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2 **APPROVED**
3 **MINUTES OF THE MILFORD BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING**
4 **May 9, 2016**

5 **PRESENT:** Mark Fougere, Chairman
6 Kevin Federico, Vice Chairman
7 Gary Daniels, Member
8 Mike Putnam, Member
9 Katherine Bauer, Member
10 Mark Bender, Town Administrator
11 Darlene J. Bouffard, Recording Secretary
12 Scott Schaefer, Videographer
13

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

15 **INSTRUCTIONS:** Chairman Fougere called the public meeting to order at 5:30 p.m., introduced Board members
16 and then led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Fougere indicated that those people in the audience
17 who want to speak or add to the discussion should please use a microphone in order to be heard on the PEG Access
18 live broadcast. Chairman Fougere announced that in the 5:00 p.m. non-public session, the Board discussed a Reputa-
19 tion issue and made one decision.
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21 **2. APPOINTMENTS:**
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23 **5:00 p.m. – Non-Public Session (RSA 91-A:3, II (c) Reputation.** Selectman Putnam moved to enter into non-
24 public session for Reputation at 5:00 p.m. Vice Chairman Federico seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed
25 5/0. After discussion, Chairman Fougere announced that in non-public session the Board discussed a reputation
26 issue and made one decision. Vice Chairman Federico moved to seal the minutes of the non-public session. Se-
27 lectman Putnam seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed 5/0. Selectman Putnam moved to come out of non-
28 public session at 5:25 p.m. Selectman Daniels seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed 5/0.
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30 **5:30 p.m. – Eversource Update.** Laura Boivin, Mark Geaument and Mark Sandler of Eversource, offered to an-
31 swer any questions regarding the facility consolidation plan resulting in the closure of the Milford facility. Some
32 information was relayed to the Board of Selectman previously. Chairman Fougere asked for an overview of the
33 closing of the Milford facility since the town has concerns about reaction time. There are no substations between
34 Nashua and Keene, so he asked for Eversource representatives to shed some light on this and how Eversource will
35 “keep the lights on.”
36

37 Mr. Geaument indicated that Eversource has been undertaking this new endeavor for 14 months and will now be
38 able to troubleshoot 24/7 with line workers. This region has been serviced by an on-call service where we would
39 page an on-call line worker, now there is a 24/7 on-call service so any time there is an emergency call they are dis-
40 patched and head out. That is a change in Milford. A lot of what happens out of a building where the trucks are
41 parked is from the dispatch center, which is not just that area where they are parked, the work is statewide, they
42 might work in town but Keene trucks might do the work in Milford. The work that comes out of the building is
43 what everyone is accustomed to. It is a hub for a major outage. If it is a state event, we may bring 50 crews in to
44 help this area. With mobile command units, we can set up in a parking lot and run a dispatch center from there.
45 Mr. Geaument is trying to put the town of Milford at ease and ensure the town’s service will not change. The per-
46 sonnel will still continue working and no one is losing their job. We are putting an investment into the infrastructure
47 to know when something is open or closed. Milford will not see any transition nor anything different.
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49 Mr. Geaument continued that Eversource will continually evaluate this new process; 14 area work centers are out
50 there and they are always looking for the best way to serve the customers. Mark Sandler said that the Milford cir-
51 cuitry is in Nashua, the Bedford office is 17 miles away, Nashua is ten miles away. There are two different areas
52 (Bedford and Nashua) that will service Milford and two troubleshooting organizations service this area. Chairman
53 Fougere stated that the bucket trucks are in Milford and now the closest trucks will be 17 or 10 miles out of town, so
54 how does that improve service in Milford? Mark Geaument answered the bucket trucks here would not necessarily
55 respond to Milford, the trucks are always on the road, they are not parked and waiting for a call. They might take a
56 call in town or in Keene. There will not be any difference in how Milford is served. Town Administrator Mark
57 Bender asked where will the employees go? Mr. Geaument said probably Bedford, nothing is concrete yet, it is in
58 their court, but most will work out of Bedford (line workers), none of them will go to Nashua. The circuitry is fed

APPROVED MINUTES OF BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING – 05/09/2016

1 from from Nashua where there are at least nine crews and a six person trouble shooter team. Bedford has eight
2 crews and six trouble shooters.

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4 Selectman Putnam said there was a multiple alarm fire in Amherst today, how did Eversource respond to that?
5 Mark Sandler said they responded before the Fire Department. A trouble shooter from Nashua responded within ten
6 minutes and the fire was already out of control unfortunately. Laura Boivin said municipal officials have a priority
7 1 call system in place for life protection and that will not change. There is also a priority 2 call number that is for
8 emergencies that hinder municipal emergency operations. When they get those calls, they can identify who is the
9 nearest truck and dispatch accordingly. Mr. Geaument said there is a GPS in every truck, so we can dispatch by the
10 closest truck.

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12 Mr. Geaument invited the Board to visit the Manchester facility and see the new system that is in place. It is state of
13 the art and it would help to understand the process and how things get dispatched. Eversource has doubled capital
14 input. Chairman Fougere wants the community and its surrounding communities to be taken care of and does not
15 want things to change. Mr. Geaument said things will not change. Mr. Sandler said Milford has already been
16 served by the trouble shooter organization and he has not heard any complaints from Milford or the surrounding
17 areas since then. Eversource does not want to go backwards we want to go forward. Things have improved. It is
18 new in NH, but the trouble shooter organization is commonplace for other utilities; they are employees of Ever-
19 source and they are on 12 hour shifts, 365 days. Town Administrator Mark Bender asked if the trucks are down-
20 sized. Mr. Geaument said it is a smaller truck but it is a bucket truck. They are first responder, Milford will see no
21 difference. They can do all maintenance but cannot set a transformer. Laura Boivin stated the trucks in Milford are
22 not the ones you see responding in Milford. The troubleshooters have a slightly smaller truck. Mr. Scanlon said the
23 average used to be 3 hours, now it is 100 minutes for something to get fixed, it used to take longer, throughout the
24 state. Mr. Bender asked if the bucket truck is involved in this downsizing and if PUC has been notified. Mr. Geau-
25 ment said it is; it is an ongoing conversation, they are in the loop. Ms. Boivin said changes to the facilities do not
26 have to be approved by the PUC but we are in daily conversations with them. In the town of Hillsboro there were
27 also concerns when their facility was closed, and that was transitioned because of the changes; it allowed Eversource
28 to work less manually. That is the big difference. Most switches can be done without manual labor. We are mov-
29 ing in the direction to have more automated equipment with less physical presence and PUC is watching closely.

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31 Selectman Daniels asked if Eversource has signalization (red lights) priority. Mr. Scanlon answered they cannot
32 change the lights from red to green they must follow the rules of the road. Vice Chairman Federico understands
33 why the changes are being made, but in 17 years living in Milford, there was always the knowledge that PSNH
34 (Eversource) worked hand-in-hand with the Fire Department. When Milford has a difficult winter with power out-
35 ages and does not see all those trucks at that facility, people will wonder. He can see how Eversource can improve
36 its numbers but there is a lot of hesitation. As a resident of Milford when you know that the PSNH facility is right in
37 town with all the trucks, you know they are here to help. Selectman Daniels asked if the priorities have changed
38 with the realignment. Mr. Geaument said that every outage might be prioritized differently. Critical care is always
39 a priority; Heron Pond school is an emergency shelter and therefore is a priority. Ms. Boivin said Eversource keeps
40 a list of critical facilities for every community, the lists are maintained with emergency preparedness groups and
41 updated once a year. In each storm, there are community relations liaisons, during an event, there were five people
42 working to make sure we were in communication with municipalities and where the priorities are. Mr. Bender
43 asked how many services are being added to the Nashua service. Mr. Geaument said the customer account is stay-
44 ing the same. Mark Geaument and Laura Boivin can be contacted if there are any further questions or if a visit to
45 the Manchester facility is desired.

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47 **6:00 p.m. – Departmental Update – Community Media.** Director of Community Media Mike McInerney provid-
48 ed an update for the Community Media Department. It seems the busiest times for people to visit the town website
49 are during elections, Pumpkin Festival and around the Fourth of July. Road closures will be very important to add
50 to the website, and with the oval construction going on in Milford. The .pdf review option is getting mixed reviews
51 to allow users to print the pages. Improvements to the website will be welcomed based on user input. The poli-
52 cy/procedure manual and by-laws are being finished. Videographer personnel have been with Milford for a while
53 and know what they need to do since they have been here for a while, he has very little concern about meetings be-
54 ing covered. If someone cannot make a meeting, someone else covers it. Mike appreciates their commitment to the
55 filming of the meetings since sometimes the meetings can be long. In mid-June the school will be working on a
56 project involving asbestos removal when the TV equipment will not be accessible because it is located at the high
57 school. A schedule is being worked out so that everything is able to be worked on with Bruce's assistance. The
58 number of meetings that GTM covers will be extended after the summer. Vice Chairman Federico said the camera

1 on the ambulance bay and a temporary camera on South Street are in process to allow residents to see the work be-
 2 ing done. Mr. McInerney needs to look at that and at the angle. OSHA had concerns when the ambulance facility
 3 was being built because it was being recorded and he wants to make sure we are all on board with it.
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5 Mr. McInerney indicated the Comcast franchise agreement has a five year extension on the current agreement and
 6 there are two years left; this will be discussed over the next six months. Selectman Daniels asked what is the bal-
 7 ance of the reserve fund. Mr. McInerney said it is about \$120,000 or so in the revolving fund and another \$3,000 or
 8 \$4,000 in the other account. There were no further questions or comments. The Board thanked Mike for his presen-
 9 tation.
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11 **6:15 p.m. – Departmental Update - Public Works.** Public Works Director Rick Riendeau provided an update for
 12 the Department of Public Works (DPW). Mr. Riendeau indicated that 127 Elm Street has had a lot of work done
 13 recently, mostly cleanup work. DPW is saving money on the projects by re-using materials. Ten tons of demo ma-
 14 terial has been pulled from 127 Elm Street and taken to the transfer station. Rick is working on getting software for
 15 the Transfer Station to print electronic tickets and for inventory control; currently everything is hand written. That
 16 software costs \$11,000 to get the transfer station functions automated. The groundwater testing line item was
 17 changed from bi-annual to annual testing/reporting. DES storm water reporting has gone to electronic reporting.
 18 Vice Chairman Federico asked about the status of the purchase of the used sidewalk plow. Mr. Riendeau responded
 19 that he found that the plow was not mechanically sound so he did not purchase it and is still looking for a used side-
 20 walk plow. Vice Chairman Federico asked about the Green River absorption control. Mr. Riendeau said that is
 21 DES, it is for maintenance to take care of that for which Fred Elkind has contacted DES. There were no further
 22 questions or comments. The Board thanked Rick for his presentation.
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24 **3. PUBLIC COMMENTS. (items not on the agenda).**

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 26 **4. DECISIONS.**

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 28 a) **CONSENT CALENDAR.** Chairman Fougere asked if any member wished to remove any items from
 29 the Consent Calendar for discussion. There were no items removed. Selectman Putnam moved to approve
 30 the Consent Calendar as presented. Selectman Daniels seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed 5/0.

31 1) **2015 Real Estate Tax Liens.** Tax Collector Kathy Doherty requested Board approval to execute 123
 32 tax liens. Board approval was granted.

33 2) **Acceptance and Approval of Unanticipated Funds under \$10,000 in accordance with RSA**
 34 **31:95(b).** The Board approved unanticipated revenues under \$10,000 as follows:

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<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>PURPOSE</u>
Hitchiner Manufacturing Co. Inc.	\$1,000.00	Donation for the 2016 Oval Brick Renovation Project Special Purpose Fund
Marchesi (Town) Trust Fund	\$3,000.00	Donation for the 2016 Oval Brick Renovation Project Special Purpose Fund

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 42 b) **OTHER DECISIONS.**
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44 **5. TOWN STATUS REPORT.**
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46 1) **South Street Update.** Town Administrator Mark Bender indicated a contract has been signed for the South
 47 Street work to begin and a pre-construction meeting was held last week. An outreach meeting with abutters and
 48 businesses along South Street was held. It was stressed to residents and businesses that sidewalk access should
 49 be maintained at all times. The work is scheduled to start this week. Completion date is set in late September.
 50 Progress meetings will be held every two weeks. A detailed timeline is still pending but will come from CLD
 51 and Kingsbury. A traffic control plan is in process; CLD to coordinate with the Police Department, Fire De-
 52 partment and DPW. Information will be posted on the town website to keep residents up to date. Steve
 53 Reichert is the point of contact that will be on site once the construction begins. Vice Chairman Federico asked
 54 if we are sure we reached out and spoke to all involved on South Street? Mark Bender indicated that he can just
 55 walk down the street and provide updates as needed and noted that Lincoln Daley will be visible during this
 56 project.
 57

1 **2) Heron Pond Sports Fields.** Fieldstone will take care of the alteration to terrain permit; most of the work to
2 be done will be done by DPW once the permit is in place. Playing fields are important to the town; one hill will
3 need to be cut down.

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5 **3) Proposed Resolution BROX Community Land Work Zone.** A resolution for a Brox work zone is being
6 proposed to limit access during work periods. Mark Bender read the resolution as follows:
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8 **RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMAN OF THE TOWN OF MILFORD NH REGULATING**
9 **THE USE OF BROX COMMUNITY LANDS DURING ACTIVE WORK PERIODS**

10 It is the desire of the Board of Selectmen of the town of Milford, NH that the Brox Community Lands
11 (lands) be available for the general enjoyment of all residents. There are times when some or all of these
12 lands will need to be closed for safety reasons during active work periods. These work periods may in-
13 volve the Milford Department of Public Works or contractors of the Town. A sign stating the closure will
14 be prominently posted at the entrance to the lands off Heron Pond Road and at an appropriate position at
15 the Service Road near Perry Road.

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17 Residents and others are asked to respect the work zones when these signs are posted for their safety and
18 the safety of Town employees or contractors. Milford Police Department is authorized to enforce the clo-
19 sure and to cite repeat offenders.
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21 Mark Bender said we have had a good deal of work done by DPW and contractors over the years. We have
22 never officially closed the area. From a liability standpoint, that is a mistake. For the safety of the people that
23 visit and the contractors, it is good policy in any type of work zone like this. Selectman Putnam, Selectman
24 Bauer are in favor of this resolution. Mark Bender asked that a formal vote be taken. Mark Bender asked Po-
25 lice Chief Viola to look into this; and the Chief has spoken to the prosecutor about this as well. Selectman Put-
26 nam moved to enact this resolution. Selectman Daniels seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed 5/0.
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28 **4) Fletcher Site Air Quality Update and Public Meeting.** Mark Bender indicated the air monitoring is ongo-
29 ing; there has been improvement. It looks like a sea of poly at Keyes Park and they have changed the way they
30 are going about their work. Currently they excavate, direct load it and cover the material at the end of the day.
31 The Mill Street work was halted. EPA would not proceed until we had at least two consecutive days with air
32 quality below the required limit. We have now had four consecutive days. EPA authorizes the work at Mill
33 Street. They got to half the distance to where the bedrock is located; the air monitoring systems were up and
34 running and we will see where they are and then we can move forward. By Wednesday we should have those
35 results. There will be a neighborhood information meeting on Tuesday May 10 at 6:30 for Cottage Street, Mill
36 Street and Elm Street. The town website has information about the Fletcher site. Chairman Fougere asked
37 about residents on Cottage Street being in the loop. Mark Bender said they reached as many people as they
38 could via e-mail to send information. Vice Chairman Federico and Selectman Bauer will attend this neighbor-
39 hood meeting; Mark Bender will attend, Selectman Putnam, Chairman Fougere and Selectman Daniels will also
40 be unable to attend.
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42 **5) Osgood Pond Update.** Mark Bender indicated there have been four responses to the Osgood Pond RFP.
43 We received specifications on the scope of work; it is expected that an award will be made the week of May 9.
44 Selectman Daniels asked if that contract can be developed in such a way that if we get additional funds we can
45 add that to the contract (expand the scope). Chairman Fougere said that would expand the scope. Mark Bender
46 said we might want to put that out to bid. If a contractor has the equipment already there, Selectman Daniels
47 asked wouldn't we want to stay with that contractor? Rick Riendeau said a change of contract could be done.
48 Chairman Fougere has seen that done before. Mark Bender feels it should go out to bid because it could be
49 double what the original cost was. Selectman Daniels indicated it would be different and the later dredging
50 could be more difficult. Mark Bender to look into this.
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52 **6. DISCUSSIONS.**

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54 **7. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS/DISCUSSIONS.**

55 **a) FROM PROJECTS, SPECIAL BOARDS, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES.** Mark Bender indicated
56 the Keyes Committee is coming up with questions for the Board of Selectmen, for storage, parking, etc. The
57 big need is for storage and the availability for that in the building or moving people out of the Town Hall base-
58 ment into a building there. It is all still being looked at and discussed.

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b) OTHER ITEMS (that are not on the agenda) Chairman Fougere indicated there were ceremonies on Saturday to celebrate the lives of Reverend Dana Miller and also for Bill Kokko. They were both very nice events with lots of people in attendance. After that there was a ribbon cutting for Citizens Bank that just opened a branch in Shaw's; he and Mark Bender attended. Chairman Fougere extended his condolences to Selectman Putnam who recently lost his brother.

A complaint was filed with the Department of Environmental Services (DES), against the town, on the Brox property which was found to be unsubstantiated. Suzanne Fournier indicated that the DES complaint is being appealed and feels the Wetland Bureau of DES has ignored its own policies. The scientist who checked this out for DES did not find that Fairy Shrimp are located on that property. The laws and regulations set by DES cannot be broken. A handout was provided to the Board containing a report from the scientist including the Fairy Shrimp information. Chairman Fougere asked if that scientist is certified. Ms. Fournier responded that the BECG scientist is a biologist out of the Harris Center and has credentials. Chairman Fougere said the town representative has a license and is a State certified scientist and has looked at the complaint, noting that BECG has the right to appeal. Ms. Fournier responded that they are not taking into consideration their own laws. It took three years for that wetland scientist to look at the vernal pool. Ms. Fournier said this was also brought to the Board's attention in 2015. The vernal pool is large, about 100 feet long and 50 feet wide. The on-site visit was identified in 2013 when the company was hired; they were hired to delineate wetlands. Selectman Putnam excused himself from the room. Ms. Fournier stated she finds it offensive that Selectman Putnam is leaving the room when she is speaking on behalf of BECG.

8. APPROVAL OF FINAL MINUTES. Selectman Daniels moved to approve the minutes of March 28, 2016 as amended. Selectman Bauer seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed 5/0. Selectman Daniels moved to approve the minutes of April 11, 2016 as amended. Selectman Bauer seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed 5/0.

9. INFORMATION ITEMS REQUIRING NO DECISIONS.

10. NOTICES. Notices were read by Chairman Fougere.

11. NON-PUBLIC SESSION. There was no non-public session at the end of tonight's meeting.

12. ADJOURNMENT: Selectman Putnam moved to adjourn at 7:17 p.m. Selectman Daniels seconded. All were in favor. Motion passed 5/0.

Mark Fougere, Chairman

Kevin Federico, Vice Chairman

Gary Daniels, Member

Katherine Bauer, Member

Mike Putnam, Member