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APPROVED

MINUTES OF THE MILFORD BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
January 30, 2012

PRESENT: Nate Carmen, Chairman
Gary Daniels, Vice Chairman
Selectman Finan, Member
Selectman Putnam, Member
Katherine Bauer, Member
Guy Scaife, Town Administrator
Peg Ouellette, Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER, BOARD OF SELECTMEN INTRODUCTIONS & PUBLIC SPEAKING

INSTRUCTIONS: Chairman Carmen called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. He stated that at 6 p.m. there will be a break for a non-public session to discuss a legal issue and land acquisition. At 6:30 the Board will resume to meet with the Budget Advisory Committee to go over concerns and questions from voters taken this past week. At 7 p.m. he will open the public forum. He then introduced the members of the Board.

2. DISCUSSION

Discussion of proposed warrant articles: Chairman Carmen suggested going straight to a vote on each one, since there has been much discussion. He noted that Selectman Putnam was not at the last meeting and said he would indicate the vote on each as it stands, for point of reference.

Article 3, Ambulance Facility, \$2,214,000 – Vice-Chairman Daniels made motion to support this article. Selectman Bauer seconded. Motion passed unanimously, 5 to 0.

Article 4, Operating Budget, \$11,767,325 – Selectman Putnam moved to support; Selectman Finan seconded. Motion passed unanimously, 5 to 0.

Article 5, Wastewater Department Treatment Operating Budget, \$1,693,966 - Selectman Putnam moved to support. Selectman Finan seconded. Motion passed unanimously, 5 to 0. Vice-Chairman Daniels asked why a vote was being taken. There was discussion. Town Administrator Scaife said because they are a governing body the Board needs to vote since it is not a user item; it is used by the entire town. Selectman Finan said they are not a governing body, and the whole town uses it. Selectman Bauer said they vote on the library even though the Trustees are elected. Chairman Carmen said they will follow Attorney Drescher's request, which was for them to vote on this article. Vice-Chairman Daniels asked what they were voting on. They have never talked about any specifics on it; is anybody except Selectman Putnam familiar with it? Selectman Bauer said she heard about it at the bond hearing and doesn't remember disagreeing with anything. Chairman Carmen had heard it but if Vice-Chairman Daniels is not comfortable he can abstain from voting. Selectman Finan said they will vote again after the Deliberative Session, so Vice-Chairman Daniels may abstain and vote then. Town Administrator Scaife said both budgets are a little below last year's budget. After a short discussion, a motion was made and seconded. All voted in favor and motion passed unanimously, 5 to 0.

Article 6, Water Treatment Operating Budget, \$1,361,299 – Selectman Putnam moved to support. Selectman Bauer seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously, 5 to 0.

Article 7, Engine # 4 Replacement, \$67,700 – Selectman Putnam made motion to support. Selectman Bauer seconded. Motion passed unanimously, 5 to 0.

Article 8, Backhoe, Rubber-Tired, \$26,300 – Selectman Putnam moved to support. Selectman Finan seconded. Motion passed unanimously, 5 to 0.

Selectman Bauer asked about when the votes were done last time and when the article title gave a total amount and not the amount that would be appropriated; that question came up at Budget and Bond. Town Administrator Scaife said the title will note the full amount as well as the annual payment.

- 1
2 **Article 9, AFSCME Contract Renewal, \$50,510** – Selectman Putnam moved to support. Selectman Finan seconded.
3 Selectman Bauer abstained. Motion passed, 4 – 0 – 1 with one abstention.
4
5 **Article 10, Teamsters Contract Renewal, \$21,035** – Selectman Putnam moved to support. Selectman Bauer
6 seconded. Motion passed unanimously, 5 to 0.
7
8 **Article 11, Social Services, \$35,000** – Selectman Putnam moved to support. Selectman Bauer seconded. Motion
9 passed 4 to 1 with Vice-Chairman Daniels opposed.
10
11 **Article 12, Non-Emergency Community Transportation Bus Service, \$26,500** – Selectman Putnam made motion
12 to support. Selectman Bauer seconded. Motion passed unanimously, 5 to 0.
13
14 **Article 13, Conservation Land Fund \$10,000** – Selectman Putnam moved to support. Selectman Bauer seconded.
15 It was mentioned that this is being presented at \$10,000 and it failed at \$20,000. The Board decided to skip over it for
16 now.
17
18 **Article 14, Pumpkin Festival, Holiday Decorations & Plantings, \$20,000** – Selectman Putnam made motion to
19 support. Selectman Bauer seconded. Motion passed unanimously, 5 to 0.
20
21 **Article 15, Do-It Operating Budget Support, \$20,000** - Selectman Putnam moved to support. Selectman Finan
22 seconded. Motion passed unanimously, 5 to 0.
23
24 **Article 16, Jennison Road Bridge Replacement, \$18,000** - Selectman Putnam made a motion to support. Selectman
25 Bauer seconded. Motion passed unanimously, 5 to 0.
26
27 **Article 17, Summer Band Concerts, \$8,000** - Selectman Putnam moved to support the summer band concerts.
28 Selectman Finan seconded. Motion passed unanimously, 5 to 0.
29
30 **Article 18, Memorial, Veterans & Labor Day Parade Town Support, \$8,000** - Selectman Putnam moved to
31 support Memorial Veterans & Labor Day Parade. Selectman Bauer seconded. Motion passed unanimously 5 to 0.
32
33 **Article 19, Fireworks, \$4,500** – Selectman Putnam moved to support fireworks. Selectman Finan seconded. Motion
34 passed 4 to 1, with Vice-Chairman Daniels opposed.
35
36 **Article 20, Authorize the Board of Selectmen to Rent or Lease Town-owned Property (RSA 41.11-a), \$0** -
37 Selectman Putnam moved to authorize the Board rent or lease town owned property. Selectman Bauer seconded.
38 There was discussion whether this was voted on before. Selectman Finan seconded the motion. Motion passed
39 unanimously, 5 to 0.
40
41 **Article 21, Shepard Park Scout House 10-Year Lease Renewal, \$0** – Selectman Putnam moved to support.
42 Selectman Bauer seconded. Motion passed unanimously, 5 to 0.
43
44 **Article 22, MCAA North River Roads Fields 10-Year Lease Renewal, \$0** - Selectman Putnam moved to support.
45 Selectman Bauer seconded. Motion passed unanimously 5 to 0.
46
47 **Article 23, Emergency Access Easement, 40 Nashua Street, Map 26/Lot 178- Putnam Alley Lease, \$0** -
48 Selectman Putnam moved to support. Selectman Bauer seconded. Motion passed unanimously 5 to 0.
49
50 **Article 24, Establishment of the BROX Properties Public Infrastructure Improvement Fund (BPPIF), \$0** –
51 Selectman Putnam moved to support establishment of BPPIF. Selectman Bauer seconded. Motion passed
52 unanimously 5 to 0.
53
54 **Article 25, Diversion of Proceeds of Sale of Former Police Station Property to the BPPIF, \$0** – Selectman
55 Putnam moved to support diversion of proceeds. Selectman Bauer seconded. Motion passed unanimously, 5 to 0.
56

1 **Article 26, Subdivision Identification Signage Easement, Map 3/Lot 4 – Falcon Ridge, \$0** – Selectman Putnam
2 moved to support. Selectman Bauer seconded. Motion passed unanimously, 5 to 0.

3
4 **Article 27, Pratt Land Easement Conveyance – Conservation Land Housekeeping, \$0** – Selectman Putnam
5 moved to support. Selectman Bauer seconded. Motion passed unanimously, 5 to 0.

6
7 **Article 28, Change to Appoint Treasurer Versus Elect, \$0** – Selectman Putnam moved to support this article to
8 change how the Town has its Treasurer in office. Selectman Bauer seconded. Motion passed unanimously, 5 to 0.

9
10 **Article 29, Change to Income Levels for Elderly Exemptions – By Petition, \$0** – Selectman Putnam moved to
11 support. Selectman Finan seconded. Motion failed, with 0 in favor, and 5 opposed. Vice-Chairman Daniels made a
12 motion to oppose, saying all they did was kill the motion to support it and they have to actually take a position.
13 Selectman Finan seconded Vice-Chairman Daniels’ motion. The motion to oppose passed unanimously, 5 to 0.

14
15 Chairman Carmen said they were done, except for the conservation land, which will be brought up shortly. He then
16 invited those who wanted to speak to come forward. Members of the Conservation Commission came forward with a
17 request to reinstate the \$20,000 originally asked for in the warrant article request. They are down to \$12,000+/- in the
18 land fund. The last two or three years they spent it. The Budget Advisory Committee was in favor of the \$20,000
19 amount. They have 1,054 acres off the tax rolls in as designated Town Forest - Tucker Brook, Roche and Mile Slip.
20 The rest of the conservation land is still officially taxed at current use rate. Usually it is undevelopable so you could
21 not be putting housing lots on it. A lot of it is in current use. Town Forest is not generating tax money although in the
22 past they generated timber harvest money. Vice-Chairman Daniels asked if the 1,054 acres is primarily forest.
23 Conservation Commission Member Chris Costantino responded yes. In 2005 the town paid for cost of community
24 services report and found that open space is tax-positive – it costs less to maintain than residential. Keene State
25 students did a survey during the Pumpkin Festival and the number one priority of respondents was they want more
26 recreational opportunities – trails for hiking, biking, and walking. That is the reason the Commission would like to
27 keep the appropriation at \$20,000. Andy Hughes from Commission commented that they allow money to accumulate
28 so that if the right land purchase opportunity comes up, the money is there and they take it to maintain and keep
29 money going into the land.

30
31 Chris Costantino said that Selectman Finan had asked how voters had weighed in on this article in years past. She
32 said in 2000 a request of \$36,000 had passed 1,662 to 972; in 2001 a request for \$11,446 was approved 1,590 to 673;
33 in 2002 a request for \$25,000 passed 2,122 to 889; in 2003 the request for \$50,000 was approved 1,590 to 836; in
34 2000, they requested \$2 million to buy Mile Slip, and it was approved 2,209 to 669. She said you need 60% approval
35 for a bond, so a minimum of 1,607 was needed. In 2006 to 2009 they didn’t ask for money; in 2008 and 2009 they
36 were concentrating on articles that designated town forests. They got land to protect but didn’t pay for it. In 2011 the
37 request was passed 1, 136 to 811. Historically the town is behind conservation efforts. They would like to continue
38 the momentum.

39
40 Selectman Bauer said she still favors \$20,000. The Town has given good support to the Commission. What they do
41 add to the quality of the town – not a dollar value, but it is a value to the town. \$10,000 would probably not give them
42 enough if an opportunity comes up we don’t know about now, and they would not have enough money to go forward.
43 She is strongly in favor of the \$20,000 and previous budget committee supported \$20,000. Selectman Finan said he
44 supported it. He was surprised at amounts supported in the past.

45
46 Chairman Carmen said it was a great presentation. In looking at the history, they got less than asked for last year.
47 When it was mentioned Pratt property had a higher price than what funds they had available and if the other
48 organization had not donated more money we would not have been able to buy it. If they had gotten what they asked
49 last year, they would not be out begging. While we look at thing’s to be cut here and there, based on the information
50 provided and the support show by the Town the residents want us to continue these types of articles.

51
52 Chairman Carmen said they will be moving on a vote on the \$10,000 and depending on what happens with that
53 perhaps make another vote. Selectman Bauer asked if they should move to vote on \$20,000. Selectman Finan said
54 the Board should vote on the \$20,000 and if that fails, they could support the \$10,000. Chairman Carmen said see
55 what they get for a motion.

1 Vice-Chairman Daniels said the \$50,000 appropriation was approved the year before 2008 when the economy took a
2 dive and people started losing jobs. This \$20,000 is just a hair more than what would be needed for unanticipated
3 expenses, for engineers, etc. on Jennison Road (a separate article). He understands the commission's efforts are
4 worthwhile; in the scheme of things and priorities he would have to put priorities on fixing the road but not wanting to
5 take money from the Conservation Commission. That is why he moved to \$10,000 as a compromise to give them
6 something but free up some money for the bridge rather than asking for more from the taxpayers. It is not that the
7 commission doesn't do a good job. He would rather money be used to fix the bridge. Selectman Putnam said in this
8 economy he doesn't want to take any more from taxpayers than necessary. Commission does a great job but this isn't
9 the year to take more. He can't support the \$20,000; he will support \$10,000. The Fire Department needs equipment.

10
11 Selectman Bauer said she doesn't look at it as either/or. When the amount of money of \$11 million budget it is giving
12 this much of what it needs in order to do work for the Town. \$10,000 is better than nothing, but she supports \$20,000.
13 Selectman Putnam said as well as they are in discussion and they had a vote on \$10,000 at last meeting. He
14 understands where Vice-Chairman Daniels and Selectman Putnam are coming from. The Social Services article is
15 another one that you could say cut it if you saw the list of what that money goes to. You are balancing that each year
16 – how much to Bridges and to SHARE. There are needs the Town has that without those agencies we would have
17 nowhere to help people. If he were to cut something there he doesn't know what they would do – these are true needs.
18 Chairman Carmen said they have heard the feelings of different people. It seems like support of the \$10,000 level is
19 broader than for \$20,000 and they are taking chances looking for more. Conservation Commission Member Chris
20 Costantino said the Commission voted they wanted to stay with \$20,000 and hope they would get support of the
21 Board of Selectmen for that. Chairman Carmen asked for a motion for \$20,000. Selectman Finan so moved.
22 Selectman Bauer seconded. Chairman Carmen asked for any further discussion.

23
24 Selectman Bauer said Selectman Putnam mentioned DPW and Police – people expect a certain amount of services
25 from the Town and taxes go up because expenses go up. She doesn't see it as one balances the other. Selectman
26 Putnam said he doesn't see it that way. It is money to set in the coffer in case they (Commission) need it. Selectman
27 Bauer said people complain about potholes in the road and when they put money in the budget to fix them, they
28 complain about that. She feels the extra \$10,000 is completely worth it and will not throw the budget off. Selectman
29 Finan said they are not voting to give them \$10,000; they are voting on what amount will go to the voters for their
30 decision. They know the risk that voters may say no. Vice-Chairman Daniels said when the vote to support
31 something, they do it knowing that others are looking to the Board of Selectmen for guidance. We are asking for the
32 vote but we are saying to the voters this is a good deal but we have some reservations. There is a lot of land that is
33 Town Forest. He doesn't think we will lose that much by not appropriating another \$10,000 because the Conservation
34 Commission has offered a lot in the way of biking, hiking and trails that can be used in town. He recommends
35 \$5,000 less in Social Services because of increase in Welfare. There are things that are not obligations of the town.
36 There are some things like babysitting and duplicate services. He also didn't support fireworks. That is money he is
37 trying to look at to take care of the bridge. Selectman Bauer asked if they will have \$20,000 in and the Board split,
38 the voters will read that and know the Board was split and that is guiding the town. The decision is up to the voter who
39 will be informed how the Board felt about it. Leave the \$20,000 in and let the voters decide. Chairman Carmen said
40 it won't be unanimous either way. Selectman Bauer said if they vote on \$20,000 it will not be unanimously opposed.
41 If they go \$10,000 it will not be unanimously in favor. Leave it at \$20,000 and let voters decide. She doesn't think
42 the town will turn it down because they know the history. Chairman Carmen asked if all were in favor of a motion to
43 support \$20,000 for the Conservation Commission. Vote was 3 in favor and 2 opposed. Motion carried.

44
45 **Majority/Minority Report Authors** - Vice-Chairman Daniels said in the majority report authors, some of those have
46 changed with the votes taken tonight. Are those going to change? Selectman Bauer and Chairman Carmen said
47 Executive Assistant Dawn Griska will be working the updates as needed. Vice-Chairman Daniels said 24, 25 and 28
48 were assigned to him last time. Selectman Bauer said 24 is being written by Community Development Director Bill
49 Parker. Vice-Chairman Daniels said the order of the reports changed. Vice-Chairman Daniels asked if Bill Parker
50 was doing the report or is he. Vice-Chairman Daniels said he submitted a report; Bill Parker doesn't author reports.
51 Vice-Chairman Daniels said it states the Board of Selectmen authored, but it is sometimes not written by a Board of
52 Selectmen member. They will discuss this with Ms. Griska.

53
54 Chairman Carmen said there is a conflict on 13 if he was in the majority and is now in minority. It should be changed.
55 Selectman Bauer asked if report gets to be changed or just the new votes are listed? It was said just votes.
56

1 **NON-PUBLIC SESSION.** At 6:20 p.m. Selectman Putnam moved to go into non-public session in accordance with
2 RSA 91:A3 (c & e). Vice Selectman Vice-Chairman Daniels seconded. All were in favor. After discussion,
3 Selectman Putnam moved to come out of non-public session at 6:35 p.m. Vice-Chairman Daniels seconded. All
4 were in favor. Motion passed 5 to 0. Chairman Carmen announced that in non-public session the Board discussed a
5 matter of reputation and a legal issue.

6
7 **Public Session Resumed at 6:45 p.m.**

8
9 **Budget Advisory Committee** – Chairman Carmen spoke to members of the Budget Advisory Committee and said
10 they spoke the other night regarding questions and concerns. Requests were passed to different parties and some
11 answers came back. They wanted to review those items. He asked Matt Lydon, Chair of the Budget Advisory
12 Committee to come forward. Matt said he's not sure if there are outstanding issues. Budget Advisory Committee
13 Secretary Peggy Seward asked about the variance between the budget and default budget and said in 2012 it looks a
14 lot less. She said she got an answer but asked it to be explained for the public. Town Administrator Scaife said it is
15 RSA specific on how to calculate default budget. The Department of Revenue (DRA) stipulates that the default budget
16 needs to cover any implemented contractual amounts up or down, i.e. teamster's contract that got added last year and
17 validates the town's calculations. Finance Director Jack Sheehy provided copies of documents that go to the DRA
18 that validated out increases or decreases. It is a small variance. It is up and down every year. One year the difference
19 was from when the State changed retirement contributions the town made; it is a mandate. Increases re: Teamsters'
20 contract is a mandate. Promotions in Police Department – those salaries would be applied as part of their contract. So
21 the conclusion is the variances are correct. Secretary Seward had question about that. The two biggest variances are in
22 the \$58,000 for the Police. She understands they just entered a contract for that this year. What does that \$58,000
23 represent? Finance Director Sheehy responded that it represents contracted promotion schedule within the Police
24 Department. Increases due to contracts are separate in the warrant article. The \$75,000 increase was due to increases
25 Ambulance Department activity now that they are providing transports for the Medical Center. How much? Town
26 Administrator Scaife said all of it. Some promotion and change of rates but majority was contract. Chairman Carmen
27 said some questions were about the DO-IT budget. He asked Chairman Lydon if he got it and it made sense. And he
28 said yes. Chairman Lydon said it was important to have it to look at. Chairman Carmen commented that it was good
29 for the two groups to touch base and understand where each is coming from.

30
31 Town Administrator Scaife said he can re-cap some specifics and referred to a cover letter from DO-IT. One question
32 is that are we having a successful festival – it is a tremendous effort but it is not a cash cow. There are many non-
33 profits that participate and this is one of their big fundraisers for the year. Revenue is roughly flat. They did increase
34 some fees but costs are high with renting tents, etc. Town Administrator Scaife said the area of most conversation
35 was that DO-IT mentioned that the activities over the long weekend bring in money; the number thrown out was \$2
36 million. Town Administrator Scaife said that is a very high level estimate. It is not specific to Milford, but to the
37 Milford area – business from Amherst others came from out of town. Would they buy gas in Milford or elsewhere?
38 We have a lot of our own businesses that set up but there are ones from outside of town. There is no way to tap into
39 that other than charge a booth fee. As you go past booths, you have the Lions Club, the Rotary Club, and the
40 Historical Society; while they are raising money, it is revenue that they ultimately pull back into the community.
41 Chairman Carmen said one of the questions he heard was why can't business who are profiting from the increased
42 consumer traffic pay to help pay for the festival. He said they do--all those business pay taxes and they thrive because
43 of things like the festival and the things DO-IT does and they pay taxes. It's a marriage of benefits for everybody. It is
44 difficult to think of starting to charge vendors.

45
46 Paul Burkhardt of the Budget Advisory Committee asked if all of the non-profits are Milford organizations. Or spread
47 around? Town Administrator Scaife did not know. Selectman Bauer said she is not sure but the majority are from
48 Milford. Town Administrator Scaife agreed. Chairman Carmen said even ones like Little Blue Bus are not Milford
49 but are regional. Everyone is here in town, or regional, or has something to do with Milford. The comment was
50 made that for what it costs to run that festival some of the money makers bring money to the local economy; why
51 can't local businesses contribute? The concern is that they are paying taxes to be on the Oval. Vice-Chairman
52 Daniels thought he was talking about vendors. Chairman Carmen said they are paying to be there. Selectman Bauer
53 said there was discussion heard as to the question where the \$20,000 goes for the Pumpkin Festival, holiday
54 decorations and plantings. \$16,000 of that goes to DPW and Police detail that must be at the festival.

1 Another question the Budget Committee has was regarding tax anticipation notes (TAN). Finance Director Sheehy
2 said it is \$5,000 in the budget sheet. Chairman Carmen said they didn't have to use it last year. Finance Director
3 Sheehy said they were lucky last year. Chairman Carmen asked for any other questions.
4

5 Secretary Seward of Budget Advisory Committee spoke saying that Milford used to have a capital reserve fund to
6 save money so you had it to put towards a piece of equipment or need when it came along. Other towns including
7 Amherst have capital reserve funds. She would like to investigate doing that again. Chairman Carmen said to
8 Selectman Finan they have talked about a capital reserve fund. Selectman Finan agrees we should start one. Selectman
9 Bauer said she had philosophically argued something years ago; someone had adamantly opposed it. Selectman Finan
10 said the other side of the argument is that the voters have the money at home and not accumulating in a fund year to
11 year. You're keeping their money. That is the argument, that the taxpayers would keep the money and make interest
12 on it, or should the town have it? Chairman Carmen said you can go into it thinking you are going to get 8 % and
13 then it changes and you are only getting 1%; then it changes. Secretary Seward said for truck for the DPW some
14 people say \$125,000 is not a lot of money. Over 5 years or less \$6,500 interest that could pay for one year of
15 fireworks. We debate about financing fireworks but we are spending money by having these drawn-out things. She
16 would have felt better to spend \$125,000 this year and bought the truck. Selectman Bauer asked if the amount in the
17 CIP for the DPW truck is for a lease. Town Administrator Scaife said Secretary Seward is talking about a cash
18 purchase versus financing and said the Finance Director looks at each situation and whatever is most economical
19 financial option is the one that we go with. Lease/purchase is best option on this. It's a different argument than
20 capital reserve. Selectman Bauer said it is a good idea. Finance Director Sheehy said it is a philosophical decision by
21 the Board and the town. When he first came, Selectman Putnam asked about capital reserve for a fire truck. It is not
22 the interest rate you get, but the interest rate you pay when you borrow. Save today for tomorrow or buy today and
23 pay tomorrow?
24

25 Selectman Bauer asked Budget Advisory Chairman Lydon about the conservation fund article and was the amount the
26 supported unanimously \$10,000 or \$20,000? Budget Advisory Chairman Lydon said initially they voted on the
27 \$20,000 and supported it. Selectman Bauer said they put \$20,000 back in; 4 to 1 on the Board. It will go before the
28 people and the people will decide if they wish to support it.
29

30 Vice-Chairman Daniels asked about fireworks. He recalled there was a 3 year agreement and every year the cost was
31 more. When voting this time will they be voting to commit resources for 3 years? If the price goes up and people
32 decide to vote it down is there any repercussion? Selectman Finan said the only commitment is if 2013 the voters vote
33 yes, they are committed to the vendor but if they vote no then there is no commitment. Vice-Chairman Daniels asked
34 how long? Selectman Finan said for that year. Selectman Bauer asked if it is yes was it for two years or three years.
35 Town Administrator Scaife said it is one year. Historically the price has been \$8,500. The vendor used is Atlas and
36 they would work the price on a three year deal with a graduated rate to get back to \$8,500 and if the town appropriates
37 money over the coming years they would be the preferred vendor. Their price this year is \$4,500, if approved. If
38 approved next year it would be \$6,500 and if approved the following year, it would be back to \$8,500. Even the
39 highest amount is lower than the previous lowest from other vendors. There is no commitment to do fireworks in
40 subsequent years but if we do, we are committed to use that vendor at that pre-arranged price.
41

42 Resident Helen Cady of 2 Broad Street came forward. She understood from what she heard that they only got to vote
43 this year and got it free and the third year is to vote for it they would place it into the budget? Town Administrator
44 Scaife said there is not reference at all to future year as a warrant article or budget. It is a stand-alone at a stand-alone
45 price. Town Administrator Scaife said he appreciates the Budget Advisory Committee and the work they put into their
46 considerations. They had a lot of meetings with excellent attendance - many hours a week. Department heads all felt
47 they were very good questions. He said if there are any outstanding questions, would they please let the Board know.
48 Budget Committee Member Rose Evans asked Town Administrator Scaife regarding repayment from the developer of
49 the Brox property, where does that money go when repaid? It was her understanding based on their conversation that
50 it would go to the general fund. Town Administrator Scaife said, to back up a bit, there are a couple of warrant articles
51 on the ballot - one to approve setting up a specific fund for Brox property improvements. Second is if we sell the old
52 police station - we have a contract with an option to buy for \$500,000 for that property which is a good price -
53 proceeds of that sale would go into that fund and if needed be used toward just utilities in that district. It would be
54 seed money to get utilities started. One of the challenges with Brox property is that it has no road access, no
55 electricity, and no sewer. Seed money would get that started. The important piece is that sale of the Brox property
56 has a provision where that money is repaid up to the full amount and then it will go to the general fund because the

1 sale of any piece of property if approved by the town goes to the general fund. Details of how this fund and
2 development plan worked were shared.

3
4 Budget Committee Secretary Seward asked how much the Town is going to have to pay toward infrastructure. What
5 is the developer doing and what are we doing? Town Administrator Scaife said there is no precise answer on that.
6 There is no contract negotiated. Normally a contract is structured so that the price is held down knowing the
7 developers are going to put a lot of money into that development. If you think of other developers in the town, how
8 often has the Town put up the infrastructure money? Probably none. This is a unique situation but we look at whether
9 this is a good deal for Milford. We expect developer to fund it. He has to be able to buy the property and look at the
10 entire cost to make that development work. Chairman Carmen said he looks at this \$500,000 we are going to get it
11 paid to us over time for the sale. If you sold all that and everything you could you end up with \$1.75 million if it goes
12 over ten years, or \$175,000 a year. When you talk about capital reserve funds, this is a great opportunity for it. You
13 could work that down the line. How do you fund it without raising taxes? Here is an opportunity. You don't know
14 what will happen in the future. The last couple of year's revenue is down. Conservation Commission gave a history
15 tonight of how times were when they were getting more money. When times are tough, you may not put money in but
16 when times are better you may put more in. He thinks those are two good warrant articles for the future but now is the
17 time to have it voted on to have that opportunity. Chairman Carmen asked for any other questions.

18
19 Resident Gil Archambault said that he commended Recreation Department Director Nicole Banks. He said if she had
20 put forward the fireworks warrant article, she would not be doing her job. She deserves credit for putting it in; if not,
21 she would not be a good Recreation Director. He said that Vice-Chairman Daniels had mentioned something about
22 whether the fireworks were a one-year deal. The VFW on Labor Day paid \$5,000 for fireworks for about 30 minutes.
23 The year before they paid \$5,000. They are giving the VFW a break this year but next year they want \$6,500 when
24 the VFW and Labor Day pay \$5,000 for fireworks – something to keep in mind. He said if the Board would request
25 an ordinance to allow private fireworks for July 4th you would have a lot of fireworks. Milford is the only town that
26 doesn't allow people to buy or use fireworks. The last three times the voters voted down fireworks. Why are we still
27 pushing the issue? He would ask the Board to reconsider vote on fireworks. He said regarding adding money to the
28 conservation land fund, no matter when it is bought before the voters it always hurts the elderly and low-income in the
29 taxes paid for it. Now that things are bad, low-income people have to pay. It is wrong time of year to put so much
30 money into conservation land. He had a question for Town Administrator Scaife: He understands that at the
31 Deliberative Session when handouts were made the Selectmen listed the purchase price and the annual cost per year.
32 Town Administrator Scaife said the full amount will be listed, as well as the annual payment, in the title and then
33 further explained in the warrant. Mr. Archambault asked, if, at Deliberative Session, it will state the full amount?
34 Town Administrator Scaife responded that is correct.

35
36 Resident Janet Langdell then spoke. As a representative of the group that runs the bus she said she came to see if
37 there were any questions about that warrant article. She asked to verify what the article number was for non-
38 emergency community transportation – Souhegan Valley Rides, Little Blue Bus – was it # 11? The Board informed
39 her that the article number has been changed and it is now warrant article #12.

40
41 Selectman Bauer wanted to verify that the ambulance facility warrant article number was changed as well. It is now
42 Article 3.

43
44 A question was asked regarding the elderly exemption petition warrant article – can the dollar amount for married or
45 single be reworked? Is it too late? Town Administrator Scaife said it is too late. Selectman Finan said it can be
46 changed on the floor on Saturday at Deliberative Session.

47
48 Mr. Archambault asked if the total on articles can be changed. The response was yes.

49
50 Chairman Carmen said last year there was a warrant article and discussion as to what to do to about income levels for
51 elderly exemptions on property taxes and what can be done to make it more fair. This comes up from time to time to
52 make sure it is doing what it is supposed to do. As put in the petition or letter it is a tough thing because you are
53 shifting burden on some taxpayers over to other taxpayers, but you want to do the right thing for those who need it.
54 Even though the Board did not support this, they agreed to discuss the issue further in the coming year. More
55 research and work is needed; it was premature to go forward at it this year. Mr. Archambault said if we think married
56 allowance is right at 45, but much less at 30 for single people. The only people who get this are people who own a

1 house. The total amount can be changed on Saturday. Selectman Bauer said the petition can be amended. She said the
2 Board felt that the whole policy of elderly exemption should be reviewed in total, not just one part or another. They
3 agreed to do that. Mr. Archambault agreed. Chairman Carmen said they don't know how long the line is for people
4 who have that need that the article would fix. Mr. Archambault said instead of a whole sandwich, give them half and
5 see how many people bite and then adjust it again next year.

6
7 Resident Jim Rumson spoke, asking when the Voters' Guide is going out. Town Administrator Scaife said it doesn't
8 have a date. It's the same process.

9
10 Budget Committee Secretary Seward came forward again. She said she met with Amherst about the elderly exemption
11 that have a warrant article this year. Because of re-assessments the people who qualified before now, weren't
12 qualified any longer in Amherst. There were 17 people who missed it by under \$500. This year they have done a
13 new assessment and raised the income levels. She suggested talking to Amherst next year. Chairman Carmen said
14 when they saw 17 people were lost, was this year's article changed to bring those people back to being eligible?
15 Milford has an equalization article. Ms. Seward said their feeling is that elderly people are able to live by themselves
16 and own a home because they don't have a mortgage. They are your tax base and they pay their taxes and they don't
17 use services.

18
19 Vice-Chairman Daniels said February 27 is the target for the Voters' Guide to go to Post Office for in-home delivery
20 by the weekend before the town vote.

21
22 This portion of the meeting was closed at 7:35.

23 24 **WORK SESSION.**

25
26 **Quantity of Town Reports Ordered.** It was noted that the plan for quantity of town reports last year was to move to
27 750 to lower costs, but we ran out last year. The price difference is \$200 - \$300 between levels, almost the same price
28 to have the extra, depending on how many pages are in the book. We will go with 1,000 units unless the Board
29 objects. There were no objections.

30
31 2. Drainage problem on the driveway between 9 and 11 Willow Street. This issue has been out there for two or three
32 years. We have done a disservice to the residents in not resolving this before now. It has to be escalated at some
33 point. He had a conversation today with Water Utilities Superintendent Dave Boucher and Water and Sewer
34 Commissioner Bob Courage. Everyone agrees it has been mishandled. Legally we may not be obligated to solve it,
35 but he believes we have a moral obligation and we need to think what we have put the residents through. If we were
36 going to push back and say it's their problem we should have done that in 2009. He approached us in 2009, 2010 and
37 2011 and here it is 2012. Selectman Putnam asked who he first approached with the town in '09. Town
38 Administrator Scaife said he believes they came in to DPW and DPW referred it to Water Department. His letter lists
39 seven contacts with DPW. It went back and forth between those two departments. A lot of people had an
40 opportunity to escalate it and didn't. The project was a Water Department project and it would be a logical assumption
41 for Water Department to deal with it, but looking deeper into it, DPW got into it and took gravel sidewalks and raised
42 them and made better sidewalks. The homeowners have acknowledged that from day one when it rained they had a
43 puddle but it was not that bad. Since the construction there is significant pooling because of the flatness. He believes
44 a large contributing factor is the sidewalk the DPW did. Nobody has pictures from 2009, but water was pooling and
45 the road may have been raised with a slight amount of pavement but it still probably couldn't go over the pavement,
46 so what it would do is ease out the edges probably on the east side. There was porous ground there. So when we
47 brought up those sidewalks, it was boxed in more so there was less ability to get to a porous area where it could drain
48 off. He thinks that was the larger contributor. Last year the Water Department got quotes for paving, two different
49 ones. The less expensive was \$3,600. Public Works Director Rick Riendeau, Superintendent Dave Boucher,
50 Commissioner Courage, and he believe paving is not the best option. It may open up another whole can of worms.
51 They think we should put a small drain in; we think it can be done for under \$2,000 including labor, or something
52 close to that. Storm drain runs right in front of the house and is on the other side of the street, so at most it would be a
53 30-foot run with 4-inch PVC pipe. Normally you would have a manhole, but because of the shortness Commissioner
54 Courage and Director Riendeau agree this is a situation where you could skip that step of putting in a manhole for that
55 intersection. The probability of it getting clogged and the shortness of it, it doesn't justify that extra cost.
56 Commissioner Courage will bring it up with the Water Commissioners tomorrow in support of sharing of some costs.

1 That's fine. Town Administrator Scaife said - he wants to solve the problem and rebuild confidence to those residents
2 that when they bring a problem they will get a resolution in a reasonable time. There is no point in saying how and
3 why it got bounced around. The introduction of a State statute to bring it in here was a misguided approach, and while
4 it may be relevant, he would like to see Board make these kinds of decisions. If the Board is in agreement, unless
5 something comes up tomorrow with Water Commissioners, or if the Commissioners vote against it and they were not
6 willing to share the cost, Town Administrator Scaife said he personally thinks the Board needs to go on and o make
7 a commitment to get it solved, understanding that this is a one off, and doesn't set a precedent in each and every
8 situation that may be a drainage issue because of shoulder or highway or sidewalk work.
9

10 Selectman Putnam said it was brought to Water and Sewer several months ago and he went to look at it. He didn't
11 take levels and strings, but gauging from the land on the other side of the street he didn't think the level changed. He
12 thought they brought it back probably close to what they were. Town Administrator Scaife asked whether he meant
13 the road or the sidewalk. Selectman Putnam said both. It looked like the sidewalk and road were level with the
14 existing lawn on the other side. It looked like it was brought back pretty close to what it was and the problem had
15 existed before. Town Administrator Scaife said he thinks they did paving but it would have been tapered and would
16 have been a miniscule raise and they acknowledge it pooled before. But if it was pooling, it wasn't going to skip over
17 the pavement and had to get to a porous area; and where else could it have gotten to than off to the side? That's the
18 logic in saying probably the sidewalk was the driver in causing it to puddle more. Selectman Bauer said she thinks
19 they are obligated to do something. Town Administrator Scaife said if they do paving there are all kinds of potential
20 options that might be costly, but adding a drain would be minimal. Selectman Bauer asked if they don't need a vote,
21 do they need a consensus. Does he feel he has it? Town Administrator Scaife said he wanted to know if there was
22 any objection. There was none.
23
24

25 **NON-PUBLIC SESSION.** Selectman Putnam moved to enter into Non-Public Session at 7:45 p.m. in accordance
26 with RSA 91:A3 (d). Selectman Bauer seconded. All were in favor. After discussion, Selectman Putnam moved to
27 come out of non-public session at 8:14 p.m. Selectman Finan seconded. Motion passed 5 to 0. Chairman Carmen
28 announced that in non-public Session the Board discussed a land acquisition matter.
29
30

31 Selectman Putnam made a motion to adjourn. Selectman Finan seconded. All were in favor. Meeting was adjourned
32 at 8:15 p.m.
33
34
35
36

37 _____
38 Nate Carmen, Chairman

Gary L. Daniels, Vice Chairman

41 _____
42 Katherine Bauer, Member

Mike Putnam, Member

45 _____
46 Tim Finan, Member