

APPROVED  
MINUTES OF THE MILFORD BOARD OF SELECTMEN FIFTH MONDAY FORUM  
April 29, 2013

**PRESENT:** Gary Daniels, Chairman  
Mike Putnam, Member  
Katherine Bauer, Member  
Kevin Federico, Member  
Guy Scaife, Town Administrator  
Kathryn Parenti, Recording Secretary  
Zackery Knowles, Videographer

**ABSENT:** Mark Fougere, Vice Chairman

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

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Chairman Daniels called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Chairman Daniels introduced Board members and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Daniels noted that those people in the audience who want to speak or add to the discussion should please use a microphone in order to be heard on the PEG Access live broadcast. Chairman Daniels explained why the Fifth Monday forum is held and that there is no agenda for the forum, it is an open meeting for the public to come in to bring up any issues of concern to the Board.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENTS.** Jerry Guthrie began the public comments by asking about the status of the Fletcher site and noted he also had an update for the Board.

Guy Scaife noted the project is continuing but is moving extremely slowly. The EPA hasn't signed off on the proposed plans yet but it is anticipated they will sometime in the late fall or winter. The EPA had notified GE of the testing going occurring on Mill Street and asked GE to respond within seven (7) days; it is not clear if that will alter anything. He clarified there are two (2) locations within the Fletcher site: the primary location off of Elm Street, next to the entrance to Keyes Field, and a secondary location on Mill Street. They are currently in a holding pattern and anticipate the removal of contaminated soil at some point next year. They were in a position to start soil removal next summer but that is looking less likely.

Mr. Guthrie noted he had met with the board approximately eight (8) months ago to raise funds for the site and stated there was an affinity program associated with TD Bank. He spoke with Angela Flaherty at the Milford branch and the bank has since changed the program; she will look into the program and have the information in the next couple of weeks. He felt that was a good opportunity for the town. He also spoke with Tracy Hutchins, Executive Director of the Milford Improvement Team (MIT), regarding starting a non-profit organization. She was not interested without a plan being in place. She recommended he speak with the town regarding the creation of a trust. He spoke with Mrs. Spaulding of the Trustees of the Trust Fund about this and it did not look promising. He does have between eight (8) and ten (10) people who are working to generate ideas regarding this project. He was just trying to get ahead with the project as it will be a year or more before they can get any money from TD Bank.

Mr. Scaife clarified the condition GE will leave the site in is fixed; it will not change as there is an agreement with the town and the EPA. He noted the plan he had given Mr. Guthrie when he was last before the board has not changed and felt it was confusing to think about future plans before the site has been cleaned up.

Mr. Guthrie then noted he had recently been sworn in on the recycling committee and felt it was important to get more recycling going in town. He noted there were no recycling bins on the Oval or near the town hall and felt it was important to generate additional money for the town through recycling. He spoke with Tammy Scott at the transfer station who informed him a can is worth one (1) cent. Since there are approximately 15,000 residents of Milford, there is a potential of generating \$150 per day and approximately \$4,000 per year through recycling. He noted some people recycle now and a big problem is at Keyes Field. There are no recycling barrels there and there is a need for it; of the trash picked up there, about fifty (50) percent is bottles and cans. There is a pergola project that will be underway this fall at the park with a patio and recycling center; the color scheme of the area will be tan bricks and round, blue picnic tables and blue recycling barrels to go with the pool area. The money for the project will be generated by brick sales plus the possibility of advertising on the pergola. Half of the cost of the recycling containers might be paid for by New Hampshire the Beautiful Incorporated to encourage more recycling. If businesses are interested in advertising on the pergola, the town may not have to fund the project.

APPROVED MINUTES OF BOARD OF SELECTMEN 5<sup>TH</sup> MONDAY FORUM –  
04/29/13

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2 Chairman Daniels noted he has seen recycling barrels in Concord and wondered how the rainwater would  
3 be kept from getting inside. Mr. Guthrie replied there are rain covers available for \$140 each. Denise Hennessy of  
4 77 Elm Street stated Nashua also had started a recycling program and suggested Mr. Guthrie speak with them to see  
5 how well it was doing and to compare notes. She felt it sounded like a good plan. Chairman Daniels thanked Mr.  
6 Guthrie for his input and asked if anyone else had anything to bring before the board.  
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8 Mark Connors stated he would like to encourage the town to provide bike lanes and noted they are provid-  
9 ed in other surrounding towns, especially along the seacoast. More bike usage would be beneficial to the environ-  
10 ment and also appeals to young people. Milford is one of the more walkable towns in the region and noted research  
11 indicates people are more likely to ride a bike if given the place to do so. This would also encourage a more vibrant  
12 atmosphere for Milford. He noted most automobile trips are less than one (1) mile. He felt the addition of bike  
13 lanes would be relatively inexpensive and when they do any repaving, they could paint the new lines, especially on  
14 the arterials, where the space is present; most bike lanes are five (5) feet wide. He noted this concept has been in the  
15 Master Plan since 1999. Chairman Daniels asked if Mr. Connors looked at where the bike lanes should be and  
16 which roads they should be on while taking into consideration the existing width of the roads. Mr. Connors replied  
17 they should start on the main roads in and out of town: Elm and Nashua Streets, South Street and Mont Vernon  
18 Road. Chairman Daniels noted South Street was very narrow. Mr. Connors replied that would be a good place to  
19 put shared space markings on the pavement to alert motorists there may be cyclists on the road. He felt it would be  
20 good, from a planning perspective, to have new big businesses that come into town provide parking for bikes.  
21 Chairman Daniels stated Mr. Connors was correct in this being in the Master Plan and noted a goal of the Board is to  
22 become more familiar with the Master Plan.  
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24 Selectman Bauer noted after having served on the Planning Board, walkability and sidewalks has been a  
25 subject of discussion and is a nationwide trend. She noted several cities have programs where bikes can be rented in  
26 one location and returned in another. There is a new overlay district in West Milford that aims to put bike lanes in.  
27 This is a great idea and the timing is right. Chairman Daniels thanked Mr. Connors for his input and asked if there  
28 were any other comments.  
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30 Denise Hennessy stated her issue is an old one: excessive motorcycle noise. She feels the decibel level is  
31 too high and wondered if there was anything the town can do about it, aside from putting police officers on every  
32 corner to monitor the noise. Chairman Daniels noted the state legislature took up the motorcycle noise bill discus-  
33 sion the last term but he was not sure of the outcome. Selectman Putnam stated the last time Ms. Hennessy was be-  
34 fore the board with this issue, the police chief did a decibel test on the Oval and noted nearly every motorcycle that  
35 was stopped was within the state approved limits. He felt it was a state issue to get the level lowered. Mr. Scaife  
36 noted many residents are in agreement with Ms. Hennessy but aren't pushing the issue. The vast majority of vehicles  
37 on the road are cars and trucks and no one complains about them. Motorcycles are in the minority and many riders  
38 have bikes set at a lower level. This issue does need to be addressed at the state level; the allowed decibel level is  
39 higher in New Hampshire than in nearly every other state. Chairman Daniels thanked Ms. Hennessy for her  
40 thoughts and asked if anyone else had any comments.  
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42 Kyle Shaheen noted Osgood Pond had been drained and stated there were so many plants in it that the pond  
43 doesn't work properly. He asked if there were any plans to repair and refill it. Chairman Daniels stated the town is  
44 working on it now. The first problem was with dredging and the required permits. The permit fees were over  
45 \$100,000. He has presented a bill before the legislature to limit permit fees to \$10,000; it has gone through the  
46 House and there is a public hearing at the Senate on the 30<sup>th</sup>. He noted the town had started collecting money for  
47 Osgood Pond several years ago and there is approximately \$90,000 - \$100,000 now. This money won't come close  
48 to cover the dredging of the entire pond. When this was first proposed, the town's cost of dredging the pond was  
49 about \$75,000; the town's share has now gone up to approximately \$400,000. When this work does happen, the  
50 dredged material can be used to reclaim wetland areas at the Brox site. The Office of Community Development had  
51 come in recently to talk about dredging five (5) acres to start and to dig down a minimum of eight feet to allow for  
52 fish and recreation and a possible boat launch from Adams Field. A great deal of waiting is involved and taking it  
53 one step at a time. Their first goal is to deal with permit fees and once that bill passes the legislature, they can then  
54 move forward.  
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56 Mr. Scaife stated they had hoped to get a plan in place last year but they ran out of time. They are on track  
57 and once Community Development comes up with a plan, the goal is a potential winter dredge in January or Febru-  
58 ary. Now the water level is down, it makes no sense to refill it; the longer the soil is allowed to dry out, the easier it

**APPROVED MINUTES OF BOARD OF SELECTMEN 5<sup>TH</sup> MONDAY FORUM –  
04/29/13**

1 will be to dredge. Selectman Bauer noted this used to be a true recreation area and many people have an interest in  
2 making it that way again. They haven't given up on the pond; forward motion just hasn't happened yet. Selectman  
3 Putnam stated there used to be an ice house at the pond where residents could get ice for their ice boxes; the pond  
4 has been around for a very long time. Chairman Daniels thanked Mr. Shaheen for his excellent question and noted  
5 government moves slowly but surely.  
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7 Chairman Daniels thanked the public for attending this meeting and noted the goal for these "5<sup>th</sup> Monday  
8 Forums" is to talk informally with the public about their thoughts and opinions.  
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10 **2. ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business to come before this Meeting, Selectman Putnam moved to  
11 adjourn at 7:40 p.m. Selectman Bauer seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed 4/0.  
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16 Gary L. Daniels, Chairman  
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Mark Fougere, Vice Chairman

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21 Katherine Bauer, Member  
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Mike Putnam, Member

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26 Kevin Federico, Member