
MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION – July 13, 2020
ROOM 03 – TOWN HALL
7:00 PM

PRESENT: Chairman William E. Kingkade, Jr., Selectmen Michael K. Walsh and Thomas J. O'Loughlin and Town Administrator Richard A. Villani.

Also present: IT Director, Chris George and Town Counsel Charles D. Boddy, Jr.

1. Mr. Walsh moved, seconded by Mr. O'Loughlin: To sign the warrant, UNANIMOUS.
2. Mr. Walsh moved, seconded by Mr. O'Loughlin: To approve the Regular Session Minutes of June 18, 2020 as submitted. UNANIMOUS.
3. Mr. Walsh moved, seconded by Mr. O'Loughlin: To approve the Regular Session Minutes of June 22, 2020 as submitted. UNANIMOUS.
4. Invitation to Speak – Rob DeDominc, owner of the Tradesman, stated the restaurant industry has suffered during the COVID 19 Pandemic. He asked if the Board could consider waiving the personal property tax and reducing the real estate tax. He also asked to consider reducing the liquor license application fee to \$1,200.00. Finance Committee Chairman read a letter from the Finance Committee asking the Board of Selectmen to reconsider the vote to reappoint Jeff Niro to the Finance Committee. He then spoke on his own behalf stating that Jeff Niro is an integral member of the Finance Committee. He asked if Jeff could be reappointed if there is a vacancy in the future. Donna Niro read a statement regarding the non-reappointment of her husband. She said she has "some serious concerns regarding his removal from the Finance Committee." She provided a copy of the statement to the Board. Jeff Niro also read a statement indicating how "disappointed he was not to be reappointed to the Finance Committee." He also provided a copy of the statement to the Board. Chairman Kingkade also read statements from George and Beverly Swymer, Harold S. Rhodes and Scott Johnson asking the Board to reconsider their decision and to reappoint Jeff Niro to the Finance Committee.
5. Raphael Breceno, owner of Caney Los Paras LLC of 20 Exchange Street filed an application for a new common Victualler License. Mr. Walsh moved, seconded by Mr. O'Loughlin: To approve the new common victualler of License. UNANIMOUS.
6. The Board reviewed the Town Administrator's Decisions to issue Temporary Amendment of Liquor Licenses for outdoor seating for EMZ Mart d/b/a Isabel's and Marchegiano Club,

LLC. Mr. Walsh moved, seconded by Mr. O'Loughlin: To adopt the Town Administrator's decisions to grant a Temporary Outdoor License to EMZ Mart d/b/a Isabel's and Marchegiano Club, LLC. UNANIMOUS.

7. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – July 13, 2020

- A. Town Hall Reopening – I am pleased to report the Town Hall has reopened to the public on July 6th. We are still recommending the scheduling of appointments with Department Heads whenever possible. The public needs to enter the building from the lower entrances on the Court Street side. There is a person who will greet each member of the public and ask their name and contact information. They will then be directed to the appropriate Department. We have ample PPE supplies and are taking every precaution to protect our employees and the public. I want to thank HR Director Maureen Giffin for her efforts in organizing the reopening. I also want to thank all employees who have staffed the entrance during the periods when the contact employees have been at lunch.
- B. Library Reopening- The Library is reopening on a limited basis Tuesday July 7. Limited hours from July 7-August 7. The hours are Monday through Friday from 9AM to 6 PM. After August 7, hours will be reviewed and adjusted. After July 7th, Curbside pickup is being replaced with the service "Grab and Go". Library users can request library materials to be bagged for pick up and placed in a designated area. Library users can pick up the materials without entering the Library. No meetings or programming are currently scheduled.
- C. Town Hall Landscaping- The ADA Handicap Ramp and Parking Lot Project is now complete. Plants and flowers were planted on Friday. I want to thank Facilities Director Carlos Benjamin and Parks Director Jim Asam for their work in completing the planting.

- 8. Town Counsel Charles Boddy was present to continue the review of a proposed Electioneering Policy at Town Hall. The revised proposed policy will restrict electioneering to outside of Town owned land. Selectman O'Loughlin asked Charles to reach out to the School Administration to have them consider adopting a similar policy. Mr. Walsh moved, seconded by Mr. O'Loughlin: To adopt the electioneering Policy as drafted by Town Counsel. UNANIMOUS.
- 9. Chairman Kingkade read a Memo from Police Chief Mike Pighetti recommending a proposed Loading/Delivery Zone at 31 Central Street. Also present was Michael Aghajanian owner of Central Tavern. The Police Chief stated this will alleviate the current condition and enhance motor vehicle and pedestrian traffic, safety and efficiency. Mr. Walsh moved,

seconded by Mr. O'Loughlin: To adopt the recommendation of the Police Chief to create a Loading/Delivery Zone at 31 Central Street. UNANIMOUS.

10. The Board reviewed a Memo from Police Chief Mike Pighetti recommending the removal of two (2) handicap parking spaces located in front of 29 South Main Street which were originally located there to allow for the parking of an oversized vehicle for a severely handicapped child who resided at 29 South Main Street. The property has been sold and the handicap parking spaces are no longer needed. Mr. Walsh moved, seconded by Mr. O'Loughlin: To authorize the removal of the two (2) handicap parking spaces at 29 South Main Street. UNANIMOUS.
11. The Board reviewed a Memo from Police Chief Mike Pighetti recommending a moratorium on the requirement for a Police Detail on Friday and Saturday nights at Wendy's Restaurant. Mr. Walsh moved, seconded by Mr. O'Loughlin: To empower the Police Chief to decide to remove the detail requirement for a period of three (3) months at which time, the need for the detail will be reevaluated. UNANIMOUS.
12. Selectman O'Loughlin stated that Laura Wilton passed over an article at Town Meeting seeking to change the name Board of Selectmen to Select Board. There was also a Selectmen article which was passed over changing the name in the Town Bylaws. Mr. O'Loughlin moved, seconded by Mr. Walsh: To place the two (2) articles on the next Town Meeting Warrant to authorize the Selectmen to petition the Legislature to change the Board of Selectmen name to Select Board. UNANIMOUS.
13. Selectman O'Loughlin stated at Town Meeting it was represented that the Police and Fire budgets were "holding the line." He further stated the 4% increase in the Police budget is not just a step increase or contract negotiations, but includes a change from one (1) to three (3) lieutenant positions. He questions the authority of the Police Chief to create the new positions. He also is concerned as to how any promotions would take place as there is a created Hiring Policy that must be followed. He believes going back to six (6) sergeants would be costly in overtime. He said the Board should have been notified of the budget change and the budget should have been fully vetted. Mr. O'Loughlin moved, seconded by Mr. Walsh: To DIRECT THE POLICE CHIEF AND THE FINANCE DIRECTOR AS FOLLOWS: The Organizational Plan that was developed as part of the FY2021 Budget and submitted as a supplement thereto shall not be implemented either in part or as fully presented. Only promote or hire sworn personnel within the following parameters or positions: One Deputy Chief One Lieutenant (provided that there are only 9 Sergeant positions if this position is filled) Nine Sergeants (10 if the Lieutenant position is vacant) Thirty-Seven Police Officers For a total of forty-nine (49) sworn police personnel, to include the position of Chief of Police. That any promotions to the position of Lieutenant or Sergeant or hiring to the position of police officer shall be conducted in conformance with Milford Police

Department Policy and Procedures, 4.18 PROMOTIONS POLICY AND PROCEDURE and/or 4.23 – PERSONNEL SELECTION – POLICE OFFICERS That the Finance Director shall forthwith segregate and encumber \$117,939 from account number 210-5110 Salaries and Wages in the Police Department Budget to ensure that it is not expended without the approval of the Board of Selectmen. That the Police Chief and the Finance Director shall notify the Board of Selectmen concerning any promotions or demotions of any sworn personnel within the Police Department to ensure conformance with this motion during Fiscal Year 2021. IT IS A VOTE. (2 TO 1) Mr. Kingkade dissenting. Mr. Kingkade asked for the Board of Selectmen direction given to the Finance Director regarding the budgets. Mr. Walsh said he meant he did not want any employee being “cut” from the budget.

14. Mr. O’Loughlin asked that the issue of the day to day supervising of facilities and departments be placed on a future Selectmen Agenda for discussion.
15. Mr. Kingkade also requested the issue of reducing or eliminating personal property taxes, real estate taxes and licensing fees be placed on a future Selectmen Agenda for discussion.
16. Mr. Kingkade read a Memo from Police Chief Pighetti regarding notifications and police response to Opioid related calls for service. The Selectmen agreed on the implementation of the notification Policy as outlined in the Memo.
17. Mr. Kingkade read a letter from Residents of the Birch Hill at Milford Condominiums complaining of Amazon trucks speeding in their neighborhood. They also complained of noise pollution and littering. Chairman Kingkade requested the letter be sent to Police Chief Pighetti.
18. **INFORMATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE – NONE**
19. Mr. Walsh moved, seconded by Mr. O’Loughlin: To adjourn the Selectmen’s meeting at 8:44 PM, UNANIMOUS.

Richard A. Villani
Minutes Recorder

William E. Kingkade, Jr. Chairman

Michael K. Walsh

Thomas J. O’Loughlin