

1 Town of Milton  
2 Selectboard Meeting Minutes  
3 January 26, 2015 6:00 PM Board Meeting  
4 Community Room  
5

6 **Selectboard Members Present:** Darren Adams, Chair; John Gifford, Vice Chair; John Bartlett, Clerk;  
7 Stuart King (via Skype), and Brenda Steady

8 **Selectboard Members Not Present:** none

9 **Staff Members Present:** Brian Palaia, Town Manager; Erik Wells, Executive Assistant/HR Coordinator;  
10 Jake Hemmerick, Town Planner  
11

12 **Others Present:** Henry Bonges, Planning Commission Member; Julie Rutz, Planning Commission  
13 Member; Tony Micklus, Planning Commission Member  
14

15 I. **Call to Order** – Adams called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.  
16

17 II. **Flag Salute** – Adams led the attendees in a Salute to the Flag.  
18

19 III. **Budget Review**  
20

21 A) **Discussion and Finalization of FY 2016 Budget, Ballot Items, and Town Meeting**  
22 **Warning**

23 Palaia stated the revised FY '16 budget reflects the additional changes the Board  
24 requested last week with a \$120,000 increase to the paving line item followed by a 1%  
25 reduction in the budget overall. This is a 2 cent tax rate increase, with a 4.1% budget  
26 increase overall. Adams asked if additional savings could be found to set the budget  
27 increase at 3.9% from FY '15 by cutting an additional \$10,000. After discussion, it was  
28 determined an additional \$7,500 would be cut from the contingency budget and the  
29 \$2,500 allocated to cover membership to the National League of Cities & Towns line  
30 item would be cut from the Selectboard budget to achieve the additional \$10,000 in  
31 savings.  
32

33 Gifford motioned to adopt a budget for Fiscal Year 2016 in the amount of \$7,519,071 of  
34 which to be raised by taxes is \$5,391,568. Second by Bartlett. **Approved unanimously.**  
35

36 Palaia stated the Articles to be approved for the Town Meeting Warning: 1) Acceptance  
37 of the Town Report; 2) Election of Town/School Officials; 3) The FY '16 Budget; 4) Tax  
38 exempt status for the Milton Family Community Center for five years; 5) Acceptance of  
39 general obligation bonds to not exceed \$2,400,000 to finance Route 7 Corridor  
40 improvements in the Town Core.  
41

42 Gifford motioned to adopt the resolution of the certificate for the indebtedness as  
43 presented. Seconded by Bartlett. **Approved unanimously.**  
44

45 Gifford motioned to adopt the declaration of the official intent of the Town of Milton to  
46 reimburse certain expenditures from proceeds of indebtedness. Seconded by Bartlett.  
47 **Approved unanimously.**

48 Gifford motioned to warn Town Meeting by accepting the agenda of Articles 1-5.  
49 Seconded by Bartlett. **Approved unanimously.**  
50

51 **B) Town Manager Transition Status**

52 Palaia stated that he is working on a transition memo to provide Interim Town Manager  
53 Paul Bohne. He participated in meetings with staff last week addressing the bid award  
54 selection for the solar projects and current litigation suits the Town is involved in. The  
55 memo gives high level background of ongoing Town projects, next steps and where to  
56 go to find resources. Palaia said he is hoping to get a meeting with VTrans by the end of  
57 the week if possible. It was discussed that the Board can reappoint the Interim Manager  
58 to take the place of Palaia on Boards and Commissions or advertise so other members of  
59 the community can take part. Adams said this could be addressed at the next Board  
60 meeting or staff members could be assigned as this could take away from Bohne's time.  
61 Bartlett affirmed that emergency operations protocols were in place during this  
62 transition. Bohne will begin serving as Interim Town Manager on Monday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>.  
63

64 **C) Possible Reconsideration of Public Hearing for Interim Zoning on February 17th**

65 Adams stated since this item was added to the agenda at the January 20<sup>th</sup> meeting after  
66 the agenda was posted charter requires it to be warned by the Board again so comment  
67 can be heard from the public in a transparent process.  
68

69 Palaia stated this notice would put interim zoning in place that could last up to two  
70 years. Currently there are a number of developments in different stages of their  
71 approval process. It may deter developers from wanting to pursue projects in Milton  
72 during this period. This notice could potentially invalidate approvals that were already  
73 made. Gifford stated holding a public hearing enables the Board to step back and listen  
74 to public input regarding this matter and the direction for the zoning it affects.  
75

76 Planning Commission Members present stated development could still take place in the  
77 M4 District if it followed the Interim Zoning Guidelines. The Commission is unanimously  
78 in favor of interim zoning because there is a serious problem with commercial  
79 development in the M4 district due to residential development. The Commission wants  
80 to reevaluate based on new information that has recently come in, and correct what is  
81 happening in the M4 district if Milton is to grow in the way envisioned. It was stated  
82 there are no conflicts of interest held by Commission Members. *(Note: The M4 District  
83 stretches roughly along Route 7 in the town core from West Milton Rd. to Bombardier  
84 Rd.).*  
85

86 Adams stated he doesn't want to be in a situation where displeasure with the direction  
87 the M4 district's development is headed is ongoing. The Town is riding on the success of  
88 this downtown area, and if it is filled with just residential or multi-family development  
89 then the plans for the future will not happen, he added. The Board hopes it would not  
90 take two years to make the changes. The Planning Commission is seeking additional  
91 public comment and insight from developers on this and views a public hearing as the  
92 means to accomplish this. Adams stated the public hearing on February 17<sup>th</sup> opens the  
93 door on this process.  
94

95 Gifford motioned to reaffirm the public hearing for interim zoning on Feb 17th as  
96 presented at the January 20<sup>th</sup> meeting. Second by Bartlett. **Approved unanimously.**  
97

98 IV. Adjournment

99

100 Gifford motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 p.m. Second by Barlett. **Approved**  
101 **unanimously.**

102

103 *These proceedings were live-streamed and filmed by LCATV and audio-recorded by the Town.*

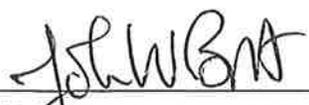
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Respectfully Submitted,

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106

107

 Date: 2/2/15

108

John Bartlett, Selectboard Clerk

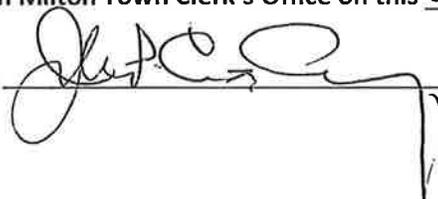
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Filed with Milton Town Clerk's Office on this 2nd day of Feb, 2015

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112

ATTEST:  Milton Assistant Town Clerk

