

**Milford Budget Advisory Committee**  
**Draft Minutes**  
**January 4, 2017**

**Present:** Karen Mitchell, Jim Roccio, Matt Lydon,  
Chris Pank, Wade Campbell, Peg Seward,  
Paul Bartolomucci, Cara Barlow and Bob Courage

**Absent:** None

**Guests:** Mark Bender (Town Administrator), Kathy Bauer  
(Selectman) and The Milford Improvement Team

**Business:** Meeting called to order at 6:35 by Matt Lydon

**MIT**

The Milford Improvement Team gave their power point presentation regarding the Pumpkin Festival. There was an explanation of the warrant and this years request for \$23k. The amount was raised from previous years of \$20k to more accurately reflect what is being spent. The amount over the \$23k approved last year (\$93.04) will be taken out of the Town's administration budget to cover it.

There was discussion around whether or not MIT would consider looking into contracting out police detail for \$18.50/hour rather than spend \$49/hour for the Milford Police detail. Wendy Hunt explained that they prefer to have experienced law professionals on duty in the event of any type of event that needs emergency involvement (ex. The Keene Pumpkin Festival).

Questions were asked regarding what is being charged to vendors vs. non-profit organizations. The vendors are generally being charged based on the size of their space along with power needs. Non-profits who are selling something are a reduced rate of \$150 and those handing out brochures are generally not charged.

There was further discussion around, “why after 25+ years of a successful festival, it can’t be self-sustaining?” MIT feels that they do not make enough to be self-sustaining without the warrant from the Town and have decided as a board that if they do not receive the \$23k from the Town, they will not run the festival. Karen suggested that with their large cash balance at \$109k at the beginning of 2016, their board consider running the Labor Day Parade, which as of this year will no longer be run by the VFW. If no one steps up to run this, it likely will not happen.

Karen presented her document detailing in layman’s terms a factual description of each warrant article. The purpose of this document is to provide a non-opinionated representation of the Town warrant articles to be distributed via: paper sources (ex. Library and Town Hall) as well as online (ex. The Town of Milford page, the Budget Advisory Committee page and the Milford Residents FB page, etc.). The hope is to further educate the voters of the Town’s needs and to encourage more of them to come out and have their vote counted.

The BAC was in full favor of the document and after suggestions and adjustments are made, the document will be forwarded on to the BOS for discussion and hopeful approval. The document needs to be to Tina no later than Friday morning to have included in the printing for Monday’s upcoming Budget and Bond hearing.

Chris Constantino from Conservation was at the meeting and able to answer a previously asked question regarding the amount of conservation land in Town. Currently there are 1168 acres of conservation land. There are 300 acres in easement and 20 acres of the Rail Trail.

The next meeting will be Jan. 11 in the BOS room with SVTC (the Blue Bus) as well as further warrant and budget discussions.

Monday, January 9, 2017 is the Budget and Bond Hearing in the BOS room.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:53pm.

Respectfully submitted by, Karen Mitchell, Secretary