken with Selectman Dargie yes, Selectman Dudziak yes, Selectman Labonte yes, Selectman Freel yes, and Chairman Daniels yes. The motion passed 5/0.

5:45 p.m. - 1st. Public Hearing - Performance Stage Roof in Accordance with NH RSA 41:14-a, Acquisition or Sale of Land, Buildings, or Both - Lincoln Daley, Community Development Director.

Lincoln said the purpose of this first public hearing is for the Board to consider the donation of materials, equipment, and personnel use for the construction of a permanent roof for the performance state located at the Keyes Memorial Park East entrance. The estimated cost for the donated materials is approximately \$75,000 and the estimated labor and equipment cost is approximately \$25,000. There will be a second public hearing on September 28, 2020, and the Selectmen will take a final vote on October 12, 2020.

Chairman Daniels opened the public hearing for comments. There were no public comments. Chairman Daniels closed the public hearing. The 2nd public hearing will take place on Monday, September 24, 2020.

Selectman Freel asked when the roof will be complete. Lincoln said they intend to start and complete it as soon as possible.

5:50 p.m. - Temporary Alternate Duty Policy Draft (TAD) - Karen Blow, HR Director.

In summary: The Town of Milford, by its Board of Selectmen, requires employees who are not totally disabled due to injury or illness and who can perform some type of work -which may not necessarily be their normal or usual duties and department - to temporarily work in a light or limited-duty capacity with the permission of their doctor.

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Employees on disability must provide documentation of their medical status and work restriction(s), with dates, from their physician - or from a Town of Milford designated physician - to their respective Department Head after each physician's visit or as requested by the Department Head.
(Excerpt Joint Loss Management committee (JLMC) Manual)

JLMC has modified the TAD Policy/Program to include:

1. Nature and Length of TAD
2. Documentation
3. TAD Tasks
4. End of TAD
5. Sample Task Analysis
6. TAD Job Assignment – Sample
7. And the document HR would send to the provider requesting additional information to see if alternate duty was feasible.

Selectman Dargie made a motion to adopt the TAD Policy with amendments. Seconded by Chairman Daniels.

Selectman Freel asked what the town's policy was before this if someone was injured and couldn't perform their job. Karen said if you can't work your job due to your injury, the Town can find that employee temporarily work in a light or limited-duty capacity with the permission of their doctor. Employees must provide documentation. Primex wanted to see a policy, and the town had a summary in place but not the details, which is why we put this into place.

Chairman Daniels asked if we were getting a discount because we have this summary. Karen said we were getting a discount because of a number of things that JLMC does and all the processes that the staff members do to put this in place. Chairman Daniels asked if we get a further discount because we have adopted this as a policy instead of a practice. Karen said she is trying to provide the policy and no.

Selectman Dargie asked Karen to explain the difference between work-related injuries and non-work-related injuries and if the policy applies to both of them. Karen said this is for work-related injuries but we can adapt it for non-work-related injuries. This policy is being crafted specifically for Primex for a workman's comp. injury.

Chairman Daniels said he would question whether or not the RSA deals with non-work-related injuries. Selectman Dudziak said it should be a separate policy. Selectman Dargie recommended that we create a policy for temporary duty for non-work related injuries. Selectman Dargie asked what FOSRNR means for the amount of time performing a function. Karen said Frequent, Often, Seldom, Rarely, or Not Required. Selectman Dargie recommends that Karen add a code at the bottom of the form to define those letters.

A roll call vote was taken with Selectman Dargie, yes, Selectman Dudziak, yes, Selectman Labonte, yes, Selectman Freel, yes, and Chairman Daniels yes. The motion passed 5/0

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS – Selectman Labonte referenced a recent press release that was in the Milford Cabinet. He asked if it's customary that the Board review articles before being submitted to the paper. There was a lot of confusion in the article and then in the press release after. He asked if there is a protocol that we should follow on this. Chairman Daniels said it didn't come to the Board so we don't have control over that. Selectman Labonte asked if we had a policy on town employees releasing articles. He feels there was information not right in the article and it was confusing and some things are misleading, he feels that we should have a policy. Chairman Daniels said he would not be in favor of saying that the Board controls everything that the press decides to ask any employee in town. Selectman Labonte said the information that goes out should be accurate. Chairman Daniels said if there is something printed that someone doesn't agree with, they have the right to bring it up and try to clarify or correct any mistake that is made. Selectman Labonte wants to have a discussion later. Chairman Daniels said they will followup under DISCUSSIONS.

4. DECISIONS - Selectman Freel made a motion to approve the consent calendar. Seconded by Selectman Dargie. A roll call vote was taken with Selectman Dargie yes, Selectmen Dudziak yes, Selectman Labonte yes, Selectman Freel yes, and Chairman Daniels yes. All were in favor. The motion passed 5/0.

CONSENT CALENDAR.

- 1) Request for Acceptance and Appropriation of Unanticipated Revenues Under \$10,000 (31:95(b)) – donations for the Labor Day Parade: Please note, these organizations have opted to have their donations put towards the 2021 Labor Day Parade.

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- Robert and Sandra Courage - \$100
- Tech Transport - \$100

- 2) Request for Acceptance and Appropriation of Gifts of Property Under \$5,000 (31:95(e)) – a donation of materials to the Vietnam Memorial Committee to be used for the Vietnam Memorial – between \$3,000 and \$4,990.
- 3) Request for Acceptance of MS-232 Appropriations already voted
- 4) Request to authorize the Town Clerk to sign all documents related to **Election Grants**.

b) OTHER DECISIONS.

2. N/A

5. TOWN STATUS REPORT - John Shannon

a. Election Update - The elections in Milford went well on Tuesday. The election was held at the high school instead of at the middle school due to space considerations that were needed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The election ran smoothly despite all the changes that had been implemented to maintain social distancing. There were 97 new voters added to the checklist during the day, leaving 12,087 people on the checklist at the end of the day. There were 3274 voters in the election, resulting in a turnout rate of about 27.1%, which is very high for a primary election. Due to the pandemic, there were about 900 absentee voters, as compared to about 100 that would be more typical.

b. RFP Status - The Milford Dispatch Request for Proposal (RFP), as voted on by the citizens of Milford, is currently out for bid. The RFP was released last month and has received responses from several companies. The process will continue into the Fall, at which time the Board of Selectmen will discuss the various proposals. All work is being done in conjunction with CTA to ensure it is done in a very organized and efficient manner and under all best practices. Any questions or concerns about the project can be directed to the Town Administrator's Office.

c. Town Hall is back to normal hours except for the Town Clerks office. An appointment button has been added to the town's website that people can use for specific departments. More functions will be added later. There is also a kiosk available in the lobby if someone wants to come in to make an appointment if they don't have a computer at home.

Selectman Dargie referenced an email that came out about the building RFP and asked for more clarification. Captain Frye said the modification narrows it down further for the architects instead of trying to mix the builder and architects together. It will help get a price for the project for a warrant article. They took out a lot of the extra language that didn't need to be in the first RFP.

Selectman Labonte said he feels that some of the stuff removed changes the intent. He referenced the communications center versus the whole facility. Captain Frye said you don't need to analyze the whole building only the equipment added to the addition.

Selectman Labonte said it's being referred to as an addition, he thought it was a stand-alone building. Captain Frye said it's an inch away from the other building. It's the same way the fire station was built using NFPA 1221; it's an addition. Selectman Labonte said it seemed like a lot changed. This wasn't in the agenda or in the packet tonight so he didn't realize we were discussing it. Captain Frye said this didn't come out until after the BOS package went out which is why it was sent through an e-mail. Administrator Shannon said this was being referenced for informational purposes. We can add it to the next meeting. Captain Frye said the proposal date changed from the 14th to the 1st of October so we could make the November deadline. Selectman Labonte will bring up more questions at the next meeting.

Selectman Labonte asked if anything was sent out to people on the sign-in sheet at the architect meeting. Captain Frye said he sent information to the people bidding on the job. He will send it to the Board as well.

Selectman Dargie asked if there was any update on the status at the Transfer Station for recycling metals and plastic. Rick Riendeau, DPW Director, said they are working on getting it started within the next two weeks he has some things that need to be worked out first. We are changing our process a little and now is the time to incorporate it to get a good fresh start.

Chairman Daniels commended the Town Moderator, Pete Basiliere, the Town Clerk, Joan Dargie, and all the crews and volunteers for all the work that they did to make the voting transition run smoothly. There were a lot of positive comments from the public.

6. DISCUSSIONS:

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Continuation of dispatch article, not on the original agenda: Chairman Daniels said there were a lot of things in the article that the Cabinet didn't get right. Captain Frye said that's why he sent a letter to the editor last week. Selectman Labonte said Captain Frye was quoted as saying "the consultants did their work and found the system as failing", CTA didn't do any official testing of the equipment, he asked Captain Frye to explain that.

Captain Frye said it is failing. If you go back to the first joint meeting with Motorola and Beltronics, they both said, in public, that the system was failing. Cheryl Giggits, CTA Consultant, said they talked to the users of the system and looked at the equipment and multiple people from all towns said there were significant issues communicating to and from dispatch. They also did coverage analysis on the system and it supported what people were telling them.

Selectman Labonte asked Captain Frye who was also quoted as saying, "sending a letter to the Board with the results of spending the extra money and so on the radios". He asked for clarification on that quote. Captain Frye said there was a report done on our radios and it was sent to the Board. Selectman Labonte studied that report and said only one serial number lines up in the information requested that came in, in January. The radios that have a problem were not in that request.

Captain Frye said he doesn't have that information in front of him so he can't speak to it. It could have been the crossing guard stuff that was all radios. Selectman Labonte said the document wasn't made public, not that it was kept from the public, it was given Selectmen, but the article says, "you won't hear the results too openly because the people who want to stay with MACC Base are hoping maybe our equipment wasn't working". Selectman Labonte said as he openly doesn't support this if Captain Frye wants to use his name next time that would be fine. He asked for the preventative maintenance report on MACC Base's equipment. Captain Frye said he will ask Jason Johnson for it. Selectman Labonte said he believes you will find that MACC Base's equipment is working fine also. He feels that it was implicated that MACC Base's equipment was failing.

Selectman Dudziak asked if they could add this to a different agenda in the future because she doesn't have anything in front of her to follow. Chairman Daniels said they will add it to the September 28th meeting.

Selectman Dargie watched the MACC Base Board of Governors' meeting and he feels that the other towns still don't understand that Milford plans to leave MACC Base and go solo. He understands that we are going to have them at our next meeting. He would like to send a message to the other boards stipulating what our position is so that when we get into the meeting, we don't spend a lot of time talking about 10-year extensions and bonding. We should focus on the extension of the existing contract.

Chairman Daniels said since we have already conveyed that to them it could just be them not acknowledging it. We can send another one to them. Selectman Labonte said he disagrees with sending them anything more. They were going to try to work some of that out at the Board of Governors meeting which was canceled. Chairman Daniels said it should be the member towns that come up with the IMA and not the responsibility of the Board of Governors. Selectman Labonte said they were going to hopefully minimize on what all the Boards had to talk about, it wasn't a case of having the Board of Governors negotiate the contract.

a. Proposed Recycling Charge - Chairman Daniels proposed the following changes to the Recycling/Solid Waste Committee charge:

To fulfill the goals of protecting the environment while also considering the financial impact of refuse disposal upon the taxpayer, the Board of Selectmen hereby places upon the Recycling/Solid Waste Committee the following charge:

- Review the current and long-term needs of the Transfer Station and Recycling Center
- Contribute input annually to a Capital Improvement Plan for the Transfer Station and Recycling Center
- Investigate and submit recommendations to the Board of Selectmen on how best to reduce solid waste and promote environmental consciousness
- Assess the potential to handle expanded recycling and submit recommendations to the Board of Selectmen
- Research options for increasing recycling within the Town of Milford and set goals for achieving the recycling objective
- Review Recycling/Solid Waste Code 5.20, and if needed, propose and submit recommended amendments to the Board of Selectmen for consideration

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Selectman Dargie said this is fine but would like the Recycling Committee to review this and come back at a different meeting to endorse or make changes. Chairman Daniels said this is most of what they had in their proposal. He asked if other committees were writing their charge and bringing it to the Board. These committees are supposed to be advisory to the Board and the goals of the Board. Selectman Dargie said it's a volunteer group and they should have input. We can overrule them if needed. Selectman Freel likes what Chairman Daniels wrote.

Selectman Freel made a motion to approve the proposed Recycling Solid waste charge before us. There was no second motion so the motion failed. Selectman Labonte said agrees with Selectman Dargie about having the Recycling Committee review the proposed charge. Chairman Daniels said the committee is meeting tomorrow night he will bring it before them and bring this back on the 28th.

b. IMA Discussion – Chairman Daniels outlined the differences between the IMA that Mont Vernon and Wilton supports versus the one that Milford supports.

Page 1. Proposal to use the Header – he has no problem with that

Page 2. Date Change – It will change if we do a new one.

Page 3. Duration – Selectman Dargie said Milford's current position is a three-year extension along with a change in getting the dollars back when exit. He feels that having the three years and money together or having a two-year extension and not modifying the money is fine with him. He isn't okay with a three-year extension and not modifying the money clause. Chairman Daniels agreed. The other towns want a 10-year extension. The refund of surplus clause isn't something that the other towns put in the 2018 agreement.

Selectman Labonte asked if there was a discussion with the other towns with the 2018 agreement. Chairman Daniels said the discussion was with the 2013 agreement. We gave them our changes and asked for feedback and have heard nothing from them. Selectman Labonte said 2018 was a draft and Milford never engaged in discussions on 2018 proposed IMA.

Chairman Daniels repeated what he said the first meeting, what is in the past is in the past, we are trying to move forward. The other towns support the 2018 proposal that they have put forward that has language in it that says, "if a town leaves, they will not get their money back". We told them we want to change that language saying that towns would get their money back and we have not heard anything from them. If they don't agree to change that language then he would change his desire to have a three-year extension back to a two-year extension.

Selectman Labonte said we only have a 50% say on what goes in the contract and we already sent a position statement on what a majority of this Board feels. Chairman Daniels said there are several differences between the two IMA's and he's trying to find out if we, as a Board are willing to give on some of them. Selectman Freel isn't willing to give on that wording.

Page 3. Language – Chairman Daniels questions the use of the word Board vs. Governing Board. Selectman Labonte asked if this was sent to the town Council. Chairman Daniels said no. He doesn't want to spend town money on an Attorney when you can clarify by using the Governing Board. We asked Town Council whether the agreement ended at the end of the year and his opinion was yes. Selectman Labonte said he was referring to the 2018 agreement. Chairman Daniels said he has no idea. Selectman Dargie said he agrees with Chairman Daniels, any time we are talking about the Board of Governors, we should use the phrase, "Governing Board" in the document to make it clear.

Page 3. Milford getting one vote on non- financial matters. Chairman Daniels said he doesn't support that. We are paying 71% of the bill and should have two votes. Selectman Labonte asked for an example of what would fall under a non-financial vote. Chairman Daniels said there was a time when the Board of Governors met with their accountant and they made a motion to go into non-public. It wasn't a non-public thing and our representative voted no and they disregarded that we had two votes. We contacted our Attorney and those minutes were made public.

Selectman Labonte said the Board of Governors Chair apologized that he did wrong on that. It wouldn't have made a difference if we had one vote or two votes. Chairman Daniels said he isn't willing to let 29% control the process or the finances. Selectman Labonte said we haven't always had two votes. Jason Johnson, MACC Base Director said Milford acquired two votes when Amherst left MACC Base.

Page 5. Population and percentage to be updated with the next census report. Selectman Dargie agrees with this, it should be updated when the information becomes available.

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Page 6. A small word change “on vs by January 1st. No one is around January 1st. Selectman Labonte suggests January 15th. Chairman Daniels wasn’t looking to change dates. Selectman Dargie said it should be left alone, it’s been the same for a long time. It’s possible to cut a check on that date. We should keep it simple. Selectman Labonte thought it said it’s due by the 1st unless some other arrangement is made. Chairman Daniels said we are not going to make our agreement on January 1st. It’s a change of one word from on to by. Captain Frye said we usually pay the second week of January. If anything we should say by the end of January. Selectman Labonte suggests making it January 15th. The Board will discuss this with the other towns.

Page 8. The borrowing of funds. That is all tied into the 10-year agreement which Mont Vernon feels they need to pay back any loan taken out by MACC Base. Selectman Labonte said he thought that if we each borrow our own money and bonded it for 10 years, it doesn’t matter if you pull out in year 4, whoever borrows their money still have to pay it back. It would be nice to bond under one entity. Chairman Daniels said what is proposed in the 2018 IMA is for MACC Base to do the borrowing, not the towns.

Page 12, Notice of withdrawal 24 months vs. 12 months. Chairman Daniels feels we should stick with 12 months. Selectman Labonte stated that, we know we are going to pull out in 12 months anyway. Selectman Freel said he’s fine with 12 months. Selectman Dargie said he’s fine with 12. We plan to put a warrant on next year. We can re-assess in the Fall.

Page 12. Long term borrowing. The other towns added the words, “and encumbered debt”. Chairman Daniels said if MACC Base were to borrow long term, the towns would be responsible for their share of the debt that goes along with the loan.

Page 13. Non-voting members. Chairman Daniels isn’t sure what this changes versus the way it’s done now. If it brings clarity into non-voting members he’s fine with accepting it. Selectman Dargie said if Milford is leaving, who’s going to join an agreement like this for a year or two.

Page 15. The last two points are just to update the membership and titles of those signing the agreement and our request that the Appendix is compliant with the bylaws.

Jason Johnson said non-voting members are a result of when Lyndeborough was brought in as a customer, the BOG came up with a formula for determining their cost. At that time, they didn’t codify the cost of something other than a Police agency which is why this is listed in the agreement.

Selectman Labonte asked about a plan B if we end in a stalemate with the other towns. What are the options for Milford? Chairman Daniels said they would be the same as the other towns. Selectman Labonte asked if we had a place to go. Chairman Daniels said he’s hoping that everyone would want some type of agreement.

Bob Labonte, Milford resident, said it’s up to the people in Milford as to us staying with MACC Base or not. The Town has been very good with emergency services in this town. Throwing MACC Base out will cost us more to operate than to leave it upstairs. He asked if this was put to the voters. Chairman Daniels said it will when the Board decides. Bob Labonte stated that people don’t understand and will go on what the Board says.

Chairman Daniels said he’s taking it a different way when someone says we are getting out, it’s based upon a previous vote of most of the Board. We feel it’s better for Milford to have a standalone. Bob disagrees. Chairman Daniels said we can put millions of dollars on the 4th floor and if it isn’t up to NFPA standards and if the water sprinklers go off, your millions of dollars are gone. It’s the responsibility of the Board to educate the public as to why we feel this is better. The room will be standalone, it’s called an addition because it’s built to it. If there was a fire at the fire station, those that are in the communication center shouldn’t have to leave. Right now if there is a fire on the 3rd or 4th floor, the people in MACC Base have a choice of staying where they are to keep communications going or getting out of the building for their safety.

Bob said he has respect for Captain Frye, but he’s doing a dual job and he shouldn’t be doing it. He doesn’t always act in the Town’s best interest. Chairman Daniels said Captain Frye’s role as our Governor at MACC Base should be following the direction of this Board. Bob said sometimes he’s not. Selectman Freel asked if Bob was saying that sometimes he’s there but he’s a big proponent of the new system being Milford only, but it’s a biased position to be up there. Bob said he thinks he was put in that position to make it work.

Chairman Daniels said if Captain Frye is upstairs and supporting the standalone, he isn’t doing it on his own because a majority of this Board has already taken a position. He is echoing the position of what the Board wants. Bob said Captain Frye has more knowledge than former Selectman Putnam, but it doesn’t seem right. Chairman Daniels said he tries to in-

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crease communication so that as our Board of Governor, Captain Frye understands what our position is. Everyone understands that this Board only makes the recommendation and the people in town make the final decisions.

Selectman Labonte said one of his concerns he has is that Captain Frye said in the press release that “the town of Milford doesn’t want to own MACC Base as a company”, it isn’t a company, it’s an intergovernmental agency. If you want to make it a company, go ahead. Someone will be at the top trying to make it succeed. We have a 71% stake and a 50% vote that wants to take it down because they want their own, he doesn’t agree. He said he respects Captain Frye but his time would better be spent advocating for what he believes in, a dispatch center for the Town of Milford.

Chairman Daniels repeated, Captain Frye is up there as our representative echoing the position that this Board has taken. Selectman Labonte asked if this Board is trying to take MACC Base down, from the top. Chairman Daniels said this Board made a decision and it will benefit the town of Milford to have a stand-alone dispatch center next to the Police Station.

Selectman Labonte said he is for MACC Base. He mentioned a sign at the Police Station that says, 'keep the door open, the room will overheat if closed'. We talk about MACC Base not having a proper HVAC system but we have this sign at the Police Station.

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

8. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS/DISCUSSIONS.

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

Captain Frye said MACC Base was supposed to meet before this meeting but it was canceled because he double-booked two meetings. We are working on the IMA and 2021 budget. We will work on it more this month. The next meeting is on September 23rd. Chairman Daniels asked if there was anything he needs guidance on from this Board. Captain Frye said no.

Selectman Labonte asked if they could get an update on the money that was returned to Milford from MACC Base. Captain Frye said it was returned and it was said at the last meeting, it was about \$71,000. Selectman Labonte asked where the money goes back to. Chairman Daniels said fund balance, the general fund. Selectman Labonte asked if some of those funds could be used to put repeaters in the cruisers to help with the dead spots on the portables. He thought the duplication of the cost would be around \$3,000 or \$4,000. It would be an immediate fix to communication right now and go into the P25 system instead of waiting 24 months. Chairman Daniels said they will bring it up at the next meeting.

Selectman Freel asked if MACC Base was looking to cut some of the budgets, are they looking at a higher budget, and are they just trying to cut it to get it back to an amount. Captain Frye said the budget for 2020 was \$529,054. The proposed budget for next year is up 3% at \$545,264, that is what Milford would pay. The operating budget was \$764,566 and now it's up 3.6% to \$787,000. We are looking to see where we can save a little bit here and there.

Selectman Dargie said, in reference to the money returned last year, we included contingency money for unanticipated repairs with that hopes and expectations that that money wouldn't get used. There was a proposal last year to take out that money but we left it in. The returned money was actually in the budget as anticipated revenue, it isn't extra money because it was built into the budget. He recommends that we do that again this year.

Jason Johnson said there are items in the 2021 budget that we have to forecast. The insurance rates haven't been set yet. There is an increase in the state retirement that the Town will also have to deal with. The insurance is projected at a 5% increase which it has been for the past 5 years. The NHRS was factored in at ½ year of the old rate and ½ year of the new rate, we used the average of both.

Selectmen Freel asked for clarification of the amount coming back to the town. Chairman Daniels said about \$10,000 of unanticipated revenue and \$60,000 of anticipated revenue. The \$60,000 was put in, in anticipation that it not be spent. Selectman Labonte said in prior years was that money considered anticipated revenue or was it just money that came back. Chairman Daniels said it was unanticipated.

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

9. APPROVAL OF FINAL MINUTES – Selectman Dargie moved to approve the minutes of August 24, 2020, and August 31, 2020 (5th Monday Forum), as amended. Seconded by Selectman Dudziak. A roll call vote was taken with

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Selectman Dargie yes, Selectman Dudziak yes, Selectman Labonte yes, Selectman Freel yes, and Chairman Daniels yes. All were in favor. The motion passed 5/0.

10. INFORMATION ITEMS REQUIRING NO DECISIONS.

a. N/A

11. NOTICES. Notices were read.

12. NON-PUBLIC SESSION. A motion made by Selectman Dudziak to enter into a non-public session in accordance with (RSA 91-A:3, II(c)) Reputation and for approval of non-public minutes in accordance with (RSA 91-A: 3, II(c)) – August 24, 2020, seconded by Selectmen Freel. A roll call vote was taken with Selectman Dargie yes, Selectman Dudziak yes, Selectman Labonte yes, Selectman Freel yes, and Chairman Daniels yes. The motion passed 5/0.

13. ADJOURNMENT: Selectman Freel moved to adjourn at 7:40. Seconded by Selectman Dudziak. A roll call vote was taken with Selectman Dargie yes, Selectman Dudziak yes, Selectman Labonte yes, Selectman Freel yes, and Chairman Daniels yes. All were in favor. The motion passed 5/0.

Gary Daniels, Chairman

Chris Labonte, Member

Paul Dargie, Vice Chairman

David Freel, Member

Laura Dudziak, Member