

**APPROVED**  
**MINUTES OF THE MILFORD BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING 5<sup>TH</sup> MONDAY FORUM**  
**Monday, January 29, 2024**

**PRESENT:** Gary Daniels, Chairman Excused                      Lincoln Daley, Town Administrator  
Chris Labonte, Vice Chairman                      Andrew Kouropoulos, Videographer  
Paul Dargie, Member                      Tina Philbrick, EXCUSED  
Tim Finan, Member  
David Freel, Member

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

Chairman Daniels called the public meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**2. 6:00 p.m. OPEN FORUM**

Mike Viola, a Milford resident, asked if someone could explain the opt in or opt out cards from Standard Power.

Mike Thornton, Milford Energy Advisory Committee member said if you have a better deal than Standard Power is offering and a few pennies make a difference to you, stay with your current provider. You just need to check the opt out section of the card and send it back in the prepaid envelope. Eversource is currently at a slightly lower rate. There will be a public hearing at the town hall on Wednesday, January 31<sup>st</sup> in the Auditorium at 6:00 that will better explain the process. If people can't make the meeting, they can call Mr. Thornton at 603-249-6666 and he will be happy to answer any questions. They can also call the number on the opt in or opt out letter. People can opt in or opt out at anytime but it will take one billing period to take effect. It's not limited to one opt in or one opt out in the contract. If you don't do anything, you are automatically in. If Eversource increases their rates in a few months, you will be at a higher rate than what Standard Power is offering. Administrator Daley said the program will start on March 1<sup>st</sup>.

Selectman Dargie said with the Standard Power rates versus the Eversource rate, the typical user can save about \$12 per month. It varies depending what your usage is. If you come to the meeting on Wednesday and show it to the Standard Power representatives and they can explain your options to you. Solar power issues are complicated, and you can find information for solar power on the town's web page.

Selectman Labonte said every three months a new card will be sent out to either opt in or out, it's like a reminder. Eversource usually publishes their rates before they increase or decrease so you would have time to review your options.

Mr. Thornton said people can go onto the NH.gov website and look at a guide that shows everyone's rates so that it's an open market.

Jeff Marshall, a Milford resident, reference a discussion last week about our Ambulance providing a contract service outside of Milford. He is concerned that this changes the charter of Milford Ambulance as who it is and who it serves. It's also binding the town to the language that's in that contract. This is an important conversation to have and it shouldn't be taken lightly based on the need that we need to get something out the door quickly. The difference in this versus Mason students coming to our Milford schools and paying a fee to attend is different because this takes our critical infrastructure, leaving the town, and possibly not having it available to serve our residents. There are lots of things to take into consideration. Providing service to a small community isn't a bad idea but it's a big change. Does this town want to be in the business of providing an external ambulance service?

Claire Brewer, a Milford resident, asked if there is going to be a zoom link to the Community Power meeting and is it going to be televised? Administrator Daley said it will be recorded. They will consider opening it up for a zoom meeting.

**3. DISCUSSION**

a. N/A

**4. DECISIONS**

**a) CONSENT CALENDAR**

- 1) Acceptance and Appropriation of Unanticipated Revenues Under \$10,000 (31:95(b))  
Donation to support the Save the Bandstand Fund from the Milford Historical Society - \$740.00

Selectman Freel asked how this works with the Historical Society donating money? Mr. Palance, Chairman of the Heritage Commission, said the Heritage Commission wrote an MOA with the Historical Society because the town can't receive anything but checks. The Historical Society takes pay pal and alternate forms of payment and it helps both entities. These are private funds for the Bandstand.

## APPROVED MINUTES OF BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING – 1/29/2024

Selectman Freel made a motion to accept the consent calendar. Seconded by Selectman Dargie. All were in favor. The motion passed 5/0.

Selectman Freel asked what the plan was for the completion of the Bandstand.

Kathrine Kokko, Heritage Commission member, said the next step is to take the assessment specs and turn it into an RFP so it can go out to bid if the budget is voted in. She wants to have the RFP available by February. She doesn't know when the work will be completed. Selectman Freel said it isn't something that should take a long time to complete. Ms. Kokko said she doesn't know how long it will take, there is some detailed work that needs to be done.

### b) OTHER DECISIONS

5. APPROVAL OF FINAL MINUTES – n/a

6. NOTICES – Chairman Daniels read the notices.

7. ADJOURNMENT – Selectman Freel made a motion to adjourn at 6:30. Seconded by Selectman Labonte. All were in favor. The motion passed 5/0.

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Gary Daniels, Chairman

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Tim Finan, Member

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Chris Labonte, Vice Chairman

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David Freel, Member

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Paul Dargie, Member