Warrant Committee
September 21, 2020
Zoom Conference Call

(Conducted pursuant to the Executive Order dated March 12, 2020 suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, Gen. L. c. 30A §20 et seq. and 940 CMR 29.01 et seq.)

Present: George A. Ashur (Chair), Rosemary C. Bouzane, Erin G. Bradley, Kathleen A. Cassis, Brian G. Foster, Christine J. Gimber, Clinton Graham, Susannah H. Hegarty, Douglas B. Scibeck, John E. Driscoll, Scott D. Johnson.

Guests: Robert Hiss (Town Moderator), Melinda Collins (Chair of the Select Board).

Meeting called to order at 7:02 p.m.

1.) Chairman remarks:
7:02 p.m. On a motion from Clinton Graham, seconded by Kathleen A. Cassis, the minutes from May 23rd, 2020, July 13th 2020, July 28th 2020, July 30th 2020 were approved unanimously.

2.) Warrant Discussions:
   a.) 7:04 p.m. The Warrant Committee discusses, and votes for the Warrant Committee Chair (for new fiscal year). On a motion from Clinton Graham, seconded by Douglas B. Scibeck, the Committee unanimously to vote George Ashur as Warrant Committee Chair.

   b.) 7:07 p.m. Scott Johnson enters the meeting.

   b.) 7:09 p.m. The Warrant Committee discusses, and votes for the Warrant Committee Secretary (for new fiscal year). On a motion from Christine J. Gimber, seconded by Kathleen A. Cassis, the Committee unanimously to vote Erin G Bradley as Warrant Committee Secretary.

   c.) 7:11 p.m. Mr. Hiss discusses his suggested candidates for the open Warrant Committee seats: Ohene Asare, Emily Cavalier, Brigid Gaughan, David V. Humphreys.

   d.) 7:16 p.m. On a motion from Kathleen A. Cassis, seconded by Christine J. Gimber, the four candidates were voted onto the Warrant Committee unanimously.

   e.) 7:18 p.m. Mr. Hiss reviewed the roles and responsibilities of the Warrant Committee. Mr. Hiss noted the Warrant Committee should be skeptics in a healthy sense, noted that it is unusual for Town Meeting Members to vote against the recommendation from the
Warrant Committee. Mr. Hiss requested that the Warrant Committee members dig deep when presented with articles.

f.) 7:25 p.m. Mr. Hiss discusses with the Warrant Committee whether to have the Town Meeting in person or remote. The Warrant Committee and Mr. Hiss discussed the problems with remote Town Meeting and the difficulty of having in person Town Meeting in a pandemic.

g.) 7:36 p.m. Select Board Chair Ms. Collins discusses the articles for the Special Town Meeting. Ms. Collins thanked the Warrant Committee for all of their work from the previous fiscal year. Ms. Collins noted that the Select Board does not have numbers for either of the budget articles or the Fire Station Building article. The Legislator is going through the State budget, and hopefully will disseminate the budget information to the Town in the next couple of weeks. This will allow the Select Board and the School Finance Committee to meet and discuss if money can be returned to the Stabilization Fund. Ms. Collins noted that if the budget articles do not come to fruition due to State Legislation budget or lack of monies, that the Town Meeting could be pushed out to January of 2021.

h.) 7:47 p.m. The Warrant Committee discusses the next Warrant Committee meeting. Mr. Ashur requested the Fire Station Building Committee present an update on the project.

i.) 7:50 p.m. The Warrant Committee asked Ms. Collins if the Town could assess how much paid salary to Town employees who were home, not working, during COVID shut down. There was much discussion among the Warrant Committee members if this information is needed, and what would the citizens do with said information.

j.) 8:08 p.m. The Warrant Committee discussed Milton Public Schools and the ranking among other Towns in the State. There was much discussion among the Warrant Committee, it was decided to table this conversation until the School had representation at the Warrant Committee meeting to answer questions.

k.) 8:11 p.m. The next Warrant Committee meeting will be September 30th, 2020 at 7 p.m.

8:14 p.m. On a motion from Clinton Graham, seconded by Kathleen A. Cassis, the meeting is adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lynne Hoye

Warrant Committee Clerk