

MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION –September 28, 2015

ROOM 03 – TOWN HALL

7:00PM

PRESENT: Chairman Brian W. Murray, Esq., Selectmen William D. Buckley; William E. Kingkade Jr.; Town Administrator Richard A. Villani; and Minutes Recorder Jean M. DeTore.

1. Mr. Buckley moved, seconded by Mr. Kingkade: To sign the warrant, UNANIMOUS.
2. Mr. Buckley moved, seconded by Mr. Kingkade: To approve the minutes of September 14, 2015 as submitted, UNANIMOUS.
3. INVITATION TO SPEAK – Mr. Michael Visconti, a resident of Milford, stated that he would like to voice his concerns regarding the enforcement of the present Sign By-Law. Chairman Murray noted that this subject is scheduled on tonight's agenda and requested that Mr. Visconti hold his comments at this time but would allow him to speak when the subject is being discussed.
4. Chairman Murray noted that the petition received from Massachusetts Electric and New England Telephone to hold a Public Hearing for Plan #19743898 to install a new pole at 2 Palermo Street was cancelled at the request of National Grid since the new pole will now be installed on private property.
5. Chairman Murray presented a Proclamation to Police Chief Thomas J. O'Loughlin, Fire Chief William J. Touhey Jr. as well as several Police Officers and Firefighters in attendance; proclaiming September 28, 2015 as First Responders Day recognizing Massachusetts' first responders and the service of the men and women who are first to help those in need.
6. Building Commissioner John Erickson; Town Planner Larry Dunkin, AICP; Joseph Calagione, Chairman/Planning Board and Lena McCarthy, Member were present to request the selectmen's input and direction regarding the enforcement of the present Sign By-Law. Town Planner noted that since the recent ruling by the Supreme Court regarding signs, they have been discussing and will continue to work on revising the proposed draft dated 9-1-15 to present at the 2016 Annual Town Meeting for approval. Town Counsel Moody stated that the Supreme Court's decision is very definitive allowing for posting of signs and is not content based. He further noted that the board has two choices: He recommended either full enforcement of the current by-law, or simply do not enforce the by-law until we establish an amended by-law at the annual town meeting. Mr. Calagione and Ms. McCarthy noted that they will continue to discuss the by-law and request the boards input before presenting it to town meeting. Chairman Murray recognized Mr. Michael Visconti who voiced his concerns regarding the enforcement of the current sign by-law.

In his opinion, he would like the Building Commissioner to enforce the sign by-law “by the letter of the law” and NOT “selective enforcement.” Chairman Murray recognized Ms. Evelyn BonTempo who raised the question as to whether or not the proposed sign by-law would list time limitations for the posting of signs and stated that she fully supports enforcing the current by-law until it is amended at the Annual Town Meeting. After a discussion, Chairman Murray suggested enforcing the current zoning by-law as written under 3.9.1.2 No signs shall be placed within a public way or on public property except with a permit from the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Buckley and Mr. Kingkade stated they would like to consult with Town Counsel. Chairman Murray suggested placing the subject on the October 5, 2015 agenda for discussion and noted that after that meeting, the board would have a more definitive directive for the Building Commissioner.

7. Jose Costa, Reno DeLuzio and Steve Trettel were present to discuss Town Meeting enhancement initiatives. The discussion included what prompted the Citizens of Milford to take on the initiative to evaluate Town Meeting and recommend improvements, scope, methodology and requests from the Board of Selectmen. They also provided samples of Brookline and Lexington Town Meeting Handbooks. After a brief discussion, it was the consensus of the board: To endorse the initiative as stated in the proposed Methodology and request that interested residents submit their name to the Town Administrator for appointment. Mr. Trettel noted that after the 15 member Town meeting working group is established, they will keep the board informed of all key points discussed.

#### 8. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

1. Milford Water Company- I have been notified by David Condrey, Manager of the Milford Water Company, that with the current weather pattern and the steady decrease in the water levels at the Echo Lake Reservoir, the Water Company has increased the restriction level from a Stage II to a Stage III in order to prevent the levels from getting too low which would hinder their ability to recharge during winter months. The restriction allows for the use of a hand held hose only during the hours of 7:00 PM to 7:00 AM for no more than one hour daily. No irrigation systems, lawn sprinklers and unattended hoses may be used. The Stage III will remain in effect until further notice.
2. LED Replacement Bulb Project – The Town has filed an Application for free LED Lamps under the Mass Save Program which is a free Lamp offer for municipalities. We will install over 1400 LED Lamps in the Police Station, Town Hall, Memorial Hall, Animal Control and Senior Center. I want to recognize Building Commissioner, John Erickson and Maintenance Supervisor, Carlos Benjamin for taking prompt action in getting the information needed to submit the application.
3. Selectmen’s Meeting- I want to remind everyone we will have a Selectmen meeting next Monday, October 5<sup>th</sup>.

4. Fino Field Bridge- I am informed by Highway Surveyor, Scott Crisafulli, that the bridge at Fino Field was painted using inmates from the Worcester County Sheriff's Office.
9. Mr. Buckley noted that since the board received the proposed warrant articles for the Special Town Meeting scheduled for October 26, 2015 today, he requested that they be placed on the October 5, 2015 agenda for discussion and approval.
10. Mr. Buckley moved, seconded by Mr. Kingkade: To approve the request from the Milford Lions Club for a Toll Road on October 17, 2015 with a rain date of October 24, 2015 from 9:00AM to 2:00PM, UNANIMOUS.
11. Mr. Buckley moved, seconded by Mr. Kingkade: To approve the request submitted by the MHS Boosters Club, for a One-Day Wine and Malt License for Saturday, October 10, 2015, 12Noon – 8:00PM, UNANIMOUS.
12. After reviewing correspondence from Scott Crisafulli, Highway Surveyor regarding No Parking signs at Mt. Pleasant and Hayward Streets: Mr. Buckley requested input from the Highway Surveyor and Police and Fire Chiefs prior to the next meeting.
13. Mr. Buckley moved, seconded by Mr. Kingkade: To approve the request from Thomas J. O'Loughlin, Police Chief to dispose of three (3) surplus police vehicles as submitted, UNANIMOUS.
14. The board reviewed correspondence from Vonnie Reis, P.E., Town Engineer and Scott Crisafulli, Highway Surveyor regarding the Louisa Lake Dam Evaluation and Analysis prepared by GZA, and the request to proceed with a Peer Review of the report to get a second opinion on the costs and tasks required in order to develop an annual maintenance plan to ensure that the safety of the dam is maintained as well as closing out the existing contract with GZA since the town will not be proceeding with design, bidding and construction as planned as the status of the safety rating of the dam was upgraded from "Poor" to "Fair" by the Office of Dam Safety. Mr. Buckley raised the following:
  1. How did we go from \$100,000 to \$600,000 for initial cost estimates to bring the dam back into compliance?
  2. In his opinion, he does not feel that a peer review is necessary and requested that the Town Engineer be invited to the next meeting to discuss several concerns relative to change in status, possible re-scoping of work if we do some of the work ourselves and go out to bid again for the change in scope of work.
15. Mr. Kingkade requested that Town Administrator Villani obtain information for the possibility of providing closed captioning of the Local Channels from Milford TV.

**16. INFORMATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Vonnie Reis, Town Engineer, re: Monthly Status Report
2. Milford TV, re: Treasurer's Report June 30, 2015

17. Mr. Buckley reviewed correspondence from Zachary A. Taylor, Finance Director regarding the proposed article to provide Taxpayer relief from Free Cash Article for the October 26, 2015 Special Town Meeting. Mr. Buckley moved: To request a sustainable and responsible recommendation from Mr. Taylor to use \$2.8M out of free cash to provide taxpayer relief, seconded by Mr. Kingkade for discussion. Mr. Kingkade noted that if Free Cash is \$5.7M, there are still Capital Projects and the stabilization contribution to consider. UNANIMOUS.

18. Mr. Buckley moved, seconded by Mr. Kingkade: To adjourn the Selectmen's meeting at 9:19PM, UNANIMOUS.

Respectfully submitted:

MILFORD BOARD OF SELECTMEN

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Jean M. DeTore  
Minutes Recorder

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Atty. Brian W. Murray, Chairman

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William D. Buckley

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William E. Kingkade, Jr.