

TOWN MANAGER



Town of Milton Vermont, 43 Bombardier Road, Milton, VT 05468
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Manager's Report

By Brian Palaia, Town Manager

Dear Residents,

I would like to take this opportunity to share an update on some events happening in Town.

Capital Projects

Route 7/Middle Road/Railroad Street Intersection Redesign: We met this month with VTrans staff. They committed to making this project happen as originally anticipated although in a way that may require a more complex approach and more Town cost sharing. The Agency offered their support to amend our tax increment financing district approvals for the Town Core so that the increased "local" share will not impact the tax rate. More details will be available next month.

Fleet: This month the Town took delivery of its last new replacement truck for this year – a single axle 7 yard dump truck. The Town finally has one back up vehicle for snow plowing.

Solar Project: Three of the six proposals received are still under review. The Town may choose one or more contractors to proceed with either a net metering proposal to save the Town on its electric bill and/or a solar park that would allow for residents and businesses to save on their individual bills. It may take a month or two to work through these details.

Route 7 Planning and Zoning Ordinance Amendments: A Route 7 advisory committee meeting took place earlier this month to review possible solutions to problems identified. The consultant on the committee also integrated the recommendations of the Improvements Committee regarding pedestrian scale street lighting, way finding signage, banners, and street trees. The VTrans staff present at the meeting indicated the Town may have to acquire and maintain portions of Route 7 to implement these improvements.

The Selectboard adopted the proposed revisions to the zoning regulations after their hearing at their meeting this month. These changes increase the requirements for amenities in planned unit developments in Milton's primary zoning districts and limit the possibility that adult oriented businesses could locate in Milton.

Town Forest: We are working on a grant application to fund Town Forest trail improvements. We are going to apply for the maximum of \$50,000 in funding towards these improvements. We'll be asking the Selectboard to consider and approve this



Milton Town Forest & Milton Pond

application at a regular meeting in January.

Home Improvement Loans: Increased low-interest loans are now available through Milton's sponsorship of a grant application on behalf of Champlain Housing Trust. Please contact Champlain Housing Trust at 802-862-6244 or visit www.getahome.org/loans for more information.

Fiscal Year 2016 Budget: This month the Town Manager, departments, and Selectboard will be assembling and reviewing the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2016. The Selectboard will be meeting January 6, 7, 13, and 14th at 6 pm to review budget detail. The Selectboard will also host a budget social on January 24th at the Municipal Building for the public to preview their proposal before it is finalized for Town Meeting. Child care will be available for those who need it and would like to attend. The Town Manager's budget has a proposed tax rate increase of 2.6%, which would represent about a \$31 increase on the typically assessed residential home.

Department Updates

Police: Sergeant Palasik is going to be retiring at the end of January after many years of service to the Town of Milton. We wish him much happiness in his retirement.

The Milton Police have seen a slight increase in burglaries in November on Lake Road, Westford Road, Everest Road, and Middle Road. Anyone with information on any of these burglaries is asked to call Det. Cpl. Locke at the Milton Police Station (893-2424).

Recreation: The Department's Winter-Spring Program Guide will be published in the Milton Independent on January 8th.

Run for Office: Milton residents can petition to run for the following elected offices this Town Meeting:

ELECTED POSITIONS

To be voted on at March Annual Meeting

DEADLINE FOR PETITIONS IS 5:00 PM ON 1/26/15

Moderator	1 Year Term
Selectboard	3 Year Term
Selectboard	1 Year Term
Selectboard	1 Year Term
Town Clerk	3 Year Term
Town Treasurer	3 Year Term
Library Trustee	5 Year Term
School Trustee	3 year Term

School Trustee Unexpired 2 yr. - 1 yr remaining

School Trustee 1 Year Term

Petitions must contain a minimum of **30 Legally Registered Milton** voter's signatures and may be obtained Monday-Friday (8:00-5:00) at the Town Clerk's Office or on line from the Secretary of State's Office.



Board and Commission Positions and Vacancies

The Town is accepting applications for the following positions:

- Development Review Board Alternates: two unexpired 1-year terms

You can download an application for these positions at:

<http://www.miltonvt.org/images/pdf/files/apps/Comm-BoardApp.pdf>.

You can turn in your application to the Town Manager's Office by mail at 43 Bombardier Road or by email to ajanda@town.milton.vt.us.



Upcoming Meetings

(Meetings subject to cancellation or change)

- Selectboard – January 5, 6, 7, 13, 14, 19, 24, and 26 at 6 pm
- Development Review Board – January 8 and January 22 at 7 pm
- Planning Commission – January 6 and 20 at 7 pm
- Recreation Commission – January 7 at 6 pm
- Conservation Commission – To Be Determined
- Library Trustees – January 6 at 6:30 pm



The Municipal Building will be **closed** New Year's Day.

Thank you to the elected officials, appointed Board and Commission members, volunteer fire and rescue members, and staff whose work is making Milton a better place. Best wishes to you all for the New Year.