**MILFORD FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**OCTOBER 11, 2023**

PRESENT: Al Correia (Chairman), Bob DeVita (7:10), Jerry Hiatt, Brant Hornberger, Carly Kearnan, Andy Lizotte, Joyce Lavigne, David Levine, Chris Morin, Mike Nicholson, Vinny Valastro and Lauren Wilton.

Members not present: Charles Miklosovich, Mitchell Riscitti and John Tennaro

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

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

Chris Morin moved to approve the 6-21-23 Minutes, seconded by Brant Hornberger, all in favor.

Andy Lizotte moved to approve the corrected 9-13-23 Minutes, seconded by Lauren Wilton, all in favor.

Article 3 – Police Chief: To see if the Town will vote to raise available funds to implement traffic surveillance infrastructure at locations throughout the Town. Jerry Hiatt moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Carly Kearnan, 10 in favor, 1 opposed (Lauren Wilton), 1 abstained (Bob DeVita).

Article 35 – Police Chief: $465,000 - To see if the Town will vote to raise funds to demolish or replace all three basement locker rooms in the Milford Police Station. Chris Morin moved for a favorable recommendation, second by Jerry Hiatt, all in favor.

Article 39 – Police Chief: $500,000 – To see if the Town will vote to raise funds under Article 7 of the October 24, 2022 Special Town Meeting, to supplement and strengthen resources available to communities and families for substance abuse disorder prevention, harm reduction, treatment and recovery. David Levine moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Chris Morin, all in favor.

Article 2 – Select Board: $60,000 - To see if the Town will vote to raise funds to be utilized to establish and/or maintain a regional Substance Abuse Outreach Program in the greater Milford area. Bob DeVita moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Jerry Hiatt, all in favor.

Article 4 – Board of Library Trustees: $50,000 – To see if the Town will vote to raise funds to be spent to replace the Milford Town Library’s main floor fire suppression system. Jerry Hiatt moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Andy Lizotte, all in favor.

Article 7 – Board of Library Trustees: $25,000 – To see if the Town will vote to raise funds to be spent for the purpose of replacing worn and damaged library furnishings. Mike Nicholson moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Vinny Valastro.

Article 28 –IT Department/Police Chief: $1.150 million – To see if the Town will vote to raise funds for the purpose of addressing compliance upgrades and replacement for public safety and Town Hall systems Mike Nicholson moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Carly Kearnan, all in favor.

Article 24 – IT Department/Select Board: $150,000 – To see if the Town will vote to raise funds for the purpose of upgrading and replacing the audio system in the Upper Town Hall. Bob DeVita moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Chris Morin, all in favor.

Article 14 – Select Board/Sewer Commission: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the extension of an Agreement dated August 28, 2023 between Milford Power LLC and the Town to be made effective for a fifteen year term from it execution; the aforesaid Agreement sets the rates of payment by Milford Power LLC for water purchased from the Sewer Treatment Plant, guarantees the payment to the Town during the term of the extension of a minimum of at $1,000,000 per fiscal year in real estate taxes. Andy Lizotte moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Chris Morin, all in favor.

Article 42- Select Board: $350,000 – To see if the Town will vote to raise funds to be utilized to supplement the Town Liability Claims Fund. Chris Morin moved for a favorable recommendation, second by Vinny Valastro, all in favor.

Article 19 – Finance Director: $10,600 – To see if the Town will vote to raise funds to pay an unpaid bill from a prior fiscal year in the amount of $10,600.Chris Morin moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Brant Hornberger, all in favor.

Article 15 – Highway Surveyor: $100,000 – To see I the Town will vote to raise funds in the amount of $100,000 for the purpose of purchasing a new truck mounted leaf vacuum. Bob DeVita moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Mike Nicholson, all in favor.

Article 45 – Highway Surveyor: $175,000 - To see if the Town will vote to raise funds to be spent for the purpose of purchasing a new loader mounted snow blower for winter snow removal and clearing operations. Jerry Hiatt moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Bob DeVita, all in favor.

Article 16 – Park Commissioners: $740,000 - To see if the Town will vote to raise funds for the renovation of both Town Park and the Pearl Street Court area which will include walkways, fencing, lighting outdoor fitness court, tennis/pickle ball courts, basketball/street hockey courts, and new bathrooms. Chris Morin moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Jerry Hiatt, all in favor.

Article 46 – Park Commissioners: $150,000 – They will pass over at Town Meeting.

Article 47 – Park Commissioners: $20,000 – To see if the Town will vote to raise funds for a feasibility study and for the provision of conceptual design services at various locations to assist in determining a location for a skate park to be constructed in the Town of Milford. Brant Hornberger moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Vinny Valastro, all in favor.

Article 48 – Park Commissioners: $600,000 – To see if the Town will vote to raise funds for repairs, paving and lining of parking lots and pathways throughout the town parks. Jerry Hiatt moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Vinny Valastro, 10 in favor, 2 opposed (Bob DeVita and Mike Nicholson)

Article 25 – Town Treasurer: To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Chapter 44, Section 54 of the General Laws, as amended by Section 26 of Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2023, to be accepted pertaining to investment of Town Trust Funds. Jerry Hiatt moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by David Levine, all in favor.

Article 29 – Town Treasurer: $2,000,000: To see if the Town will vote to rescind $2,000,000 of authorized and unissued bonds for the Field Pond Sewer Project. Jerry Hiatt moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Andy Lizotte, all in favor.

Article 1 – Select Board: $150,000: Tow see if the Town will vote to raise funds in the amount of $150,000 to continue to address the town wide ADA improvement plan of any other ADA improvement project to benefit the Town. Jerry Hiatt moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Mike Nicholson, all in favor.

Article 6 – Industrial Development Commission/Select Board: To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 6 of the General By-Laws of the Town of Milford relating to the Industrial Development Commission: Jerry Hiatt moved to refer to sponsor, seconded by Mike Nicholson, all in favor.

Article 9 – Select Board: To see if the Town will vote to amend its vote under Article 39 of the October 24, 2022 Special Town Meeting so that said vote will include the Milford Town Hall and Memorial Hall as buildings to have their elevator systems upgraded. David Levine moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Carly Kearnan, all in favor.

Article 10 – Personnel Board: To see if the Town will vote to amend its vote under Article 2 of the May 22, 2023 Annual Town Meeting by changing the Grade for the position of Director of Information Technology from Grade 13 to Grade 14. Bob DeVita moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by David Levine, all in favor.

Article 8 – Conservation Commission: $20,000: To see if the Town will vote to raise funds to be utilized by the Milford Highway Surveyor for the acquisition and installation of security gates at the Haven Street and Walden Way wood road entrances to 185 acre Town-owned “Waldenwoods” Planned Residential Development Open Space parcel. Vinny Valastro moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Jerry Hiatt, all in favor.

Article 11 – Personnel Board: To see if the Town will vote to amend Section 5.8(A) of the Personnel By-Laws of the Town. Chris Morin moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Vinny Valastro, all in favor.

Article 12 – Personnel Board: To see if the Town will vote to amend Section 5.6 of the Personnel By-Laws of the Town. Chris Morin moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Jerry Hiatt, all in favor.

Article 13 – Personnel Board: To see if the Town will vote to amend Section 1.6 “Definitions” of the Personnel By-Laws of the Town. Jerry Hiatt moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Carly Kearnan, all in favor.

Article 17 – Board of Sewer Commissioners: $350,000 – To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money to be spent for replacement of a High Pressure Jet Truck and to determine how said sum shall be raised. Carly Kearnan moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Jerry Hiatt, all in favor.

Article 18 – Town Meeting Study and Improvement Committee: To see if the Town will vote to dissolve the Town Meeting Study and Improvement Committee and further vote to rescind the standing vote entitled “Town Meeting Study and Improvement Committee” in its entirety. Jerry Hiatt moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Lauren Wilton, all in favor.

Article 23 – Select Board: $82,000 - To see if the Town will vote to raise funds to supply and install carpet tiles at the Milford Police Station. Vinny Valastro moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Jerry Hiatt, all in favor.

Article 27 – Fire Chief: To see if the Town will vote to raise funds to be expended under the jurisdiction of the Fire Chief to repair the training building located behind the Birch Street Fire Station. Carly Kearnan moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Vinny Valastro, all in favor.

Article 30 – Fire Chief: $45,000 - To see if the Town will vote to raise funds to be spent under the jurisdiction of the Fire Chief to replace all exterior and interior lighting in the Birch Street Fire Station. Mike Nicholson moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Vinny Valastro, all in favor.

Article 32 – Select Board: $250,000: To see if the Town will vote to raise funds to be utilized to replenish the Compensated Absences Fund. Carly Kearnan moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Mike Nicholson, all in favor.

Article 33 – Fire Chief: To see if the Town will vote to raise funds to be spent under the jurisdiction of the Fire Chief for the purchase and equipment of a new rescue truck. Brant Hornberger moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Carly Kearnan, all in favor.

Article 34- Select Board: To see if the Town will vote to raise funds to be utilized to replace the HVAC system at the Milford Animal Control building. Mike Nicholson moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Lauren Wilton, all in favor.

Article 36 – Fire Chief: To see if the Town will vote to raise funds to be spent under the jurisdiction of the Fire Chief for the purchase of a new staff vehicle. David Levine moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Carly Kearnan, all in favor.

Article 38 – Select Board: $250,000 – To see if the Town will vote to raise funds to be used for payment of medical bills and other expenses incurred in relation to injuries to police officers or fire fighters, said sum to be deposited in the Special Injury Leave Indemnity Funds. Jerry Hiatt moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Bob DeVita, all in favor.

Article 40 – Select Board: $160,000 – To see if the Town will vote to raise funds to be utilized for payment for the services of Labor Counsel representing the Town general government in labor negotiations and labor matters with all general government unions. Jerry Hiatt moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Vinny Valastro, all in favor.

Article 41 – Select Board: To see if the Town will raise funds to supply and install carpet tiles to the common area and offices of the Town Hall. Vinny Valastro moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by Jerry Hiatt, all in favor.

Article 44 – Select Board: To see if the Town will vote to raise funds to be utilized for repairs to the Purchase Street Fire House located at 279 Purchase Street. Jerry Hiatt moved for a favorable recommendation, seconded by David Levine, all in favor.

Andy Lizotte moved to adjourn, seconded by Jerry Hiatt, all in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Diana Hearns.

Documents reviewed: Town Warrant