Town of Milton Town Government Study Committee May 17, 2012

The Town Government Study Committee met on Thursday, May 17, 2012, in the John A. Cronin Conference Room.

The following members were present: Chairman Rick Neely, John Cronin, Annemarie Fagan, Michael Joyce, Mary McNamara, Leroy Walker and Katie Conlon.

Chairman Neely called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m.

On a motion duly made and seconded, the Committee voted 5-0-0 to approve the minutes of its May 1, 2012 meeting.

The Committee met with Emily Keys Innes, Chair of the Planning Board. Ms. Innes reported that the Planning Board will hire a consultant to perform a visioning study for a new master plan. She discussed and responded to questions concerning the study process, the elements of a master plan, the involvement of elected officials and members of the public in the master planning process, and other studies and plans that the Town has undertaken in recent years. Ms. Innes and the Committee also discussed issues relating to commercial development and housing.

The Committee met with Town Treasurer James McAuliffe, who discussed payroll processing, technology needs, the operations of his department, and the Treasurer's interaction with the Town Administrator, the Town Accountant and the School Department's Business Manager.

The Committee met with Ed Spellman, former Accountant for Milton and Newton and current Finance Director for Braintree. Mr. Spellman compared and contrasted his experiences in the three communities on matters such as the election or appointment of officeholders, reporting lines, checks and balances, consolidation of finance operations, payroll processing and technology needs.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 7, at 7:00 p.m., at which time the Committee will discuss issues raised during its conferences with various Town officials. The Committee canceled its June 21 meeting and scheduled a meeting for June 14 at 7:30 p.m. Mr. Neely will invite Mr. Roberts, Chair of the Information Technology Committee, to an upcoming meeting.

On a motion duly made and seconded, the Committee voted unanimously to adjourn at 10:09 p.m.

Submitted by:

Katie Conlon Secretary May 19, 2012