

Town of Milton
424 White Mtn Highway
Milton NH, 03851



Economic Development
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Meeting Minutes

Nov 5, 2020

Committee Members Present

- Dennis Woods, Humphrey Williams, Peg Hurd, Bob Bourdeau, Andy Rawson, Sandi Woods, Bruce Woodruff

Committee Members not in attendance

- Kathy Russ, Phil Bean, Jennifer Marsh

Others Present

- Mark Laliberte (NH Division of Economic Development), Ernie Creveling, Olivia Duprat (guest), Karen Golab (Local Government Efficiency Task Force)
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Opening

- Meeting came to order at 6:00. Sandi Woods – Minutes recorder

New business

- Sig Sauer (Mark Laliberte – NH Division of Economic Development) – Ernie
 - Guest speaker, Mark Laliberte, shared his vision for the role Milton might play in the new Sig Sauer manufacturing facility in Rochester. Mark's discussion centered on the possible need for adequate employee housing as Milton's primary contribution. They are estimating hiring or relocating 500 employees, and Bruce shared that we currently have 2-3 subdivision plans on the books here in Milton. The committee will be investigating the viability of any of these areas, being developed to support housing requirements for this new facility. Mark also suggested having a discussion with the new Executive Council member, Joe Kenny, to get other ideas as to other roles Milton can contribute economically.
- Existing Business Issues – Bob, Andy
 - On a somewhat related issue, it was brought to the committee's attention that both the gas station at exit 17, and the motor sports company at the old Lakeside property, are experiencing issues with NHDOT. The main focus of the discussion was around the need to have Milton Code Enforcement issue temporary Certificate's of Occupancy(CO) to both businesses, until the issues are resolved. Andy Rawson took the action to add the CO issues to the BOS agenda for their next meeting.

- MEDC/Local Government Efficiency Task Force(LGETF) survey review – Bruce, Dennis, and Karen Golab
 - MEDC and LGETF are joining forces to create a town wide survey, focused on educating both teams as to what the people of Milton and Milton Mills want our town to become from an economic perspective. MEDC had an existing survey in the works, and with the added LGETF requirement, it makes sense to not reinvent the wheel. We have begun the finalization of the questions for the survey, and will be meeting at an upcoming workshop to create a final draft with hopes of sending the survey out with the tax bills in early December.
- Membership Announcements and Issues
 - MEDC has one open seat at this time, and possibly more in the future, so we discussed adding a message to the Milton webpage looking for anyone interested in joining the team. Ernie agreed to make sure that happened.
- Olivia Duprat – Milton resident... Questions to the team for her school project.
 - 1) What does the committee see as the biggest challenge in terms of balancing development with preserving the rural nature of our community?
 - We have limited resources, a lack of utility infrastructure (sewer and water) to support new business development. We need to be able to focus on the villages to establish core amenities that will present an adequate “draw” for businesses to recognize the value of moving to Milton and Milton Mills.
 - 2) What types of businesses would be most beneficial in attracting to Milton?
 - The upcoming town wide survey will be critical to our understanding of what the people of Milton desire our economic focus to be. Developing a development plan based on the survey results from our residents, will be the knowledge required to direct us to attracting the right businesses.
 - 3) Biggest challenges to successfully attracting businesses?
 - Infrastructure (utilities), limited expansion of the village area requiring elongation, the highway used to go through town and now it doesn't. We need to provide the right amenities that will draw people off the turnpike!
 - 4) What percentage of the current tax burden is commercial vs residential?

Land Building Type	Component Value	Component Sub-Totals	% of Total Value	
Total Taxable Value	\$ 504,838,472			
Residential Land	\$ 10,898,100			
Residential Land Only (Current Use)	\$ 1,424,787			
Residential Land and Building (No Current Use)	\$ 328,165,600			
Res. Land and Bldg (No Current Use)	\$ 42,957,533			
Manufactured Housing on Own Land	\$ 29,765,630			
Manufactured Housing on Land of Another	\$ 4,509,400			
Duplex & MFD	\$ 24,700,730			
Total Residential Land/Bldgs		\$ 442,421,780	88%	Residential %
Com/Indust. Land Only	\$ 6,997,900			
Com/Indust. Land & Bldg (No Current Use)	\$ 30,134,000			
Com/Indust. With Current Use	\$ 5,031,610			
Total Com/Industrial		\$ 42,163,510	8%	Commercial/Industrial %
Total Utility	\$ 20,253,182	\$ 20,253,182	4%	Utilities %
Total Taxable Value	\$ 504,838,472	\$ 504,838,472	100%	

Closing Public Comment

Closing Member Comment

Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:20.