Town of Milton Town Government Study Committee May 23, 2013

The Town Government Study Committee (the "Committee") met on Thursday, May 23, 2013, in the Baker Conference Room. The following members were present: Chairman Rick Neely, Michael Joyce, Marvin Gordon, John Cronin, Leroy Walker, and Mary McNamara. The following members were absent: Rob Gatnik.

Chairman Neely called the meeting to order at 7:08 PM.

On a motion duly made and seconded, the Committee voted 6-0-0 to postpone approval of the meeting minutes for its March 25, 2013 meeting.

The Committee began by discussing Chairman Neely's presentation to Town Meeting about the Committee's work. The discussion included the issues that were covered in the presentation, as well as agenda items that the Committee continues to work on. Chairman Neely also discussed the upcoming public meeting about the Committee, and mentioned that it might be held at the Council on Aging.

Next, the Committee discussed the recent meeting with the Department of Revenue. Chairman Neely confirmed that the DOR representatives would be meeting with town officials and that he had spoken to the DOR representative about the discussions that the Committee was having. The Committee also discussed its IT recommendation. Chairman Neely indicated the IT review within the DOR Financial Review will not be as broad as the IT recommendation provided to the Selectmen and mentioned that Hanover did an IT analysis a few years ago.

The Committee then segued into a discussion of how to promote participation in municipal government. The Committee discussed what has been done in the past, and what else needs to be done to increase participation. Mr. Gordon mentioned possible changes to the bylaws regarding Town Meeting rules. It was suggested that the Moderator could be helpful in improving how Town Meeting operated.

Mr. Walker then asked how the Committee could ensure sufficient Town Meeting input in the implementation of the Committee's recommendations. It was suggested that each recommendation could be presented as a Town Meeting article. The Committee discussed ways in which the Board of Selectmen could solicit input from Town Meeting in implementing the Committee's recommendations.

On a motion duly made and seconded, the Committee voted 6-0-0 to adjourn the meeting at 8:18 PM.

Submitted by:

Michael Joyce May 23, 2013