

APPROVED
MINUTES OF THE MILFORD BOARD OF SELECTMEN FIFTH MONDAY FORUM
June 29, 2015

PRESENT: Mark Fougere, Chairman
Kevin Federico, Vice Chairman
Gary Daniels, Member
Mike Putnam, Member
Katherine Bauer, Member
Mark Bender, Town Administrator
Darlene J. Bouffard, Recording Secretary
Scott Schaeffer, Videographer

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

INSTRUCTIONS: After the non-public session, Chairman Fougere called the public forum to order at 7:00 p.m., introduced Board members and then led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Fougere indicated 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 Fougere announced that in non-public session there was a personnel and a reputation discussion. There were no decisions made, nor votes taken.

2. APPOINTMENTS:

6:15 p.m. – Non-Public (RSA 91-A:3, II(a & c) Personnel and Reputation. Selectman Putnam moved to enter non-public session at 6:15 p.m. in accordance with RSA 91-A:3, II (a) and (c) Personnel and Reputation. Selectman Bauer seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed 5/0. After discussion, Selectman Putnam moved to come out of non-public session at 6:50 p.m. Vice Chairman Federico seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed 5/0. Selectman Putnam moved to seal the minutes of this non-public session. Selectman Bauer seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed 5/0.

7:00 p.m. – Review of Jeopardy Tax Warrant Map 3, Lot 59-M-38. Jack Sheehy explained the building department is trying to issue a building permit for a mobile home for this property, but the old mobile home has been removed and the taxes need to be cleared before any building permits can be issued. The old mobile home was demo'd without proper procedure and there are taxes due in the amount of approximately \$3,000. The owner abandoned the unit and another person wants to put a new mobile home on the property, but that cannot be done until a building permit is issued which cannot be done until the taxes are cleared through an abatement.

Selectman Daniels stated there is a law against the removal of a unit without having paid the taxes. Jack Sheehy is aware of that, but the town will never recover those taxes; the owner of the demo'd mobile home walked away. Mr. Sheehy recommends just moving forward and abating the taxes on this property; it is not worth the time and effort to chase the taxes. Selectman Putnam asked if the town does not issue the building permit, will the property owner want to rent out the space bad enough to pay those back taxes? Vice Chairman Federico asked if the burden is on the land owner? Chairman Fougere answered no. Selectman Putnam asked if we do not issue the building permit until the back taxes are paid, is it the land owner's burden? Vice Chairman Federico thinks that is a bad precedent to set. Why would the business owner want to do business in Milford if he is held responsible for paying the taxes on the building that is gone? Selectman Putnam said if the Board just abates this, the town would be setting a precedent that if taxes are not paid, the Board just lets it go. Chairman Fougere has not heard of this in the many years he has been in Milford.

Selectman Daniels said it sounds like the person just left the home and was gone for a few years and then someone removed the mobile home, if we just let it go, then people who just want to leave will just leave their property because the town will not go after the taxes. It would be punishing the land owner, not the home owner (in the case of a mobile home). Selectman Putnam said the land owner should be making sure the tenants are paying their property taxes. Chairman Fougere said the park owner does not get the tax bills. Selectman Putnam wants to know if there is a way the town can pursue the taxes. There has to be a way to recoupe the taxes somehow. Vice Chairman Federico said it is \$3,900, but how much money will the town spend looking for them and we probably will not find them. Mr. Sheehy said the chances are pretty low of recouping the taxes. The previous owner does not care and the property (mobile home) is gone. Mr. Sheehy is suggesting a way to end it. Selectman Daniels asked if anyone has talked to the park owner. Mr. Sheehy believes that was done but does not have any information tonight on

