

2018

225<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the  
Town of Milford, New Hampshire  
Deliberative Session Minutes  
Saturday, February 3, 2018

Elective Session – March 13<sup>th</sup> 2018

Total Registered Voters – 11,124  
Number of Voters at Deliberative Session - 71

Moderator Pete Basiliere welcomes everyone to the 2018 Deliberative Session and invites everyone to stand for the pledge of allegiance. Invites Fire Department chaplain Gary Williams to present invocation.

Moderator asks everyone to stay standing to honor a few members of the community that we lost this past year who touched our community in strong and meaningful ways. First would like to mention Bob Philbrick who was a past moderator he always made sure things ran smoothly, also mentions Sarooch he always had a big smile and a caring heart, and another person was Jim Roccio who was not known as well but he helped out at the polling places every year. I would just like to have a moment of silence for all three of these men.

This is a two-step process today's deliberative session and then voting on March 13<sup>th</sup> from 6am to 8pm.

If you have not done so already please go to the back of the room to check in. The voters who are watching on Granite Town media please visit the town's website where the information on the warrant articles is located.

The select board and the budget advisory committee will be meeting at the end of this session to vote again on any articles as needed.

I will now invite Chairman Fougere to introduce the Select Board.

Mark Fougere – I am the chairman of the board; I would like to introduce selectman Gary Daniels, selectman Laura Dudziak, selectman Mike Putnam and vice chair Kevin Federico. I would also like to introduce our town administrator Mark Bender.

Moderator – We also have our town attorney Bill Drescher. I will also introduce our Budget Advisory Committee Chair Matt Lydon.

Matt Lydon - We have Paul Dargie, Wade Scott Campbell, Peggy Seward vice Chair, Karen Mitchell, Paul Bartolomucci, and Bob Courage.

Moderator – We also have Joan Dargie our Town Clerk and Town Administrative Assistant Tina Philbrook.

Now we will move onto the session we will be looking at the packet that contains all the warrant articles as they will appear on the ballot unless you amend them today. We will introduce each article and the select board and the budget advisory committee will speak to each article it will be opened up for discussion and then any amendments may be presented and then voted on if there are no amendments every article will be voted on as written.

I also provided you with a list of moderator's rules it is the green sheet. This is basically how I intend to run the meeting.

"New Hampshire law authorizes the moderators to establish rules of procedure for the Deliberative Session and also gives the voters the power to overrule the moderator's rules and rulings. These Rules of Procedure are how the moderator intends to govern the meeting, in the absence of any challenges to the rules, to ensure a fair and orderly meeting.

1. Registered Milford voters must check in at the checklist table, where they will receive a sticker that must be worn while in the hall and a voting card. Anyone wishing to speak must wear this sticker in order to be recognized.
2. Non-residents will be allowed to speak only after a positive vote by the meeting on a motion to allow the non-residents to speak.
3. When a vote is called for, registered voters will vote on the motion by holding up their voting card. The moderator will cast a vote only to break a tie or to create a tie.
4. Anyone wishing to speak must do so at the microphone located at the center aisle. A "Point of Order" may be called out from your seat but the question must be asked at the microphone. Please state your name and street address your first time at the microphone. For subsequent trips to the microphone, stating your name will be sufficient.
5. All questions or comments must be directed to the moderator, not to individual officials, committee members or audience members.
6. Except for presenters explaining proposed articles, speakers have a three minute time limit. If the speaker asks a question, one follow-up question is allowed before stepping away from the microphone. If the speaker has additional questions about or comments on a particular issue, they may be raised only after all other speakers already in line have spoken.
7. Affirmative motions to "call the question" limit debate and require a second and then a simple majority vote to pass. Anyone wishing to call the question must do so from the microphone. A speaker may not call the question immediately after speaking on the issue.
8. The motions to call the question and to restrict reconsideration are not debatable. Upon a second, the moderator will ask for a vote by the meeting.
9. Upon an affirmative vote to call the question, anyone already in line as well as members of the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Advisory Committee who had already indicated a desire to address the topic will be permitted to speak on the issue.
10. Discussion and voting will be taken one amendment at a time.
11. While a proposed amendment to a dollar amount may be made verbally; an amendment that changes the language of a question must be submitted in writing. Time will be allowed for the voter to write the proposed language on a piece of paper. Important note: Except for the dollar amounts, the language of the warrant article for the operating budget is stipulated by state statute and may not be changed.
12. The meeting may, on an article-by-article basis, restrict subsequent reconsideration of the vote on a warrant article. Upon a vote to restrict reconsideration, the moderator will prohibit any

further action on that question. The motion to restrict reconsideration does not have to be made immediately after the original vote.

13. An affirmative vote to restrict reconsideration may be reconsidered. If the restriction is overturned, however, by statute the actual reconsideration will take place at a recessed session of the town meeting held at least seven days later (RSA 40:10).
14. The Moderator shall take a secret yes/no ballot vote when seven or more voters who are present question any non-ballot vote immediately after the moderator declares the result of the vote and before any other business is begun (RSA 40:4-b).
15. A petition for secret ballot must be submitted to the moderator prior to the vote by at least five voters. The five voters must be present when the petition is submitted.
16. Five voters present may request a recount of any vote taken by secret yes/no ballot if the request is made immediately after the announcement of the result. Further, the moderator will order a recount immediately if the secret yes/no vote margin is less than 10 percent (RSA 40:4-a).
17. All speakers must be courteous and must address the issues, not the individuals who are raising them. The Moderator will not allow personal attacks or inappropriate language. The Moderator may command a police officer or legal voter to remove from the meeting and detain any person conducting himself or herself in a disorderly manner (RSA 40:9).
18. Any of the Moderator's Rule(s) may be overturned by a simple majority vote.

Does anyone have any questions on the moderator's rules? Seeing none we will implement rules as written.

#### Article 1 – Election of Officers

The results of the voting for Town Officers is as follows:

##### Board of Selectmen (2 seats)

725 Gary Daniels - elected  
681 Paul Dargie - elected  
667 Christopher Labonte  
640 Mark Fougere  
323 Suzanne Fournier  
224 Christopher Skinner  
101 James Powers

##### Cemetery Trustee

1052 Mary Dickson - elected  
594 George Hoyt

##### Library Trustee (3 seats)

1301 Kathryn Parenti - elected  
1148 Jennifer O'Brien-Traficante - elected  
1143 Janet Hromjak - elected

##### Supervisor of the Checklist

1075 Darlene Bouffard - elected  
395 George Skuse

##### Town Moderator

1652 Peter Basiliere – elected

##### Trustees of the Trust Funds

1555 Joan Dargie - elected

## ARTICLES

### Article 2 – Ballot Vote – Zoning Changes

The Planning Board supports all Amendments:

#### Ballot Vote No. 1

Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #1 as proposed by the Milford Planning Board for the Town of Milford Zoning Ordinance as follows?

Amendment #1: Amend the Milford Zoning Ordinance, Article VI. Overlay Districts, Section 6.04 OpenSpace and Conservation District, Subsection 6.04.1 Purpose by inserting the new language to further clarify the Planning Board’s authority under RSA 674:21 to regulate open space and conservation subdivisions; Subsection 6.04.2 Objectives by renaming said section and inserting language to further clarify the standards with which the Planning Board administers the Open Space and Conservation District; Subsection 6.04.8.B Density and Dimensional Standards by replacing said section in its entirety with revised language to further clarify the Planning Board’s ability to establish a minimum lot size, administer dimensional standards, and clarify the waiver process for the dimensional standards; and amend Subsections 6.04.8.B.5 and 6 by creating new Subsection 6.04.8.C Miscellaneous Requirements, incorporating said subsections, and renumbering accordingly.

#### Topical Description of Proposed Amendment:

The proposed changes reflect ongoing discussions involving the dimensional standards section of the Open Space and Conservation District Zoning Ordinance. The proposed changes further clarify the Planning Board’s ability to establish a minimum lot size for lots within an Open Space and Conservation Subdivision addition, the amendments further clarify the standards with which the Planning Board administers the Open Space and Conservation District. Lastly, the amendments include the elimination of the requirement that new lots adjacent to the Open Space and Conservation subdivision or frontage On an existing public roadway conform to all building setbacks and frontages required in the underlying zoning district. The intent is to improve and continue providing regulatory flexibility in the design and layout of parcels within an Open Space and Conservation subdivision. The proposed amendments were reviewed and supported by the Planning Board and Conservation Commission. The Planning Board supports Zoning Amendment by a unanimous vote of 4-0.

Ballot Title: Open Space & Conservation District

#### Ballot Vote No. 2

2. Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #2 as proposed by the Milford Planning Board for the Town of Milford Zoning Ordinance as follows:

Amendment #2: Amend the Milford Zoning Ordinance, Article IV: Definitions, Section 4.01.0, “Utility, public or private” by inserting language to further clarify private ownership as a form of utility and to expand the definition by allowing a utility to generate resources and/or services for its own use.

Topical Description of Proposed Amendment: The proposed changes seek to further clarify and include private ownership as a form of utility. The amendments expand the definition by allowing a utility to generate resources and/or services for its use/consumption and/or provide said resources and services to the public. The proposed amendments will have no impact on where a utility is permitted or allowed by Special Exception. The proposed amendments were reviewed and supported by the Planning Board. The Planning Board supports Amendment #2 by a unanimous vote of 4-0.

Ballot Title: Public or Private Utility



Moderator – Now we will discuss Warrant Article 3

Warrant Article 3 – Main Fire Station Upgrade – Bond - \$3,864,300

Shall the town vote to raise and appropriate \$3,864,300 for design and construction of needed electrical upgrades, parking lot expansion, facility renovations, and expansion of the downtown fire station, and to authorize the Selectmen to raise this appropriation by borrowing not more than \$3,864,300 in bonds, bond anticipation notes, or notes therefore in accordance with the Municipal Finance Act, (RSA 33) and, further, to authorize the Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds, bond anticipation notes, or notes and to determine conditions and the rate of interest thereon, such funding to be repaid from general taxation, and to authorize the Selectmen to contract for and expend any Federal or State aid that may be available for this project? This is a Special Article in accordance with RSA 32. Note: As this is for issuance of long-term debt, this vote requires, under State law, sixty (60%) percent affirmative vote to pass. The Board of Selectmen supports this article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (8-0-1). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.34 less than the 2017 Budget or minus \$34.00 on a home value of \$100,000.

Mark Fougere – Mr. Moderator I move that warrant article 3 as provided in the information packet along with any recommendations from the board of selectmen (BOS) or the budget advisory committee (BAC) be placed on the ballot. The full board supports this article this fire station is number 1 priority follows the CIP plan it extends the life of the current facility. The current facility was built in 1974; the town population has doubled since then.

Matt Lydon – The BAC supports this article. The storage areas are not big enough to house all the apparatus that is currently needed by the department, the kitchen and staff areas are not large enough for the size of the department. For all these reasons we support this article.

Moderator – Is there any discussion?

Steve Takacs – Whitten Road - It is \$3.8 million do you know what the total charges will be with the interest?

Moderator – Before we answer that I just realized I forgot to introduce the list of out of town speakers. What we intend to do is allow the following people to speak, Jack Sheehy Finance Director, Lincoln Daily Community Development, Tim Herlihy Building Inspector, Bruce Dickerson IT, Mike Mc Enerny Town Media, Rick Reindeau Department of Public Works, Bill Drescher Town Attorney, Mark Bender Town Administrator, Kevin Stetson Water Utility Director. Is there any objection to allowing these individuals to speak? Seeing none. I will allow these individuals to speak. Now Jack Sheehy will answer this question.

Jack Sheehy – Finance Director - The estimated bond is a 20 year bond and the interest rate is 3% which means the interest will be approximately \$1,017,255.00.

Steve Takacs - I just want to make sure that people realize they are voting on close to \$5 million for these renovations.

The Proposed  
Milford Fire  
Station  
Addition &  
Renovation

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*Providing the  
best service to  
our community*

2018



# Presentation Overview

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1. Why is a New Station Needed?
2. What is Being Proposed?
3. Project Costs and Financing
4. Question & Answer

# PART ONE

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1. Why is a New Station Needed?
2. What is Being Proposed?
3. Project Costs and Financing
4. Question & Answer

# Our Station will Keep Existing Apparatus Bays, but

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# We Have Run Out of Functional Space in the Rest of the Building

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# Milford has Experienced Tremendous Population Growth

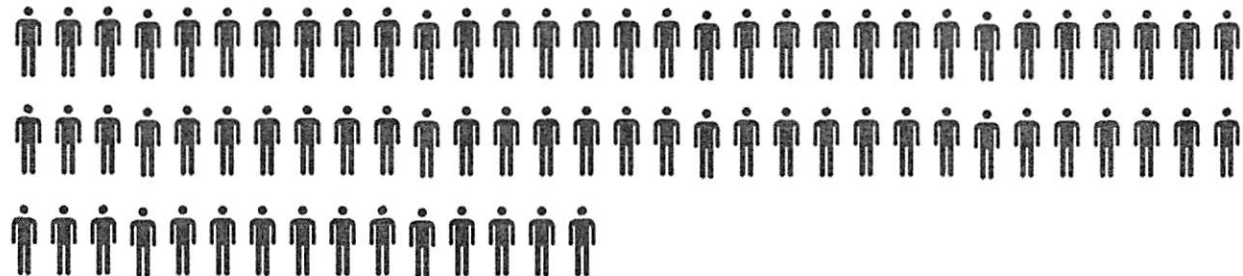
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 = 200 Milford residents

**1970**



**2017**



*Milford Population has MORE THAN DOUBLED since station was built in 1974.*



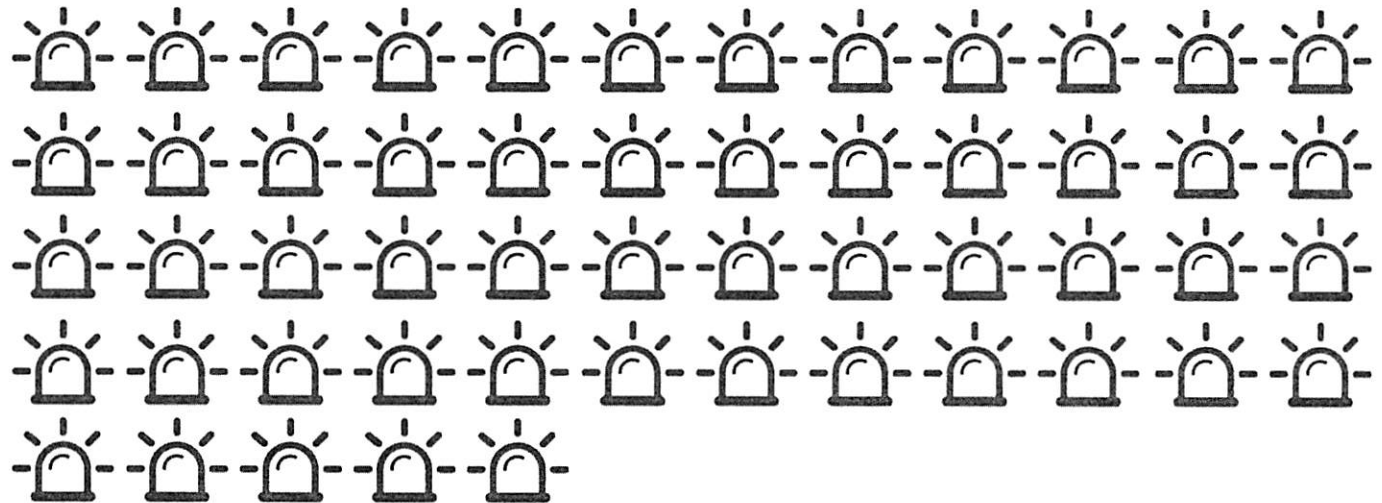
# Annual Fire Department Service Calls Have Increased Almost 1200%

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 = 20 Calls for Service

**1974**    

**2017**



*88 calls in 1974; 1,052 calls in 2017*

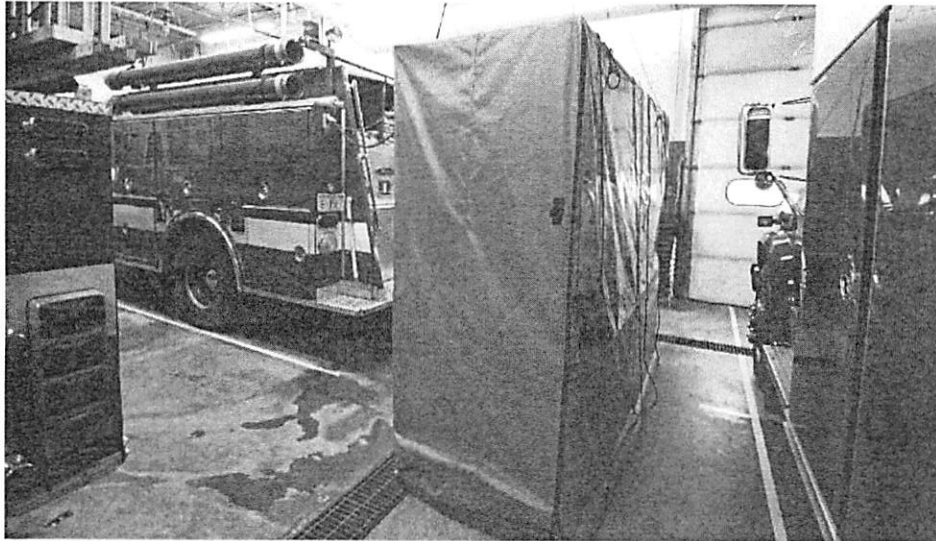


# Existing Station has Significant Issues

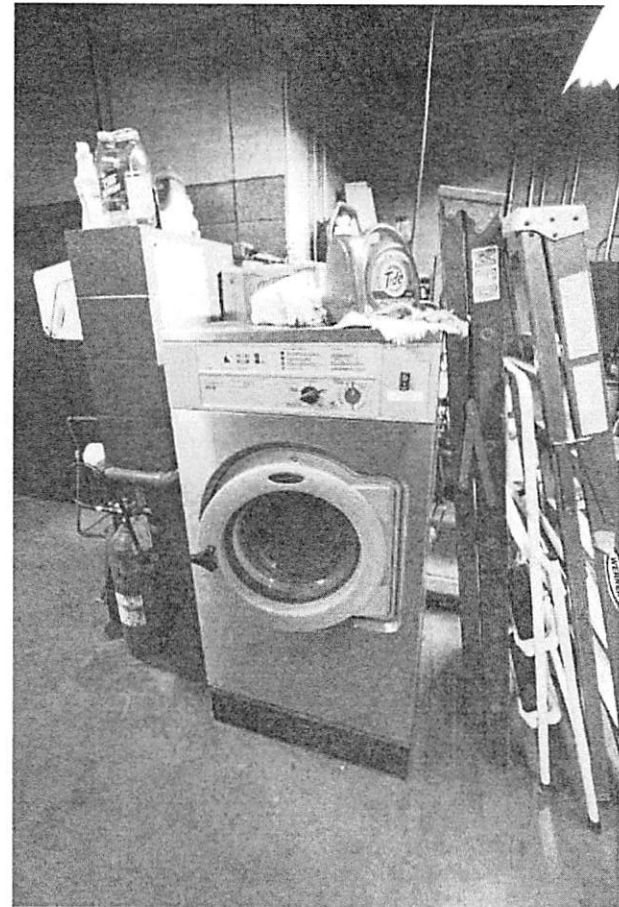
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- No Current Fire Sprinkler System (Over \$4M of Apparatus are Unprotected)
- No Decontamination Area or Showers on Site
- Equipment Stored Outside
- Utility Closet Only Accessed from Outside
- Meeting Room Can Not Easily Accommodate All Staff
- Captains Office Heated by Portable Heater
- No Fitness Area – Must Send Staff Off Site

# No Decontamination Area or Showers on Site



- Firefighters currently use wipes on hands, face and arms, along with rinsing gear off on the scene of the call
- Gear is washed in mechanical area
- Gear is then dried in portable dryer within apparatus bays
- Increased cancer risk



# Firefighters Face Increased Cancer Risk

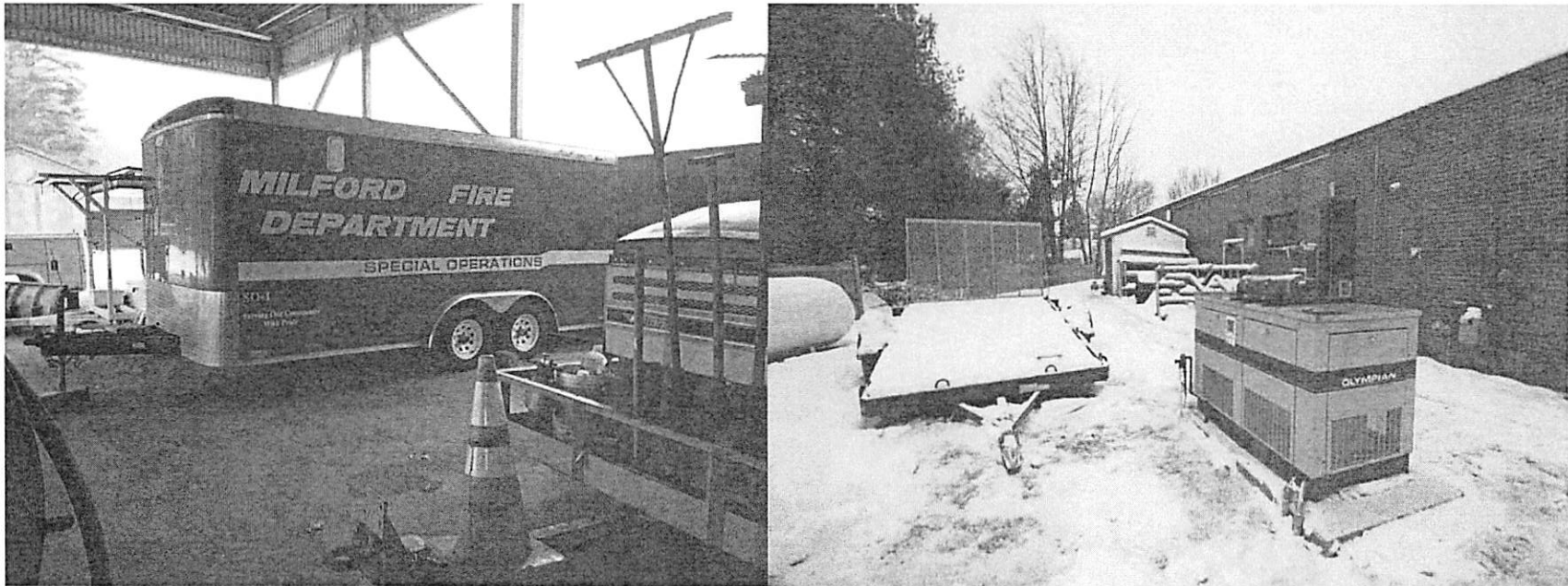
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- Cancer has caused 61% of career firefighter line-of-duty deaths since 2002
- Firefighters have a 9 percent higher risk of being diagnosed with cancer than the general US population
- Firefighters have a 14 percent higher risk of dying from cancer than the general US population
- Risk factors more than double for testicular cancer and mesothelioma
- Risk factors more than 50% greater for multiple myeloma and non-Hodgkins lymphoma



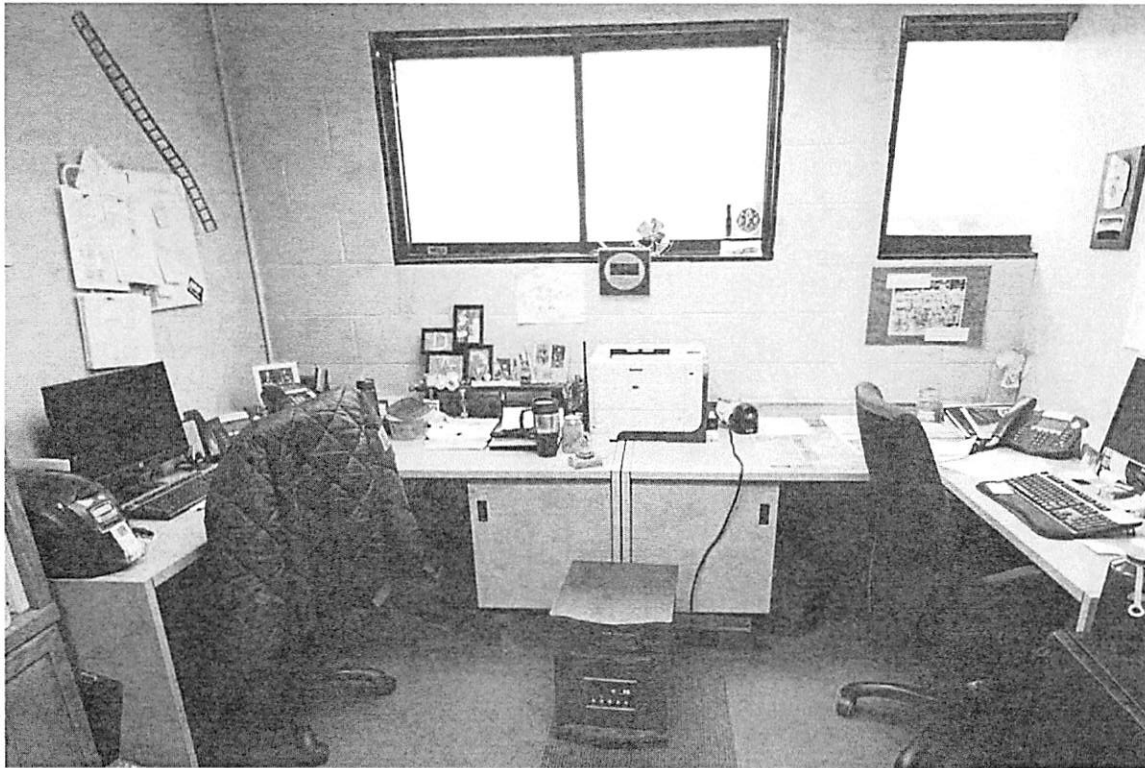
*\*Information Retrieved from Firefighter Cancer Support Network  
(FirefighterCancerSupport.org)*

# Equipment is Often Stored Outside



- OEM Generator, Haz-Mat Trailer and Fire Alarm Bucket Truck are All Stored Outside Wastewater Department
- Trailers and Other Training Materials are Left Outside and Exposed to Elements

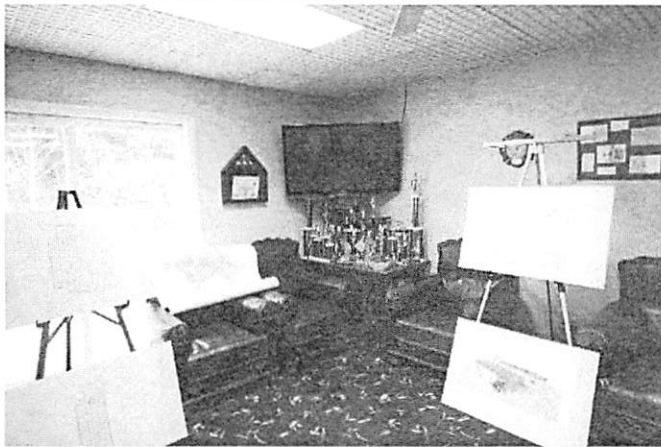
# Inefficient Heating Capabilities



- Shared Office is Heated by Portable Electric Space Heater
- Boiler for Office Area is 26 Years Old and Doors Must be Kept Open to Heat Areas During Cold Weather



# One Area for Meetings, Trainings, Kitchen, Lobby and More



- Meeting Room was Cut in Half to Accommodate Two New Offices and More Secure Public Entrance
- Area Serves as Training Space, Kitchen, Lobby, Gathering Space and EOC in Times of Emergency
- Training 48 Staff Members Here is Virtually Impossible

# No Fitness Area – Must Send Staff Off Site



- Stairmaster Located in Apparatus Bay is the Only Piece of Equipment at the Station
- No Space for Other Equipment
- Forces us to Send Staff Off Site for Fitness Training

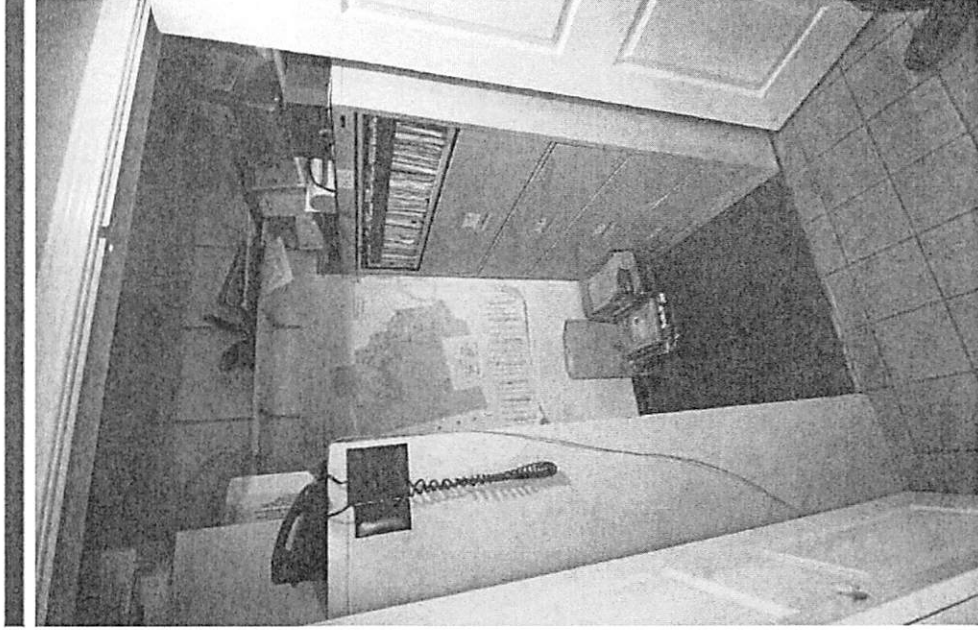
# Existing Station has Space Issues

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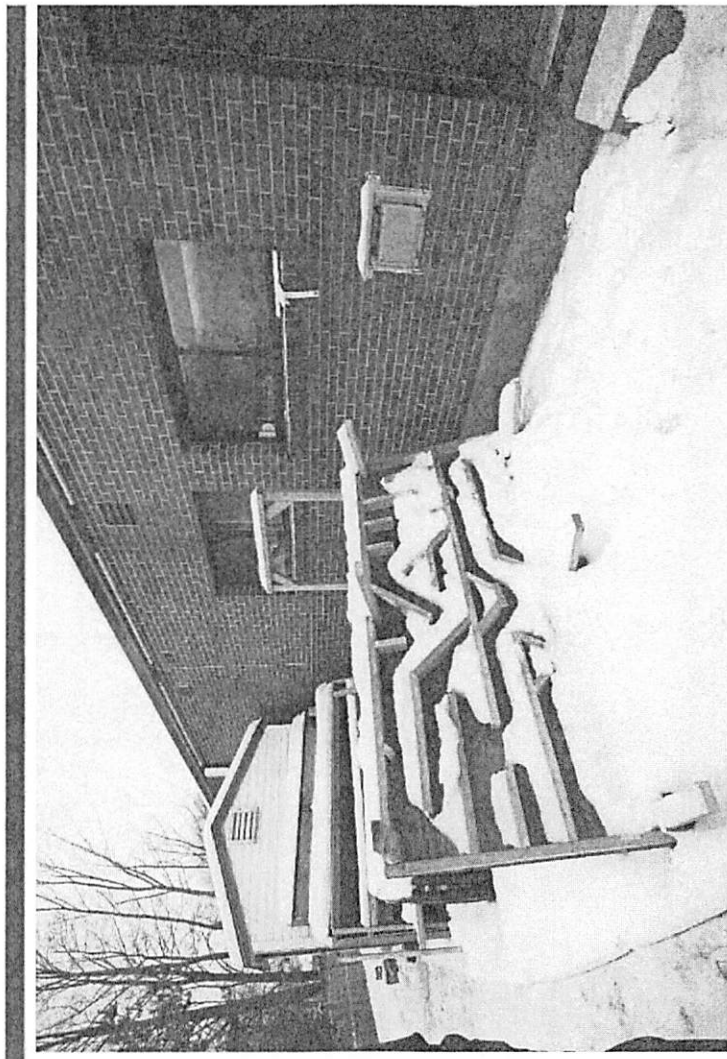




# Existing Station has Space Issues



Maxed Out File Storage



Materials for Training Stored Outside

# Preparation for New Station 2018 Warrant Article

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October 2017	Selected Construction Manager – Eckman Construction
November, 2017	Schematic Design Completed
December 2017	Construction Cost Estimating
December 2017	Launched Informational Website: <a href="http://www.MilfordFireStation.com">www.MilfordFireStation.com</a>
December 2017	Reviewed Construction and Owner Budgeted Costs
January 2018	Finalized Proposed Project Budget
January 8, 2018	Budget and Bond Meeting
February 3, 2018	Deliberative Session
March 13, 2018	Public Town Vote

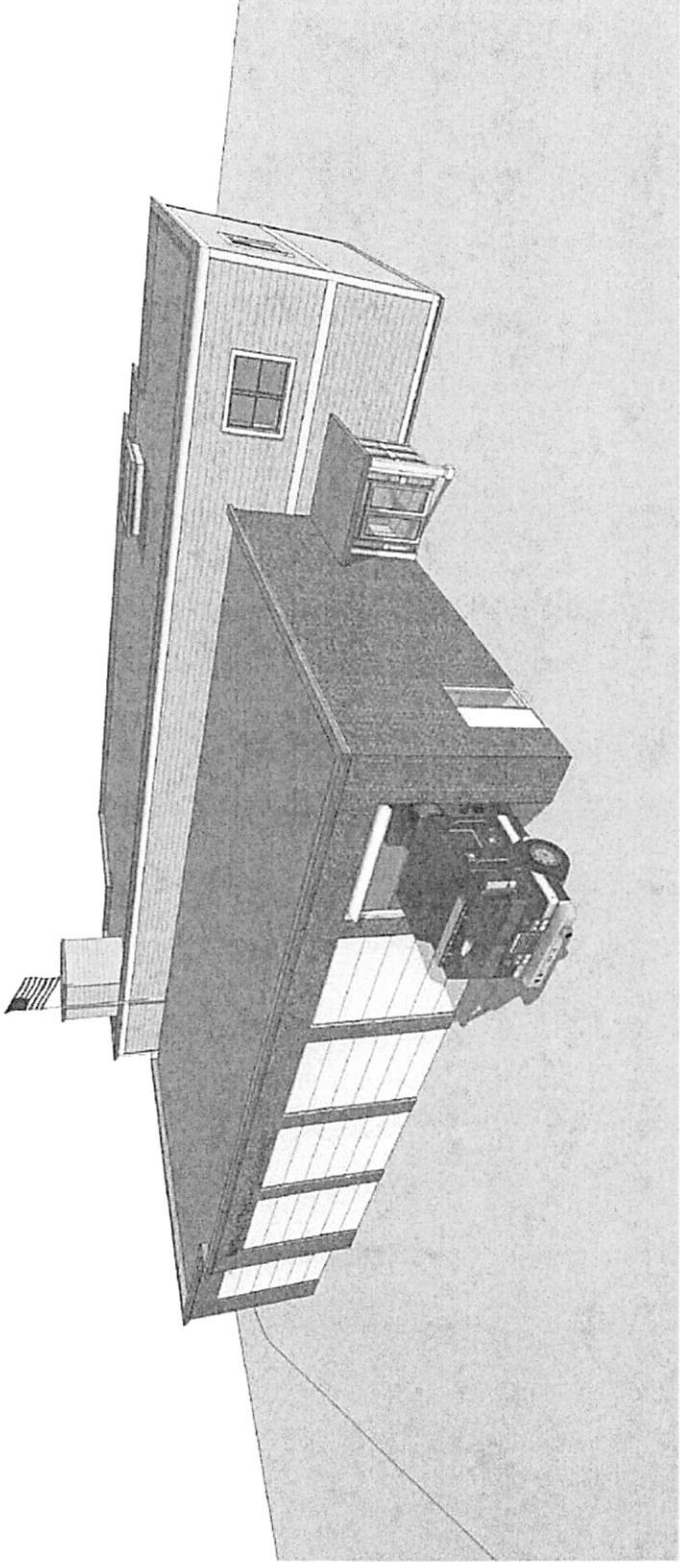
# PART TWO

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1. Why is a New Station Needed?
2. What is Being Proposed?
3. Project Costs and Financing
4. Question & Answer

# Additions and Renovations at Existing Location

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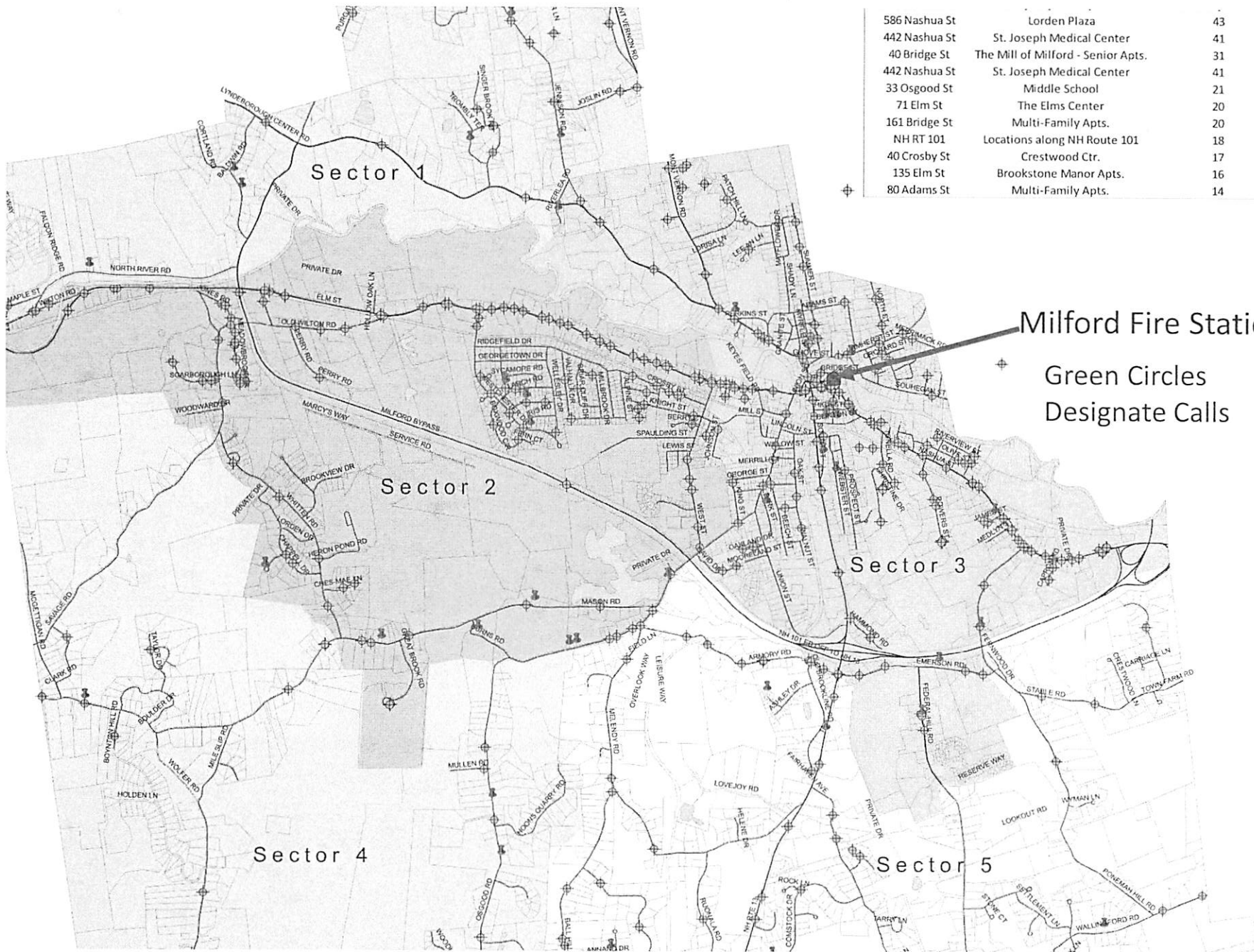


- Keep Existing Bays – Add Another Bay and Two-Story Addition
- Station will Remain Operational During Construction

# Additions and Renovations at Existing Location

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- Staying at Existing Location is Very Important
- Nearly 65% of Calls are Within 1 Mile of Fire Station
- Centralized Location Allows On-Call Personnel to Respond Quickly
- Response Map Shows This



586 Nashua St	Lorden Plaza	43
442 Nashua St	St. Joseph Medical Center	41
40 Bridge St	The Mill of Milford - Senior Apts.	31
442 Nashua St	St. Joseph Medical Center	41
33 Osgood St	Middle School	21
71 Elm St	The Elms Center	20
161 Bridge St	Multi-Family Apts.	20
NH RT 101	Locations along NH Route 101	18
40 Crosby St	Crestwood Ctr.	17
135 Elm St	Brookstone Manor Apts.	16
80 Adams St	Multi-Family Apts.	14

Milford Fire Station

Green Circles  
Designate Calls

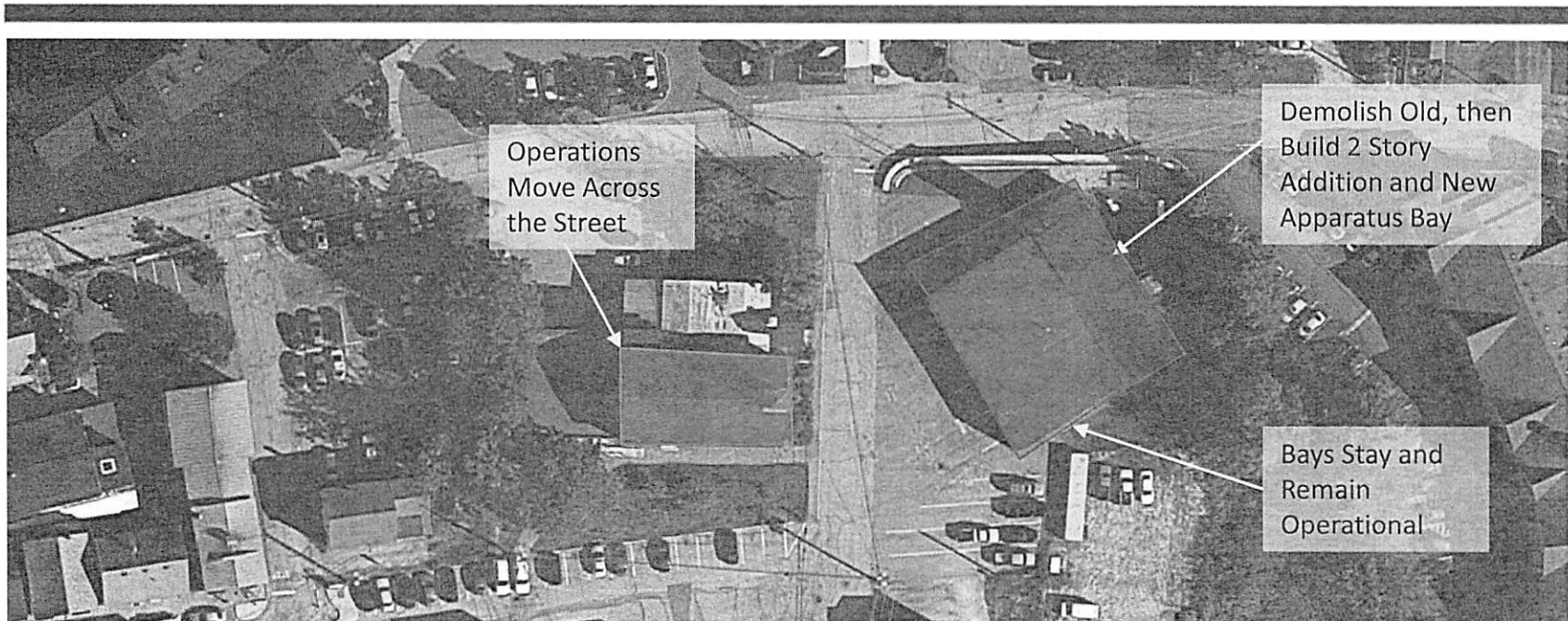


Half Mile Radius from  
Fire Station Designated  
by Blue Circle

Milford Fire Station

Milford Oval

# Staying Open During Construction



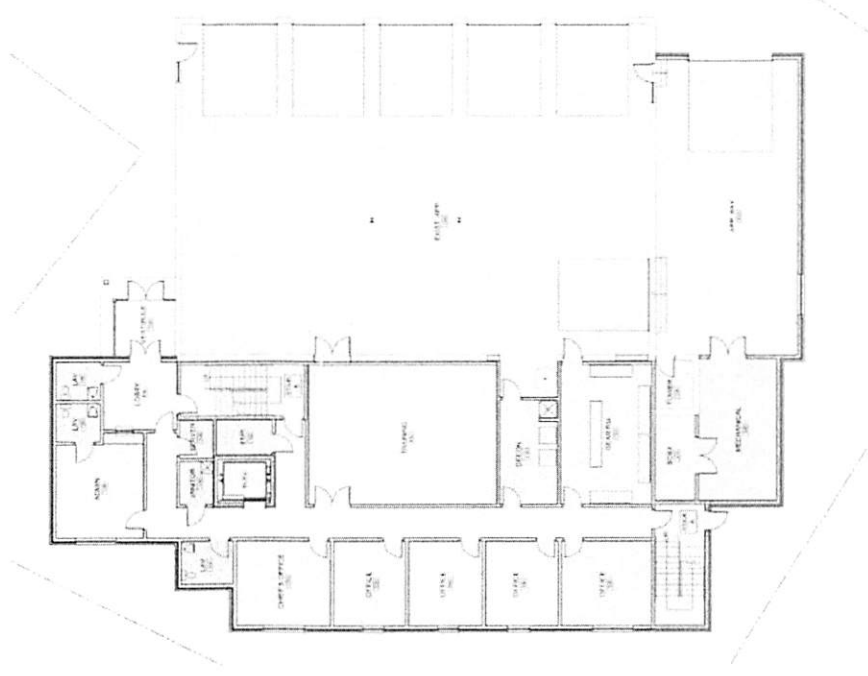
- Apparatus bays will remain in use during construction
- Remainder of building will be demolished and new addition will then be constructed
- Most operations will relocate across the street in temporary space



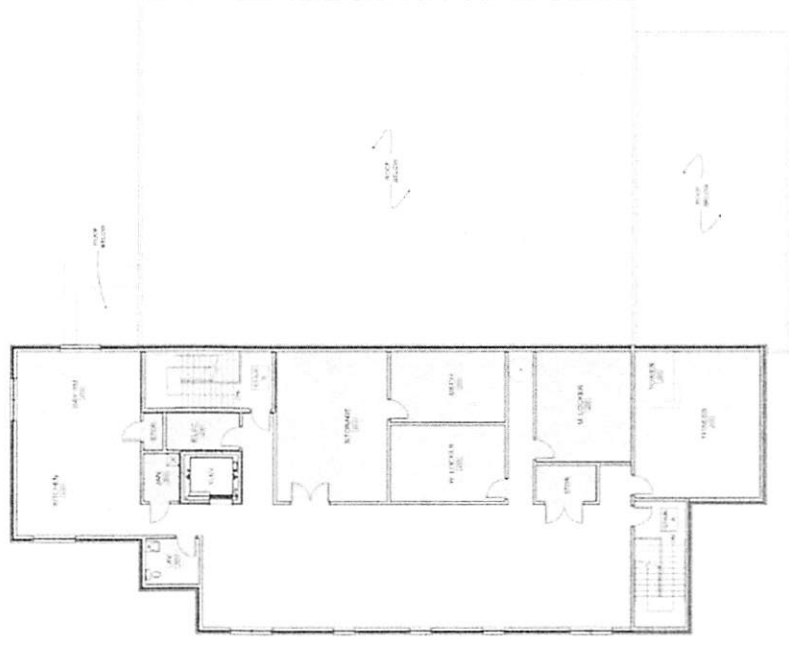
# Floor Plans for New Station - Overview

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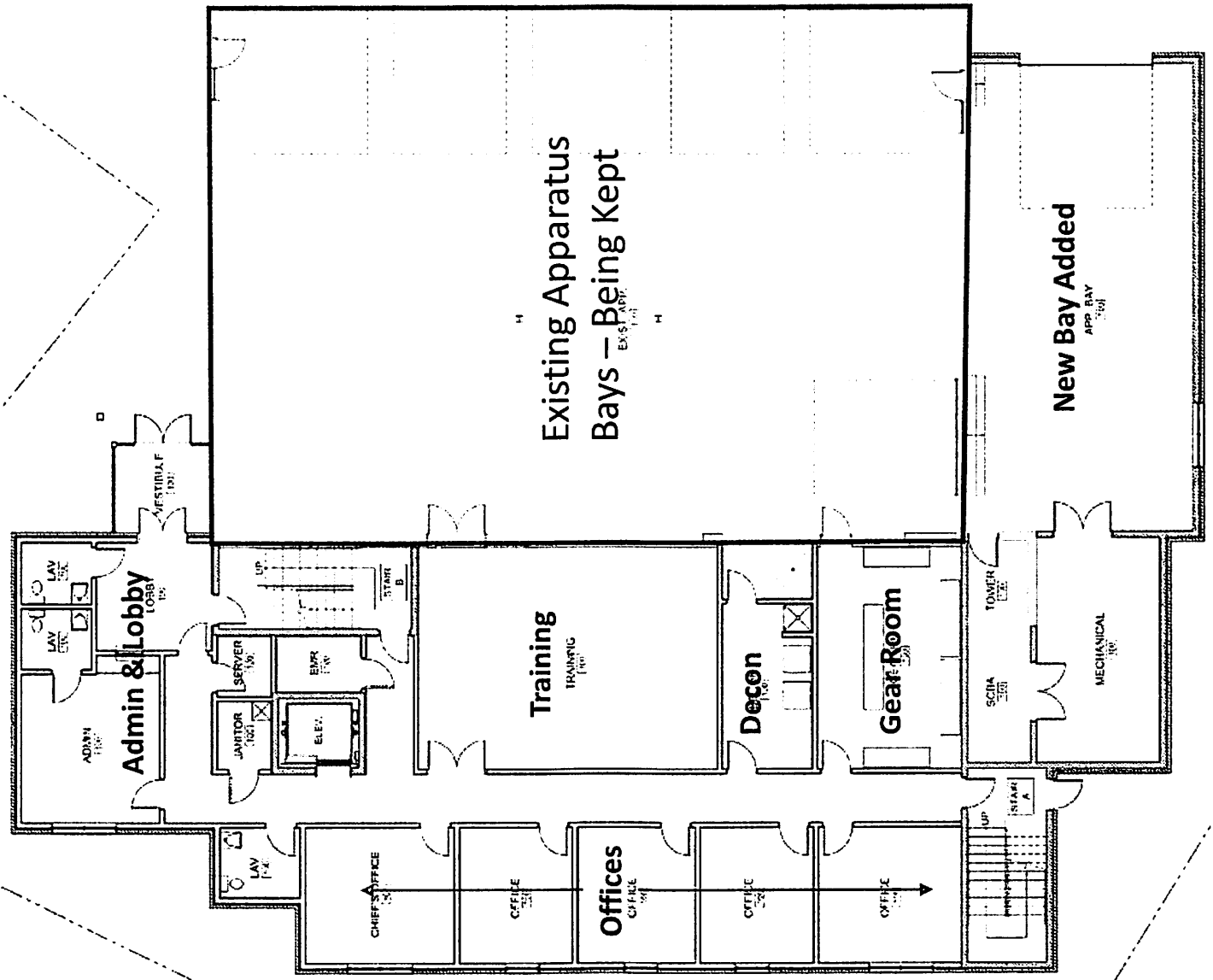
Ground Floor Plan



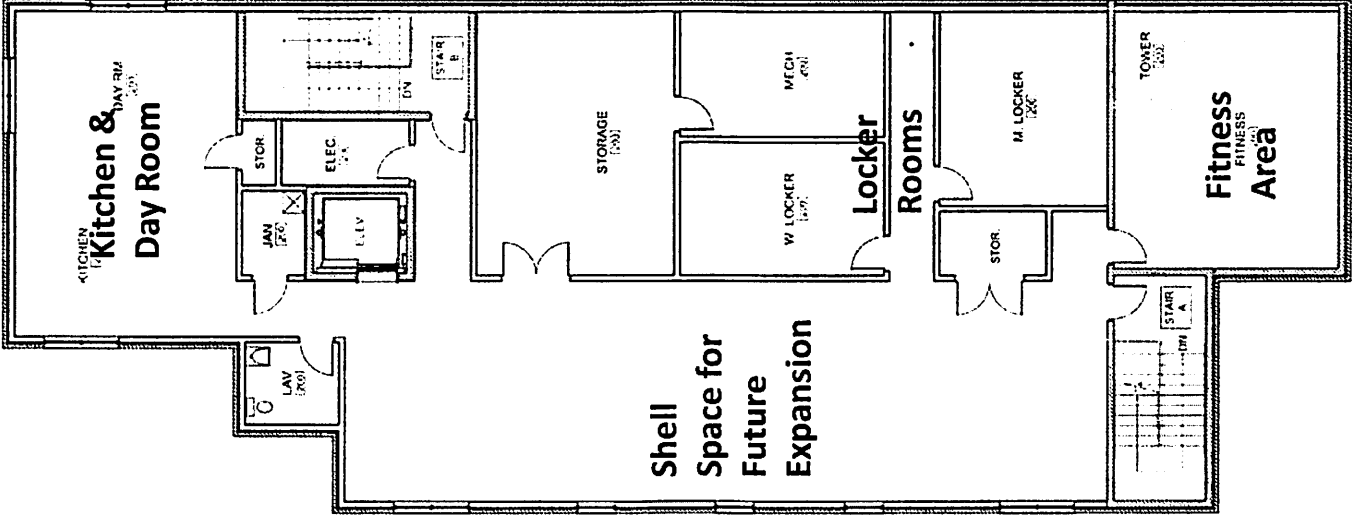
Second Floor Plan



# Ground Floor Plan



Second Floor Plan



## PART THREE

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1. Why is a New Station Needed?
2. What is Being Proposed?
3. Project Costs and Financing
4. Question & Answer

# Overview of Cost Estimating Process

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1. Estimate based on Schematic Drawings dated 11/13/2017
2. Port One Architects provided answers to design questions
3. Received pricing from qualified subcontractors and suppliers
4. Applied current pricing to material quantities and systems shown plans
5. Reviewed and Coordinated with Fire Chief and Building Committee Team
6. Performed Value Engineering to Manage Costs

# **Budget for Fire Station Addition and Renovations Project**

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**Total Project Cost: \$3,864,300**

**Tax Impact for 20-Year Bond: \$0.2242  
per thousand**

**Average Milford Single Family Home: \$243,000**

**Average Annual Tax Impact: \$54.48**

# PART FOUR

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1. Why is a New Station Needed?
2. What is Being Proposed?
3. Project Costs and Financing
4. Question & Answer

Please Visit: [www.MilfordFireStation.com](http://www.MilfordFireStation.com)

Jack Kelly – 44 Osgood Rd – I have been a resident of Milford all my life, I have had 25 years on the fire dept. the last 7 years as your fire chief. I have 41 dedicated fire fighters on staff. My goal is to make my men safe. I have a power point that one of my captain's is going to present.



2018\_warrant\_article\_3\_fire\_station\_pre:

Moderator – Thank you. Is there any further questions or comments anyone would like to make?

Steve Takacs – Whitten Road - Do we have a 5<sup>th</sup> fire engine for that additional bay you want to make?

Captain – We do need the additional space to get all the apparatus inside.

Moderator – Any other additional questions or comments? Seeing none I will instruct the town clerk to place warrant article 3 on the ballot as worded in accordance with the state statutes.

Now we will move on to Warrant Article 4

Warrant Article 4 – Town Operating Budget - \$14,060,271

Shall the town vote to raise and appropriate an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth in the budget for the purposes set forth herein, totaling \$14,060,271? Should this Article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$14,062,606, which is the same as last year with certain adjustments required by previous actions of the Town, or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting in accordance with RSA 40:13 X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. This operating budget warrant article does not include appropriations contained in ANY other Warrant Article. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (8-0-1). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.34 less than the 2017 Budget or minus \$34.00 on a home value of \$100,000.

Chairman Fougere – Mr. Moderator I move that warrant article 4 as printed in the deliberative session packet along with any recommendations from the BOS or the BAC be placed on the ballot. Mr. Bender will be making the presentation and this article has the full support of the BOS. This is lower than the default budget.

Moderator - I will recognize Mr. Bender.

Mr. Bender - Good morning everybody. You can follow along with the presentation today with the handout provided. Our financial status remains very strong. We will discuss the impact of all the warrant articles. First I would like to acknowledge the department heads who presented a very diligent budget and the work with the selectmen and the budget advisory committee; I would like to thank you for your support. (Insert budget presentation)



2018\_warrant\_article\_4\_town\_operating\_



# 2018 Deliberative Session

## Financial Update

# Milford's Financial Health Remains Strong

- \* **2018 Operating Budget**
- \* **Tax Impact**
- \* **Debt Service**
- \* **Fund Balance**
- \* **Non-Tax Revenue**

# 2018 Proposed Municipal Expense Budget

## **\* Proposed 2018 Operating Budget is \$14,060,271**

- \* Increase of \$86,990 or 0.6% from 2017 Operating Budget
- \* Default Budget is \$14,062,606

# BUDGET DRIVERS FROM 2017 INCLUDE

## Reductions from 2017

- \* Health Insurance – (\$209K) No change in benefits. Proactive approach - Employee Wellness Campaigns & Smart Shopper programs.
- \* Streetlights – (\$27K) LED bulbs
- \* MFD – Architect Fee (\$25K) 2017 one-time expense

## Increases from 2017

- \* Debt Service - \$88K Road & Stormwater bonds, grader
- \* NHRS Rate Increase - \$70K
- \* Wage Increase - \$66K
- \* MFD - \$36K Two FT firefighters (April & October)
- \* Ambulance - \$28K PT rate increase
- \* MPD - \$26K officer promotions
- \* Building Inspection - \$26K additional PT inspector

## 2018 Proposed Operating Budget

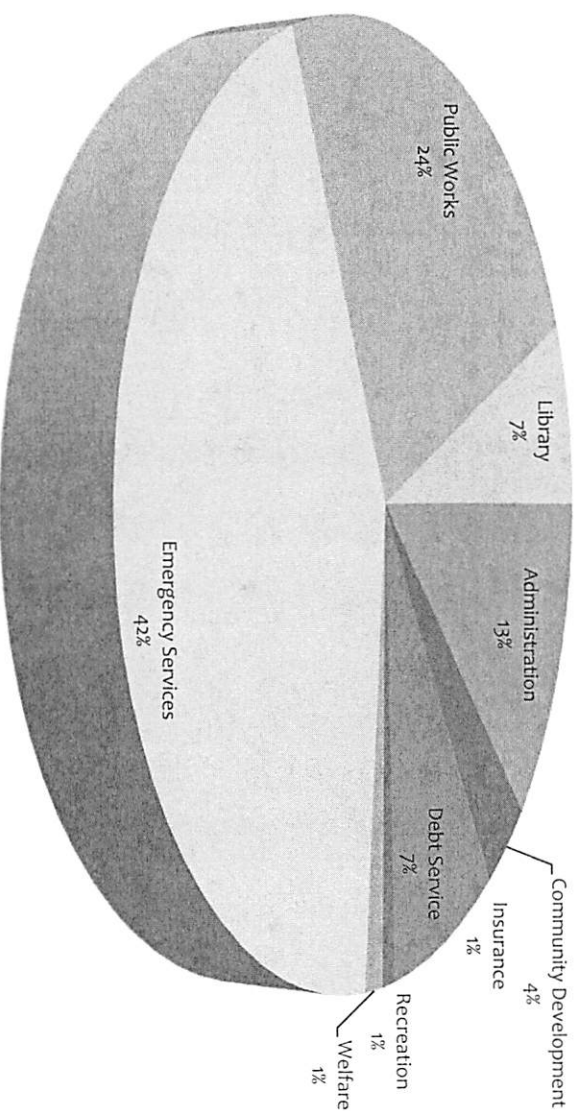
### Department Expenses with Benefits Allocation

Department	Amount	%
Administration	\$ 1,807,487	13%
Community Development	\$ 471,180	4%
Insurance	\$ 169,162	1%
Debt Service	\$ 1,006,904	7%
Recreation	\$ 128,522	1%
Welfare	\$ 175,135	1%
Emergency Services	\$ 5,931,096	42%
Public Works	\$ 3,397,451	24%
Library	\$ 973,334	7%
Total	\$14,060,271	100%

# 2018 Proposed Operating Budget

## Department Expenses with Benefits Allocation Chart

2018 Proposed Operating Budget





## 2018 Proposed Municipal Expense Budget Tax Impact

- \* Current municipal tax rate is \$6.65. The Municipal portion of the tax rate has decreased each of the past three years.
- \* If the 2018 proposed operating budget and all warrant articles are approved, the municipal tax rate would decrease 4.1% to \$6.38
  - \* Non-tax revenue is projected to increase 5.5% to \$6,060,295.
  - \* Net property assessment is projected to increase 1.7% to \$1,378,716,644.
  - \* We have proposed a very lean operating budget.



# BUDGET VS. ACTUAL HISTORY, 2012-2017

<u>Year</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Actual to Budget</u>
2012	\$ 11,832,885	\$ 11,541,782	97.5%
2013	\$ 12,447,557	\$ 12,291,430	98.7%
2014	\$ 13,025,297	\$ 12,853,549	98.7%
2015	\$ 13,675,218	\$ 13,416,226	98.1%
2016	\$ 13,804,411	\$ 13,616,906	98.6%
2017	\$ 13,973,281	\$ 13,841,000	99.1% Estimated

# DEBT RATIO

**\* Low Debt: 25% of statutorily allowed maximum.**

**The State of NH requires that a town's debt ratio cannot exceed 3% of its equalized valuation (RSA's 33:4-a & 33:4-b):**

**\* Maximum allowed debt is \$42.5M – our current debt is \$10.8M or 0.8%**

# DEBT RATIO

	Millions	Percent of Allowed Maximum
<b>Actual debt - year end 2017</b>	<b>\$ 10.8</b>	<b>25.4%</b>
▪ Debt increased \$2.5 million from 2016		
▪ Water Utilities is \$4.3 million or 40% of Town Debt (paid by users).		
▪ Town debt at \$6.5 million is very manageable		
<b>2018 projected additional debt</b>	<b>\$ 4.0</b>	
(Fire Station \$3,864K & Sidewalk Plow \$155K)		
<b>2018 retiring debt</b>	<b>\$ (1.5)</b>	
<b>Estimated debt - year end 2018</b>	<b>\$ 13.3</b>	<b>31.3%</b>

# FUND BALANCE & NON-TAX REVENUE

- \* **Fund Balance:**

- \* \$2,941,312 (2017 year end estimate)
- \* 7.4% of Town, School & County Net Appropriation

- \* **Non-Tax Revenue Growth Continued in 2017**

- \* \$5.6% Increase or \$308,000 over 2016
- \* Projecting a 5.5% increase for 2018
- \* Non-Tax Revenue includes Vehicle Registrations, Ambulance Fees, Rooms & Meals allocation, Highway Block Grant, etc.

I would like to highlight a few things health insurance costs have gone down without any additional costs to the employees. We have a wellness committee run by 5 people. We have encouraged our employees to be smart shoppers in the health insurance area. So employees can shop for a procedure and find the lowest cost. So those are some of things we are doing to bring costs down.

Street lights we are going to lower cost bulbs and we are looking at a \$20,000 reduction. (See handouts)

Tax Impact We have a sheet that shows how Milford tax rates compare to other local communities. If all the warrant articles were to pass the municipal rate would decrease 4.1% to \$6.88. The budget is not going up as fast as other items that contribute such as our revenues. Our actual expenses will be 99.1% of the budget. Debt ratio our current debt is less than 25% of what is allowed. I think the town debt is a good amount for a community this size. Our fund balance increased \$850,000 this was a pleasant surprise. We met our goal of 6 to 8%. That concludes my presentation.

Moderator – Mr. Lydon

Mr. Lydon – Budget Advisory Committee (BAC) supports the budget 8-0 with 1 abstain. It is a very small increase in the proposed budget.

Moderator – Do we have any questions or comments?

Steve Takacs – Whitten Road- Do we have any bonds expiring in 2018?

Mr. Bender – No

Steve Takacs – The default budget is more than the projected budget? Obviously there are things in the default budget that are not necessary if they are not in the proposed budget. The default budget is just a number that the selectmen come up with. Why do you not come up with a realistic default budget?

Mr. Bender – We follow the legal requirement for how the default budget is calculated. I will call on the Finance Director to speak to this.

Jack Sheehy – SB2- When SB2 came into play they realized if the voters voted down the proposed budget the town would have no budget. We have to pay salaries and ongoing maintenance contracts it is not just specifically what we need. Town employees got together and proposed what we do need to keep the town running. We really squeezed the budget and the default is more which is driven by the law. The default budget could be more and it could be less. This is the first year I have been here that the default budget is more. I believe the school is in the same situation this year.

Steve Takacs – Current year budget. I thought the default is the absolute necessities and I don't understand why it does not come out of the default. This is where my problem is.

Gary Daniels – To add to that it is also minus one-time expenses. To add to that if you reduce employees you keep those in the default budget.

Mr. Sheehy – Reads in RSA 40:13 the default budget is not the minimum. Maybe that is your interpretation but that is not what the RSA reads.

IX. (a) "Operating budget" as used in this subdivision means "budget," as defined in RSA 32:3, III, exclusive of "special warrant articles," as defined in RSA 32:3, VI, and exclusive of other appropriations voted separately.

(b) "Default budget" as used in this subdivision means the amount of the same appropriations as contained in the operating budget authorized for the previous year, reduced and increased, as the case may be, by debt service, contracts, and other obligations previously incurred or mandated by law, and reduced by one-time expenditures contained in the operating budget. For the purposes of this paragraph, one-time expenditures shall be appropriations not likely to recur in the succeeding budget, as determined by the governing body, unless the provisions of RSA 40:14-b are adopted, of the local political subdivision.

Daniel Sadkowski – 27 Timber Ridge - The street lighting would the town consider adding street lights to Osgood and the tree limbs and branches need some extensive trimming up as there is a safety hazard. Is Osgood road on the paving list this year?

Mr. Bender - We can look at street lights and tree trimming. As far as Osgood Road on Paving I would have to ask Mr. Reindeau.

Rick Reindeau – We look at segments and we did some, I am looking at Burns Hill road right now.

Mr. Bender - We have a chart in the back with paving plans the chart is also online and you can look up what roads are going to be paved in what order.

Moderator - Is there any further discussion on the operating budget? Seeing none I instruct the clerk to place Warrant Article 4 on the ballot as originally worded in accordance with state statutes. Now going on to Warrant Article 5.

Warrant Article 5 - Water Department Operating Budget - \$1,520,953

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum \$1,520,963 to operate and maintain the Water Department, said appropriation to be offset by income received from the water user charges, or take any other action relative thereto? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$1,480,538, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous actions of the Town, or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. This warrant article is paid for by the water user fees. The Board of Commissioners supports this Article (3-0), The Budget Advisory committee supports this Article (8-0-1).

Mr. Fougere- Mr. Moderator- I move that warrant article 5 as printed in the deliberative session packet along with any recommendations from the BOS or the BAC be placed on the ballot. The BOS supports this warrant article. I will turn this over to the water and sewer Commissioner, Mr. Courage.

Mr. Courage – This is the Water and Sewer Operating Budget (see handout).

Moderator – Thank you Mr. Courage - Mr. Lydon –

Mr. Lydon - The BAC supports this article 8 to 0 one abstention.

Moderator – Any questions or comments? Seeing none, I instruct the Clerk to place Warrant Article 5 on the ballot as written according to state statutes. Now we move on to Warrant Article 6.

**Warrant Article 6 – Wastewater Department Operating Budget - \$2,069,450**

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,069,450 to operate and maintain the Wastewater Treatment Facility and the Sanitary Sewer collection system, said appropriation to be offset by income received from wastewater user charges, or take any other action relative thereto? Should this Article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$2,030,870, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous actions of the Town, or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13 X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. This warrant article is paid for by the wastewater user fees. The Board of Commissioners supports this Article (3-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (8-0-1).

Mr. Fougere Mr. Moderator- I move that warrant article 6 as printed in the deliberative session packet along with any recommendations from the BOS or the BAC be placed on the ballot. The full BOS supports this warrant article.

Moderator – Mr. Courage

Mr. Courage – See handout

Moderator – Mr. Lydon

Mr. Lydon – BAC supports this article 8 – 0 one abstention.

Moderator – Any questions or comments? Seeing none, I instruct the Clerk to place Warrant Article 6 on the ballot as written as originally worded and in accordance with state statutes.

**Warrant Article 7 – Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve - \$175,000**

Shall the town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$175,000 to be placed in the Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve Fund? This fund was identified in the May 2024 Hoyle, Tanner Associates, Inc. study that identified needed rehabilitation for 18 Town bridges. Expenditures from this fund would be authorized by the Board of Selectmen. The \$175,000 builds upon the Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve approved by voters in 2014. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (9-0). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.127 or \$12.70 on a home value of \$100,000.

Moderator – Warrant Article 7 – Mr. Fougere

Mr. Fougere – Mr. Moderator- I move that warrant article 7 as printed in the deliberative session packet along with any recommendations from the BOS or the BAC be placed on the ballot. The BOS supports this warrant article. Currently the town has numerous bridges that are in need of repair or replacement. This Warrant article is fully supported by the board.

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Moderator – Mr. Bender (Insert presentation)



## **Warrant Article 7**

### **Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve Fund**

#### **Financial Analysis**

<b>Account Balance 11/2017</b>	<b>\$602,307</b>
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#### **2018 Priority Projects:**

<b>Replace Mason Rd over Tucker Brook</b>	<b>\$200,000</b>
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<b>Install concrete liner Hartshorn Rd over Hartshorn</b>	<b>\$150,000</b>
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<b>Replace Mason Road Culvert</b>	<b>\$ 90,000</b>
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<b>Engineering Mason Rd over Great Brook</b>	<b><u>\$ 50,000</u></b>
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<b>Total for 2018</b>	<b>\$490,000</b>
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#### **2019 Projects:**

<b>Joslin Road Culvert</b>	<b>\$ 90,000</b>
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**Bridge Capital Reserve Fund is working well. Projects demonstrate need to continue funding.**

## **Warrant Article 7 Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve Fund**

### **Future Bridge Work**

#### **State Bridge Aid (SBA) – available in 2023**

* <b>Mason Road over Great Brook</b>	<b>\$685,000</b> - Town Share \$137,000
* <b>Rt 13 over Souhegan River</b>	<b>\$887,000</b> – HT estimate 2015
* <b>Wilton Road over Souhegan River</b>	<b>\$586,000</b> – HT estimate 2015
* <b>North River Road over Hartshorn</b>	<b><u>\$1,033,000</u></b> - HT estimate 2015
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,191,000</b> - Town Share is \$638,200
* <b>Swing Bridge (2020)</b>	<b>\$520,000</b> - Town Share is \$104,000

Mr. Bender – The Bridge capital reserve has fairly healthy fund. We have \$602,000. For 2018 we have a few projects that have already been mentioned. Mason Road we also need to work on a culvert on Hartshorn road and replace a culvert on Mason road. We will spend \$489,000 this year leaving \$112,000 and we need to continue this fund. Warrant article 24 will rename this Capital Reserve Fund. With this Capital Reserve Fund we could provide the town share of a matching grant that we hope to get. General comment about Capital Reserve Funds – The town has used the Bridge capital reserve fund to a great advantage. Town voted to approve a number of capital reserve funds which are basic savings accounts. This will reduce our need to borrow in the future.

Mr. Fougere – to expand on that we have been squeezing every amount of work if it can be done in house we will do it to save funds. We have been able to use in house staff and saving quite a bit of money.

Mr. Lydon – The BAC definitely supports this (9-0)

Tom Schmidt – Melendy Rd - 2019 this is only 1 project?

Mr. Bender – Yes so far that is what we are looking at.  
Tom Schmidt - \$25,000 seems a small amount.

Moderator – Any other questions? Seeing none I instruct the Town Clerk to place Warrant article 7 on the ballot as written and according to state statutes. Now we move on to Warrant article 8.

Warrant Article 8 – DPW Vehicles and heavy equipment Capital Reserve - \$40,000  
Shall the Town vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of DPW Vehicles and Heavy Equipment, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000 to be placed in this fund? Expenditures from this fund will require a vote at town meeting. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (9-0). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.018 or \$1.80 on a home value of \$100,000.

Mr. Federico – I would like to make a motion to restrict reconsideration of Article numbers 3,4,5,6 and 7.

Mr. Moderator – Is there a second? There is. There is a motion on the table is to restrict reconsideration of warrant articles 3,4,5,6 and 7. Please raise your cards. Anyone opposed. The motion passes.

Mr. Fougere – Mr. Moderator- I move that warrant article 8 as printed in the deliberative session packet along with any recommendations from the BOS or the BAC be placed on the ballot. The BOS supports this warrant article. The BOS supports this article (5-0).

Mr. Lydon – The Budget Advisory Committee supports this article 9 – 0.

Moderator is there any discussion? Seeing none I instruct the clerk to place Warrant Article 8 on the ballot as originally worded and according to state statutes.

**Warrant Article 9 – Fire apparatus Replacement Capital Reserve - \$25,000**

Shall the town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be placed in the Fire Apparatus Replacement Capital Reserve Fund? Expenditures from this fund will require a vote at town meeting. The \$25,000 builds upon the Fire Apparatus Replacement Capital Reserve approved by voters in 2017. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (9-0). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.018 or \$1.80 on a home value of \$100,000.

Mr. Fougere - I move that warrant article 9 as printed in the deliberative session packet along with any recommendations from the BOS or the BAC be placed on the ballot. The BOS supports this article (5-0). This is a very important fund fire apparatus is very expensive.

Mr. Lydon – BAC supports this article 9 – 0. This is a previously established fund and will make it easier to purchase these items when needed.

Moderator – Any discussion? Seeing none I instruct the clerk to place Warrant Article 9 on the ballot as written and according to state statutes. We are moving on to Warrant Article 10.

**Warrant Article 10 – Town Facilities Renovation and Major repair replacement Capital Reserve - \$25,000.** Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be placed in the Town Facilities Renovation and Major Repair Replacement Capital Reserve Fund? Expenditures from this fund will require a vote at town meeting. The \$25,000 builds upon the Town Facilities Renovation and Major Repair Replacement Capital Reserve approved by voters in 2017. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (9-0). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.018 or \$1.80 on a home value of \$100,000.

Mr. Fougere – I move that warrant article 10 as printed in the deliberative session packet along with any recommendations from the BOS or the BAC be placed on the ballot. The BOS supports this warrant article 5 to 0.

Mr. Lydon - The BAC supports this article 9 – 0.

Moderator – Any questions or comments? Seeing none I instruct the Clerk to place warrant article 10 on the ballot as originally worded and according to state statutes. We are moving on to Warrant Article 11.

**Warrant Article 11 – Ambulance vehicle Replacement Capital Reserve - \$25,000**

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be placed in the Ambulance Vehicle Replacement Capital Reserve Fund? Expenditures from this fund will require a vote at town meeting. The \$25,000 builds upon the Ambulance Vehicle Replacement Capital reserve approved by voters in 2017. The Board of Selectman supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (9-0). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.018 or \$1.80 on a home value of \$100,000.

Mr. Fougere – I move that warrant article 11 as printed in the deliberative session packet along with any recommendations from the BOS or the BAC be placed on the ballot. The BOS supports this warrant article (5-0).

Mr. Lydon – The Budget Advisory committee supports this article 9 to 0.

Moderator - Any discussion? Seeing none I instruct the town clerk to place Warrant Article 11 on the ballot as written and according to state statutes. We will move on to Warrant Article 12.

Warrant Article 12 – Public Safety Communication Equipment Replacement Capital Reserve - \$20,000  
Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000 to be placed in the Public Safety Communication Equipment Capital Reserve Fund? Expenditures from this fund will require a vote at town meeting. The \$20,000 builds upon the Public Safety Communication Equipment Replacement Capital Reserve approved by voters in 2017. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (9-0). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.015 or \$1.50 on a home value of \$100,000.

Mr. Fougere – I move that warrant article 12 as printed in the deliberative session packet along with any recommendations from the BOS or the BAC be placed on the ballot. The BOS supports this warrant article (5-0).

Mr. Lydon – The Budget Advisory Committee supports this article 9 to 0. This is for things like pagers, radios, emergency management this does not include money for MACC Base.

Moderator - Any additional questions or comments? Seeing none. I instruct the town clerk to place Warrant Article 12 on the ballot as written and according to state statutes. We will now move on to Warrant Article 13.

Warrant Article 13 – Assessing Revaluation Capital Reserve - \$15,000  
Shall the town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000 to be place in the Assessing Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund? The purpose of Revaluation of Real Estate Assessment is to meet our constitutional and statutory requirement that periodically these assessments are at full and true value. The Board of Selectmen has authority to expend from this fund. The \$15,000 builds upon the Assessing Revaluation Capital Reserve approved by voters in 2017. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (9-0). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.011 or \$1.10 on a home value of \$100,000.

Mr. Fougere – I move that the proposed warrant article 13 as printed in the deliberative session packet along with any recommendations from the BOS or the BAC be placed on the ballot. The BOS supports this warrant article (5-0). The town is required to reevaluate property once every 5 years.

Mr. Lydon - The Budget Advisory Committee supports this article 9 to 0. This really helps us level the impact of the re

Moderator - Any questions or comments on Warrant Article 13.

Steve Takacs - I would like to request the selectman to add the amount of the balance in each of these funds in the future.

Moderator – Any additional questions? Seeing none, I instruct the clerk to place Warrant Article 13 on the ballot as written in accordance with state statutes. We will move on to Warrant Article 14

Warrant Article 14 Replacement Sidewalk Plow Lease/Purchase - \$155,000 (Annual Payment \$32,300/Total Purchase Price (\$155,000)

Shall the town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a 5-year lease/purchase agreement for a Sidewalk Plow in the amount of \$155,000, pursuant to RSA 33:7-e, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$32,300 for the first years payment? This agreement contains a fiscal funding clause, which will protect the Town in the event of non-appropriation. This will replace the 2000 Holder tractor plow with a sander that is no longer in service. This piece of equipment is used for winter maintenance to plow 13.6 miles of sidewalks during winter conditions. If this article passes, future year's payments will be included in the operating budget. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory committee supports this Article (9-0) This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.023 or \$2.30 on a home value of \$100,000.

Mr. Fougere - I move that the proposed warrant article 14 as printed in the deliberative session packet along with any recommendations from the BOS or the BAC be placed on the ballot. The BOS supports this warrant article (5-0). This sidewalk plow will replace one of the 2 existing plows. It has been determined that one of the plows will no longer be able to be repaired. One plow is not enough to service all the area in town.

Mr. Lydon – The BAC supports 9 to 0. This plow allows for backup.

Mr. Reindeau – the sidewalk plow replaces the 2000 sidewalk tractor that went out of service in 2013. Sidewalks are important in town. We have an obligation to keep sidewalks open. This will provide backup about 13 hours round trip 1 mile/hour. Some we can't do right now with what we have. We need more to do this in half the time. (insert presentation)

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# SIDEWALK TRACTOR PLOW

## Warrant Article #14



- Sidewalks are another part of our transportation network. It may seem trivial, but they provide mobility for pedestrians ensuring access to jobs, schools and services which provides for a healthier community.
- Well-maintained sidewalks and curb ramps provide safe and desirable paths for pedestrians to enjoy neighborhoods, commercial centers, and other areas of our town.
- Municipalities can face potential litigation if sidewalks are not maintained in a reasonable period of time or are not compliant with ordinances, RSA's and the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- Many snow removal complaints come in each season for snow on sidewalks, icy conditions or snow-blocked curb due to plowing.
- Public Works continually evaluates what type of maintenance, repairs and upgrades are needed, and assigns equipment and crews as needed.

**Public Works - Works for the public and provides a service to it's residents.**

- Tight budgets, equipment reductions or reduced personnel can lead to slower response times for treatments and service.

**"PUBLIC WORKS MAKES IT HAPPEN"**



# SIDEWALK TRACTOR PLOW

## Warrant Article #14



2013 Holder in current use

**Public Works is asking for a second machine to facilitate response and service.**

### Reasons

- A second machine was first added in Year 2000, to improve service
- In June 2015 a transmission problem put the 2000 machine out of service, (we were told by dealer it would cost more to fix than machine was worth).
- Only one machine – **Time** (Fastest time to do sidewalks is 1 mile/ hr. ) = 13 hours of work for 1 pass.
- Machine is now 4 years old and will have breakdowns.

**P U B L I C**

**W O R K S**

Mr. Lydon – BAC – Some talk about tracks vs. wheels what we have but we recommend you get the best equipment.

Mr. Reindeau – It is my job to get the best value for the money we make the best educated guess. I have called Derry and Manchester they recommend.

Karen Mitchell – BAC - If this does not pass we cannot purchase one at all.

Mr. Courage - In my experience as DPW Director we found that a tractor was high maintenance and could tip over and the cleats wear out. The machine they have now is a specialty item we should give careful consideration to making a decision I don't believe attachments will fit on a track type machine. We want to buy what will last. We want to make sure it is in the towns best interest not just price.

Judy Hohenadal - Will this come out of the Capital Reserve?

Moderator – No

Chris Labonte – Does the new one have a sander on the back? What will you do with the old sidewalk plow where is a bit of a graveyard of equipment.

Mr. Reindeau – Yes on the sander. The holder is in pieces – we have contacted an auction house for others.

Chris Labonte – Have we considered sealed bids?

Mr. Reindeau – yes we tend to trade in.

Chris Labonte – If we stick with what we have can we cross utilize?

Mr. Reindeau – A clarification the attachments do fit

Moderator – Is there any further discuss? Seeing none. I instruct the clerk to place Warrant Article 14 on the ballot as originally written and according to state statutes. We will now move on to Warrant Article 15.

Warrant Article 15 – Social Services - \$40,000

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000 for the purpose of providing funding to social service agencies for Milford residents as proposed by the social Services Committee and submitted to the Board of Selectmen? This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32. The

Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (9-0). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.029 or \$2.90 on a home value of \$100,000.

Mr. Fougere - I move that the proposed warrant article 13 as printed in the deliberative session packet along with any recommendations from the BOS or the BAC be placed on the ballot. The BOS supports this warrant article (5-0).

Mr. Lydon – BAC supports this article 9 to 0.

Moderator – Any further discussion? Seeing none I instruct the clerk to place warrant article 15 on the ballot as written and according to state statutes. We will move on to Warrant Article 16.

**Warrant Article 16 – Non-Emergency Community Transportation Bus Services - \$30,000**  
Shall the town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,000 for the purpose of providing the Town's share of funding to the Souhegan Valley Transportation collaborative (SVTC) in order to continue operating a regional, non-emergency, wheelchair-accessible transportation service providing rides within the designated service area to seniors, people with disabilities, and the general public? This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32. The board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory committee supports this Article (9-0). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.022 or \$2.20 on a home value of \$100,000.

Mr. Fougere - I move that the proposed warrant article 16 as printed in the deliberative session packet along with any recommendations from the BOS or the BAC be placed on the ballot. The BOS supports this warrant article (5-0). The "Blue Bus" provides a valuable service to the town of Milford.

Mr. Lydon - The BAC supports this warrant article (9-0).

Janet Langdell – 122 Elm St – This is the 11<sup>th</sup> year asking for support Milford used 67% of the services offered. Thank you.

Moderator – Any other questions or comments - I instruct the clerk to place Article 16 on the ballot as written and according to state statutes.

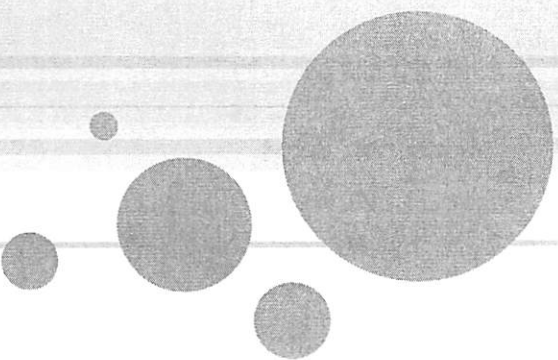
Mr. Daniels – I would like to make a motion to restrict reconsideration of warrant articles 8 thru 16.

Moderator – I have a motion to restrict articles 8 thru 16? All those in favor? All those opposed? Motion passes. We will now take a break for 15 min.

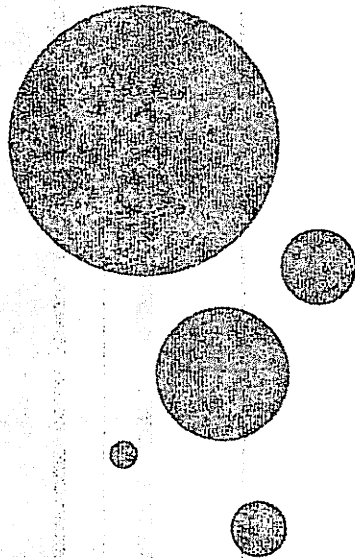
Moderator – Warrant Article 17

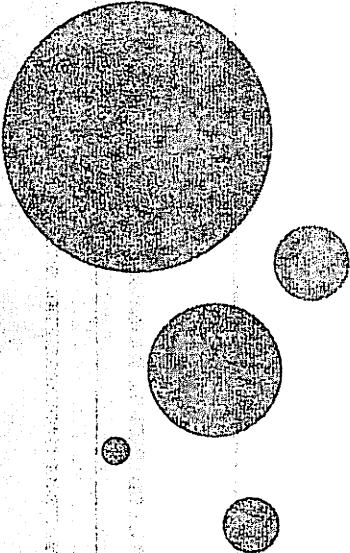
**Warrant Article 17 – Pumpkin Festival, Holiday Decorations and plantings \$23,000**  
Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$23,000 for purposes of Pumpkin Festival support by Public Works, Police, Fire, and Ambulance Departments; purchase and planting of flowers for the Oval and Stone Bridge areas; purchase of lights, garland, etc. for holiday decorations; or to take any other action relative thereto? This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee does not support this Article (3-6). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.017 or \$1.70 on a home value of \$100,000.

# **WHO BENEFITS FROM THE PUMPKIN FESTIVAL**



**What makes the Milford Pumpkin Festival so unique is that it gives our town's community service organizations, non-profits, school teams and clubs, scouting troops, churches and other community based groups the opportunity to participate in the festival with fundraising booths or awareness activities that benefit Milford and the greater community in innumerable ways – for many of these groups and clubs, the Milford Pumpkin Festival serves as their organization's major fundraising opportunity each year. All funds raised by these organizations are reinvested back into the community in the form of scholarships, services to the needy, team uniforms, and much more.**





**Groups that benefitted from last year's Milford Pumpkin Festival included: Community Action for Sate Teens (CAST), Milford Lions Club, Milford Conservation Commission, Milford Cub Scout Troop 4, MHS Spanish Club, Child's Nature School, Pine Hill Waldorf School, MHS Best Buddies, Milford Mustangs Football and Cheer, Milford United Methodist Church Youth Group, Boy Scout Troop 4, MHS Soccer Team, MHS Music Boosters, Milford Historical Society, Souhegan Valley Dollars for Scholars, Girl Scouts, MHS Music Boosters, Boy Scout Troop 407 , Donate Life, Milford VFW, Milford Rotary and Interact Club, Milford Ambulance Reserve, Nashua Regional Planning Commission, Diamondbacks Softball Team, Milford Fire Department Waffle Breakfast, Odd Fellows of Milford, Alisha's Love Child Foundation, the Masonic Lodge and DeMolay Youth Group, Souhegan Valley Boys and Girls Club, Crossway Christian Church, MHS Soccer, MHS Football and Cheer Boosters, SHARE Outreach and others.**

2018



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Insert Pumpkin Festival presentation -

Mr. Fougere - I move that the proposed warrant article 17 as printed in the deliberative session packet along with any recommendations from the BOS or the BAC be placed on the ballot. The BOS supports this warrant article (5-0). This is a huge community event and has put Milford on the map. The BOS is confident we can get volunteers to step up to support this event. We do not have an elaborate presentation this year. I think everyone here knows all about the pumpkin festival. This past May it was announced that the Director of MIT resigned and the Chamber stepped up to support the Festival this past year. For 10 – 12 years the Pumpkin Festival ran without ever having a warrant article. The money that has been raised all these years has been used to pay for the salary of the MIT Director. That position is no longer in place and MIT has made a decision to no longer proceed with the Pumpkin Festival. The Chamber is no longer interested in running as to the significant amount of time it takes to run it. We are going to try and pull together a group of interested people in running the Pumpkin Festival. Hopefully, the Festival will provide revenues to offset the cost of running it.

Mr. Lydon – BAC does not support 3 to 6. The board feels there is on solution or real plan.

Supporting signature event and worthy of support. Most money going to town employee's work. \$600 plus dollars is for the holiday plantings.

Tim Finan – I move to change the wording and I would like to strike ; purchase and planting of flowers for the Oval and Stone Bridge areas; purchase of lights, garland, etc. for holiday decorations.

Moderator – Is there a second to this? Second, yes.

Mr. Finan - We have removed this wording several times and should come of regular budget.

Moderator - Any additional comments?

Steve Takacs - I agree it should be in there. If it is not already in the operating budget how do we get it in there?

Mr. Bender – This is a very small amount to include in the existing budget. We will include the \$644.00 in the existing budget.

Moderator – We have an amendment to strike purchase of flowers and plantings. All those in favor. Please signify by raising your card. All those opposed? Amendment passes. Any additional questions?

Chris Labonte - If there is no festival what happens to the funds?



Mr. Fougere - They do not get spent.

Peg Seward - According to where the pumpkin festival is held we may not need this funding. So we want to ask if the funds are not needed for details can we use whatever is remaining for other items. Can we add the phrase "other allied expenses directly attributed to the pumpkin festival".

Moderator- We are voting on the amendment to add other allied expenses. This has been seconded. All those in favor? All those opposed? The motion has passed.

Any further discussion? Seeing none I instruct the town clerk to place warrant 17 on the ballot as amended and according to state statutes. We are moving on to Warrant Article 18.

**Warrant Article 18 – AFSCME Contract - \$21,572**

Shall the Town vote to approve the cost items included in the one year extension of the police officers' collective bargaining agreement (CBA) reached between the board of selectmen and the local 3657 of the American Federation of State, county and municipal employees (AFSCME) for contract year April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits, and to further raise and appropriate \$21,572 for fiscal year 2018? Said sum represents the additional costs over those of the current appropriation at current staffing levels paid in 2018 in the expiring Agreement. Upon approval of the Article, said cost allocation is to be transferred to the General Operating Budget. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (9-0). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.016 or \$1.60 on a home value of \$100,000.

Mr. Fougere - I move that the proposed warrant article 18 as printed in the deliberative session packet along with any recommendations from the BOS or the BAC be placed on the ballot. The BOS supports this warrant article (5-0). This article provides a pay grade increase for police officers.

Mr. Lydon - The BAC supports 9 to 0.

Moderator – Any discussion? Seeing none I instruct the clerk to place Warrant article 18 on the ballot and according to state statutes. We are moving on to Warrant Article 19.

**Warrant Article 19 – Summer Band Concerts - \$9,000**

Shall the town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$9,000 for the purpose of holding the annual summer evening band concerts (bands, sound system, crossing detail)? This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32. The board of selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this article (9-0). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.007 or \$0.70 on a home value of \$100,000.

Mr. Fougere - I move that the proposed warrant article 19 as printed in the deliberative session packet along with any recommendations from the BOS or the BAC be placed on the ballot. The BOS supports this warrant article (5-0).

Mr. Lydon - The BAC supports this article 9 to 0.

Mr. Takacs - I am in full support and the price of this warrant article has not gone up in years. It is a terrific value.

Moderator – Any comments or questions? Seeing none, I instruct the clerk to place Warrant Article 19 on the ballot and according to state statutes. Moving on to Warrant Article 20.

Warrant Article 20 – Funding of the Annual Labor Day Parade - \$10,000

Shall the town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 for the purpose of funding bands, musicians and other allied expenses directly attributed to the annual Labor Day Parade? This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32. The Board of Selectman supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (9-0). This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.007 or \$0.70 on a home value of \$100,000.

Mr. Fougere - I move that the proposed warrant article 20 as printed in the deliberative session packet along with any recommendations from the BOS or the BAC be placed on the ballot. The BOS supports this warrant article (5-0).

Mr. Lydon - The BAC supports this warrant article 9 to 0.

Moderator - Any questions or comments? Seeing none, I instruct the clerk to place warrant article 20 as originally worded and in accordance with state statutes. We will now move on to Warrant Article 21.

Warrant Article 21 – Memorial, Veterans & Labor Day parades and recognition Town support - \$6,500

Shall the town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$6,500 for the purpose of town support relative to the observance of memorial, veterans and Labor Day parades? These funds shall be used to cover parade costs incurred by public works, police department and other town departments, and to purchase flags to be placed on the graves of veterans on Memorial Day. Departmental support costs and materials associated with the provision of these services will be charged against this appropriation. This is a special warrant article in accordance with RSA 32. The Board of Selectmen supports this article (5-0). The BAC supports this article (9-0). This article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.005 or \$0.50 on a home value of \$100,000.

Mr. Fougere - I move that the proposed warrant article 21 as printed in the deliberative session packet along with any recommendations from the BOS or the BAC be placed on the ballot. The BOS supports this warrant article (5-0).

Mr. Lydon - The BAC supports this article 9 to 0.

Moderator - Any further discussion? Seeing none I instruct the clerk to place Warrant Article 21 on the ballot as originally worded and according to state statutes.

Gary Daniels – I want to make a motion to restrict reconsideration of articles 17 thru 21.

Moderator – I have a motion to restrict reconsideration of articles 17 thru 21 do I have a second. Second. Can I have a show of cards in favor of restricting reconsideration of articles 17 thru 21? All those opposed. Motion passes.

Moderator – We are on Warrant Article 22.

Warrant Article 22 – Appointing Agents to the Keyes Park Expansion Committee Project Capital Reserve - \$0 shall the town vote to appoint the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from the Keyes Park Expansion Committee Project Capital Reserve Fund? The Capital Reserve Account was established in 2017. Warrant Article 24. The Board of Selectmen supports this article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this article (8-1-0)

Mr. Fougere - I move that the proposed warrant article 22 as printed in the deliberative session packet along with any recommendations from the BOS or the BAC be placed on the ballot. The BOS supports this warrant article (5-0).

Mr. Lydon – BAC supports this article 8 to 1. This article names selectmen as agents to expend this account.

Moderator – Any further discussion? Seeing none I instruct the clerk to place Article 22 on the ballot as written and according to state statutes. Moving on to Warrant Article 23.

Warrant Article 23 – Authority to grant industrial development tax relief - \$0  
Shall the town adopt temporary property tax relief as outlined in RSA 72:81 for industrial development within the town? The exemption shall apply only to municipal and local school property taxes. State education and county taxes are excluded from the exemption. The exemption shall be 50% for the first year, 40% for the second year, 30% for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year, 20% for the fourth year and 10% for the fifth year of the increase in assessed valuation attributed to new construction, additions, renovations or improvements and shall run for 5 years. This is approved for industrial use only as defined in the statute RSA 72:80. "industrial uses" shall include all manufacturing, production, assembling, warehousing, or processing of goods or materials for sale or distribution, research and development activities, or processing of waste materials. If approved by voters, the percentage rate and duration shall be granted uniformly to all projects for which a proper application is filed. The BOS supports this article (5-0). The BAC supports this Article (9-0). This article has no tax impact.

Mr. Fougere - I move that the proposed warrant article 23 as printed in the deliberative session packet along with any recommendations from the BOS or the BAC be placed on the ballot. The BOS supports this warrant article (5-0). This is to provide tax incentive to entice companies to move to Milford.

SPDR?  
}

Lincoln Daley - last\_2018\_warrant\_  
article\_23\_tax\_relief.



# WARRANT ARTICLE 23

## AUTHORITY TO GRANT INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT TAX RELIEF

Deliberative Session

February 3, 2018

# PURPOSE

If adopted, the exemption provides a property tax break on industrial assessment for new construction and additions, renovations or improvements to existing structures. The exemption creates an economic incentive and opportunity for businesses to locate in Milford and encourages industrial growth within the Town.

# PROPOSED TAX EXEMPTION

- Applied to Industrial Uses only as defined in the statute.
- Applicable to any increase in the assessment which results from new construction, additions, renovations or improvements.
- Includes municipal and local school property taxes assessed by the Town. State education and county taxes would be excluded from the exemption.
- The percentage of authorized exemption is as follows:
  - Year 1: 50% of the increased assessment value.
  - Year 2: 40% of the increased assessment value.
  - Year 3: 30% of the increased assessment value.
  - Year 4: 20% of the increased assessment value.
  - Year 5: 10% of the increased assessment value.
- The effective date if adopted is April 1, 2018.

# BENEFITS

- The initial 50% exemption offers a major incentive to businesses, but guarantees that the town will benefit from the other 50% on an immediate basis and receive long-term benefits due to increased valuation of the property.
- The new or improved industrial uses are likely to have a minimal burden on town services.
- Allows business owners to use the exempted taxes to improve their business during its initial years of operation.
- Gives business owners an assurance that the property taxes will increase at a slow, fixed rate as the exemption diminishes.
- The statute specifically restricts the tax exemption to businesses, but residential taxpayers benefit from this on a long-term basis.

# EXAMPLE

- Consider a new business that has come to town and has an assessed value of \$1,000,000. For simplicity of calculation, it is assumed that the current tax rate (\$29.39) does not change over 5 years and the property value also remains constant.
- With no tax exemption, that business would pay \$29,390 per year or \$146,950 over 5 years.
- With the proposed exemption methodology, the business would pay the Town \$14,495 for the first year and \$102,865 in taxes over 5 years. The business would save \$44,085 in taxes over 5 years.
- The tax exemption will still add tax dollars to the revenue stream with little or no increase in town services.



Mr. Lydon - The BAC supports this article 5 to 0. The most productive way to decrease taxes is to increase these industrial properties.

Judy Hohenadal - Would this be for 5 years or in perpetuity?

Lincoln Daley – They can apply for 5 years. The entire tax exemption would terminate after 4 years.

Mr. Fougere - Potentially we could re-adopt. You can't have this on the books forever.

Janet Langdell- Why did we not include commercial?

Lincoln Daley – My understanding is that industrial uses were appropriate and we wanted to provide an incentive.

Mr. Fougere - We did not want to give CVS's for example an incentive.

Moderator – Any further questions or comments? Seeing none. I instruct the town clerk to place warrant article 23 on the ballot as written and according to state statutes. Moving on to Warrant Article 24.

Warrant Article 24 – Rename the bridge replacement capital reserve fund - \$0  
Shall the town vote to rename the Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve Fund to Bridge Repair and/or Replacement Capital Reserve Fund, and to include culverts greater than \$75,000 replacement cost, and to use Capital Reserve Funds to provide matching funds for grants? This would clarify the intent of the capital reserve fund which has always been "high priority projects for either replacement or repair in place". This article will require a 3/5 vote to pass. The Board of Selectmen supports this Article (5-0). The Budget Advisory Committee supports this Article (9-0). This article has no tax impact.

Mr. Fougere - I move that the proposed warrant article 24 as printed in the deliberative session packet along with any recommendations from the BOS or the BAC be placed on the ballot. The BOS supports this warrant article (5-0).

Mr. Lydon – The BAC supports this warrant article 9 to 0.

Moderator – Any questions or comments? Seeing none, I instruct the clerk to place Warrant Article 24 on the ballot as written and according to state statutes.

Mr. Fougere - I move that the proposed warrant article 24 as printed in the deliberative session packet along with any recommendations from the BOS or the BAC be placed on the ballot. The BOS supports this warrant article (5-0).

Mr. Lydon - The BAC supports this warrant article 9 to 0.

Mr. Bender - I want to emphasize that this warrant article will require a 3/5 vote to pass. This is because we are changing the nature of the capital reserve fund.

Moderator – Any further questions or comments? Seeing none, I instruct the clerk to place warrant article 24 on the ballot as written and according to state statutes. Moving on to Warrant Article 25.

#### Warrant Article 25 – Swing Bridge - \$0

Should we ask voters to utilize bridge repair and/or replacement capital reserve funds along with donations as matching funds to refurbish the Swing Bridge when grant funds become available? The Swing Bridge has been placed on the NH DOT Ten year plan. Rehabilitation funding is scheduled for 2020 and will require matching funds. Using the Bridge Capital Reserve Funds would expedite the work, should other grant funds become available. The BOS supports this article (5-0). The BAC supports this article (9-0). This article has no tax impact.

Mr. Fougere - I move that the proposed warrant article 25 as printed in the deliberative session packet along with any recommendations from the BOS or the BAC be placed on the ballot. The BOS supports this warrant article (5-0).

Mr. Lydon – The BAC supports this warrant article 9 to 0.

Moderator - Any questions or comments? Seeing none, I instruct the clerk to place warrant article 25 on the ballot as written and according to state statutes. Moving on to Warrant Article 26

#### Warrant Article 26 – Mile Slip Town Forest Easement - \$0

Shall the town vote to authorize the BOS to transfer or convey such property rights in the below described parcel of town owned land as may be necessary so that the same shall be subject to a conservation easement, in perpetuity, the particular terms of the easement to be determined by the BOS with the concurrence of the conservation commission? Said authorization to include the authority to execute any and all concurrence of the conservation commission? Said authorization to include the authority to execute any and all deeds, documents or other instruments in the name of the Town that may be necessary to accomplish the foregoing. It is understood that the intent of this article is to cause the conservation easement to be held by a "qualified organization," as defined in section 170(h)(3) of the Internal Revenue code of 1986, existing for the purchase of or holding of property interests or facilitating transactions relative thereto when such purchase carries out the purposes of RSA 36-A, said organization may be the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests or other similar qualified organization as determined by the BOS with the concurrence of the Conservation Commission. The property to which this authorization, if approved, will apply is land known as Map/Lot 50-9 and 55-5,

which properties are commonly known as the Mile Slip Town Forest, the same having been acquired by the Town of Milford by purchase dated August 24, 2005 and recorded in the Hillsborough county Registry of Deeds at Book 7531 and Page 2372. The BOS supports this article (3-2). The BAC supports this article (9-0). This article has no tax impact.

Mr. Fougere - I move that the proposed warrant article 26 as printed in the deliberative session packet along with any recommendations from the BOS or the BAC be placed on the ballot. The BOS has a split vote on this warrant article 3 to 2. This warrant article passed in 2014 and the conservation commission received legal advice to reword this warrant article this year.

Mr. Daniels - The minority thinks that this would deed the property and give up our right to the property going forward.

Mr. Lydon - The BAC supports 9 to 0. This was approved by voters in 2014 and this is just an update to the legal language so we feel it was already supported by the voters. The ownership of the land stays in Milford.

Audrey Frazier – Conservation Commission – This warrant article was already supported by 60%. The new language puts the easement in to perpetuity. It is an easement we are not giving away our rights. It will allow the easement to support the environment.

Moderator - Any further questions or comments? Seeing none, I instruct the clerk to place warrant article 26 on the ballot as written and according to state statutes. Moving on to Warrant Article 27.

Warrant Article 27 – KENO - \$0

Shall the town vote to allow the operation of KENO within the town, pursuant to the provisions of NH RSA 284:41 through 51? The BOS supports this article (3-2). The BAC supports this article (8-1). This article has no tax impact.

Mr. Fougere - I move that the proposed warrant article 27 as printed in the deliberative session packet along with any recommendations from the BOS or the BAC be placed on the ballot. Again the majority is in support with a split vote 3 to 2. Majority feels that the town should support all opportunities to offset the tax rate.

Mr. Daniels - The minority does not support. The legislature allows this to support kindergarten. Keno is offered to supplement the cost. Only a place that pours liquor can have a Keno machine, so a variety store cannot have Keno and the minority saw this as disproportionate. The expectation is there will not be enough from Keno to pay for kindergarten and the tax payers will be left to pay the bill so for those reasons we are not supporting.

Mr. Lydon - The BAC supports 8 to 1. The establishments will pay \$500 a year to provide Keno. The establishments get to keep 8% of what they bring in. There are 26 establishments that qualify to allow Keno. The minority says it encourages people to drink and drive. Revenue will not be available till July 2019.

Mr. Daniels - I move we insert the word not before allow?

Moderator – Is there a second to this. Thank you.

Mr. Daniels – I am concerned about additional amounts being put back on the taxpayers.

Joelle Martin - Not talking about Keno per se. Just want to talk about kindergarten. Schools receive adequacy funding. In Milford we are already receiving \$1850/kindergarten pupil. 80% already offer full day kindergarten. The funding we will receive regardless of keno is \$2950 which is about 80% of the student advocacy grant. Any additional money made from keno will potentially make up the other 20%. There is a bill looking to provide 100% adequacy for full day kindergarten.

Mr. Drescher – On the amendment it is not appropriate as the wording is by statute and cannot be changed.

Moderator - the amendment has been withdrawn.

Mr. Takacs - This seems like a no brainer. I do not see any downside to this. The revenue to the businesses will add to their bottom line.

Karen Mitchell - I have a question on the amount we get if we do not offer full day kindergarten.

Joelle martin - Full day adequacy is \$3650.00. We will receive \$2500 whether or not there is Keno. We will receive an additional \$1100 if we choose to offer full day kindergarten.

Moderator - Any further questions or comments? Seeing none, I instruct the clerk to place warrant article 27 on the ballot as written and according to state statutes. Moving on to Warrant Article 28.

Warrant Article 28 – Fireworks - \$8,500 by petition

Shall the town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,500 for the purpose of providing the Independence Day celebration fireworks display at a time and location to be determined by the BOS? This is a special warrant article in accordance with RSA 32. The BOS does not support this article (2-3). The BAC supports this article (7-2). This article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.006 or \$0.60 on a home value of \$100,000.

Mr. Fougere - I move that the proposed warrant article 28 as printed in the deliberative session packet along with any recommendations from the BOS or the BAC be placed on the ballot. The BOS does not support this warrant article 2 to 3.

Paul Bartolomucci – Stable Road - I submitted this as this was on the original proposed articles from the BOS and then was removed. The voters have voted to approve this over the past several years to celebrate the birth of our nation is a community decision and should not be decided by just a few individuals.

Gary Daniels - We as a board is asking for over \$300,000 for capital reserves and we are asking for \$8,500 to run something that lasts 25 minutes and then is gone. One year fireworks were only \$4500. If you look at the pumpkin festival there were fireworks offered for \$1000 to \$2000. That is an 85% increase and that is the reason we are opposing this.

Mark Fougere - Fireworks have been supported for many years and the community should be able to decide if they want it.

Mr. Lydon the BAC supports 7 to 2.

Steve Takacs - Fireworks are offered in Amherst, Nashua, Brookline and Greenville and are all a lot better than what is offered in Milford for \$8500. The ones offered in Milford can't be seen because of all the trees. So they can't be seen. The cost of it is not worth it.

Arene Berry – Recreation Director - I will look into why the amount for the fireworks at pumpkin festival was so much less. In 2012 a 3 year deal was made with Atlas which accounts for the lesser amount that one year. Trees are on private property and cannot be cut down.

Moderator - Any further questions or comments? Seeing none, I instruct the clerk to place warrant article 28 on the ballot as written and according to state statutes.

Mr. Bender - I would like to recognize Lee Mayhew who passed this year and was the original Town Administrator for 18 years.

Moderator - Moving on to Warrant Article 29

Warrant Article 29 – Keyes Park Expansion committee Project Capital Reserve - \$25,000 by petition Shall the town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be placed in the Keyes Park Expansion Committee Project Capital Reserve Fund? The purpose of this fund is for the design, development and construction of improvements to Keys Memorial Park, as outlined in the Keyes Memorial Park Expansion committee Report, (December 20, 2016 and as amended). The \$25,000 builds upon the Keyes Park Expansion committee Project Capital Reserve approved by voters in 2017. The BOS does not support this article (1-4). The BAC supports this article (9-0). This article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.018 or \$1.80 on a home value of \$100,000.

Mr. Fougere - I move that the proposed warrant article 29 as printed in the deliberative session packet along with any recommendations from the BOS or the BAC be placed on the ballot. The BOS does not support this warrant article 1 to 4.

Paul Bartolomucci – Stable Rd. - Full disclosure I am a volunteer on the recreation commission and the Keyes park expansion. I asked the board to reconsider removing this warrant article it was on the original list. I believe the voters should be able to decide the funding for this article if approved it would provide additional funds to the already existing capital reserve.

Mr. Daniels – Again we asked the voters for over \$300,000 in capital reserve funds. We took it off our proposed warrants because of low priority. We did not see this item as rising to the level of the other items we need. To try and keep your taxes somewhat level we chose not to put this on.

Mr. Fougere - The minority believes we should continue to support.

Mr. Lydon - The BAC supports this article 9 to 0.

Tim Finan – Berkeley Place – Specifically I am appealing to the board to support this as there is a strong likelihood this will not pass without the board support. We need to think about the history of this. The purchase of this property was made with no taxes it was all made through donations by the community. The BOS created the capital reserve fund and the committee to support it and now they do not want to support it going further. Then there is article 22 which makes the BOS the agents to expend. You are in complete control of this. You should follow through and support.

Moderator - Any further questions or comments? Seeing none, I instruct the clerk to place warrant article 29 on the ballot as written and according to state statutes. Moving on to Warrant Article 30.

Warrant Article 30 – Conservation Land Fund - \$20,000 by petition

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to add to the Conservation Land Fund created in accordance with RSA 36-A, said land fund being allowed to accumulate from year to year and to be available for the acquisition of property, conservation easements and other RSA 36-A purposes? Contribution furthers the protection of the town's natural resources. The BOS does not support this article (1-4). The BAC supports this article (9-0). This article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.015 or \$1.50 on a home value of \$100,000.

Mr. Fougere - I move that the proposed warrant article 30 as printed in the deliberative session packet along with any recommendations from the BOS or the BAC be placed on the ballot. The BOS does not support this warrant article (1-4).

Andy Hughes – Chairman of the conservation commission. This is for \$20,000 to go into the land fund. The land fund currently stands at \$99,000. Recommended amount is \$125,000 as an appropriate level to leverage with matching funds, etc. Monson sometime back was one of our purchases. There is no good measure of adequate protected land. We are at about 15%. We need money to be able to react to any land opportunities.

Mr. Fougere - the majority feels \$99,000 currently in the conservation account is sufficient.

Minority – Supports article 30 in order to increase the funds.

Mr. Lydon – The BAC supports 9 to 0. We feel the \$125,000 is a good recommended amount.

Judy Hohenadal – Can someone explain the land use tax.

Jack Sheehy - The land use tax is money from land that was taken out of current use. In the past this tax used to go to conservation commission now those funds are put in the general revenues.

Judy Hohenadal - If we gave this money to conservation would we not need this fund?

Jack Sheehy – Yes but that would have to be voted on by the voters.

Moderator - Any further questions or comments? Seeing none, I instruct the clerk to place warrant article 30 on the ballot as written and according to state statutes. Moving on to Warrant Article 31

Warrant Article 31 – Compact part of town – \$0 by petition

Shall the town designate the Town Community Lands (BROX) to be deemed a "Compact Part" of the town in accordance with RSA 644:13? The BOS did not take a position on this article. The BAC did not take a position on this article. This article has no tax impact.

Mr. Fougere - I move that the proposed warrant article 31 as printed in the deliberative session packet along with any recommendations from the BOS or the BAC be placed on the ballot. The board did not take a position on this article.

Any petitioners to speak to this?

Mr. Finan - Can you explain what the compact is?

Janet Langdell - What does this RSA for compact mean.

Mr. Drescher – Compact in this reference will designate the area in Brox as a compact part of town and when that happens it will mean it is a violation of the law to discharge firearms in that area without the authorization of the Police Chief.

Chris Skinner – Boxwood Circle – That is stated as a zero cost impact?

Moderator – That is correct.

Chris Skinner - Is there anything that states the current condition of the land?

Mr. Fougere - This is by petition. This has been talked about but has not been done.

Naïve question? Can a vote of this body today vote to remove this warrant article. Can I make a motion to add the definition of the compact part of town?

Moderator this was seconded.

Mr. Bender – If we were to add that a compact part means any park, playground or designated place by the legislative body would that be sufficient?

Mr. Daniels – The warrant article just talks about compact part, I don't believe you can take out just one section. Since we don't know the future of the land if a target range wanted to be there could they not be there.

Mr. Drescher – I am sure if you wanted to have a shooting range there it would be exempted from that statute.

What was the Brox property originally purchased for?

Mr. Fougere it was purchased for all types of uses.

Was it originally purchased to be a compact?

Mr. Fougere – This was not purchased as a compact and if this was passed it would only be the community lands that would be affected not the complete property.

Tim Finan – Unless the petitioners are here? We don't know what they are talking about specifically.

Gentleman - Basically, this stops the targeting shooting on the town community land. This is a reaction to stop the target shooting.

Moderator – Looks like there is no one who brought the petition speaking here today. And, that is fine petitions can be brought by any resident who gets 25 resident signatures.

Mr. Fougere – I believe that in our outline this ought to be explained.

Gary Daniels – Since there is no petitioner here to explain I would like to add the word not. To not create a compact.

Moderator – There is already an amendment on the floor. This previous amendment has been removed. Now we have a new amendment to add the word not.

Janet Langdell - We could not do this before why can we do it now.

Moderator – The previous article was specified by RSA and the wording could not be changed.

Gentleman- I would like to know if this is interfering with anyone's 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment.

Mr. Drescher – I don't think this is an attempt to undermine the 2<sup>nd</sup> amendment. I do not know the attempt of the petitioner's. We have to leave the article as it reads according to the state statutes.

Moderator - All those in favor of the amendment on the floor to add the word not. All those in favor? All those opposed? Motion Fails.

Any further questions or comments? Seeing none, I instruct the clerk to place warrant article 31 on the ballot as written and according to state statutes.

With that our business is done thank you very much.

Meeting adjourned at 1:00pm

Joan-Marie Dargie Town Clerk

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joan Marie Dargie". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.