
MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION – March 2, 2020
ROOM 03 – TOWN HALL
7:00 PM

PRESENT: Chairman William D. Buckley, Selectmen William E. Kingkade, Jr. and Michael K. Walsh and Town Administrator Richard A. Villani.

1. Mr. Kingkade moved, seconded by Mr. Walsh: To sign the warrant, UNANIMOUS.
2. Mr. Kingkade moved, seconded by Mr. Walsh: To approve the Regular Session Minutes of February 10, 2020 as submitted. UNANIMOUS.
3. Mr. Kingkade moved, seconded by Mr. Walsh: To approve the Executive Session Minutes of February 10, 2020 and February 12, 2020 as submitted. UNANIMOUS.
4. **Invitation to Speak** – Vincent Cifizarri was present seeking to relocate the Wall of Heroes plaques to Town Hall. Mr. Kingkade moved, seconded by Mr. Walsh to relocate the Wall of Heroes to Town Hall subject to working out the logistics of being able to properly relocate the plaques. UNANIMOUS.
5. Mariscos Lagunas, LLC of 206 East Main Street filed an application for a new common Vvictualler License. Mariana Felipe was present and informed the Board she will be opening a Mexican Seafood Restaurant. Mr. Kingkade moved, seconded by Mr. Walsh: To approve the new common victualler of License subject to the Board of Health issuing a Permit to Serve Food. UNANIMOUS.
6. Kelly Capece, Benefits Coordinator, along with Brian Boyle Jr. Health Insurance Consultant were present to review the FY21 rates. Ms. Capece stated that as noted in her letter to the Board dated February 19, 2020, the Insurance Advisory Committee received a quote from Blue Cross Blue Shield of MA, Inc. that reflects a rate increase of 3% for our annual renewal. Also, we were presented with a premium rate hold from both Delta Dental and Boston Mutual Life Insurance Company. Delta Dental's proposal was for two years. After a brief discussion, Mr. Kingkade moved, seconded by Mr. Walsh: To approve the renewal rates as voted on by the Insurance Advisory Committee. UNANIMOUS.
7. Town Treasurer, Chris Pilla was present with a list of properties to be auctioned. He requested the Board declare these five parcels as surplus property. Also present were Finance Director, Zach Taylor and Town Accountant Tom Brown. Chris informed the Board there are 56

parcels to be placed under the jurisdiction of the Conservation Commission subject to approval by Town Meeting in May. Chairman Buckley requested they make sure the 56 properties are properly maintained by the Town. Mr. Kingcade moved, seconded by Mr. Walsh: to declare the five (5) properties listed as surplus property to be auctioned by the Town. UNANIMOUS.

8. Finance Director, Zach Taylor, Treasurer Chris Pilla and Town Accountant Town Brown were present to discuss the FY21 Budget Process and Goals and Objectives. The Board reviewed the Goals and Objectives. Mr. Kingcade moved, seconded by Mr. Walsh: to adopt the Goals and Objectives as Strategic Objectives for FY21. UNANIMOUS.

9. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

A. Downtown Milford Housing Study – There will be a Public Hearing for the Downtown Milford Housing Study on Thursday, March 5, 2020 at 6:30 PM in the Upper Town Hall. The Town received a Grant of \$15,000.00 to provide a study to examine how to expand the range of downtown housing opportunities to contribute to the economic vitality and mixed-use qualities of downtown Milford.

B. Veterans Heritage Grant Program- I have been informed by Parks Director, James Asam, that the Town has received a Grant in the amount of \$15,000 from the Veterans Heritage Grant Program. This will be used for the restoration of the WWII Memorial, Draper Statue and Dough boy Statue.

C. Bus Route- We have received the Ridership Numbers for the calendar year 2019 and they have increased for each month over 2018. The Transportation Advisory Committee is pleased with these new Ridership numbers.

D. Regional Homeland Security Grant- I have been informed by Fire Chief William J. Touhey, Jr. that Milford, along with five (5) area Towns received \$54,000.00 in grant funds from the Central Region Homeland Security Council through Federal Homeland Security funds allocated to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to purchase six (6) sets of tactical personal protective gear and traumatic bleeding control equipment. The Chief will be purchasing bulletproof vests, tactical helmets, eye protection, tourniquets and medical kits containing lifesaving bleeding control equipment.

E. Amazon Update- In response to the Board's request to meet with Amazon representatives in March, we have been informed that Amazon "cannot get senior leaders back to Milford until mid-April." I have also received a complaint from a resident complaining of litter on Birch Street which they attribute to Amazon drivers and a complaint from a second resident who observed two (2) Amazon drivers run through a red light turning onto Route 109.

10. The Board next discussed the traffic and site issues regarding Amazon locations in Milford. Chairman Buckley stated Amazon representatives have a continuing problem of not responding to the Town's requests. He requested a letter be sent to Amazon expressing the Town's disappointment and suggested if Amazon had to attend a Planning Board Meeting on their

application to expand their business on National Street, they would make every effort to attend.

11. The Board discussed the appointment process to select a new Police Chief. Mr. Kingkade said he reviewed all the background information of the three candidates and one candidate, Major/Commander James H. Rhoden, Jr. stood out to him. He was impressed that Major Rhoden visited the Police Station. Mr. Walsh said he reviewed all the materials and it came down to two candidates. He said during the role-playing situation, only one candidate Chief Leon M. Krolikowski, Jr. kept his composure. He was concerned that Major/Commander James H. Rhoden, Jr. would not be able to “connect with the residents.” He stated Chief Krolikowski was the “best fit for the Town.” Mr. Buckley stated Major Rhoden and Chief Krolikowski were his top candidates. He felt Major Rhoden “looks for humanity in individuals” and has the “ability to be directive”. Mr. Kingkade moved, to appoint Major/Commander James H. Rhoden, Jr. as the new Police Chief, subject to contract negotiations. Mr. Buckley seconded for discussion. He said he also supports the appointment of Major Rhoden. Mr. Buckley then seconded the motion to appoint Major/Commander James H. Rhoden, Jr. as the new Police Chief. IT IS A VOTE. (2 to 1) Mr. Walsh dissenting. Mr. Buckley recommended that Human Resources Director Maureen Giffin receive a letter of recognition for her assistance in the hiring process for a new Chief.

12. Chairman Buckley asked the Town Administrator to update the Board on the status of the demolition of the former Stone property at 32 Central Street at the next Selectmen’s meeting.

13. Mr. Kingkade moved, seconded by Mr. Walsh: To appoint Ray Auger to the Downtown Revitalization Committee. UNANIMOUS.

14. The Board passed over the request for an Easement by Mass Electric.

15. Joe Soares, representing The Celebrate Milford Committee, was present to discuss plans and request approval of licenses and permits for a Celebrate Milford Day to be held at the Town Park on Saturday, May 16, 2020 with a rain date of Sunday, May 17, 2020.

Mr. Kingkade moved, seconded by Mr. Walsh to approve the following permits and licenses as presented:

- Permit To Obstruct for a Parade starting at 10:00AM,

- Permit To Obstruct to hang a banner across Main Street three weeks prior to May 16, 2020.

- One-Day All Alcohol License for Saturday May 16, 2020 for 9:00AM-9:00PM, with a rain date of Sunday May 17, 2020

- One-Day Entertainment License for Saturday May 16, 2020 for 9:00AM-9:00PM with a rain date of May 17, 2020. UNANIMOUS.

16. Mr. Kingkade moved, seconded by Mr. Walsh: To accept with regret the retirement of Brenda Wheelock from the Milford Youth Commission. UNANIMOUS.

17. Mr. Kingkade moved, seconded by Mr. Walsh: To appoint Katlyn Roy to the position of Program Coordinator at the Senior Center at Grade 2, Step 1 with a starting salary of \$22.23. UNANIMOUS.

18. Mr. Buckley requested the Finance Director include in his yearly Strategic Goals and Objectives the that the Town seek to attract and retain talented and qualified individuals for employment in Town positions.

19. Mr. Kingkade moved, seconded by Mr. Walsh: To accept a gift in the amount of \$100.00 from the Campaign Committee of Representative Brain Murray to the Senior Center. UNANIMOUS.

20. After reviewing the FY21 Salary recommendations from Town Administrator Villani on Article 3 (Elected Officials); Mr. Kingkade moved, seconded by Mr. Walsh: To support the recommendation for a 2.5% increase for full time and part-time elected officials, UNANIMOUS.

21. Chairman Buckley stated the 20th Anniversary of the Claflin Hill Symphony Orchestra is this year. He requested we recognize the members at a future Selectmen meeting.

22. Chairman Buckley read a letter from Detective Robbie Tusino requesting funding for LifePak Equipment for the Police Department. Mr. Buckley asked the Town Administrator to check with the Police Chief to determine if this could be funded within Budget or by some other source.

23. INFORMATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE - NONE

24. Mr. Kingkade moved, seconded by Mr. Walsh: To adjourn the Selectmen's meeting at 8:26 PM, UNANIMOUS.

Richard A. Villani
Minutes Recorder

William D. Buckley, Chairman

William E. Kingkade, Jr.

Michael K. Walsh