

MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION – MARCH 5, 2012

ROOM 03-TOWN HALL

7:00PM

PRESENT: Chairman Dino B. DeBartolomeis; Selectmen Brian W. Murray and William D. Buckley; Town Administrator Louis J. Celozzi; and Minutes Recorder Jean M. DeTore.

1. Mr. Murray moved, seconded by Mr. Buckley: To sign the warrant and approve the Minutes of February 13, 2012 as submitted, UNANIMOUS.

2. Citizen Participation – Chairman DeBartolomeis recognized Michael Denice, who voiced his concerns regarding crime in Milford for the past ten years. Mr. Denice stated that in his opinion, crime is on the rise and an issue in Milford. He referenced the horrific accident that caused the death of his brother Mathew and several other deaths due to fatal car accidents. He further stated that the Board should “tackle” the crime issues and work with the Police Chief to address these incidents. He suggested that the Board review crime statistics more frequently such as a five year period. He also noted that the Police Chief is doing a good job but needs to focus on crime and the Police Department needs more motivation to make the streets of Milford safer.

3. John Erickson, Building Commissioner updated the Board on the recent purchase and installation of Management Software in the Department of Inspections. He stated that the funds for the Permit Tracking Software were approved at the October 2011 Special Town Meeting and the installation and staff training were completed in mid January resulting in an immediate and positive impact. He further noted that the Municipality software program can electronically track permits for Building, Plumbing, Gas, Wiring, Sheet Metal, etc., listing contractors for the job site, permit status, inspection log, and attachment of electronic documents to an application. Complaint status can also be tracked, including overcrowding, illegal dwelling, etc., with follow ups automatically scheduled. It has the ability to track periodic inspections, generate automatic reminders to send renewal applications, attach copies of Zoning and Planning Board decisions to a parcel, review history of permits, access via Ipad in the field and review plans or specs while on site. The members thanked Mr. Erickson for implementing the system and using it to its full potential.

4. Thomas J. O’Loughlin, Police Chief was present to clarify Crime Statistics from 2004-2011. He stated that the Uniform Crime Report statistics and motor vehicle violation statistics report submitted was produced in response to a public records request and in reviewing these statistics, the FBI cautions on their website that “Figures used in this Report were submitted voluntarily by law enforcement agencies throughout the country. Also, individuals using these tabulations are cautioned in drawing conclusions by

making direct comparisons between cities. He further stated that in conducting an analysis, a shift in a small number can show a large percentage increase or decrease for that one offense. Also the FBI cautioned people who utilized these statistics to refrain from “cherry picking” particular statistics as this can “lead to simplistic and/or incomplete analyses that often create misleading perceptions adversely affecting communities and their residents. Chief O’Loughlin stated that in comparing 2011 to 2010 to gain a snapshot of the nature of criminal activity in the Milford community, he found that there was a DECREASE in every “Part I” serious crime category except Kidnapping and Abduction, a DECREASE in Murder, Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Arson, Burglary/Breaking and Entering, Larceny and Motor Vehicle Theft; total crime DECREASED by 9.4% when comparing 2011 to 2010. Chief O’Loughlin stated that both the available personnel and equipment for the Police Department is more than adequate. The statistics are used by law enforcement agencies to provide a snapshot of crimes. The Board commented on the professionalism of the department and their support of both the Police and Fire Departments.

5. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

- Monthly Financial Update – All budgets under the jurisdiction of the Board of Selectmen are on target with the exception of the Veterans’ Services Department. Mr. Pilla has informed me that based on his monthly expenditures of \$21,500, he has \$91,000 remaining for the next five months (\$18,200). He is seeking a transfer of \$20,000 at the Annual Town Meeting.
- Annual Town Meeting – May 21, 2012 – I’d like to remind department heads and other interested individuals that warrant articles must be submitted by Noon on March 22, 2012.
- 8 Blanchard Road – In what is hopefully my last report on this subject, I’m pleased to inform you that Mr. Germano advised me that he has taken out the necessary permits and, in fact, began reconstruction at this site.
- Senior Center Project – We began the second floor project last week with sprinkler and duct work being done, followed by electrical work today. We’re moving ahead quickly.

6. The Board reviewed correspondence from Michael Nicholson, Chairman, Commission on Disability, regarding the feasibility of an accessible fishing platform at Louisa Lake. Mr. Murray moved, seconded by Mr. Buckley: To authorize the Planning and Engineering Department to seek design and cost estimates for the above proposal, UNANIMOUS.

7. Mr. Murray requested that the Town Administrator seek input from the Finance Committee as to whether the budget sum of \$2,000.00 proposed by the Historical Commission for the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the dedication of General Draper’s statue in Draper Memorial Park be sought as a warrant article at the Annual Town Meeting or a one-time budget item in the Historical Commission’s FY13 budget.

8. The Board reviewed the Findings and Conditions for the Waldenwoods amended Special Permit that was submitted by Larry L. Dunkin, AICP Town Planner. Mr. Murray moved, seconded by Mr. Buckley: To approve the Findings and Conditions as submitted, UNANIMOUS.
9. Mr. Murray again requested that the Utility costs for the Milford Youth Center be funded for FY13. After a brief discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to seek input from the Finance Committee as to the method of funding, either by placing the money in the Milford Youth Commission's budget or in the Public Properties and Buildings budget under the jurisdiction of the Town Administrator.
10. Mr. Buckley, the Board's Liaison with the Milford Youth Commission, updated the Board on recent meetings with the Town Accountant, Finance Committee Chairman and Youth Commission members relative to the audit report. He stated that discussions included several system issues, action items and input on providing a packet to newly appointed members and establishing an orientation process. He will make recommendations to the Board at a future meeting.
11. Mr. Murray moved, seconded by Mr. Buckley: To award the contract for the Annual July 4th Fireworks display (July 3, 2012, Rain date July 5, 2012) to S. Vitale Pyrotechnic Ind. Inc. d/b/a Pyrotechnic, at the bid price of \$18,000.00, UNANIMOUS.
12. The Board reviewed correspondence from Ruth Anne Bleakney, Senior Center Director responding to the Board's request for her input on Tri-Valley, Inc. –Crisis Intervention Program. Ms. Bleakney stated that the town is very appreciative of all the services Tri-Valley provides for our elders but in her opinion the current in-kind support of Tri-Valley, Inc. exceeds the amount of their request for a donation.
13. The Milford Permanent Firefighters' Association has notified the Board of their Intent to Reopen the Contract to Bargain. Town Counsel Moody will begin the negotiation process.
14. Town Administrator Celozzi updated the Board on his the recent visit to Biomeasure, Inc. He was accompanied by Town Planner Dunkin, Town Counsel Moody, Fire Chief Touhey, Building Commissioner Erickson, and Town Engineer Santora. Officials at Biomeasure, Inc. confirmed their decision to construct a \$45M, 64,000 square foot building adjacent to their existing facility at 27 Maple Street in Milford. The Board authorized Town Administrator Celozzi to contact Biomeasure, Inc. to request a formal T.I.F. proposal for the Board's consideration regarding their expansion plans.

15. INFORMATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE

1. Council on Aging, re: Minutes of 12/13/11
2. Town Administrator, re: Capital Projects – Priority List
3. XFINITY, re: Digital Network Enhancement
4. XFINITY, re: Important Price Adjustment Information
5. Schedule of Meetings
6. Finance Committee, re: Contamination-Town owned property/Meeting
7. Town Engineer, re: ADA Enhancements – Upper Charles Trail/Phase III

16. Mr. Murray moved, seconded by Mr. Buckley: To adjourn the Selectmen's meeting at 7:55PM, UNANIMOUS. ROLL CALL VOTE: Chairman DeBartolomeis, and Selectmen Murray and Buckley vote in the affirmative to go into Executive Session to discuss strategy in relation to collective bargaining in relation to the Milford Police Department, and strategy relative to Benjamin Moore/DEP litigation, UNANIMOUS.

Respectfully submitted:

Jean M. De Tore
Minutes Recorder

MILFORD BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Dino B. DeBartolomeis, Chairman

Brian W. Murray, Esq.

William D. Buckley