**MILFORD FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**APRIL 26, 2023**

PRESENT: Al Correia (Chair), Bob DeVita, Brant Hornberger, Carly Kearnan, Andy Lizotte, Joyce Lavigne, David Levine, Chris Morin, Mike Nicholson, Mitch Ruscitti

Members present by Remote: Chuck Miklosovich, Jerry Hiatt

Also present by Remote: Attorney Gerry Moody

Members not present: John Tennaro, Vinny Valastro and Peter Wish

Also present: Zachary Taylor, Finance Director; Tom Brown, Town Accountant; Richard Villani, Town Administrator; Chris Pilla, Town Treasurer; and Paul Abbondanza, Financial Analyst.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Chris Morin moved to approve the 4-23-2023 Minutes, seconded by Mitch Ruscitti, 11 in favor. 1 abstained, Bob DeVita. Roll Call

Mike Nicholson reported on the School Budget: The School Sub-committee voted in favor of the Budget at $59,370,028. Mitch Ruscitti moved to accept the School Budget at $59,370,028, seconded by Chris Morin, 11 in favor, 1 abstained, Andy Lizotte. Roll Call

Article 11- Select Board: To see if the Town will vote to rescind its vote under Article 21 of the May 21, 2007 Annual Town Meeting which vote sought the relocation and alternation of Old Cedar Street, and to hear the report of the Select Board on the discontinuance,, relocation and alteration of Old Cedar Street and to see if the town will vote to authorize the Select Board to take by eminent domain, or otherwise acquire the rights and land necessary for relocation and alteration. Mitch Ruscitti moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Chris Morin, all in favor. Roll Call

Article 12 – Select Board: To see if the Town will vote to rescind its vote under Article 22 of the May 21, 2007 Annual Town Meeting , which vote sought to discontinue as a public way certain portions of the Old Cedar Street Right-of-Way. Mitch Ruscitti moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Chris Morin, all in favor. Roll Call

Article 21: Milford Upper Charles Trail Committee: To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 34 of the Town of Milford General By-Laws regulating the use of Town of Milford Bicycle Paths, Trails and Associated Areas to allow the use of electric bicycles and electric tricycles on the bicycle paths. Bob DeVita, moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Carly Kearnan, 9 in favor, 3 opposed, Chris Morin, Mitch Ruscitti and Brant Hornberger. Roll Call

Article 23: Board of Health: Passed over.

Article 24: Milford Youth Center: Passed over.

Article 26: Select Board: $220,000. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate available funds to be spent for engineering, consulting and legal expenses in relation to the cleanup of environmental hazard on town property off the Charles River Trail behind Benjamin Moore Co. and Summer Realty Trust. Chris Morin moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Bob DeVita, all in favor. Roll Call

Article 27: Dog Park Study: $5000. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate funds to be spent under the jurisdiction of the Select Board for purposes of planning and other activity necessary to establish a dog park in Milford. Bob DeVita moved for a favorable recommendation for $5000 to be used for a study, seconded by Chris Morin, 11 in favor, 1 opposed, Mitch Ruscitti. Roll Call

Bob DeVita moved to come back to Article 26 for an Emergency Transfer Request for $30,000 to conduct an environmental study of the upper Charles Trail cleanup. Andy Lizotte moved to approve the Emergency Transfer Request, seconded by Carly Kearnan, all in favor. Roll Call

Article 1: Select Board: To hear and act upon reports of all Town officers and committees of the Town. Bob DeVita moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Carly Kearnan, all in favor. Roll Call

Article 2: Personnel Board: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Wage and Salary Schedule of the Wage and Salary Administration Plan by establishing new position levels and salary levels beginning July 1, 2023. Mike Nicholson moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Bob DeVita, all in favor. Roll Call

Article 3: Select Board: To see if the Town will vote to fix the salary and compensation of all elected officers of the Town. Mike Nicholson moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Andy Lizotte, all in favor. Roll Call

Article 4: Select Board: $142,940,173: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate such sums of money to defray expenses for the financial year beginning July 1, 2023. Bob DeVita moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Andy Lizotte, all in favor. Roll Call

Article 5: Select Board/Town Treasurer: To see if the Town will vote to enact certain measures as set forth herein which are presented each year to the Annual Town Meeting. Chris Morin moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Carly Kearnan, all in favor. Roll Call

Article 6: School Committee: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the expenditure of the available balance in fund 296 Comcast Verizon PEG access. Chris Morin moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Brant Hornberger, all in favor. Roll Call

Article 7: School Committee: To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money, consistent with the funds raised from vending machines in the Milford School District, for the purpose of student activities not funded by the school budget. Carly Kearnan moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Chris Morin, all in favor. Roll Call

Article 8: Select Board: To see if the Town will vote to raise funds to fund the first two years of the Milford Police Department Collective Bargaining Agreement retroactive July 1, 2021. Carly Kearnan moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Brant Hornberger, all in favor. Roll Call

Article 9: Select Board: To see if the Town will vote to raise funds to fund the first year of the Fire Union Collective Bargaining Agreement retroactive July 1, 2022. Passed Over

Article 10: Select Board: To see if the Town will vote raise funds to fund the first year of the Library Union Collective Bargaining Agreement retroactive to July 1, 2022. Passed Over

Article 13: Select Board: To see if the Town will vote to grant the Select Board the authority to research, develop and participate in a contract to aggregate the electricity load of residents and business in the Town of Milford and other related services. Bob DeVita moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Mike Nicholson, all in favor. Roll Call

Article 14: Select Board: To see if the Town will vote to raise funds to be utilized to fund the Finance Director personal services contract. Chris Morin moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Andy Lizotte, all in favor. Roll Call

Article 15: Town Treasurer: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer to withdraw $2,000,000 from the Sewer Stabilization Account 83500 for the purpose of utilization to offset partial borrowing for the Field Pond Project. Chris Morin moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Carly Kearnan, 11 in favor, 1 abstained Mitch Ruscitti. Roll Call

Article 16: Select Board: To see if the Town will vote to raise funds to be utilized to fund the Town Administrative personal service contract. Chris Morin moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Mitch Ruscitti, al in favor. Roll Call

Article 17: Planning Board¨ To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning Bylaw relating to the Zoning Map and to the Water Resource Protection District Map. Chris Morin moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Carly Kearnan, all in favor. Roll Call

Article 18: Town Treasurer: $55,000: To see if the Town will vote to raise funds to offset the deficit in the Tax Title account for the current fiscal year. Mitch Ruscitti moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by David Levine, all in favor. Roll Call

Article 19: Conservation Commission: To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 33 of the General By Laws relating to Wetlands Administration: David Levine moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Mike Nicholson, all in favor. Roll Call

Article 20: Select Board: To see if the Town will vote to raise funds to fund the first two years of a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Milford Waste Water Treatment Plant employees retroactive to July 1, 2021. Passed Over

Article 22: Blackstone Valley Regional District School Committee: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate funds to be utilized by the Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional School District for the purpose of undertaking activities necessary for capital projects. Passed Over

Article 23: Board of Health: To see if the Town will vote to raise funds in the amount of $20,000 for funding the collection and disposal of trash and recycling. Passed Over

Article 24: Milford Youth Commission: To see if the Town will vote to raise funds to be spent under the jurisdiction of the Select Board to complete the music/multi-purpose media center at the Milford Youth Center. Passed Over

Article 25: Personnel Board: To see if the Town will vote to amend the Personnel By-Laws by striking Section 3.10 and replacing it. Mitch Ruscitti moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Chris Morin, all in favor. Roll Call

Article 28: Finance Director: To see if the Town will vote to close out certain Special Article Accounts to the General Funds of the Town. Chris Morin moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Mitch Ruscitti, all in favor. Roll Call

Article 29: Finance Director: $190,000: To see if the Town will vote to transfer funds between certain line items voted under Article 4 of the May 23, 2022 Annual Town Meeting for the purpose of making funds available in line-item accounts not sufficiently funded through the end of Fiscal Year 2023. Carly Kearnan moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Andy Lizotte, all in favor. Roll Call

Sub-Committee Report: Country Side: Discussion followed concerning trustees, audits, etc. and suggestions from the members to have a subcommittee meeting Countryside to discuss these issues.

Bob DeVita moved to adjourn, seconded by Carly Kearnan, all in favor. Roll Call

Meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Diana Hearns

Documents review: Milford Town Warrant, and Emergency Transfer Request