

Warrant Committee
March 14, 2016
Twenty-eighth meeting

Present: Chair LeeMichael McLean, Secretary Ted Hays, Members Jean Eckner, Chuck Karimbakas, Philip Mathews, Brian Beaupre, Betty White, Michael Maholchic, Darnell Turner and Jonathan Schindler.

Absent: Steve McCurdy, James Potter, and Richard Boehler.

Guests: Town Administrator Annemarie Fagan, Board of Selectmen Tom Hurley (Chair), Katie Conlon and David Burnes; Milton Public Schools Assistant Superintendent of Business Affairs Dr. Glenn Pavlicek, Fire Chief John Grant.

Reserve Fund Balance: \$597,445

1. The twenty-eighth meeting of the Warrant Committee for FY16 was called to order at 7:37 p.m. in the Carol Blute Conference Room of Milton Town Hall.

2. On a motion by Mr. Hays, seconded by Mr. Turner, the March 7th minutes were approved 9/0/0 and March 9th minutes 7/0/2.

3. FY17 Contingent Budget discussions:

The Committee discussed the status of the contingent budget, determining that without the support of the schools and the Board of Selectmen, the passing of an override would be unlikely. The need for \$150,000 towards free kindergarten and funding for roads were discussed. Mr. Turner said that an override would address the deficit outlined in the 5-year financial forecast and that Town Meeting should be allowed to vote. Mr. Hays said that it would be wise to pass an override before it was needed. Mr. McLean reminded the Committee of the Stormwater Enterprise and other recent revenue-generating developments. Mr. Mathews questioned the credibility of the Committee should an override fail. Mr. Schindler agreed, and said that specific needs driving an override were unclear. Mr. Maholchic said that energy savings at the schools would add to the needed \$150,000.

Mr. Hurley noted that there is new growth underway that may provide revenue. He said that the reorganization and consolidation of departments would further benefit the town.

On a motion by Mr. Hays, seconded by Mr. Mathews, a vote to abandon the contingent budget was passed 8/1/0. Mr. Mathews suggested that there be a presentation at Town Meeting outlining contingent needs.

The Committee discussed funding for free kindergarten and Fire Department overtime. Free cash, energy savings and the overlay reserve were considered. Ms. Fagan discussed group insurance rates. Dr. Pavlicek described expected energy savings to the schools. Mr. Grant explained how injuries, benefits and pensions tie in to overtime. Reserve fund transfers, increasing the overlay reserve, collective bargaining agreements, free cash, one-time expenses, sick leave buy-back, and the OPEB trust were discussed.

The law budget was addressed.

The Committee members individually voiced their opinions about free kindergarten.

A round of applause was given to Ms. Fagan for her accomplishments.

On a motion by Mr. Karimbakas, seconded by member Maholchic, the meeting was adjourned at 9:42 p.m.. 9/0/0.

Reserve Fund Balance: \$597,445

Respectfully submitted by
Julia Getman
Warrant Committee Clerk