



Town of Milton – Selectboard Meeting
Includes Joint Discussion with Milton School Board
43 Bombardier Road, Milton VT 05468
In Person and/or via Zoom – Community Room
Monday, September 18, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Selectboard Members Present: Darren Adams, Chair; Michael Morgan, Vice Chair; Brenda Steady, Clerk; Leland Morgan, Member; Chris Taylor, Member

Selectboard Members Absent: None

Staff Members Present: Don Turner Jr., Town Manager; John Bartlett, HR and Operations Director; Brittany Tradup, Executive Assistant to the Town Manager; Michaela Foody, Public Safety Director; Sean McCann, Rescue Chief; Amber N. Baker, Finance Director; Eric Gallas, Highway Superintendent; John Gifford, Town Treasurer;

Milton Town School District: Kumulia Long, Chair, MTSD Board of Trustees; Karen Stout, Vice-Chair, MTSD Board of Trustees; Jennifer Wilson, Clerk, MTSD Board of Trustees; Jeremy Metcalf, Trustee, MTSD Board of Trustees; Melinda Young, Trustee, MTSD Board of Trustees; Amy Rex, Superintendent; Matt Grasso, Director of Operations

Others Present:

Henry Bonges; Joyce Shepard; Todd Shepard; Jim LaClair; Todd J. Picht; Joseph Duquette; Allison Duquette; Lori Donna; Shannon Gunderson, Milton Independent; Lynne Manley; Michael Frett, The Islander; Tammy Geary; Diane Barrows (remote); Jennifer Saunders (remote); Jessica Groeling (remote); Martha Lyons (remote)

I. Call to Order

D. Adams called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. Flag Salute

D. Adams led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Milton Town School Board will Join Meeting to Discuss:

▪ **Town Projects**

D. Turner provided a status update on the following Town initiatives: Public Works Facility; the Ice House Waterfront Committee; the Market Feasibility Study for Indoor Recreation Community Facility; Downtown Study; and Solar Projects.

▪ **Milton Town School District Herrick Avenue Project**

K. Long provided a presentation on the MTSD Herrick Avenue Project, which included a timeline of the process leading up to the current status. He concluded his presentation by inviting the public to the Community Dinner and Forum this Wednesday, September 20, beginning at

5:00 PM. There was a discussion between the School Board and the Selectboard, along with D. Turner, A. Rex, and M. Grasso.

J. Gifford, Treasurer for the Town and the Milton Town School District, presented a report on the potential tax impact of the proposed project, and further discussion followed.

IV. Recognition of Joyce Shepard for Her Dedication and Service to Our Community 7:10 pm

Sean McCann, Rescue Chief

M. Foody introduced Joyce Shepard, noting that she has dedicated many years to the Milton Rescue Department.

D. Adams read the following resolution aloud:

Recognition of Joyce Shepard for her Dedication and Service to Our Community

WHEREAS, Joyce Shepard has continuously served the Community of Milton as a volunteer EMS clinical provider for Emergency Medical Services (EMS) for the last 16 years, starting her EMS career with Milton Rescue on October 25, 2007 as an active volunteer in multiple capacities, including as an EMT, ambulance driver and volunteer officer (lieutenant); and,

WHEREAS, in addition to her volunteer EMS responsibilities to Milton Rescue, Joyce was a dispatcher for the Milton Police Department from 1981 to 1985, and she was a part-time police officer with Milton from 1982 to 1985; and,

WHEREAS, in 1982, she attended the Vermont Police Academy for part time officers and pursued a seminar at the University of North Florida for Field Training Officers; and

WHEREAS, she has dedicated her life to first response in the following capacities: from 1983 to 1985, Joyce was a part-time dispatcher for Vermont State Police for their Colchester and St. Albans barracks; from 1985 to 1999, she became a full-time dispatcher for the South Burlington Police Department; and in 1999, Joyce joined University of Vermont (UVM) Police Services as part of their support team, acting as a financial assistant and then as the business manager, while providing administrative services for payroll, human resources, budgets, accounts payable; budget analysis and cost analysis; and,

WHEREAS, Joyce has been a stable, and integral part of this community, living her entire life in the Town of Milton, attending all Milton schools and graduating from Milton High School with honors. She raised her family in Milton, many of whom have taken up the mantle of first response; and,

WHEREAS, Joyce has provided exemplary medical and police service and assistance to the Taxpayers, Citizens and Guests of Milton; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Milton would like to formally recognize and express gratitude to individuals who have enhanced the Milton community through their commitment, leadership and service to others; and,

WHEREAS, the Milton Selectboard acknowledges that Joyce Shepard has spent a great deal of the last 16 years countlessly preparing for and faithfully serving in an EMS capacity with Milton Rescue and the many other roles highlighted in this Resolution, and that this effort has required exceptional personal sacrifice, educational advancement and time spent apart from family and friends.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Milton Selectboard hereby expresses its overwhelming appreciation and gratitude on behalf of the Town Staff and Citizens of Milton, for Joyce Shepard's service, time, dedication and numerous contributions to the quality of life, safety, health and prosperity of our community. The Town of Milton and the Selectboard wish her continued success and happiness in the years to come.

Dated at Milton, Vermont this 18th day of September, 2023.

Second by M. Morgan. Motion approved unanimously.

Rescue Chief Sean McCann thanked Joyce and presented her with a plaque.

V. Agenda Review

No changes.

VI. Public Forum

None.

VII. Request to Appropriate Additional ARPA Funds Toward Purchase of the 3.9 Acre Brault Property

Don Turner, Jr., Town Manager

D. Turner presented this item as per the following memo:

To: Milton Selectboard
Date: September 15, 2023
From: Don Turner, Town Manager
Re: Town purchase of 3.9 acres from Brault Family Trust and Mark Brault.

Project update:

The Selectboard appropriated \$500,000.00 to purchase this property. In accordance to the purchase and sale contract, the Town had to hire an engineer to complete the necessary boundary line adjustment. The cost for engineering, associated fees and other expenses was \$5,768.77 leaving \$494,231.23 available to complete the purchase. In addition, there will be recording fees for the new Mylar and legal documents. Therefore, an additional \$6000.00 is needed to complete the transaction.

Proposed Motion

Motion to appropriate an additional \$6000.00 from the remaining \$33,907.35 of available ARPA funds to complete the purchase of the 3.9 acres of property adjacent to Bombardier Park currently owned by the Brault Family Trust and Mark Brault.

Motion made by B. Steady to appropriate an additional \$6000.00 from the remaining \$33,907.35 of available ARPA funds to complete the purchase of the 3.9 acres of property adjacent to Bombardier Park currently owned by the Brault Family Trust and Mark Brault. Second by L. Morgan. Motion approved unanimously.

VIII. Consent Agenda

- **Approval of Selectboard Meeting Minutes of 9/05/2023**

- **Approval of Warrant #5**

Motion made by M. Morgan to approve the Consent Agenda, with a second by C. Taylor. Motion approved unanimously.

IX. Chittenden Solid Waste District (CSWD) and Green Mountain Transit (GMT) Update

Henry Bonges, CSWD Board and GMT Board Representative

H. Bonges provided an update to the Selectboard on Green Mountain Transit (GMT), including management changes, fare changes, EV buses, and more. Bonges also presented an update on the Chittenden Solid Waste District (CSWD), discussing the bond, new fees, a major website update and more.

X. Electric Vehicle Charger Grant

Henry Bonges, Volunteer Energy Chair

H. Bonges presented an update on energy initiatives in Milton. He then informed the Selectboard that he has submitted an intent to apply for multiple electric vehicles (EV) chargers for the Town, with a goal to give Milton a base-level public charger access to build upon. Bonges responded to questions from the Selectboard.

XI. Award Bid for 7-Yard Plow Truck

Eric Gallas, Highway Superintendent

E. Gallas introduced this item as per the information presented in the following resolution:

2025 Single Axle Maintenance Vehicle and Equipment Purchase Approval for Department of Public Works Highway Division

WHEREAS, the Administrative Code Purchasing Policy duly adopted by the Selectboard of the Town of Milton and amended October 5, 2020 requires competitive bidding and Selectboard approval for purchases over \$15,000 by the Town; and,

WHEREAS, the Town of Milton 2025 Single Axle Highway Maintenance Vehicle was put out to bid on August 3, 2023, with bids due on August 22, 2023; and,

WHEREAS, the Public Works Department was able to obtain two (2) qualified bids from vendors known to supply trucks and/or specified equipment:

	Vehicle + Plow Package (including extended warranty)	Trade-In Value Offered	Bid Total, with trade in and discounts
Allegiance Trucks	\$249,729.00	-\$40,000.00	\$209,729.00
R.R. Charlebois	\$260,440.00	-\$55,000.00	\$200,170.00

WHEREAS, R.R. Charlebois offered a \$5,000 discount on the total price, if the chassis (quoted at \$138,190) is paid for prior to arriving for the plow package install; and

WHEREAS, the Public Works Department will attempt to sell the Town's current truck at auction for a higher price than the trade-in value offered, but reserves the right to accept the trade-in value offered; in which case R.R. Charlebois would be the lowest qualified bidder; and,

WHEREAS, the Public Works Department Highway Division recommends awarding the bid to R.R. Charlebois for a 2025 Freightliner 114SD+ 4x2 with plow package installed at a price of \$260,440.00, less a discount of \$5,000. The total price for the truck will be \$255,440.00.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Selectboard of the Town of Milton authorizes the Town Manager, or his designee, to execute all necessary documents to purchase a 2025 Freightliner 114SD+ 4x2 with plow package installed from R.R. Charlebois for an amount not to exceed \$255,440.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Selectboard of the Town of Milton authorizes the Town Manager, or his designee, to pay an amount not to exceed \$138,190.00 to R.R. Charlebois at the time the chassis arrives in order to receive a \$5,000.00 discount on the overall price.

Motion made by C. Taylor to accept the resolution for the 2025 single axle highway maintenance vehicle as presented, with a second by M. Morgan. There was a brief discussion about the bidding process. **Motion approved unanimously.**

XII. Public Works Facility Update

Eric Gallas, Highway Superintendent

E. Gallas provided a brief update of the new Public Works Facility. He stated that the roadway and utilities portion is progressing nicely. The water line and sewer forced main are complete, and gravel is being applied to the road. The land has been cleared, and the weather has caused some delays, but the sound berm around the northern and western side of the job is complete as well as one side of the retention pond. There was a brief discussion about next steps.

XIII. Update on Flooding

Don Turner, Jr., Town Manager

D. Turner noted that there haven't been any permit requests, but the Town expects some in the coming weeks. He would like to propose that the Selectboard consider waiving permit or Development Review Board (DRB) fees associated with the July flooding. This will be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

M. Foody provided an additional update regarding repairs for West Milton Road as well as the status of the Town's public assistance application through FEMA.

XIV. Update from Town Manager and Board Members

Don Turner, Jr., Town Manager

D. Turner provided the following updates to the Selectboard:

- Turner participated in the Art Stroll event hosted by the Milton Artists' Guild on Saturday. There was a great turn-out and he responded to many great questions about what was going on at Bombardier Park.
- New playground bark mulch was installed last week.
- Regarding the downtown study: Dubois and King would like to meet with Selectboard members individually, if possible, by the middle of October. Milton on the Move had a booth next to the Town's at the Art Stroll, and many people participated in their survey of downtown examples.

- Events at the Grange have been going well. The Town continues to receive inquiries for use. The Town has been working with the Milton Artists' Guild on a mural project for the Grange. A committee will be bringing information to the Selectboard for your input in the coming weeks.
- Sand Bar Renovation Project: A presentation will be given to the Selectboard on October 16.
- Charlie Baker from the CCRPC will provide an update at the October 16 meeting.
- Regarding the budget process: The Finance Department to send out budget packets on October 16, and they will be due back to the Town Manager Friday, November 3. Selectboard meetings will be planned for December 4, 6, 11, 13 and 18, with a goal to finalize the budget in early January.
- Papaseraphim property: Turner met with legal team and surveyors last week. Based on a projected schedule, the Selectboard will need to conduct a public hearing in early January.
- Preliminary hazardous materials assessment of old creamery came back better than anticipated. There will be follow-up testing in early October.
- Champlain Valley Horseshoe Club's use of the horseshoe/cornhole pits has been challenging this year. They have refused to complete the required facility use form as they have done in previous years. The Town will be meeting with them after the season to discuss use next year.

B. Steady updated the Selectboard that she will be taking a tour of the Milton Artists' Guild in response to an invitation from the executive director, Corrina Thurston.

XV. Adjournment

**Motion made by M. Morgan to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 p.m., with a second by B. Steady.
 Motion approved unanimously.
 Meeting adjourned by D. Adams.**

All documents pertaining to this meeting may be viewed using the following link:
<https://miltonvt.box.com/s/t77zt6ke99po5aqa3nu18k588ig4urww>

A video recording of this meeting can be found at the following location:
<https://miltonvt.box.com/s/henvlkhivlwi3a6ek1se65hsxrovj50d>

Respectfully Submitted,

Brittany Tradup

APPROVED MINUTES:

_____ Date: _____
 Brenda Steady, Clerk

Filed with the Milton Town Clerk's Office on this _____ day of _____, 2023.

ATTEST: _____, Milton Town Clerk