

# 2018 Milford Town Voters' Guide

# Milford's Osgood Pond before and after dredging



A substantial portion of Milford's Osgood Pond is now looking like a pond rather than a marsh since a large eastern section was dredged. The "after" view is from the pond's new dock, located on the Adams Park side.

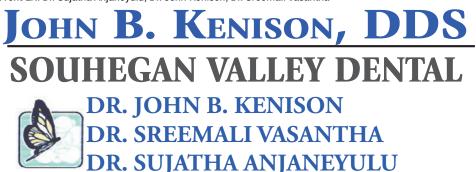
Milford Town Elections • Tuesday, March 13, 2018 • 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. • Milford Middle School Gym

	Milford Town Vote		Article 15	Social Services - \$40,000	Yes No
	Tuesday, March 13, 2018 – Polls Open 6:00 am to 8:00 pm		Article 16	Non-Emergency Community Transportation Bus Services - \$30,000	Yes <u>No</u>
	Milford Middle School – 33 Osgood Road		Article 17	Pumpkin Festival - \$23,000	Yes <u>No</u>
			Article 18	AFSCME Contract - \$21,572	Yes <u>No</u>
	Voting Summary Sheet		Article 19	Summer Band Concerts - \$9,000	Yes No
Article 1.	Election of Officers		Article 20	Funding of the Annual Labor Day Parade - \$10,000	Yes No
ALLING I.	Board of Selectmen - 3 Year Term (vote for two)		Article 21	Memorial, Veterans & Labor Day Parades and Recognition - Town Support -	
	Christopher Labonte			\$6,500	Yes No
	•		Article 22	Appointing Agents to the Keyes Park Expansion Committee Project Capital	
	James R. Powers			Capital Reserve - \$0	Yes No
	Christopher Skinner		Article 23	Authority to Grant Industrial Development Tax Relief - \$0	Yes No
	Gary Daniels		Article 24	Rename Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve Fund - \$0	Yes No
	Paul Dargie		Article 25	Swing Bridge - \$0	Yes No
	Mark Fougere		Article 26	Mile Slip Town Forest Easement - \$0	Yes No
	Suzanne Fournier		Article 27	KENO - \$0	Yes No
			Article 28	Fireworks - \$8,500 By Petition	Yes No
	Cemetery Trustee - 3 Year Term (vote for one)			Keyes Park Expansion Committee Project Capital Reserve - \$25,000 - By	
	Mary Dickson		Article 29	Petition	Yes No
	•		Article 30	Conservation Land Fund - \$20,000 By Petition	Yes No
	George Hoyt		Article 31	Compact Part of Town - \$0 By Petition	Yes No
	Library Trustee - 3 Year Term (vote for three)	·		Town of Milford Warrant Officials	
	Kathryn Parenti			2018 – 2019	
	Janet Hromjak			2010 - 2013	
	Jennifer O'Brien-Traficante				
			Board of Selectm		
	Supervisor of the Check List - 6 year term (vote for one)		Mark Fougere, Chai		
	Darlene Bouffard		Kevin Federico, Vice Gary Daniels	e-Chairman	
	George W. Skuse		Laura Dudziak		
	Outige II. andes		Mike Putnam		
	Taura Madambar Ougartama (uata farana)				
	Town Moderator - 2 year term (vote for one)		Board of Water a	nd Sewer Commissioners	
	Peter Basiliere		Bob Courage, Chair		
			Mike Putnam, Vice-	Chairman	
	Trustees of the Trust Funds -3 year term (vote for one)	·	Dale White		
	Joan Dargie		Duduct Adulo om	A	
			Budget Advisory		
	Water-Wastewater Commissioner - 3 Year Term (vote for one)		Matt Lydon, Chairma Peggy Seward, Vice		
	Mike Putnam		Karen Mitchell, Seci		
			Paul Bartolomucci	etal y	
Article 2.	Zoning Questions		Wade Campbell		
	Open Spaces and Conservation		Robert Courage		
Ballot Vote 1.	District	Yes No	Paul Dargie		
Ballot Vote 2.	Public or Private Utility	Yes No	Chris Pank		
			George Skuse		
Article 3.	Main Fire Station Upgrade - BOND - \$3,864,300	Yes <u>No</u>			
Article 4.	Town Operating Budget - \$14,060,271	Yes No			
Article 5.	Water Department Operating Budget - \$1,520,953	Yes No	VOTED		
Article 6	Wastewater Department Operating Budget - \$2,069,450	Yes No		S GUIDE CORRECTION	
Article 7	Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve - \$175,000	Yes No	At the bo	ottom of this page, the second line of ARTI	CLE 14 was cut off,
Article 8	DPW Vehicles and Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve - \$40,000	Yes No	it should		
Article 9	Fire Apparatus Replacement Capital Reserve - \$25,000	Yes No			<b>*</b> ***
Article 10	Town Facilities Renovation and Major Repair Replacement Capital Reserve -		Article 1	4 Replacement Sidewalk Plow Lease/Purcl	nase - \$32,300
	\$25,000	Vec No	(Annual	Payment \$32,300/Total Purchase Price (\$7	(55.000)
Auticle 44		Yes No	(/ IIIIaai		
Article 11	Ambulance Vehicle Replacement Capital Reserve - \$25,000	Yes No			
Article 12	Public Safety Communication Equipment Replacement Capital Reserve -				
	\$20,000	Yes No			
Article 13	Assessing Revaluation Capital Reserve - \$15,000	Yes No			
Article 14	Replacement Sidewalk Plow Lease/Purchase - \$32,300				
	ni na sanana na anainan				





Back LR: Stacy Olivera, Kathleen Aufiero, Kris Holmes, Loni Quinn, Lin Levesque Middle LR: Karen Bedell, Linda Koenig-Huske, Trisha Nadeau, Sharon Cobleigh, Dianne Mcpherson Front LR: Dr. Sujatha Anjaneyulu, Dr. John Kenison, Dr. Sreemali Vasantha



Dr. Kenison, Dr. Sreemali, Dr. Suja and their dental team wish to thank their patients and the community for their continued support.

We are here to meet all of your family's dental needs from preventive care and annual check-ups to cosmetic dentistry, periodontal treatment, crowns and bridges, implants, root canals and oral surgery.

Our years of experience in the community, our commitment to continuing education and new technology, ensure that all our patients receive the best that dentistry has to offer.

# Accepting new patients

99 Amherst Street, Milford, NH Phone: 603-673-1233 Fax: 603-673-8116 drkenison@kenisondds.com www.kenisondds.com

# 2018 Town Meeting Warrant & Financials

To the inhabitants of the Town of Milford in the County of Hillsborough, in the State of New Hampshire, qualified to vote in Town Affairs:

You are hereby notified that the Annual Meeting of the Town of Milford will be held, in accordance with RSA 40:13, in said Milford, with the first session (also known as "Deliberative Session") at the Milford Town Hall Auditorium on Saturday, February 3, 2018, at 9:00 am, to transact all business other than voting, and on Tuesday, March 13, 2018 , at the Milford Middle School Gymnasium, for the second session (also known as "Town Vote") for voting by official ballot at the polls on all matters in the warrant as well as officers and other matters to be voted on. The polls will be open on March 13, 2018, at 6:00 a.m. and will not close earlier than 8:00 p.m.

#### **ARTICLE 1 – ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

#### Selectmen – 3 year term vote for two

Christopher Labonte James R. Powers Christopher Skinner Gary Daniels Paul Dargie Mark Fougere Suzanne Fournier

**Cemetery Trustee – 3 year term vote for one** Mary Dickson George Hoyt

**Checklist Supervisors – 6 year term vote for one** Darlene Bouffard George W. Skuse

**Library Trustee – 3 year term vote for three** Kathryn Parenti Janet Hromjak Jennifer O'Brien-Traficante

Town Moderator – 2 year term vote for one Peter Basiliere

Trustee of the Trust Fund – 3 year term vote for one Joan Dargie

Water and Wastewater Commissioners – 3 year term vote for one Mike Putnam

#### **ARTICLE 2 – BALLOT VOTE – ZONING CHANGES**

To vote on Planning Board proposed zoning changes and amendments.

The Planning Board SUPPORTS all Amendments:

#### Ballot Vote No. 1

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 Open Space 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 and the waiver process for dimensional requirements (minimum lot size, lot frontage, and setbacks). In 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.

<u>Topical Description of Proposed Amendment</u>: 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

# Warrant Article/Ballot Question Position Summary

Article #	Title	2018 Proposed Amount	Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners Article Positions*	BOS Post-Deliberative Vote	BAC Post-Deliberative Vote
				2/03/2018	2/03/2018
3	Main Street Fire Station Upgrade - Bond	\$3,864,300	N/A	Support (5-0)	Support (9-0)
4	Town Operating Budget	\$14,060,271	N/A	Support (5-0)	Support (9-0)
5	Water Department Operating Budget	\$1,520,953	Support (3-0)	N/A	Support (9-0)
6	Wastewater Department Operating Budget	\$2,069,450	Support (3-0)	N/A	Support (9-0)
7	Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve	\$175,000	N/A	Support (5-0)	Support (9-0)
8	DPW Vehicles and Heavy Equipment - Capital Reserve	\$40,000	N/A	Support (5-0)	Support (9-0)
9	Fire Apparatus Replacement - Capital Reserve	\$25,000	N/A	Support (5-0)	Support (9-0)
10	Town Facilities Renovation and Major Repair Replacement - Capital Reserve	\$25,000	N/A	Support (5-0)	Support (9-0)
11	Ambulance Vehicle Replacement - Capital Reserve	\$25,000	N/A	Support (5-0)	Support (9-0)
12	Public Safety Communication Equipment Replacement - Capital Reserve	\$20,000	N/A	Support (5-0)	Support (9-0)
13	Assessing Revaluation Capital Reserve	\$15,000	N/A	Support (5-0)	Support (9-0)
14	Replacement Sidewalk Plow Lease/Purchase (Annual Payment \$32,300	\$155,000	N/A	Support (5-0)	Support (9-0)
15	Social Services	\$40,000	N/A	Support (5-0)	Support (9-0)
16	Non-Emergency Community Transportation Bus Services (Blue Bus)	\$30,000	N/A	Support (5-0)	Support (9-0)
17	Pumpkin Festival	\$23,000	N/A	Support (5-0)	Support (9-0)
18	AFSCME Contract	\$21,572	N/A	Support (5-0)	Support (9-0)
19	Summer Band Concerts	\$9,000	N/A	Support (5-0)	Support (9-0)
20	Funding of the Annual Labor Day Parade	\$10,000	N/A	Support (5-0)	Support (9-0)
21	Memorial, Veterans & Labor Day Parades and Recognition Town Support	\$6,500	N/A	Support (5-0)	Support (9-0)
22	Appointing Agents to the Keyes Park Expansion Committee Project Capital Reserve	N/A	N/A	Support (5-0)	Support (7-2)
23	Authority to Grant Industrial Development Tax Relief	N/A	N/A	Support (5-0)	Support (9-0)
24	Rename Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve Fund	N/A	N/A	Support (5-0)	Support (9-0)
25	Swing Bridge	N/A	N/A	Support (5-0)	Support (9-0)
26	Mile Slip Town Forest Easement	N/A	N/A	Support (3-2)	Support (9-0)
27	KENO	\$0	N/A	Support (3-2)	Support (7-2)
28	Fire Works - by petition	\$8,500	N/A	Oppose: (3-2)	Support (7-2)
29	Keyes Park Memorial Expansion Capital Reserve - by petition	\$25,000	N/A	Support (3-2)	Support (9-0)
30	Conservation Land Fund - by petition	\$20,000	N/A	Oppose: (3-2)	Support (9-0)
31	Compact Part of Town - by petition	N/A	N/A	Oppose: (5-0)	N/P
	N/A - Not applicable	N/P - No position			

#### www.cabinet.com

# Budget Advisory Committee Report 2018

The Milford Budget Advisory Committee (BAC) was created in 1974 by a town vote and their charge updated at the 2015 Town Deliberative Session (Warrant Article 25).

According to Warrant Article 25, the Budget Advisory Committee "...shall be a committee of nine residents of voting age, appointed annually by the moderator prior to October 1, whose duty it shall be to (a) operate in accordance with the provisions of RSA 40:13 (Official Ballot Referenda), (b) make recommendations during the Annual Meeting and Special Meeting process and present their findings and recommendations in a printed and digital report, (c) be available throughout the year for consultation and advice, (d) serve without compensation and (e) meet jointly with the School Budget Committee to discuss items of mutual interest at least once annually prior to submitting its report."

The members of this year's BAC are: Matt Lydon (Chair), Karen Mitchell (Secretary), Peggy Seward (Vice Chair), Paul Bartolomucci, Wade Campbell, Robert Courage, Paul Dargie, Chris Pank, and George Skuse.

In order to fulfill our, responsibilities the BAC met with the Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator, Town Finance Director, Department Heads, Souhegan Valley Transportation Collaborative (SVTC), Conservation Commission, Water and Sewer Commissioners, the School Budget Committee, and members of the community. The committee objectively reviewed the proposed operating budget and warrant articles, and after careful consideration, developed positions of support or nonsupport for each. Throughout our review process any questions about budget items were presented to Department Heads or the Town Administrator for clarification. All answers and any additional information requested were provided to the committee.

#### WARRANT ARTICLE 3 - MAIN FIRE STATION UPGRADE - \$3,864,300 BOND

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)

**Board of Selectmen's Majority Report** - Selectmen Fougere, Federico, Daniels, Dudziak and Putnam unanimously SUPPORT this article.

This project is to renovate the existing fire station which is 44 years old and is the number one priority of the Town's Capital Improvement Plan for 2017. The project request meets the following CIP project request criteria: Alleviates substandard conditions or deficiencies, improves the quality of existing services, provides incentive to economic development, expanded public demand and extends the life of the current facility. The current facility was built in 1974 and has experienced no major addition or renovations since that time. During those 44 years the Town population has more than doubled in size while the fire station has remained largely the same. The renovation and addition will allow for fifty years of growth and provide decontamination facilities to reduce firefighter exposure to cancer causing chemicals; training and emergency operations center areas and enhances the delivery of services.

#### THE BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (9-0)

#### Majority Report

The current fire station built in 1974 needs major renovations including electrical code upgrades, facility renovations and expansion. Some of the areas of concern:

- No sprinkler system
- No decontamination area or showers for removing possible hazmat elements
- No water/oil separator for floor drains and no holding tank for the gear extractor, both of which allow possible contaminants to flow into the sanitary sewer
- The meeting room/kitchen (526 square feet) serves as the training area for 48 staff members and is insufficient, so most training has to be done in the apparatus bays with fire apparatus moved to the parking area outside.
- The 26 year old boiler is incapable of keeping the offices warm without keeping bathroom doors open and without using a portable electric heater in the captain's office.
- Due to the current lack of space, plans call for adding a sixth bay to the fire station. At present, three pieces of equipment OEM Generator, hazmat trailer and fire alarm bucket truck are housed at the Wastewater Department. The Fire Dept. Utility Truck is parked outside beside the fire station throughout the year.

Currently, the majority of responses are within 1 mile of the current station. Therefore it is preferable to renovate the existing location rather than building on a different site.

The Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) puts this project as the number one priority for the Town of Milford for this year.

We advise you to check the Town of Milford NH. Gov website for further drawings, pictures and explanations of the project by the Fire Chief.

#### **TOPICAL DESCRIPTION**

**Explanation:** Warrant Article #3 is requesting Milford voters to raise and appropriate \$3,864,300 for the demolition and reconstruction of a new two story office addition and one new apparatus bay and renovate the existing apparatus bays.

This project request is for the design and construction of needed electrical upgrades, parking lot expansion, facility renovations, and expansion. This was identified by the in-depth study conducted by the Community Facilities Committee in 2008 and 2009. The existing Fire Department facility was found to be in need of code and safety upgrades, building renovations, space efficiency improvements, and additional parking. These necessary upgrades were proposed to be incorporated in the plans for a co-located Fire/Ambulance/Emergency Management facility that did not receive voter approval. With the change in direction to construct a separate stand-alone Ambulance Facility on Elm Street, the needed improvements to the existing Fire Station still remain. A preliminary floor plan reflecting an additional fifth bay and a two-story addition on the easterly side of the current facility within the existing limits of the property. This was presented by the Fire Chief to the Advisory Committee this year as a necessary step in developing architectural and engineering plans.

The current proposal is to construct a new two story addition for offices, training room, lobby, shower and decontamination area as well as locker rooms. Also included in the proposal is a new apparatus bay to be constructed on the north side of the existing apparatus bay.

The Facilities Committee researched additional locations and determined that the current location served the community the best. The committee found that more than 65% of calls for-service where within a one-mile radius of the current facility. The committee correspondingly felt that having an emergency service in the downtown is advantageous to the Town of Milford.

renovations since that time. During those 45 years, the Town's population has more than doubled in size, while the Fire Station has largely remained unchanged. The Town of Milford had a population of 6622 in 1970 and had grown to a population of 15194 in 2015, at this time we do not see any reduction in growth in the community.

Existing conditions of the current facility include:

- Does not currently have a fire sprinkler system;
- Unprotected apparatus and equipment are worth over \$4 million dollars.
- Current fire alarm system is limited to three smoke detectors and four heat detectors.
- No Decontamination area or showers; constructing these important areas will help reduce firefighters' risk of cancer.
- No locker room for firefighters to keep a change of clothes.
- One shower stall for a department of 48 members.
- There is no water/oil separator for floor drains. This is causing cleaning materials from washing apparatus to go directly into the sanitary sewer.
- Gear is washed in a mechanical room and its dried on the apparatus bay floor
- The original meeting/training room was cut in half in 2007 to accommodate 2 new offices and a more secure public entrance
- The meeting/training room is 520 square feet that is regularly used, but is insufficient to accommodate 48 staff members during training.
- Three pieces of apparatus OEM Generator, Haz-Mat trailer and Fire Alarm bucket truck are all stored off-site at the Waste Water Treatment Plant
- Other trailers and equipment are stored outside behind the building and are exposed to the elements year round.
- Utility closet can only be accessed from the exterior as there is no interior entrance.
- Personnel must conduct fitness training off site, as there is only one piece of fitness equipment- an old stair master located on the apparatus bay floor.

The Addition/Renovation project proposed for the Milford Fire Station is designed to help solve issues the existing station faces. The following list shows mission of emergency response and protecting the community.

The current Milford Fire Station was built in 1974 and has experienced no major how the design helps the fire department overcome the challenges at the existing facility.

- The existing apparatus bays will remain and an additional apparatus bay will be added
- The remainder of the building will be torn down and a two-story addition will be added; due to structural limitations of the existing building and the constrained site, building on top of the current structure is not practical.
- A new fire alarm and sprinkler system will protect over \$4 million dollars' worth of apparatus and equipment.
- A new dedicated training room will provide adequate training space for department-wide trainings and can be used as an Emergency Operations Center
- A dedicated decontamination area located off the apparatus bay floor will allow efficient and safe gear cleaning.
- The gear room, located off the apparatus bay, will reduce the exposure to sun light which is degrading our protective gear and reduce the time for firefighters to suit-up for an incident.
- Locker rooms allow personnel to shower after responding to an incident to decontaminate and clean themselves before they return to their family or work place.
- Dedicated kitchen and day room provides separation from emergency operations when coordinating responses to an event.
- New storage spaces allow for separation from utility rooms.
- . Second floor area is dedicated for future growth and expansion of the fire department as the need arises.
- Fitness area will allow fire personnel to stay fit on site during their off hours, promoting a healthier firefighter.

The bond to fund the Milford Fire Station would add only .2242 cents per \$1,000 of assessed valuation, or \$44.84 per year, for a property assessed at \$200,000

As the Warrant Article is a bond issue, a 60% majority is required for passage.

Please Vote YES on Warrant Article #3 to support the Fire Department's





#### 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.

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

#### THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (5-0)

**Board of Selectmen's Majority Report** - Selectmen Fougere, Federico, Daniels, Dudziak and Putnam unanimously SUPPORT this article.

The 2018 Operating Budget provides a continuation of the Town delivering highquality services while providing excellent value to the Milford Taxpayers. The 2018 Budget shows an increase of \$86,990 or 0.6% from the 2017 budget and is

**<u>Iower</u>** than the Default Budget. Department Heads, Finance & Administration, the Selectmen and Budget Advisory Committee members all worked cooperatively to deliver a very responsible budget

The Town was very fortunate to see a significant decrease in Health Insurance cost reflecting our employees' attention to cost control methods like wellness campaigns and smart shopper programs. We also saw a decrease in Property & Liability Insurance. Increases including additional Firefighters, a 2% wage increase and added debt service approved by voters last year to fund the paving and stormwater work projects were largely offset by the decreases noted earlier.

The 2018 Operating Budget will deliver the **<u>fourth straight year</u>** of improved services with a lower tax rate to the taxpayer. Thank You for your support of the Town and the Operating Budget.

#### THE BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (8-0-1)

#### **Majority Report**

We believe the proposed Town Operating Budget is preferable to the Default Budget. The proposed budget reflects an increase of 0.6% over the 2017 adopted budget. The Town departments have been under considerable pressure to keep costs down for several years now. It is important to allow flexibility in the Town Budget to address items such as snow removal, road repairs and emergencies throughout the year.

		2017	20	17		2018			
	AC	ACTUAL (Note 2) AS OF 01/30/2018		PTED	PROPOSED BUDGET		CHANGE \$	CHANGE	CHANGE
PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATION	AS C			GET				%	
	(	unaudited)							
Administration, includes Legal	\$	262,725	\$ 28	80,193	\$	262,104	\$	(18,089)	-6.5%
Ambulance	\$	838,182	80	9,676	\$	858,510		48,834	6.0%
Assessing	\$	141,597	15	51,555	\$	140,245		(11,310)	-7.5%
Community Development	\$	362,297	38	84,639	\$	401,438		16,799	4.4%
Community Media	\$	16,466	1	5,939	\$	16,148		209	1.3%
Conservation	\$	23,674	2	23,674	\$	24,092		418	1.8%
Elections, Registrations & Vital Statistics	\$	148,415	15	51,526	\$	174,460		22,934	15.1%
Finance & Tax Collection	\$	349,255	34	2,556	\$	351,731		9,175	2.7%
Employee Benefits & Insurance (Note 1)	\$	2,610,878	2,99	9,595	\$	2,841,072		(158,523)	-5.3%
Debt Service	\$	830,475	91	8,646	\$	1,006,904		88,258	9.6%
Fire & Emergency Management	\$	569,988	61	7,924	\$	623,097		5,173	0.8%
Human Resources	\$	63,998	7	70,275	\$	70,470		195	0.3%
Information Systems	\$	332,449	32	22,207	\$	323,984		1,777	0.6%
Library	\$	774,191	77	74,191	\$	780,428		6,237	0.8%
Other Public Safety, includes MACC Base	\$	662,049	66	52,055	\$	659,335		(2,720)	-0.4%
Police	\$	2,348,111	2,27	73,441	\$	2,315,172		41,731	1.8%
Public Works	\$	3,012,142	2,87	75,689	\$	2,907,424		31,735	1.1%
Recreation	\$	117,000	12	24,199	\$	128,522		4,323	3.5%
Welfare Admin. & Direct Assistance	\$	160,116	17	75,301	\$	175,135		(166)	- <u>0.1</u> %
FOTAL OPERATING BUDGET	\$	13,624,008	\$13,97	73,281	\$	14,060,271	\$	86,990	<u>0.6</u> %

Note 2: 2017 actual numbers are not finalized and are reported as of 01/30/2018. Year end adjustments are outstanding.



<image>

Casey Deltage, Vice-President of MD's Trash Removal Inc.

(603) **672-4083** 

# mdstrashremoval.com





# WARRANT ARTICLE 5 - WATER DEPARTMENT OPERATING BUDGET - Capital reserve accounts are basically savings accounts for the future purchase of specific capital equipment or services. Capital reserve accounts are specific

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum \$1,520,953 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 40:13 X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. This warrant article is paid for by the water user fees.

This Article has no tax impact and revenues from wastewater user fees will offset this appropriation.

#### THE WATER AND WASTEWATER COMMISSIONERS UNANIMOUSLY SUPPORT THIS ARTICLE (3-0)

The proposed Water Department Operating Budget reflects an increase of 5.5% to the 2017 Operating Budget, or an increase of \$78,945. The Water Department oversees the town wells, 57 miles of water pipe, over 3,500 customers, 497 hydrants as well as numerous service calls.

#### THE BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (8-0-1)

#### **Majority Report**

This appropriation provides the funds from water users for the operation and maintenance of this department.

# WARRANT ARTICLE 6 - WASTEWATER TREATMENT 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.

This Article has no tax impact and revenues from wastewater user fees will offset this appropriation.

#### THE WATER AND WASTEWATER COMMISSIONERS UNANIMOUSLY SUPPORT THIS ARTICLE (3-0)

The proposed Sewer Department Operating Budget reflects an increase of 6.3% to the 2017 Operating Budget, or an increase of \$121,000. The Sewer Department maintains approximately 40 miles of sewer main, 1200 manholes, and oversees 5.5 miles of sewer interceptor between the Wilton town line and the wastewater treatment facility in east Milford.

#### THE BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (8-0-1)

#### **Majority Report**

This appropriation provides the funds from sewer users for the operation and maintenance of 42 miles of pipeline serviced by this department.

#### <u>CAPITAL RESERVE ACCOUNTS – WHAT ARE THEY AND WHY ARE THEY</u> <u>SO IMPORTANT?</u>

Capital reserve accounts are basically savings accounts for the future purchase of specific capital equipment or services. Capital reserve accounts are specific accounts, independent of the general fund, that are a useful budgeting tool for municipalities to reduce the total amount of money to be raised at one time for known reoccurring expenditures - emergency vehicles, building repairs and the five-year property revaluation.

Capital reserve accounts require voter approval to establish and fund over time. Funding in this manner levels the tax rate and alleviates spikes in the tax rate that can be caused by large one-time expenditures.

In 2017 the Board of Selectmen voted to adopt the recommendation of the appointed Capital Reserve Funding Exploratory Committee (CRFEC) - creation and funding of capital reserve accounts for six specific items. These accounts are in addition to the five currently established and funded reserve accounts. The existing Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve Fund is an example of a capital reserve account that has worked really well for Milford over the past few years.

Several communities including the towns of Amherst and Merrimack utilize and fund capital reserve accounts for vehicles – ambulances, fire apparatus and DPW, plus communication equipment, building renovation and repair, property revaluation, bridges and roads.

# 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 2014 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.

This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.127 or \$12.70 on a home value of \$100,000.

#### THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (5-0)

**Board of Selectmen's Majority Report** - Selectmen Fougere, Federico, Daniels, Dudziak and Putnam unanimously SUPPORT this article.

Currently the Town of Milford has numerous bridges that are in need of repair or replacement. Bridges on Mason Road over Tucker Brook, Hartshorn Road over Hartshorn Brook, Mason Road at the Wilton Town line (culvert) and Mason Road over Great Brook are slated for 2018. This article will continue to fund the capital reserve to keep making progress on these bridge projects. The Selectmen feel that it is imperative to continue making the necessary repairs to these bridges by funding the capital reserve.

#### THE BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (9-0)

#### **Majority Report**

This previously established fund would allow the town to continue to set aside money towards bridge repair/replacement. There are \$490,000 worth of projects scheduled for 2018, with work on deteriorated structures on Mason Road and on Hartshorn Road. DPW has identified these projects as high priority in need of replacing.

# 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. *This Article has an estimated tax impact of* \$0.029 *or* \$2.90 *on a home value of* \$100,000.

#### THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (5-0)

**Board of Selectmen's Majority Report** - Selectmen Fougere, Federico, Daniels, Dudziak and Putnam unanimously SUPPORT this article.

Setting up a capital reserve account for DPW vehicles and Heavy Equipment is necessary and will lower the impact to the tax rate when a new vehicle or piece of heavy equipment is purchased. The funds will continue to accrue until a replacement is needed and can only be used for the replacement of a DPW vehicle or piece of heavy equipment.

#### THE BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (9-0)

#### **Majority Report**

The establishment of this fund would allow more funds to be set aside towards future purchases of vehicles and equipment. It would not necessarily fund the entire purchase so much as allow for a lesser amount of borrowing at the time of purchase.

# 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.

This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.018 or \$1.80 on a home value of \$100,000.

#### THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (5-0)

**Board of Selectmen's Majority Report** - Selectmen Fougere, Federico, Daniels, Dudziak and Putnam unanimously SUPPORT this article.

Continuing to fund the capital reserve account for Fire Apparatus is necessary and will lower the impact to the tax rate when a piece of apparatus is purchased. The funds will continue to accrue until a replacement is needed. These funds can only be used for the replacement of a new piece of Fire apparatus.

#### THE BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (9-0)

#### **Majority Report**

This previously established fund is for the purchase of fire apparatus. It would not necessarily fund the entire purchase so much as allow for a lesser amount of lease/purchase at the time of purchase.

#### WARRANT ARTICLE 10 - TOWN FACILITIES RENOVATION AND MAJOR REPAIR REPLACEMENT – CAPITAL RESERVE - \$25,000

Shall the Town vote to 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.

This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.018 or \$1.50 on a home value of \$100,000.

#### THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (5-0)

**Board of Selectmen's Majority Report** - Selectmen Fougere, Federico, Daniels, Dudziak and Putnam unanimously SUPPORT this article.

Continuing to fund the capital reserve account for town facilities is a wise initiative given the number of buildings the town is responsible for, along with their age. These funds would be used for large capital expenses such as heating and cooling systems or roof repair/replacement.

#### THE BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (9-0)

#### **Majority Report**

This previously established fund would allow the town to continue the process of setting aside funds to be used for renovations and repairs to town buildings. These funds are not expected to completely pay for future needs but could be used as a down payment against large expenditures thereby leveling the budget as Milford works to maintain town buildings.

# 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.

This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.018 or \$1.80 on a home value of \$100,000.

#### THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (5-0)

**Board of Selectmen's Majority Report** - Selectmen Fougere, Federico, Daniels, Dudziak and Putnam unanimously SUPPORT this article.

Continuing to fund the capital reserve account for Replacement Ambulance apparatus is necessary and will lower the impact to the tax rate when a new ambulance is purchased. The funds will continue to accrue until a replacement is needed and can only be used for the replacement of an ambulance.

#### THE BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (9-0)

#### Majority Report

This previously established fund is for the purchase of ambulance vehicles. It would not necessarily fund the entire purchase so much as allow for a lesser amount of lease/purchase at the time of purchase.

#### 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. *This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.015 or \$1.50 on a home value of \$100,000* 

#### THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (5-0)

**<u>Board of Selectmen's Majority Report</u>** - Selectmen Fougere, Federico, Daniels, Dudziak and Putnam unanimously SUPPORT this article.

Continuing to fund the capital reserve account for public safety communication equipment is necessary and will lower the impact to the tax rate when its purchased. These funds will only be used for communication equipment that the town owns and maintains.

#### THE BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (9-0)

#### **Majority Report**

This fund is for continuing the process of future purchases of critical safety communication equipment to ensure Town Departments will maintain their high levels of efficiency. Purchase would include replacement of pagers and radios, both portable and vehicular, for Ambulance, DPW, Emergency Management, Fire, and Police. This fund does not include MACC Base needs.

# WARRANT ARTICLE 13 - ASSESSING REVALUATION CAPITAL RESERVE - \$15,000

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000 to be placed 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.

This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.011 or \$1.10 on a home value of \$100,000.

#### THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (5-0)

**Board of Selectmen's Majority Report** - Selectmen Fougere, Federico, Daniels, Dudziak and Putnam unanimously SUPPORT this article.

Pursuant to Part 2, Article 6 of the New Hampshire Constitution, the Town of Milford is required to revalue property at least every five (5) years. Furthermore, RSA 75:8 requires assessors and selectmen to reappraise real estate that has changed in value since the previous year and to correct all errors in property appraisals. By voting annually to fund this account, the cost necessary to conduct the required reassessments is spread out over time.

#### THE BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (9-0)

#### **Majority Report**

The town is required by state statute to reassess all property every five (5) years to guarantee that each parcel is updated to its current value. By continuing to place an amount of \$15,000 per year into the capital reserve the tax impact is constant and will not spike in the year of reassessment.

#### 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.



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This piece of equipment is used for winter maintenance to plow 13.6 miles of Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,000 for the purpose sidewalks during winter conditions. If this article passes, future years' payments of providing the Town's share of funding to the Souhegan Valley Transportation will be included in the operating budget.

This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.023 or \$2.30 on a home value of \$100,000.

#### THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (5-0)

Board of Selectmen's Majority Report - Selectmen Fougere, Federico, Daniels, Dudziak and Putnam unanimously SUPPORT this article.

With 13.9 miles of sidewalk in town, we need the appropriate equipment to maintain and care for those sidewalks. This purchase will replace one of the two existing sidewalk plows. The 2000 Holder sidewalk plow has been out of service since the winter of 2015. It was determined that the plow was no longer able to be repaired at a reasonable cost. Having only one sidewalk plow simply does not allow getting the sidewalks cleared in a reasonable time frame.

#### THE BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (9-0)

#### **Majority Report**

This article will provide the funding to replace an inoperable 2000 Holder sidewalk plow. Having a second unit allows the DPW to open sidewalks in less time than with their one plow. A second plow is a backup should there be mechanical problem with one of the units.

#### 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 Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$23,000 for purposes of a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32.

This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.029 or \$2.90 on a home value of \$100,000.

#### THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (5-0)

Board of Selectmen's Majority Report - Selectmen Fougere, Federico, Daniels, Dudziak and Putnam unanimously SUPPORT this article.

Presently there are fourteen (14) agencies that provide assistance to Milford residents. These agencies include Big Brother and Big Sisters, Boys & Girls Club of Souhegan Valley, Bridges, CASA, CAST, Child Advocacy Center, Greater Nashua Mental Health Center, Harbor Homes, Keystone Hall, Milford Regional Counseling Center, Nashua Children's Home, Nashua Soup Kitchen and Shelter, Share Outreach and St. Joseph Community Services - Meals on Wheels. The services offered by these organizations provide an invaluable benefit to Milford residents in need, thus reducing the amount the Town of Milford spends on welfare to qualifying residents.

#### THE BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (9-0)

#### **Majority Report**

In these economic times, our citizens continue to need assistance. These funds are allocated to fourteen (14) different agencies that provide various resources to our citizens. Without these resources, the overall burden would likely increase in excess of the amount requested.

WARRANT ARTICLE 16 - NON-EMERGENCY COMMUNITY **TRANSPORTATION BUS SERVICE - \$30,000** 

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.

This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.022 or \$2.20 on a home value of \$100,000.

#### THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (5-0)

Board of Selectmen's Majority Report - Selectmen Fougere, Federico, Daniels, Dudziak and Putnam unanimously SUPPORT this article.

The Souhegan Valley Transportation Collaborative continues to provide affordable, wheelchair-accessible transportation for non-emergency healthcare appointments and other essential activities, such as social service appointments, senior activities and grocery shopping. This is an invaluable service to the Town of Milford as well as surrounding communities which greatly benefits the town's elderly and disabled population giving them a sense of independence.

#### THE BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (9-0)

#### **Majority Report**

The Souhegan Valley Transportation Collaborative (SVTC) provides a valuable service to the community by providing transport for medical appointments and other necessities to our residents.

#### WARRANT ARTICLE 17 – PUMPKIN FESTIVAL - \$23,000

Pumpkin Festival support by Public Works, Police, Fire, and Ambulance Departments: and other allied expenses directly attributed to the Pumpkin Festival or to take any other action relative thereto? This is a Special Warrant Article in accordance with RSA 32.

This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.017 or \$1.70 on a home value of \$100,000.

#### THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (5-0)

Board of Selectmen's Majority Report - Selectmen Fougere, Federico, Daniels, Dudziak and Putnam unanimously SUPPORT this article.

Unfortunately, MIT and the Souhegan Valley Chamber of Commerce have decided not to organize the festival going forward. Hundreds of volunteer hours go into making this a spectacular three-day community event with music and activities for all ages. The event puts Milford "on the map". Over 35,000 visitors attended the 2017 Pumpkin Festival. In the past, the huge success of the festival was due to the collaboration of MIT with several town departments, over 25 local businesses, and hundreds of volunteers. Forty non-profit community based groups participated in 2017 with fundraising and awareness activities that benefit Milford in countless ways. The Board of Selectmen is confident that a committee of volunteers will step up to host the 2018 Pumpkin Festival in October. This money supports funding for extra man-hours for the Department of Public Works, Police, Ambulance and Fire Department.

#### THE BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (9-0)

#### **Majority Report**

The Milford Improvement Team (MIT) and the Souhegan Valley Chamber of Commerce have indicated that they will not run the Pumpkin Festival this year, so the town is looking for volunteers for help with putting on the WARRANT ARTICLE 19 - SUMMER BAND CONCERTS - \$9,000 Pumpkin Festival.

- The Pumpkin Festival is the signature annual event for Milford. It generates significant positive publicity for the town, and is worthy of being financially supported by the town.
- The roughly 35,000 attendees generate hundreds of thousands of dollars of economic benefits for local businesses and for local non-profit organizations.
- The money on this warrant article is used to directly fund the town support services such as the DPW, Police, Fire, and Ambulance Departments, and for other allied expenses that are needed to run the festival.
- This will not fund the entire cost of putting on the Pumpkin Festival, so volunteers, donations, and sponsors are being sought.

#### 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 Local 3657 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) for contract year April 1, 2018 to March THE BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (9-0) 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 this Article, said cost allocation is to be transferred to the General Operating Budget.

This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.016 or \$1.60 on a home value of \$100,000.

		2018		2019
	Estin	mated	Estin	mated *
Wages	\$	16,482	\$	5,494
Fringe Benefits	\$	5,090	\$	1,841
Totals	\$	21,572	\$	7,335

#### NOTE:

The contract calls for a 2.0% increase plus up to any additional merit increase which exceeds the 2.0% and is approved in the operating budget for all other employees not in the AFSCME bargaining unit.

\*These figures represent the estimated increases for the first three months of 2019 to cover salary increases to contract termination date of March 31, 2019.

#### THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (5-0)

Board of Selectmen's Majority Report - Selectmen Fougere, Federico, Daniels, Dudziak and Putnam unanimously SUPPORT this article.

This article provides a 2% pay raise for Milford's Police Officers, a well deserving and dedicated group of individuals. This raise is consistent with what is being offered non-union employees and is fully supported by the entire Board of Selectmen.

#### THE BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (9-0)

#### **Majority Report**

- Provides funding for a 1-year contract extension of the Police Officers' Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) reached between the BOS and AFSCME for contract year April 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019.
- The contract calls for a 2.0% increase plus any additional merit increase which exceeds the 2.0% and is approved in the operating budget for all other employees not in the AFSCME bargaining unit.

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. This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.007 or \$0.70 on a home value of \$100,000.

#### THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (5-0)

Board of Selectmen's Majority Report - Selectmen Fougere, Federico, Daniels, Dudziak and Putnam unanimously SUPPORT this article.

These concerts provide an opportunity to get out and enjoy an evening of music and community involvement along the Souhegan River. These concerts are also an on-going and long standing tradition that has been part of Milford's character and charm. These concerts also take place in Emerson Park, a downtown location close to many residents, including a number of senior housing complexes.

#### **Majority Report**

The summer band concerts provide culture and entertainment for all ages, and are one of the many activities that make Milford a highly desirable place to live.

#### 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. This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.007 or \$0.70 on a home value of \$100,000.

#### THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (5-0)

Board of Selectmen's Majority Report - Selectmen Fougere, Federico, Daniels, Dudziak and Putnam unanimously SUPPORT this article.

This warrant funds the bands for the Labor Day parade. It has been a tradition in town for 73 years and is the largest Labor Day parade in the state. It brings a lot of revenues to the local businesses, showcases our awarding-winning town oval and offers the opportunity for people to identify the numerous volunteer organizations and services that contribute to Milford's character and way of life.

#### THE BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (9-0)

#### **Majority Report**

We believe we should continue to help fund this parade which has been an annual event in Milford. The parade is one of the favorite activities provided to the citizens of Milford and has been attended by hundreds of people each year for the past 73 years since its inception in 1945 by Governor Charles M. Dale to honor the workers of New Hampshire.

#### 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 *This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.005 or \$0.50 on a home value of \$100,000.* 

#### THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (5-0)

**Board of Selectmen's Majority Report** - Selectmen Fougere, Federico, Daniels, Dudziak and Putnam unanimously SUPPORT this article.

The Memorial, Veterans' Day and Labor Day Parades are a way of honoring those who have made our way of life possible through their service and sacrifice. We also support the article in hopes that their actions and their stories will be passed on to future generations and that we never forget those who served, and those who gave all. We support the Labor Day Parade to not only promote community involvement, but also because it presents an opportunity for people to identify the numerous volunteer organizations and services that contribute to Milford's character and way of life. Milford's parades are a land standing and vital component of our community spirit that has been enjoyed by generations of residents through the years. These funds cover the cost for emergency services and DPW expenses associated with these events.

#### THE BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (9-0)

#### **Majority Report**

- The parades are very well attended and popular with the community.
- These funds would cover the costs incurred by the Public Works, Police, and other town departments.
- These funds would also cover the cost of flags that are placed on the Veterans' graves for Memorial Day.

#### WARRANT ARTICLE 22 – APPOINTING AGENTS TO THE KEYES PARK EXPANSION COMMITTEE PROJECT CAPITAL RESERVE - \$0

Shall the town vote to appoint the Board of Selectman as agents to expend from the Keyes Park Expansion Committee Project Capital Reserve Fund? This Capital Reserve Account was established in 2017, Warrant Article 14. *This Article has no tax impact* 

#### THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (5-0)

**Board of Selectmen's Majority Report** - Selectmen Fougere, Federico, Daniels, Dudziak and Putnam unanimously SUPPORT this article.

This article will allow the Board of Selectmen to expend monies from the Keyes Park Expansion Capital Reserve Fund to fund critical capital projects proposed at the community's premier town park. A detailed master plan has been prepared for Keyes, which will be used to guide future decision making. This article is fully supported by the entire Board of Selectmen 5-0.

#### THE BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (7-2)

#### **Majority Report**

This article would name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend the Keyes Park Expansion Committee Project Capital Reserve Fund instead of requiring a Town vote. Allowing the Board of Selectmen to act as agents

will allow them to react quickly to needs as they arise instead of waiting for the annual town vote.

This Article has no tax impact.

#### **Minority Report**

More than just the Minority voiced concerns about this change in who would be authorized to spend from this Capital Reserve Fund and with what guidelines.

- It must be established what priorities have been outlined in the Keyes Park Expansion Committee Report accepted by the Board of Selectmen in July 2017, as well as what input from Town Citizens would help in this process.
- This Capital Reserve Fund also needs an understanding of how and when large expenditures should be approved by all voters at an annual Town Meeting or special Town Meeting.
- The Minority appreciates that during the year grants and smaller projects could be done, but feels that larger projects should have voter input.

# 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 intent is to provide incentives to businesses to build, rebuild, modernize, or enlarge with 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 third 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. *This Article has no tax impact* 

#### THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (5-0)

**Board of Selectmen's Majority Report** - Selectmen Fougere, Federico, Daniels, Dudziak and Putnam unanimously SUPPORT this article.

This article will provide a tax incentive for existing or new industrial companies to expand their operations in Milford. A portion (50%) of tax rate (Town and School) will be waived for a period of 5 years and decrease over that period from a high of 50% to 10%. The Board of Selectmen believes that this initiative will encourage growth in business and job growth as well as expand our tax base.

#### THE BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (9-0)

#### **Majority Report**

- The town has a relatively low total property valuation leading to higher tax rates for the properties that are here. The equalized property valuation per pupil in the schools is only \$648,515, while the state average is \$983,646.
- The most effective way to increase property valuation in order to lower tax rates is to add new industrial properties, as these have the least impact on services (no additional children in schools) and require the least amount of new spending to support them.
- This warrant article provides partial tax relief for new construction of industrial properties for a limited time period. The hope is that this new tax exemption will provide enough of an incentive to cause businesses to

expand or build new industrial properties when they would not have done so without the tax relief.

#### WARRANT ARTICLE 24 - RENAME 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.

This Article has no tax impact

#### THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (5-0)

Board of Selectmen's Majority Report - Selectmen Fougere, Federico, Daniels, Dudziak and Putnam unanimously SUPPORT this article.

The purpose of this article is merely to rename the Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve Fund to the Bridge Replacement and/or Repair Capital Reserve Fund. The purpose of this Fund has always been to utilize the funds in this account to address the highest priority projects with respect to bridge replacement or repair.

#### THE BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (9-0)

#### **Majority Report**

This article seeks to change the name of the Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve Fund to Bridge Repair and/or Replacement Capital Reserve Fund. The name change is to better reflect the nature of the fund, and to allow it to be used for other bridge type repairs if appropriate, such a culvert replacement of less than 10 feet (the legal definition of a bridge).

#### 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. This Article has no tax impact.

#### THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (5-0)

Board of Selectmen's Majority Report - Selectmen Fougere, Federico, Daniels, Dudziak and Putnam unanimously SUPPORT this article.

The swing bridge is on the New Hampshire DOT ten (10) year plan to be refurbished in 2020. The plan requires matching funds. With access to funds in the Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve Fund, this project could be completed earlier in the event grant funds become available.

#### THE BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (9-0)

#### **Majority Report**

- The Swing Bridge is located behind the Fire Department crossing the Souhegan River below the Dam. It is a historic footbridge that connects downtown with Souhegan Streeet.
- Approval of this article would allow use of funds from the Bridge Replacement

Capital Reserve Fund along with private and public donations to match grant money requests to the State of NH DOT.

State funds are scheduled to be available in the year 2020 but require the town to provide the matching funds.

#### WARRANT ARTICLE 26 - MILE SLIP TOWN FOREST EASEMENT - \$0

Shall the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen 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 Board of Selectmen, with the 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 Board of Selectmen 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.

This Article has no tax impact.

#### THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (3-2)

#### Board of Selectmen's Majority Report - Selectmen Fougere, Federico, and Dudziak support this article.

This article was proposed by the Conservation Commission and would create a conservation easement, in perpetuity, with respect to land known as Map/Lot 50-9 and 55-5, commonly known as Mile Slip Town Forest. The proposed easement is important and protects the scenic beauty of the land and ensures there is sufficient open space for future generations. This warrant article was passed in 2014 by voters. The Conservation Commission received new legal advice so they had to include a revised warrant article for 2018.

Board of Selectmen's Minority Report - Selectmen Daniels and Putnam do not support this article

The minority feels that this land should not be subject to a conservation easement in perpetuity, as doing this we take away the right of future generations to decide how they would like to use the property. More egregious is the fact that this article would grant authorization for the property to be deeded to a "qualified organization," with Milford residents effectively losing control of the property. This property exists now for our enjoyment. We should not permanently give away our right to control the use of the property as we from time to time decide how it should be used.

#### THE BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (9-0)

#### **Majority Report**

- A version of this Warrant Article was approved by voters in 2014. However, this year's Warrant Article contains corrected language from our Town Attorney.
- The Board of Selectmen and the Conservation Commission agree that a Conservation Easement would preserve resources, permit forest management, allow for open space, promote education, and monitor safe

activities on this land.

• Ownership of the land stays in Milford, but a qualified conservation organization would ensure protection in perpetuity.

#### **TOPICAL DESCRIPTION**

**Explanation**: In 2014 the voters passed an almost identical warrant article to that above. In the process of finalizing the legal documentation to execute the Easement, the Conservation Commission received new legal advice that necessitates this revised warrant article.

The Mile Slip property was conserved by the town in 2005 by 75% voter approval. In 2006 the public again overwhelmingly (89%) supported the Commission's request to designate Mile Slip as a Town Forest. The Commission is requesting to place an easement on Mile Slip Town Forest. A conservation easement is a permanent, legally binding agreement held by a qualified conservation organization that ensures that certain uses will never be allowed on the property.

Purpose: The intent and purpose of this Conservation Easement is: (i) to protect the property, and its conservation values, in perpetuity, in a natural, forested, and open condition; (ii) to promote the conservation of forests, wetlands, natural watercourses, and wildlife thereon; (iii) to protect and enhance the value of abutting and neighboring natural resources, open spaces, and conservation areas; (iv) to permit forest management activities on the Property subject to a Forest Management Plan, and (v) to permit recreational, scientific, and educational activities on the Property, including without limitation any body of water or stream thereon, shall continue to be used predominantly in an undeveloped and natural condition, and shall not be used for residential, industrial, or commercial uses.

Present and future generations of our community will enjoy the scenic beauty of Mile Slip and have the prime ingredients for healthy living: clean air and water, healthy forest

#### WARRANT ARTICLE 24 – 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? *This Article has no tax impact.* 

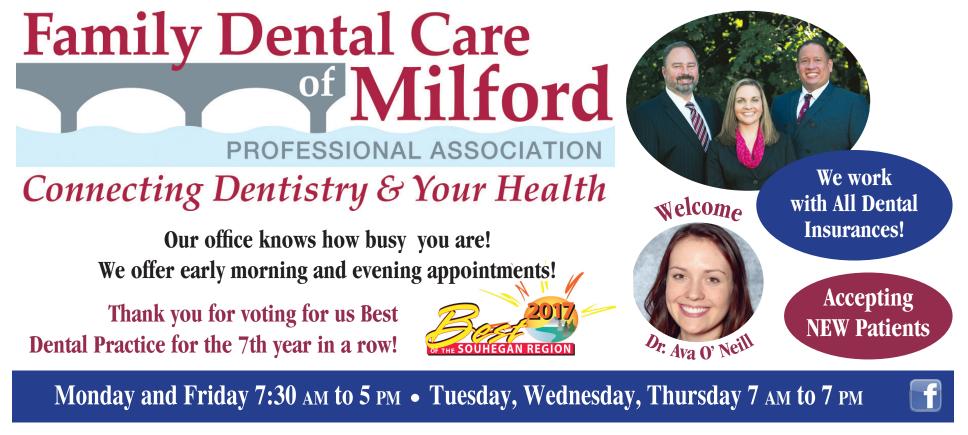
#### THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (3-2)

**Board of Selectmen's Majority Report** - Selectmen Fougere, Federico and Dudziak support this article.

The majority feels that the town needs to explore all opportunities to offset the tax rate. We feel that the question of Keno should be placed directly to the Milford taxpayers.

**Board of Selectmen's Minority Report** - Selectmen Daniels and Putnam do not support this article

This article is on the warrant as an incentive for voters to establish full-day kindergarten at taxpayer expense. Last year voters passed full-day kindergarten, with the condition that participants pay for it. For parents who have already paid for kindergarten for their children, this relieved them from paying for kindergarten again year after year on a permanent basis. In spite of voters authorizing this program, the program failed because of lack of participation, for various reasons. Now the push for full-day kindergarten is before voters again, this time requiring all taxpayers, not just participants, to pay the cost of the program. The additional cost of expanding kindergarten from a half-day program to full-day is calculated by the school district to be \$4,623 per child (additional program cost of \$582,500 / 126



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students), meaning that the total cost for full-day kindergarten is estimated to be location to be determined by the Board of Selectmen? This is a Special Warrant about \$1,147,500 (\$565,000 for the half-day program plus \$582,500 to transition to full-day kindergarten.) This equates to a full-day kindergarten per pupil cost of \$9,107 (\$1,147,500 / 126). Communities currently receive \$1,800 per student in base adequacy grants toward kindergarten from the state. If Milford passes full-day kindergarten, the school district will receive an additional \$1,100 per student from the state. This is where the Keno article comes in. Money from Keno is collected by the state and then distributed to all communities with full-day kindergarten to reduce the remaining cost of kindergarten. For Milford, that remaining cost would be \$782,082 (\$9,107-\$1,800-\$1,100 = \$6,207 x 126 students). Any remaining cost per student not covered by Keno money distributions will be the responsibility of all Milford taxpayers. To date the Board has been made aware of only three entities in town that have indicated their interest in having Keno. This is exacerbated by the fact that the state would not allow every business to offer Keno, but only those businesses that pour liquor. Even those businesses that have a liquor license would be prohibited from offering Keno if they did not pour liquor. Because of this, the belief is that Keno will not provide enough revenue to cover Milford's supplemental \$782,082 cost of a full-day kindergarten program, and that taxpayers will indeed end up having to pay the on-going residual cost of a kindergarten program permanently. The minority viewed the bill passed by the state as being not only blatantly unfair to those businesses that were excluded, but also restrictive to the potential revenue that could be derived from Keno, which forces cost-shifting of the supplemental tax burden of a full-day kindergarten program onto the backs of community taxpayers. For these reasons the minority opposes this article. We should not be gambling with our children's education.

#### THE BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (7-2)

#### Majority Report (IN SUPPORT)

- The NH Lottery Commission grants licenses (cost \$500/yr.) to local establishments that pour liquor, and also they will provide equipment, training, and support to those locations.
- KENO is an electronic "bingo" game where 1-12 numbers are selected out of a possible 80 numbers with bets from \$1-25 per game. Winning numbers are picked every 5 minutes.
- The local establishments would keep 8% of the amount wagered as well as any bonuses. Although there are 26 eligible establishments in Milford, only a small number are expected to participate.
- The State of NH anticipates using sales of collected for full-time kindergarten. Presently the town receives \$1,800 for each 1/2 day student with an increase of \$1,100 possible whether Milford approves KENO or not.

#### Minority Report (NOT IN SUPPORT)

- For the State of NH to only allow KENO to be played in establishments that pour liquor is too limiting and also we do not need to encourage drinking and driving. In Massachusetts, for instance, KENO is also played in convenience stores as each game only lasts 5 minutes.
- KENO revenue will not become available to help fund kindergarten until July 2019. It has not been completely decided nor promised how much each town will receive. Although each town will receive the same share whether they have KENO played in their town or not.
- The process is too early with 7 towns voting yes and 4 towns voting no in 2016. Some towns have decided not to put it on their ballot at all. Let's wait 1 year.

#### 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

Article in accordance with RSA 32.

This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.006 or \$0.60 on a home value of \$100,000.

#### THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN DOES NOT SUPPORT THIS ARTICLE (2-3) -

Board of Selectmen's Majority Report - Selectmen Daniels, Dudziak and Putnam do not support this article.

Most people love fireworks, but fireworks are the most expensive recreational activity we have on the warrant. Consider that fireworks normally last about 20-30 minutes. Taking the average, that means we blow up \$340 of taxpayer money every minute of the 25-minute event. Contrast this with another recreational activity - band concerts - where we receive hours of enjoyment once a week throughout the summer for about the same amount of money. Consider also that there were fireworks at the 2017 Pumpkin Festival - at a cost of \$2,250, far below what this article requests. The cost of the fireworks article has increased 89% since 2012, when the cost was \$4,500. In trying to keep your property taxes down, the majority sought to present to voters a budget and warrant articles that contained cost, yet provided the services expected. The town continues to have significant needs in terms of road and bridge infrastructure, as well as numerous requests by departments for equipment. When all requests were viewed and prioritized, the majority did not view this as a high priority, but rather as something that, if desired, could be funded in a different manner.

Board of Selectmen's Minority Report - Selectmen - Fougere and Federico support this article.

Fireworks have been supported by the voters for many years and the minority believes the voters of Milford should decide if fireworks occur on July 4th. The events on the fourth provide a great opportunity to enjoy the holiday with family and friends, and is capped off with a nice display of fireworks in the evening. The taxpayers of Milford should have the direct opportunity to decide if they believe such a display is worth the money.

#### THE BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (7-2)

#### Majority Report (IN SUPPORT)

- This appropriation would be used to cover the direct cost of the fireworks display to celebrate Independence Day.
- Fireworks have been the culminating activity to a day-long celebration in recognition of the birth of our nation.
- This activity helps Milford residents of all ages express our pride and patriotism for our great country.
- In past years funding for this event has received the support of a majority of voters.

#### **Minority Report**

- The minority believes the fireworks are the lowest priority item on the Warrant in another year of more pressing needs.
- Past Fourth of July activities and bonfire at Keyes Field were memorable • and truly enjoyed with or without fireworks. Safety coverage by Police, Fire, Ambulance and DPW for any event held that day are already included in the Town Operating Budget.
- This Article is only for the actual fireworks.

#### 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

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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 Keyes 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.

*This Article has an estimated tax impact of* \$0.018 *or* \$1.80 *on a home value of* \$100,000.

#### THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (3-2)

**<u>Board of Selectmen's Majority Report</u>** - Selectmen Fougere, Federico and Dudziak support this article.

The majority believes funding the Keyes Park Expansion Capital Reserve account will continue to add monies to address needed and planned projects at the Park. Great effort was made to expand Keyes a few years ago, with the purchase of the former Permatach facility. Through the efforts of the Keyes Park Expansion Committee, numerous initiatives were highlighted to address ongoing and future needs at this facility. Putting money away to address these needs is prudent and will offset future impacts to the tax rate.

**Board of Selectmen's Minority Report** – Selectman Daniels and Putnam do not support this article.

While the Board of Selectmen has adopted a policy of using capital reserve accounts to deter spikes in future financial requests for some capital items, the Board is asking voters to fund over \$300,000 in capital reserve requests this year for future items it considers critical. The Board considered requesting funding for this capital reserve fund but then chose not to put it on the warrant, hence why it is appearing as a petition warrant article. Though support for the article has changed from 4-1 not to support the article prior to the Deliberative Session to a 3-2 vote to support subsequent to the Deliberative Session, the minority of the Board continues to oppose the article for the following reasons: (1) it is not a critical item, and (2) because of the amount of funding the Board has requested for higher priority, critical items.

#### THE BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (9-0)

#### **Majority Report**

- This previously established fund allows for the appropriation to be used toward the Keyes Park Expansion Committee Project Capital Reserve Fund approved by voters last year.
- This project will update and expand Keyes Park including the Town parcel of land previously known as 127 Elm Street, which is adjacent to Keyes Park.
- This funding will allow a committee to begin the process of making improvement to the Park as set forth in the Keyes Expansion Committee Report.
- The report, accepted by the Board of Selectmen in July 2017, identifies three phases of improvements over a number of years.
- This would not necessarily fund the entire project but would allow for the implementation of phase 1 to begin.

The full report can be found on the town web site <u>https://www.milford.nh.gov/</u> <u>keyes-memorial-park-expansion-committee</u>

#### WARRANT ARTICLE 30 – CONSERVATION LAND FUND - \$20,000 By Petition

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000 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.

This Article has an estimated tax impact of \$0.015 or \$1.50 on a home value of \$100,000.

#### THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN DOES NOT SUPPORT THIS ARTICLE (3-2)

# **Board of Selectmen's Majority Report - Selectmen** Fougere, Daniels and Putnam do not support this article.

While the Board of Selectmen has supported this article in the past, a majority of the Board are opposed to the petition funding request this year. Wanting only to ask taxpayers to fund those initiatives that are critical to the operation of the town, a majority of the Board feels that the \$99,000 that is currently in the conservation account is sufficient for the Conservation Commission to continue its duties and activities in 2018.

# **<u>Board of Selectmen's Minority Report</u>** – Selectmen Federico and Dudziak support this article.

This article was proposed by the Conservation Commission in order to increase the funds in the Conservation Land Fund. These funds are used to acquire property and conservation easements when they become available in an effort to further protect the town's natural resources.

#### THE BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THIS ARTICLE (9-0)

#### Majority Report

- The BAC voted to again recommend the desired minimum amount of \$125,000 to be kept in the Conservation Land Fund. The balance of this fund is presently \$99,000.
- Only 7% of the sixteen thousand (16,000) acres of town land is presently protected as conservation land, which preserves and protects Milford's water supply, air quality, recreation, wildlife, and natural beauty.
- Having money available in the Land Fund allows the town to take action quickly when suitable land becomes available.
- The required public hearing and approval by the Board of Selectmen prior to expenditure will allow input and decision making during any year so purchase opportunities may not be lost.
- Since Milford does not provide funding through the Land Use Tax, the Conservation Commission depends on taxpayer funding to purchase lands that become available for public use so the Town's resources can be protected.
- Fundraising and grant applications will still be pursued.
- Protecting an area avoids development of housing that may require additional town services that could consequently increase future property taxes.

#### **TOPICAL DESCRIPTION**

**Explanation:** The Conservation Land Fund has a balance of 99K available. An additional \$20,000 continues to build a base of funds to use to work with other organizations in the event that prime properties become available or to work with landowners needing assistance in placing an easement on a property. The 2017 Budget Advisory Committee recommends that a minimum of \$125,000 should be held in this fund for quick responsive action by the Conservation Commission. In the 2016 Cost of Community Services Study of 11 communities in NH, the American Farmland Trust found that open spaces and working farms and forests require \$.56 in services for every \$1 paid in taxes while residential lands require an average \$1.12 in services. The Land Fund has repeatedly been supported by

the town residents.

#### WARRANT ARTICLE 31 - COMPACT PART OF TOWN - \$0

Shall the town designate the Town Community Lands (BROX) to be deemed a "Compact Part" of the town in accordance with RSA 644:13? *This Article has no tax impact.* 

THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN OPPOSE THIS ARTICLE (0-5) - Selectmen Fougere, Federico, Daniels, Dudziak and Putnam unanimously OPPOSE this article.

The Board of Selectmen DO NOT support the proposed petition warrant article. The Board was disappointed that none of the petitioners were available to speak at the Deliberative Session to explain the petition. In addition, creating a Compact Area on the Brox property would result in hunting being prohibited in this area, which the Board does not support.

#### THE BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE DID NOT TAKE A POSITION ON THIS ARTICLE

#### **TOPICAL DESCRIPTION**

**Explanation:** <u>RSA 644:13 Unauthorized Use of Firearms</u> prohibits the discharge of any cannon, gun, pistol, or other firearm, within the compact part of a town except by written permission of the chief of police or governing body. The "compact part" includes any park, playground or other outdoor public gathering place designated by the legislative body (voters) of the town. This warrant article is asking voters to include the Town Community Lands (BROX) as part of the "compact part" of town prohibiting shooting without written permission by the Board of Selectmen (Governing Body) or the Chief of Police.

#### 2018 Town Officer Candidate Profiles

All candidates were presented the opportunity to submit profiles including a two-hundred and fifty word statement on any topic they choose. **Pictures are optional.** 



#### SELECTMEN – 3 Year Term (vote for TWO)

#### **CHRISTOPHER LABONTE**

OFFICE SOUGHT:Board of SelectmenNAME:Chris LabonteADDRESS:45 Marcey's Way / PO Box 532CONTACT:Criground@gmail.com / 603.765.3942RESIDENCY:Milford Resident for over 40 yearsOCCUPATION:Owner of C.R. Labonte Ground MaintenanceEDUCATION:Milford High School Class of 1995AFFILIATIONS:Milford School Budget Advisory Committee

After the Town purchased the BROX Property in 2000, it was divided into Commercial/Industrial Land (125 Acres) and Community Lands (145 Acres). The Town Community Lands (BROX) were reserved for future use of the town. These potential future uses include a new school, cemetery, west side emergency services building, public works building, recreation fields, and open space. The Community Lands are bordered by Heron Pond School, Heron Pond, the Ches-Mae neighborhood, Beaver Brook Association lands, the Commercial/Industrial land and other private property.

Pursuant to <u>NH RSA 644:13 II (b)</u>, the Town of Milford, New Hampshire, designates the following parks, playgrounds, or outdoor public gathering places as a compact part of the Town of Milford, New Hampshire:

The town owned property known as Kaley Park Map 31, Lot 32 The town owned property known as Keyes Field Map 25 Lot 133 The town owned property known as Shepard Park Map 31 Lot 33 The town owned property known as Adams Field Map 42 Lot 14 The town owned property known as MCAA Fields Map 8 Lot 11 The town owned property known as Bicentennial/Harriet Wilson Park Map 25 Lot 33 The town owned property known as Memorial Park Map 25 Lot 48 The town owned property known as Emerson Park Map 25 Lot 28 The town owned property known as Osgood Pond/Hazel Adams Burns Park Map 42 Lot 8 The town owned property known as Lions Park at Hartshorn Pond Map 2 Lot 29 The town owned property known as the Oval Map 25 Lot 32

(Ord. 2011-008, 06-02-11; Ord. 5-19-97 § 1)

I have lived in Milford for over 40 years. I was educated in the Milford School System and graduated from Milford High School. In 1997 I established C.R. Labonte Ground Maintenance, a full service ground maintenance company which serves commercial and residential customers in the Souhegan Valley. After years of interest in local government, I made it my goal to become more involved in the town I love and help promote transparency within. I have spent the last year observing and involving myself in the local government by attending a vast majority of the Board of Selectman's meetings, the budget advisory committee meetings and by joining the school budget advisory committee. I am running for Selectman because I care about the Town and am looking for a way to give back to my community.



#### **JAMES R. POWERS**

OFFICE SOUGHT:Board of SelectmenCONTACT:603-502-8823RESIDENCY:MilfordOCCUPATION:PilotEDUCATION:Bachelors of ScienceAFFILIATIONS:None

"I'm running for the position of town selectman because I believe there are ways we could conserve funds and demonstrate responsible spending. I feel strongly that our town can uphold its excellent recreational programming while also maintaining a reasonable budget through a series of fundraising opportunities. Line items in our town's budget need to be carefully considered. I also would like to propose a community service tax break program, where residents can commit to community service hours improving our town, and in turn earn an annual tax break."

#### **CHRISTOPHER SKINNER**

OFFICE SOUGHT:	Board of Selectmen
ADDRESS:	74 Boxwood Cir
OCCUPATION:	Security
EDUCATION:	SAU 41 Hollis Brookline

- 3 years private security
- 2 years Nuclear Security (Seabrook)
- 2 years Brookline FD 2011-2012
- 3 years Security operation center operator (dispatch)

I moved to Milford with my wife and children in 2012. I have 3 children within the Milford School district. It is very important to me that Milford remain an excellent town. Over my time in our town, I have come to meet many new people with diverse backgrounds and political affiliations. I believe one of the most vital responsibilities is listening to residents and voters. It is imperative the needs of our community are noted and acted upon while staying financially vigilant. I would be honored to serve our community to the absolute best of my abilities with the support of our residents and town officials.



#### **GARY DANIELS**

OFFICE SOUGHT: ADDRESS: CONTACT INFO: RESIDENCY:	Board of Selectmen 127 Whitten Road, Milford, NH 03055-3228 gldaniels@myfairpoint.net 50+year resident of Milford
FAMILY:	Married to Loreen (Saucier) Daniels, 6 children
OCCUPATION:	Independent Insurance Agent
EDUCATION:	Certified Long-Term Care Specialist (CLTC) New Hampshire College (1982) New Hampshire Technical Institute (1974) Milford Area High School (1972)
A FEIL LATIONS.	

#### AFFILIATIONS:

- o Military: U.S. Army Reserve (1983-88); NH Army National Guard (1979-83); U.S. Army (1976-79)
- o Little Arrows Childcare Services Board of Directors (1994-present)
- o Granite State Taxpayers Board of Directors (2001-2006)

#### POLITICAL EXPERIENCE:

Milford Board of Selectmen (2003-present) State Senator: Amherst, Merrimack, Milford, Wilton (2014-present) Senate Finance (chair), Capital Budget (vice-chair) and Ways & Means

#### Committees (2017-present)

Senate Judiciary, Transportation and Capital Budget (chair) Committees (2015-2016) State Representative: Milford (1990-2000)

State Representative: State Representative: State Representative: (2013-2014)

Milford - Amherst (2006-2012) Hollis - Milford - Mont Vernon – New Boston

House Labor Committee - 18-years (1990-2000, 2006-2014) House Labor Committee Chair (1997-2000, 2011-2012) New Hampshire Workers' Compensation Advisory Council (1997-2000, 2011-2012, 2014-present) New Hampshire Workforce Opportunity Council (2000) New Hampshire Highway Layout Commission (2002-2005) Hillsborough County Legislative Delegation (1990-2000, 2006-2014) National Commerce and Economic Development Task Force member (1990-present) Milford School Board (2001-2007) Milford School District Moderator (1994-2000)



PAUL DARGIE

OFFICE SOUGHT:	Board of Selectman
ADDRESS:	136 Prospect St, Milford, NH 03055
CONTACT:	email pauldargie@gmail.com, cell/text 603-233-5888
RESIDENCY:	27 years
OCCUPATION:	Self-employed
EDUCATION:	MS in Manufacturing Engineering, UMass Amherst
AFFILIATIONS:	Milford Lions Club, Boy Scout Troop 407

For the past 20 years I have been heavily involved in a variety of civic activities within Milford. I have enjoyed being a contributing member of the community, and I'd like to continue that service as a member of the Board of Selectmen. I was on the Milford School Board for 15 years, and Chairman 5 years. While there, I served on many sub-committees over the years, including Finance, Policy, Technology, Wellness, Professional Development, building committees, and many others. I am well versed on legal issues relating to school districts, and most of these are also applicable to municipalities.

I was on the town Capital Improvements Plan Citizens Advisory Committee for about 8 years, often as Chairman, and as a result, I have a good understanding of the long-term capital needs of the town. I do not have a particular agenda that I want to promote; I am just interested in making the best decisions possible for the town while considering the needs of all community members. It is always a struggle to try to keep the tax rate as low as possible, while providing the best town experience possible. I am on the Fire Station Renovation committee, and I am strongly in favor of the proposed renovation on the ballot. I was on the Town Budget Advisory Committee this year where I learned about town budget issues. Note that my wife, Joan Dargie, is the town clerk, and I would recuse myself from issues relating to her employment if I were elected.



#### MARK FOUGERE

OFFICE SOUGHT: ADDRESS: CONTACT: RESIDENCY:	Board of Selectmen 253 Jennison Road; Home since 1990 MJFsummer@gmail.com Resident of Milford since 1989, Married to my
	wife Ruthie
	We have two children, Danny and Nicole
OCCUPATION:	Self-employed, Fougere Planning and
	Development, Inc., Land use consultant to both
	the public and private sector – 19 years , Former
	Planning Director for Milford

#### EDUCATION: AFFILIATIONS:

- o Milford Board of Selectmen Chair
- o Facilities Committee Past Chair (member of past similar committees for both town and school)

B.S. & Master's Degree in Planning

- o Ambulance Building Committee Past Chair
- o Former Member Share Building Committee
- o Former Milford Rotary member, (Co-Chair Pancake Breakfast Committee)
- o Former Planning Board member



Remember when every town had an appliance store you could rely on for great service, knowledgeable and experienced people who knew their business? *Brennan & MacKay is that store!* 

We joined NECO Alliance, a 15 Billion dollar buying group, to stay competitive in sales. We also attend factory training classes on a continued basis to stay up-to-date on service.

We are a *family-owned appliance store* based in Milford, NH. *Since 1978*, Brennan & MacKay has served customers in Milford, Amherst, Mason, Mont Vernon, Merrimack, Bedford, Nashua, Hollis, Brookline, Wilton, Temple Peterborough, Jaffrey, Greenville, Greenfield, New Ipswich, New Boston, Antrim, Hancock, Francestown, Dublin and Bennington, *with competitive prices and top notch service.* 

> If you like to shop locally, please consider Brennan & MacKay for your next appliance purchase!



Brennan & MacKay, LLC 276 South St. Milford, NH 03055 603-673-1177

#### HOURS:

\* Mon: - Wed 8:30 AM to 5:30 PM \* Thurs: 8:30 AM to 8:00 PM \* Fri: 8:30 AM to 5:30 PM \* Sat: 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM \* Sun: closed

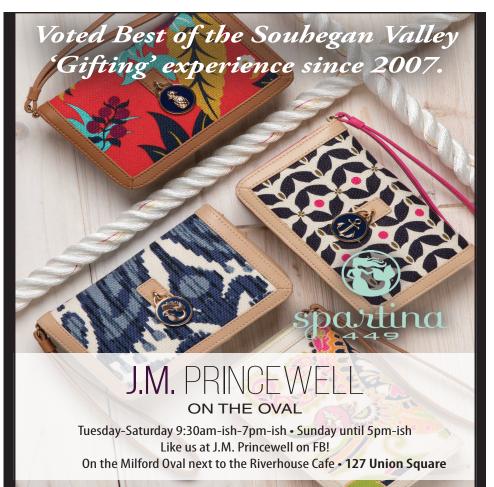
#### o Former Milford Community Development Director

#### Why am I running for re-election:

We have accomplished many things recently including completing both Oval and road improvements along with finalizing the long awaited park at the entrance to Keyes. Many challenges continue to face our community today including stabilizing MACC Base & improving Police communications, ensuring the future of the Pumpkin Festival, addressing critical equipment needs at DPW, supporting the Police to combat the ongoing opioid crisis and continuing to concentrate on improving the town's roads and bridges. There are wants and there are needs; filtering those demands must be carefully managed in the best interest of Milford's taxpayers. The town's portion of the tax rate has decreased four years in a row by maintaining a clear focus on spending. I would be honored to serve this wonderful community for another three years.

#### **SUZANNE FOURNIER** – no picture provided

OFFICE SOUGHT: ADDRESS: CONTACT: RESIDENCY:	Board of Selectmen 9 Woodward Drive (603) 673-7389 Email <u>Fournier4milford@gmail.com</u> 32 years (since 1986); My husband and I settled in NH
in 1975.	
OCCUPATION:	Full time volunteer for environmental protection and a
consultant to several no	pn-profits.
EDUCATION:	Master of Science with a specialty in Industrial/ Organizational Psychology (University of Bridgeport, CT); Bachelor of Science in Psychology (Rhode Island College)
EXPERIENCE:	Served on the Board of the Friends of Wadleigh



Memorial Library; served on Clean Up Paint Site (CUPS), an official committee that worked on the EPA's Fletcher Superfund Site. Over the past five years I have actively interacted with Town staff and numerous Boards, resulting in knowledge about how the Town and the Board of Selectmen function.

**AFFILIATION:** 

I serve as Coordinator of Brox Environmental Citizens and the Heron Pond Wetland & Wildlife "Preserve" Project

What the Board needs are new public servants, like me, who won't spend money in a way the voters didn't approve. The BOS incumbents and their Administration have already shown they are willing to spend \$30,000 for the gravel operation, when \$0 was appropriated and voters were told that the Town would not be spending a penny.

Did voters approve \$16,000 in expenses to attempt to fortify and to study the Perry Road bridge over Tucker Brook because this otherwise-sound bridge might be damaged by heavy gravel hauling? No, but that expense is being incurred. Did voters approve \$18,300 that the Town is obligated to pay the State's Nongame & Endangered Wildlife Program for a 3-year study at the Brox town land? No, but the incumbents indicated that one way or another, the payment will be made.

What the Board of Selectmen needs is someone who won't be part of a "good ol" boys network" that agreed, as this BOS did, to vague contractual terms for access over private property that obligated the Town to pay "one (\$1.00) dollar and other valuable consideration," with unknown or questionable cost or liability.

In addition, a Board of Selectmen that I would be proud of:

- conducts business as transparently as possible;
- provides all departments with the funding, tools, and equipment necessary for efficiency of their work.
- cares for the natural environment that gives back to the people in multiple ways: open space for outdoor recreation, clean air, clean water, and wildlife.

#### CEMETERY TRUSTEE – 3 Year Term (vote for ONE)

MARY DICKSON - no picture provided

OFFICE SOUGHT: NAME:	Cemetery Trustee Mary Dickson
ADDRESS:	11 Highland Avenue
TELEPHONE:	673-1662 Public Works Office
EMAIL:	mdickson@milford.nh.gov
OCCUPATION:	Administrative Assistant, Milford Public Works
RESIDENT:	Since 1986

I have been employed by the Town of Milford in various capacities for twenty-seven years now. I worked for the Milford Police Department for 4 years in a clerical capacity and for 9 years as the Administrative Assistant to the Chief of Police. The last 14 years have been spent working for the Department of Public Works as the Administrative Assistant to the Director of Public Works.

My duties at Public Works include record keeping for all the cemeteries in Milford as well as arranging burials and providing genealogical assistance when requested. I have been attending Cemetery Trustee meetings since 2004 when I became the recording secretary. In 2009 a seat as Cemetery Trustee became available. I felt that I had a good working knowledge of the cemeteries and could offer that Milford (OCD, Tax, Water)

experience as a trustee. I was elected as a Cemetery Trustee and I have served in that capacity for the last 9 years. I am also a member of the NH Cemetery Association and have attended many training sessions/lectures concerning statutory requirements pertaining to the cemeteries in New Hampshire as well as record preservation and many other issues facing cemeteries today.

I believe with my experience and acquired knowledge that I can continue to serve the town well in the capacity of Cemetery Trustee.



#### **GEORGE HOYT**

#### **OFFICE SOUGHT: Cemetery Trustee**

I graduated Milford High School in 2017. Currently studying Finance at Rivier University. Public service and helping people is a great passion of mine. I joined the Town of Milford, Recycling Committee in 8th grade. I have worked and served on many political campaigns, ranging from local offices to congressional. Later in High School, I served a term on the School Budget Committee to put education first and rein in spending.

Additionally, I am involved with the Bob Foster Foundation which raises a bunch of money for graduating High School students. I was upset when Michelle Obama's food program regulations banned students from buying food from Milford High School's student-ran restaurant, Windows on West Street. I took matters into my own hands; I got Rep. Kuster to co-sponsor H.R.3006 - School Food Modernization Act with the intent that hopefully this year once things start moving she will introduce amendments to fix the issue.

Milford is a great town, and it upsets me greatly that there are some people in our government who put theirs owns needs above the good of the town. I will always fight for you, day or night.

As your Cemetery Trustee, I will work to keep the Board free of conflict of interest and establish the transparency that is expected between Trustees and the public. while ensuring that our cemeteries are well maintained and that the public is treated with dignity and respect.

On Tuesday, March 13th, I respectfully ask for your vote for Cemetery Trustee.

#### LIBRARY TRUSTEE – 3 Year Term (vote for THREE)



#### **KATHRYN PARENTI**

**OFFICE SOUGHT: OCCUPATION:** 

Library Trustee Part-time substitute administrative assistant Town of **EDUCATION:** BA in Graphic Design from the University of Central Florida

SUMMARY:

Hello: I am originally from the Syracuse, NY area and have lived in Milford since 1993. I worked in the Milford Office of Community Development for 6 ½ years and continue to fill-in as a substitute in various Town departments. As a long time avid reader, libraries have always been an important part of my life. The programs, services and staff at the Wadleigh Memorial Library are important to me and to the entire Town of Milford, both at the actual brick and mortar building and in its internet presence as well. I am creative and organized and I hope to provide fresh ideas to the Trustees. I look forward to three exciting

and interesting years serving the town and the library.



#### JANET HROMJAK

OFFICE SOUGHT:	Library Trustee
ADDRESS:	29 Beech Street, Milford, NH
CONTACT:	jchromjak@comcast.net
RESIDENCY:	Resident of Milford most recently since 2001
OCCUPATION:	HR Professional, BAE Systems, Nashua, NH
EDUCATION:	BS in Mgt., Franklin Pierce University, MS in Human
Resources, Rivier Colle	ade

#### **EXPERIENCE:**

I have lived in Milford for over 24 years total. I have worked at BAE systems for 28 years, 17 of those in HR/Compensation and I serve in various positions on committees at my Church. I believe the skills and abilities I possess would benefit the Board.

I consider the library to be a vital and integral part of our community. I value being part of the consortium and think it is a benefit to Milford residents. I believe we have to continue to move our library into the future by continuing to evaluate and update the services it provides. I ask for your support so I may serve our community by helping the library to evolve and grow to meet the needs of our growing Town.



#### JENNIFER TRAFICANTE

OFFICE SOUGHT:Library TrusteeRESIDENCY:Milford resident since 2000, graduate of Milford Area

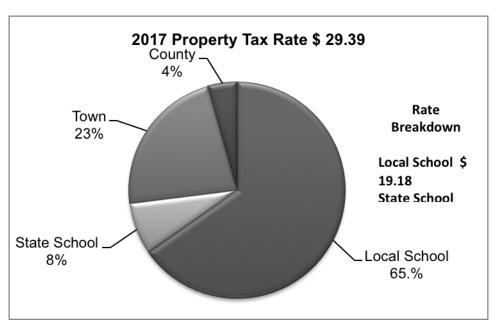
Senior High, 2 children ages 12 and 2

### EDUCATION: OCCUPATION:

BA Psychology, Minor Gerontology, Specialty in Children's studies, MA Clinical Mental Health Counseling Psychotherapist, Licensed with the NH Board of Mental Health. I work with the Children's Resiliency Retreat at the Boys and Girls Club.

**EXPERIENCE:** Currently an Alternate Library Trustee of the Wadleigh Memorial Library Board of Trustees. I have learned a great deal over the past year while working with the Library Board of Trustees including the role that the Trustees have within the library and with the town of Milford. I have seen first-hand the value in all the services provided by the library and the connection that the staff has with the community. As a member of the community myself and a part of the Board of Library Trustees I have felt motivated to continue my work with supporting this wonderful institution in our town and helping benefit the people of Milford. This includes being a part of committees that are made of up town residents and library employees to assess the physical needs of the building and listen to the community's wishes regarding this valuable institution. I truly enjoy and value my role with the library and hope to continue being involved there to represent the residents of Milford. Thank you for taking the time to consider me for this opportunity!

#### Graphical Representation of Last Year's (2017) Tax Rate



# **2017 School Board Candidate Profiles**

All candidates were presented the opportunity to submit profiles. Pictures are optional.

# **Ron Carvell**

ADDRESS: 235 Stable Road (over 20 years residing in Milford)

#### OCCUPATION

Corporate/Government Security Management

#### **EDUCATION**

MBA in Business Administration MBA in Organizational Leadership Bachelor Degree in Criminal Justice Associations Degree in Correction, Probation and Parole

#### **EXPERIENCE**

- 8 years US Army
- Former Police Officer

 22 years of extensive professional experience in security management/ operations, investigations, risk assessment, executive protection, staff training and development, and administration.

• Experience in Emergency Management and Business Recovery Operations

#### MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS/SERVICE

- Current Chairman of the Milford School Board (Term 2016-2018)
- Current Member/Past President of the Milford Lions Club (15 years)
- Past Member and Chair Milford Schools Budget Advisory Committee (3years)
- Past Chairman of the Future Use of Bales School Committee

O D D D D D

- Member of ASIS International
- Member of NCMS

#### **BRIEF STATEMENT**

It has been my pleasure to serve the Milford community for the past three years, as a board member for two and this past year as the board

MILFORD'S OWN

Wear an "I Voted" sticker to the shop on March 13 or 14<sup>TH</sup> and get a free drip coffee.\*



**UNION COFFEE CO.** 42 South St., Milford, NH 03055 unioncoffee.co



\* Limit 1 per customer.

That means you, Perry.

chairman. Over the last three years it has been my focus to ensure the best educational opportunities for our students while being fiscally responsible to the taxpayers. In our economy, education funding is difficult and a much debated issue at the federal, state and local levels. I believe that we need to be open-minded and work together in creating a strategic plan that addresses and balances education and cost. We have been faced with many challenges over the past few years with all of the changes at the state level. My background and experiences allow me to bring a unique perspective to the school board. I have a proven track record of improving operational efficiency and generating cost savings. I have demonstrated ability to lead cross-functional teams and manage complex projects. It is of the utmost importance to me to build a partnership with families and educators to provide the best educational experience for our children while balancing the economical impact for all Milford residents. It would be an honor and a privilege to continue my service to my community and our children as a member of the school board.

## Susan Kater

My name is Susan Kater and I've been back in NH since 2009, living in Milford since 2013. As are most residents, I am becoming increasingly alarmed with the dramatic tax increases this town has experienced over the past few years. I believe we need to find more creative ways to handle expenses at our schools so that residents can feel comfortable that students are receiving a quality education without sacrificing quality of life for homeowners. I particularly would like to look out for the seniors in town who are retired, living on fixed incomes, love their homes in Milford, but are dangerously close to being taxed out of them. Having recently served on the School Budget Advisory Committee, I have good insight into the workings of the district, and would appreciate your vote. Thank you.



## **UPGRADE THEIR PIGGY BANK.**

Start your kids on the right path to financial independence by opening their own account:

- Super Saver Savings Account (age 12 and under)
- Student Checking Account (age 13+)

SPECIAL OFFER! Open a Super Saver Savings or Student Checking Account and we will deposit the first \$5\*.

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Stop by our Milford office at 603 Nashua Street (Rt. 101A).

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\*Offer available to new Super Saver Savings or Student Checking Account. \$5 will be directly deposited into new account only. Adult cosigner required if under age 18. St. Mary's Bank is a member-owned credit union. Membership is opened with the purchase of one share of capital stock for \$5. Federally insured by the NCUA.

MILFORD SCH	OOL DISTRI	СТ			
2018/19 BUDG	ET PROPOS	ΔL			
TAX IMPACT ANAL					
	.1313 - E311	NATED			
	Ac	tual 2017/18	Pr	pposed 2018/19	
			-		
		Tax	_	Тах	
Item	\$ Amount	Impact	\$ Amount	Impact	
	10 004 700		44.050.000		
Operating Budget (Includes New/Expanded/Reduced/Eliminated Positions Recommended by Superintendent) Less: Estimated Revenues (with 6/30/2018 Fund Balance estimated to be \$200,000 to reduce taxes)	40,631,738 -11,761,754		41,258,902 -11,559,195		
	-11,701,704		-11,009,190		
Total to be Raised by Taxes	28,869,984		29,699,707		
State Property Tax		\$2.26		\$2.30	
Local Property Tax Estimate		\$19.10		\$19.35	
Warrant Articles proposed March 2018:					
				(20.00)	
Administrator CBA Cost Items			-21,728	(\$0.02)	
MTA CBA Cost Items Kindergarten Warrant Article (includes \$138,600 in offsetting Keno-garten funding estimate)			0	\$0.00	PENDING
Contingency Fund from Fund Balance (Reduce Proposed FB noted in Est Revenues by up to \$200,000)			<u>443,900</u> 200,000	\$0.32 \$0.15	
			200,000	φ0.15	
Warrant Articles Approved March 2017:			-		
MESSA CBA Cost Items	-2,107	\$0.00			
MEPA CBA Cost Items	6,705	\$0.00			
Kindergarten Warrant Article (full-time programming - self-funded option)	0	\$0.00			
Bond Warrant Article (\$3M proposed bond - interest only in 1st year)	30,419	\$0.02	_		
Contingency Fund from Fund Balance (Reduce Proposed FB noted in Est Revenues by up to \$200,000)	200,000	\$0.15	_		
Petition Warrant Articles:	0	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	
	0	φ0.00		φ0.00	
Sub Total Warrant Articles:	235,017	0.17	622,172	\$0.45	
TOTAL ASSESSMENT	29,105,001		30,321,879		
PROPERTY TAX IMPACT		21.53		22.10	
\$ Increase in Operating Budget (17/18 includes CBA articles)			\$392,147	0.96%	
\$ Increase in Operating Budget (17716 includes ODA anales)			\$1,014,319	2.48%	
\$ Decrease in Revenues			(\$202,559)		
\$ Increase in Tax Assessment			\$1,216,878	4.18%	
Tax Rate Increase			\$0.57	2.65%	
* Indicates Bond Issue					
				<tax a="" home="" impact="" on="" td="" va<=""><td></td></tax>	
Milford Not Accessed Valuation 17/19 (with utilities)	1 255 500 044			<tax a="" home="" impact="" on="" td="" va<=""><td></td></tax>	
Milford Net Assessed Valuation 17/18 (with utilities) Milford Net Assessed Valuation 17/18 (without utilities)	1,355,508,844 1,329,076,744		\$ 171	<tax a="" home="" impact="" on="" td="" val<=""><td>ueu al \$300,000</td></tax>	ueu al \$300,000
FY18 State Education Tax (@ \$2.260 per thousand)	3,024,936		-		
Milford Net Assessed Valuation 18/19 (ESTIMATED)(with utilities)	1,378,718,604		13,787	1 cent Tax Rate Impact	
Millford Net Assessed Valuation 18/19 (ESTIMATED)(without utilities)	1,357,518,604		68,936	5 cent Tax Rate Impact	
FY19 State Education Taxes Estimated Using NHDOE FY17 Adequacy Report of 9-20-17	3,024,936		137,872	10 cent Tax Rate Impact	
	,. ,		689,359	50 cent Tax Rate Impact	
			1,378,719	1 dollar Tax Rate Impact	





# Margaret Cunnane Hall Attorney at Law

Attorney Hall is a Family Lawyer Divorce • Custody • Child Support • Alimony • Mediation and Collaborative Law



In addition, Attorney Hall has a large active private domestic adoption practice. For further information visit www.margaretchall.com

37 High Street, Milford NH 03055 603-673-8323 Recipient of the 2013 NH Bar Association Pro Bono Distinguished Service Award 

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# OTHER OBJECTS OF SIGNIFICANT INCREASE OR DECREASE:

Debt Service - Principal & Interest (new bond)	Object Codes 830 and 910	\$326,786
Textbooks, Workbooks, Media, Software (excluding IT)	Object Codes 641-650	\$83,490
Transportation	Object Codes 510-515	\$52,344
Repair & Maintenance (excluding IT)	Object Code 430	\$39,975
Information Technology	Object Codes 321, 330,430, 650, 738	\$33,896
Testing (NWEA, PSAT & AP)	Object Code 370	\$5,689
School Board Services (Contracted Services, Negotiations, Audit and other fees)	Object Codes 330, 382, 383, 810	\$5,150
Property & Liability and Workers Comp Insurance	Object Codes 260 and 520	\$5,022
Electricity, Natural Gas, Oil, Vehicle Fuel	Object Codes 622 to 626	\$1,804
VoIP	Object Codes 432, 531, 532	(\$13,363)
Tuition Non-Public	Object Code 563	(\$22,092)
New Equipment & Furniture	Object Codes 731-734	(\$51,667)
Replacement Equipment (excluding IT)	Object Codes 735-738	(\$66,740)
Special Revenue & Food Service Funds (offsetting revenue decrease)	Object Codes 930	(\$180,215)





#### Included in the "Negotiated Agreements" above (\$301,899):

#### 1. New and Expanded Positions: \$251,292

New positions include a Mental Health/School Counselor and a Board Certified Behavior Analyst for the Special Education program, plus a part-time Secretary for the Athletic Director at the High School along with a part-time Custodian and a part-time Maintenance/ Grounds staff member. In addition, this includes some new & increased stipends.

#### 2. Position Reductions:

(\$200,766) Due to an anticipated reduction in enrollment, a 3rd Grade teaching position will be eliminated from Heron Pond and a part-time Health Teacher position from the High School. This reduction also includes anticipated attrition savings due to retirements.

#### 3. Other Salaries & Benefits \$251.373

The Teacher Aides/Associates and Buildings & Grounds each have a 2% cost of living adjustment by contract. Administrators and Teachers are in negotiations - no COLAs are included in the Operating Budget.



## Visit Milford's Newest American Grill Restaurant

Everything at Grill 603 is from scratch.

We make all of our own dressing, sauces, and desserts. All of our proteins come in fresh from the best vendors. Since we make everything in house it gives us a great deal of control over the consistency and allows us to control our costs. That benefits the guest by letting us give you a great value.



We accommodate guests special requests and allergies when possible.



We have a limited menu, but all of the major proteins are accounted for. We also have vegetarian offerings, and are a gluten friendly restaurant. In fact, we have a dedicated gluten free fryer that we only use for French fries.

M-Th: 11:30am - 9pm / F-Sa: 11:30am - 10pm Sun: 11:30am - 8pm

Outdoor patio and free parking area - Open 7 days a week

#### OPEN REGISTRATION 2018 - 2019 "HOLLIS ACADEMY FOR CHILDREN" 465-7005 hollisacademy.net

#### PROGRAMS OFFERED FOR CHILDREN 30 MONTHS TO 12 YEARS:

• Preschool & • Pre-Kindergarten - - (Full Day, Half Day OR Quarter Day)

• Private Kindergarten - - (Full OR Half Days)

• Public School Children - - (Before School, After School OR Both Programs)



#### EXTRA PROGRAMS

• Van Transportation (To our After school program)

 Holidays, Vacations & Snow Day Programs (When your child's school is closed we have availability)

> Summer Time FUN! July & August (8 weeks)

#### MILFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT 2018-19 PROPOSED BUDGET

#### Overview

	<u>17-18</u>	<u>18-19</u>	<u>Increase</u> (Decrease)	<u>%</u>
Operating Budget:	\$40,631,738	\$41,258,902	\$627,164	1.54%
CBA Warrant Articles	\$4,598	(\$21,728)	(\$26,326)	(572%)
Total Operating Expenses	\$40,636,336	\$41,237,174	\$600,838	1.48%
Other Warrant Articles:	\$230,419	\$643,900	\$413,481	179%
Total Appropriation:	\$40,866,755	\$41,881,074	\$1,014,319	2.48%
Revenue:	\$11,761,754	\$11,559,195	(\$202,559)	(1.72%)
Tax Assessment	\$29,105,001	\$30,321,879	\$1,216,878	4.18%
Tax Rate:	\$21.53	\$22.10	\$0.57	2.65%
Enrollment (K-12 – Oct 1)	2,362	2,317	(45)	(1.9%)

**18/19 Default Budget:** \$41,431,431, a 1.97% increase over the 17/18 operating budget (\$40,631,738).

NOTE: Default Budget is the proposed amount as of the 1-2-18 School Board meeting and is subject to change up to the date the ballots are printed.

#### **Major Changes from Prior Year**

#### Salaries and Benefits:

\$360,719 overall

Salaries and benefits make up about 80% of the operating budget. This includes the cost of any new positions as well as the savings from position changes, as reflected below:

#### Non-Affiliated Staff and Other: \$58,820

The non-affiliated staff group is comprised of positions that are not associated with a bargaining unit. These positions include secretarial staff, SAU support staff, coaches, advisors, crossing guards, elected officials, training & PD stipends, and SAU administrators. This number includes the cost of wage-driven benefit increases, along with increases related to health & dental benefits.

#### • Negotiated Agreements: \$301,899

The District has four bargaining units; Administrators (Principals and Directors), Milford Teachers' Association (MTA), Milford Educational Support Staff Association (MESSA-aides and associates), and Milford Educational Personnel Association (MEPA-buildings and grounds personnel). This number includes the cost of health insurance, New Hampshire Retirement, and other wage-driven benefit increases.





## QUESTION 3 Collective Bargaining Agreement With The Milford Administrative Group:

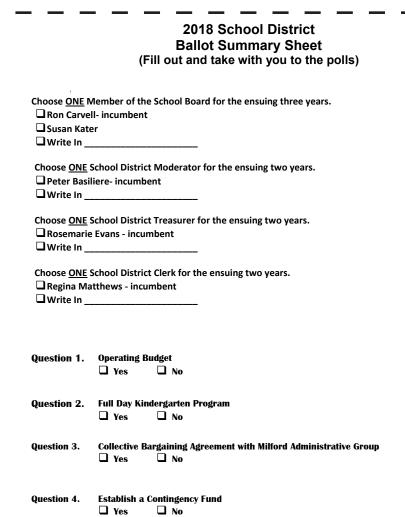
Shall the Milford School District approve the cost items included in the Collective Bargaining Agreement (July 2018 through June 2022) reached between the Milford School Board and the Milford Administrative Group, which calls for the following decrease in costs for 2018/19, (\$21,728); and the following increases in costs: for 2019/20, \$31,289; for 2020/21, \$31,836; and for 2021/22, \$37,021; and, further to reduce the operating budget adopted in Article 1 for the upcoming fiscal year 2018-19 by \$21,728 as more particularly described in Article 3 of the School Warrant. School Board: Supports (vote 5-0-0). Budget Advisory Committee: Supports (vote 6-1-1). EXPLANATION:

The anticipated tax impact for a home valued at \$100,000 is -\$2 in year 1, \$2 in year 2, \$2 in year 3, \$3 in year 4

SCHOOL BOARD: We SUPPORT (School Board vote 5-0-0). BUDGET COMMITTEE: We SUPPORT (Budget Advisory Committee vote (6-1-1).

Six members voted in favor of the contract. One member was opposed citing the impact on taxes.

The Chairman abstained to remain neutral.



# QUESTION 4 Establish a Contingency Fund:

Shall the Milford School District vote to establish a contingency fund for the current year for unanticipated expenses that may arise, and further raise and appropriate the sum of two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000) from the unassigned fund balance available for transfer on July 1, 2018, if available, to go into the fund? No amount to be raised from taxation. Any appropriation left in the fund at the end of the year will lapse into the general fund. **School Board: Supports (vote 5-0-0). Budget Advisory Committee: Supports (vote 4-3-1).** 

**EXPLANATION:** Establishment of this fund would allow the School Board to reserve up to \$200,000 from the unassigned fund balance available at the end of the fiscal year in 2017-18, to be used during the 2018-19 fiscal year to cover unanticipated expenses that could arise. Any funds not utilized during the fiscal year revert back to the general fund to be added to fund balance at the end of the 2018-19 fiscal year. The anticipated tax impact for a home valued at \$100,000 is up to \$15.00 based on the reduction of fund balance traditionally used to offset the tax rate.

#### SCHOOL BOARD: We SUPPORT (School Board vote 5-0-0). BUDGET COMMITTEE: We SUPPORT (Budget Advisory Committee vote (4-3-1).

Four members of the committee voted in favor of this proposal. Three members were opposed to this proposal.

The Chairman abstained to remain neutral.



they are attempting to meet can be effectively met. In doing so the "gap" that has existed for entering first graders will be significantly diminished or even eliminated. This will then continue to increase student growth in grades 2 through 5; as teachers will be able to accelerate students rather than continuing to focus on eliminating this achievement gap.

The anticipated tax impact for a home valued at \$100,000 is \$32

#### SCHOOL BOARD: We SUPPORT (School Board vote 3-2-0). Minority Report:

The Concern: What is best for our school children? A dissertation to the Widener University/School of Human Service Professions, and approved by three professors with Ed. D degrees and 2 professors with PHD's, states by the second grade that the kindergarten year has dissipated, and by the fourth grade there was no difference from halftime kindergarten and all-day kindergarten students. Doctor Haubman of the University of Kentucky College of Education confirms this using the Criterion Testing (CRT). The American School Board Journal asks, "Is all-day kindergarten better matched for a typical 5-year old due to the fatigue and stress factors?"

New Hampshire requires a 1,000 square foot room for a kindergarten classroom. Our available classrooms at Jacques School are only 900 square feet. Will a smaller classroom increase the "fatigue and stress" factors?

Kindergarten is strictly a voluntary program. Attendance is not required. The Chairman abstained to remain neutral.

The minority feels that raising taxes should only be associated with programs that are educationally necessary and required. What would be the overall effect of the escalation of Milford's school tax rate if the citizens vote to approve the all-day kindergarten article? The tax on your home valued at \$300,000 could increase your tax bill over \$100.00 depending on the State's support.

Milford's school tax rate is in the top one quarter of all New Hampshire's school tax rates. According to the 2017 report of the New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration, Amherst, Bedford, Wilton, Peterborough, Nashua, and Hudson are a few examples of communities with a lower school tax rate than Milford. For the minority:

-or the minority:

Robert Willette, School Board Len Mannino, School Board

### BUDGET COMMITTEE: We SUPPORT

(Budget Advisory Committee vote (4-3-1).

Four members voted in favor of this proposal, as they felt it would be beneficial to the students who participate in the program and it is an investment that will have a future payback.

Three members were opposed citing the impact on taxes and other studies that contradict the benefits of full time kindergarten. They also cited that the full day is only an increase of ninety minutes to the school day and this is a hefty price tag for that advantage. The Chairman abstained to remain neutral.

Never underestimate the power of the scribbles and the amazing imagination of children.

# SCRIBBLES

EARLY LEARNING CENTER

# **OPEN REGISTRATION FOR** 2018-2019

#### PROGRAMS OFFERED: (12 months to 5 years)

- \* TODDLERS (12 to 35 months)
- \* PRE-SCHOOL & \* PRE-KINDERGARTEN
- \* ALL CLASSES OFFER FULL OR HALF TIME

# 603-721-5531

#### **181 Route 13 BROOKLINE NH**

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# **Milford School District**

Dear Milford Voters:

This Voter Guide contains important information about items appearing on the Ballot for Tuesday, March 13, 2018. Voting will take place at the Milford Middle School, 33 Osgood Road. The polls will open at 6:00 AM and close no earlier than 8:00 PM. Wheelchairs are available for people with disabilities. You can register to vote at the school that day. Please bring a photo ID, or you will need to sign an affidavit that you are eligible to vote and have your picture taken. Information in this Voter Guide includes a summary of the items appearing on the ballot, followed by more detailed descriptions of some of the more notable items. At the end of the Voter Guide you will find sample voting sheets, which you can fill out and take to the polls with you to speed the voting process.

One copy of this Voter Guide will be sent to each household address that contains at least one registered voter. Additional copies are available at the Town Hall, the Wadleigh Library, and the Superintendent of Schools' office, located in the SAU office at the northeastern corner of the high school.

Please exercise your right to vote! *Ron Carvell* Chairman Milford School Board

#### SCHOOL OFFICIALS 2017 - 2018

Ron Carvell (Chairman)	School Board	Term Expires 2018
Kevin Drew (Vice-Chairman)	School Board	Term Expires 2020
Len Mannino	School Board	Term Expires 2019
Jenni Siegrist	School Board	Term Expires 2020
Robert Willette	School Board	Term Expires 2019
Peter Basiliere Rosemarie Evans Gina Matthews Officer Rich Addonizio Vachon and Clukay	School District Moderator School District Treasurer School District Clerk School Resource Officer School District Auditor	Term Expires 2018 Term Expires 2018 Term Expires 2018
Robert Marquis	Superintendent of Schools	
Jennifer Burk	Business Administrator	
Bradford Craven	Principal, High School	
Anthony DeMarco	Principal, Middle School	
Chantal Alcox	Principal, Heron Pond School	
Nancy Maguire	Principal, Jacques Memorial School	
Michael Tenters	Director of Curriculum and Instruction	
Michael Hatfield	Director of Special Services	
William Cooper	Director of Buildings and Grounds	

# Budget Committee Members for the 2017-2018 School Year

John Wynne (Chairman)
Penny Arsenault
Rob Halstead
Mike Hannon
Susan Kater

Judith Clark-Zaino

Jerry Stajduhar

Beth Kriss Chris Labonte Sarah Sullivan Bob Thompson

**Director of Academic Studies** 

Director of Computer Technology

Budget Committee website – Milfordk12.org – Info/Committees – Budget Committee

#### MISSION STATEMENT

To provide a quality education that challenges all students to succeed.

# 2018 School District Ballot Summary QUESTION 1 Operating Budget:

Shall the Milford School District raise and appropriate as an **Operating Budget**, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling **\$41,258,902**. Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be **\$41,431,431** which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Milford School District 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. **School Board: Supports (vote 5-0-0). Budget Advisory Committee: Does Not Support: (vote 4-3-1)**.

**EXPLANATION:** Please see more detailed information on the following pages.

The anticipated tax impact for a home valued at \$100,000 is \$12 The anticipated tax impact for a home valued at \$200,000 is \$24 The anticipated tax impact for a home valued at \$300,000 is \$36

#### SCHOOL BOARD: We SUPPORT (School Board vote 5-0-0). BUDGET COMMITTEE: We DO NOT SUPPORT (Budget Advisory Committee vote 4-3-1)

4 individuals were not opposed to the budget total, but were opposed to the priorities within the budget. This is not within the scope of the School Budget Advisory Committee, this is within the scope of the School Board and the School Administration.

The Chairman abstained to remain neutral.

# QUESTION 2 Full Day Kindergarten Program:

Shall the Milford School District raise and appropriate the sum of **\$582,500** (Gross Budget) which are additional funds necessary to defray the cost of providing a Full Day Kindergarten Program at the Jacques Memorial Elementary School starting in the 2018-2019 school year. Defeat of this article will have no impact on continuing the half-day Kindergarten program currently in place at the Jacques Memorial Elementary School. This warrant article is a special article pursuant to RSA 32:3, (VI)(d), and is not included in the operating budget warrant article. **School Board: Supports (vote 3-2-0).** 

# Budget Advisory Committee: Supports (vote 4-3-1). EXPLANATION:

Establishment of a Full Day Kindergarten Program will allow all of the children in Milford to realize and experience a similar educational foundation so necessary for future success. It will allow kindergarten teachers to increase instructional time so that the standards that

# 2018 Milford School Voters' Guide



Milford School Voting • Tuesday, March 13, 2018 • 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. • Milford Middle School Gym