

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING MONDAY, MAY 2, 2016

In attendance: J. Thomas Hurley, David T. Burnes, Kathleen M. Conlon, Annemarie Fagan, Town Administrator, Emily R. Martin, Executive Secretary

1. Chairman J. Thomas Hurley convened the meeting at 6:01 p.m. in Room 201 at Milton High School.
2. The Board confirmed future meeting dates of May 3 and May 5, 2016, and May 9, May 10 and May 12, if necessary. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be May 17, 2016.
3. Town Accountant Amy Dexter presented an updated list of requested capital items to be voted as Article 6 of the May 2016 Annual Town Meeting. Kathleen M. Conlon recused herself from the meeting and left the room, as some requested items would be bonded. Ms. Dexter informed that Board that the changes are as a result of the Stormwater Utility Fee article's passage at the February 2016 Special Town Meeting. The money that had been set aside to cover the cost of the stormwater requirement has been reallocated roadways and repairs to the DPW facilities.

After discussion, David T. Burnes moved, J. Thomas Hurley seconded, and the Board voted 2-0 to approve the recommendations of the Capital Improvement Planning Committee for FY2017 departmental capital needs as presented in the memo from the Committee dated April 6, 2016. Ms. Conlon returned to the meeting.

4. Director of the Department of Public Works Joseph Lynch and Administrative Assistant Darlene McGrath attended the meeting to discuss the water bill of resident Stephen Harlowe of 35 Craig Street, who also attended the meeting. Mr. Harlowe was disputing a water and sewer bill he received in August 2015, stating he does not believe he used the amount of water for which he was charged. Director Lynch and Ms. McGrath answered questions from the Board regarding how the spike in usage could be accounted for, and DPW's failure to have the meter tested in a timely manner. It appears that the meter was stored in an incorrect location while the DPW employee who normally handles these matters was on a leave of absence. Chairman Hurley stated that, without confirmation that there was an issue that fell upon the Town to fix, the water had gone through the meter and was billed to the Town. Chair Hurley also noted that the Board should not order any abatements without evidence, as it could set a poor precedent. Kathleen M. Conlon stated she was concerned about the break in the chain of custody of the meter while it was supposed to be tested, and wanted to take the matter under advisement. The other members agreed. Ms. Conlon asked Director Lynch and Town Administrator Fagan to look at different scenarios for a possible partial abatement to be discussed on May 5, 2016.
5. David T. Burnes, moved Kathleen M. Conlon seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve and sign an amendment to the March 8, 2016 Milton Animal Shelter Funding Agreement between the Town of Milton and the Milton Animal League.

6. David T. Burnes moved, Kathleen M. Conlon seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve and sign a letter to the Town employee unions committing the Town will not make any plan design changes on employee health insurance from January 1, 2017 through and including December 31, 2019.
7. David T. Burnes moved, Kathleen M. Conlon seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to ratify a proclamation celebrating the Congregation Beth Shalom of the Blue Hills' move to its new temple on Lodge Street.
8. David T. Burnes moved, Kathleen M. Conlon seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to accept the gift of a new Dodge Grand Caravan to the Milton Council on Aging that was given by the Friends of the Council on Aging.

Chairman Hurley thanked the Friends of the Council on Aging for their generosity.

9. The Board discussed its annual reorganization, and determined it will wait until after the May 2016 Annual Town Meeting concludes to do so, as it best serves the Board to have the member who presided as Chair the previous year stay on as Chair through Town Meeting. The Board will reorganize at its May 17, 2016 meeting.
10. The Board discussed articles for the May 2016 Annual Town Meeting, including the leash law, construction start time and bed & breakfast articles.
11. Town Administrator Annemarie Fagan reported to the Board on the progress of hiring a new Assistant Director for the Department of Public Works. Ms. Fagan informed the Board that 19 resumes were received, 7 were called for interviews, of which 6 accepted. Ms. Fagan stated she had selected a candidate and was awaiting a background check, and would likely be approved the following week.
12. J. Thomas Hurley reported on a meeting that he, the Town Administrator and the Planning Director had earlier in the day with Howard/Stein-Hudson regarding the East Milton Deck Project. Chair Hurley noted that the Massachusetts Department of Transportation was not in attendance, and the next step in the process is a "net benefits evaluation", which the Department of Transportation is compiling.
13. Kathleen M. Conlon reported on the number of posts on Facebook regarding rats in East Milton. Ms. Conlon asked Town Administrator Fagan to follow up on this with Health Director Caroline Kinsella.
14. Financial Policies and a report from the Town Administrator Search Committee were named as future agenda items.
15. Kathleen M. Conlon moved, David T. Burnes seconded, and at 7:16 p.m. the Board voted unanimously to recess to the May 2016 Annual Town Meeting.
16. Town Meeting adjourned at 10:21 p.m.