

APPROVED
MINUTES OF THE MILFORD BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING 5TH MONDAY FORUM
Tuesday, May 30, 2023

PRESENT: Gary Daniels, Chairman Excused Lincoln Daley, Town Administrator excused
Chris Labonte, Vice Chairman Andrew Kouropoulos, Videographer
Paul Dargie, Member Tina Philbrick, Executive Assistant
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 5:03 p.m

2. 5:00 p.m. NON-PUBLIC SESSION

Selectman Finan made a motion to go into non-public at 5:04 in accordance with NH (RSA 91-A:3, II(c)) Reputation. Seconded by Selectman Freel. All were in favor. The motion passed 5/0.

Selectman Labonte made a motion to come out of non-public at 5:38. Seconded by Selectman Freel. All were in favor. The motion passed 5/0.

In non-public the Board discussed one item. The non-public minutes were not sealed. The Board discussed issues at the Transfer Station that may result in a change in policy regarding volunteers, employees, and the still-good shed.

Chairman Daniels introduced Board members and then led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. 6:00 p.m. OPEN FORUM

No one from the public came forward to speak.

Chairman Daniels said the Water Department submitted two applications to the County for additional ARPA funds. One application was for funding to build another Pennichuck Booster pumping station at a higher capacity for pumping water. The second was for upgrades for our Water Treatment Facility to help defray the cost of the large mandated warrant article that passed in March. There was a total of 55 applications submitted for this funding. The Board of Commissioners will be meeting tomorrow morning at 9:30 at the County Complex in Goffstown. Chairman Daniels suggests people attend the meeting to support the funds going to Milford. Both projects meet the criteria for ARPA funding.

Selectman Dargie said the pumping station grant was for \$3,250,000 and the other grant was for \$750,000. Chairman Daniels said he understood a lot of the money was spent already. Whatever we can get will be good.

4. DISCUSSION

a. Frog Pond – Dam Assessment Report (DAM NO. D254021)

The Town of Wilton commissioned SLR Consulting to produce an assessment study for the dam at Frog Pond. A portion of the pond falls in Milford but a majority falls in Wilton. The dam is relisted. The cost of the dam repairs and rehabilitation treatments is approximately \$510,000. Wilton will be looking into grants and or conducting a decommissioning alternate study. The Town of Wilton is seeking Milford's input on the study, the site, and its implications.

Selectman Dargie suggests we ask the Conservation Commission to see if we even need this. Administrator Daley said Conservation met last week and didn't see a use for the pond. It's no functional value for the Town of Milford other than some nice habitat, serene environmental views, and walking areas. Chief Ken Flaherty asked if this was the fire suppression pond. Administrator Daley said no.

Selectman Finan asked if Milford had anything to do with the construction of the dam. Rich Elliott, Conservation Commission member, said Milford didn't have anything to do with the building of the dam, it was all Wilton and it was built in the 1920s. It was a private pond; the information is on Wilton's website.

Administrator Daley said that Wilton is just looking to inform Milford of the condition and educate us on the potential fixes. They are not currently asked for anything financial at this time.

Selectman Dargie said he didn't see anything in the report about tearing it down. He thinks that option should be visited, it would be less expensive. He doesn't think anyone uses it or it's of any value. Administrator Daley said it does provide habitat and they may still have to do some environmental inventory to make sure that there aren't any endangered or sensitive species out there that will be impacted negatively by additional activity.

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Chairman Daniels asked what the status was of our two dams on the Souhegan. Administrator Daley will check.

Selectman Freel asked if this would be a warrant article if we were interested in preserving it. Administrator Daley said yes and he will stay in contact with what Wilton is planning.

b. Milford Community Power Plan Update

The Milford Community Power Plan was approved in Order NO. 26,819 subject to one condition: Note that changes to participants' service, and in particular participants' exit from the program, will be subject to reasonable notice to the distribution utility and may only occur after the next meter read, consistent with Pcu 2204.05(g).

"Participants in the Program will be able to opt-out of the Program and transfer to Default Service with the electric distribution utility or to another Competitive Supplier. Such requests submitted to the Program will be submitted by the Competitive Supplier to the electric distribution utility Eversource for processing on the customer's next available regular meter read date. There shall be no penalty or exit fee for such transfer. Customers requesting transfer of supply service upon dates other than the next available regular meter reading date may be charged an off-cycle meter reading and billing charge if such a service is available from the electric distribution utility. "

Administrator Daley said this is just a corrective action to clarify how participants can opt-out. Chairman Daniels asked what would happen if Eversource sold out to another utility. Administrator Daley said it would have to be modified to reflect the current distributor.

c. 127 Elm Street

Administrator Daley said we are presenting a draft to the Recreation Commission next week and come back to this Board on June 12th with the final update.

Selectman Freel asked if we were still looking into razing the building. Administrator Daley said the recommendation will be to raze that building. There are two options and it's a master plan. Selectman Labonte asked if they had a number yet. Administrator Daley said some numbers need to be revised, they are planning level numbers only. There was additional discussion about what would be in the report and the potential cost. There is a timeline that will be done in phases and depending on resources and the community.

5. DECISIONS

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

a) CONSENT CALENDAR

1) Acceptance and Appropriation of Unanticipated Revenues under \$10,000 (31:95(b))

Donations to the Black Heritage Trail

➤ Gary and Loreen Daniels - \$100

➤ Dave Palance - \$250

➤ Tina Philbrick - \$250

Donation to the Phillipsbury Bandstand

➤ Gary and Loreen Daniels \$100

2) Approval of 2023 Tax Warrants

b) OTHER DECISIONS

1) Revision of Milford Energy Advisory Committee Charter

Selectman Dargie provided an updated version. There were concerns about commissions not having clear language about who is a voting member and who is a liaison. This makes this committee's charter a bit clearer. Selectman Dargie explained his reasoning for the changes that he is suggesting. He is asking the Board to approve the change.

There was additional discussion about how many members to have, who is allowed to vote, and if they needed a Planning Board Representative. To date, no one from the Planning Board is willing to be a representative on this committee.

Selectman Freel made a motion to accept the changes proposed by Selectman Dargie to revise the Milford Energy Advisory Committee Charter as amended. Seconded by Selectman Dargie. All were in favor. The motion passed.

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2) Designation of Authorities for Clean Water SRF Loan

Administrator Daley said this is just for seeking Board authorization for the \$24,000,000 warrant article approved in March. This is a loan for 50% loan forgiveness but could be more once all applications are reviewed. This doesn't have anything to do with the grants we approved earlier in this meeting. Chairman Daniels questioned the spelling of Selectmen vs. Selectman.

Selectman Labonte asked what would change having the Town Administrator's name as well as the Water Directors' name. Administrator Daley said it's a requirement to have the Town Administrator sign this.

Selectman Finan made a motion to approve the Town Administrator to sign the designation of authorities for the Clean Water SRF Loan as amended. Seconded by Selectman Dargie. All were in favor. The motion passed 5/0.

6. APPROVAL OF FINAL MINUTES – n/a

7. NOTICES – Chairman Daniels read the notices.

8. ADJOURNMENT – Selectman Freel made a motion to adjourn at 6:46. Seconded by Selectman Labonte. All were in favor. The motion passed 5/0.

Gary Daniels, Chairman

Tim Finan, Member

Chris Labonte, Vice Chairman

David Freel, Member

Paul Dargie, Member