

**Milton Town Council Meeting
Milton Library - 121 Union Street
Monday, December 6, 2010
6:30 p.m.**

[Minutes are NOT Verbatim]

Recording Secretary: Helene Rodgville

1. PUBLIC HEARING: In cooperation with Sussex County Council and the Delaware State Housing Authority to allow citizens an opportunity to participate in the development of an application in the State of Delaware Community Development Block Grant Program

Mayor Newlands: We're just going to wait a few minutes; our presenter is not here yet, so just give us about five minutes. If he doesn't show, then we'll do Public Participation first. And again our speakers are not working; hopefully by next month we'll have the overhead speakers incorporated into our system. Okay, we're going to get started with Public Participation. Our speaker is not here yet. These microphones do work to do our recording, so if you can speak into the microphones and just speak loud enough to let the public hear please.

2. Public Participation

a. John Collier, 301 Coulter Street: Good evening Mayor and Council. Thank you for the opportunity to speak. I'm here with what I'm beginning to think is a perennial request. I last appeared here in May in regards to a property on the corner of Walnut and Mill Street that has been under condemnation since 2008 and the last time I was here, I realized that the property was in foreclosure; it has since been brought out of foreclosure and is in the hands of a bank and currently listed with a realtor. So I'm trying to figure out why they still haven't torn down this house. Right now, the feral cats are beginning to take over the crawl space and I notice squirrels climbing in and out of the eaves.

Mayor Newlands: A contractor has been in twice to look at the place; they've come to pull the permit for demolition; they have the permit; they haven't returned it yet. So the bank is in the process of getting that done.

John Collier: Thank you very much.

Mayor Newlands: And if you want to call like in two weeks; call the office to find out what's going on; we'll give you an update then, if you like.

John Collier: All right, very good, thank you.

b. Lynn Ekelund, 406 Union Street: I noticed that Chief Phillips isn't here and my question really was to be directed to him; but I'll bring it up. As some of you might know, I walk the dog through "new development" every day and I've noticed that now in front of Sgt. Harvey's house, in addition to the K-9 unit, there also is a permanent squad car; and I was just wondering why Sgt. Harvey now has two cars?

Mayor Newlands: He's having trouble with the SUV; there's a little mechanical trouble with the SUV, so he's using another car right now.

Lynn Ekelund: Okay so I guess that is an answer. And one other question that I have is how many police officers do we currently have on the force?

Mayor Newlands: Eight.

Lynn Ekelund: We have eight.

Mayor Newlands: One of which is in the Academy, coming out in two weeks.

Lynn Ekelund: Is that the COPS officer that is in the Academy?

Mayor Newlands: No, he's the replacement for one of the other officers.

Lynn Ekelund: Have we hired a COPS officer?

Mayor Newlands: Not yet, no.

Lynn Ekelund: And just, if we hire a COPS officer, do we have to keep the police force at an eleven officer level, since we had ten when we got the grant; or now that we're down to eight and we hire a COPS officer, can we keep that at nine?

Mayor Newlands: The way it works, is if we drop below the eleven, they just don't pay us for the eleventh officer.

Lynn Ekelund: So we don't get the benefit of the grant.

Mayor Newlands: We don't get the money for the eleventh officer, correct.

Lynn Ekelund: And is that because we accepted a grant for the eleventh officer, when we had a ten man force? Does that sort of take us out of the rotation for another officer, if we ever do come back to that level?

Mayor Newlands: I don't understand that part of it. When we filled out the paperwork we had ten officers.

Lynn Ekelund: Correct.

Mayor Newlands: So that would give us the eleventh officer from what we were granted. That grant money will stay with us as long as we have eleven officers.

Lynn Ekelund: Okay, and since we don't have eleven officers now, then we have to wait to utilize that grant officer until we're hiring the eleventh?

Mayor Newlands: Correct.

Lynn Ekelund: Okay, thanks.

Mayor Newlands: You're welcome.

- c. Marion Jones, 409 and 411 Behringer Avenue: I'm here to talk about yard waste. I'm here to tell you personally how important yard waste removal is on my piece of property; and really with all due respect, Mr. Mayor, you live in a development that is kind of devoid of mature landscaping. Well mulching my lawn was not enough, I mulched my lawn. But I have 24 years of growth on my property. I would rather have a waste company that removed my yard waste, then my kitchen garbage. Because if you break that down for recycling, there's hardly anything left. Point being, we did just have a raise in our trash service; it's the first raise we've had in a while, but now my most important element of that trash removal is being removed. I have compiled a few things for you to consider, some reference names, information, people who will pick up and haul the yard waste, albeit at a cost. I do believe that

this issue is best served, first of all, by notification of all the citizens. In the trash bill that just went out and was due in November, that would have been extremely helpful, because even though there's media and newspaper coverage; I would be willing to bet the simple woman who goes out every day and puts sticks and pinecones and branches in her apron and takes them to the trash can, doesn't know that January 1st is the cutoff. I do think that asking us to start our own compost piles, for those of us or anybody here who hasn't done it already; is a great idea; but I cannot stack six months, your recommendation to have a dumpster here twice a year; I cannot stack six months of tree limbs and brushes on my property without inviting wood boring pests to my property and my neighbor's property. Snowfall last year, I said I needed it 9 out of 12 months; we were cutting down trees on my street in February as a result of the snowfall last year. I'm very fortunate that we've had a company this long that will take all of that away. I would like to encourage a dialogue between the Mayor and the Council and the citizens. In my perfect world, it would have happened six months ago; because we're now on the heels of this. I hope the information I provide is helpful, but I do believe that Milton, as a municipality, just like the rest of them are faced right now; would be better served to try to create something on its own. There's information in here that does incur extra cost; manpower and whatnot. We have land given to us by Key Ventures. Is that a place for the town's own yard waste management location? Chipping, putting mulch back on to the trees in the parks that we have here in town, at no cost to the town; because you recycle the trees and whatnot that might be helpful. I'll help in any way I can, if you put a committee together. I would like to give you this information.

Mayor Newlands: Any information is helpful. This came as a surprise to us for January; we thought it was going to be later on during the year. So a lot of the towns got caught off guard with this.

Marion Jones: I certainly do encourage recycling, but I also believe it doesn't stop, just because Delaware Solid Waste Authority ("DSWA") says it has to stop. I also know printed in that material is a six-month grace period; though I don't necessarily advocate we keep breaking the law and getting our hands slapped every month for six months, until we get it right. But there is a six month grace period.

Mayor Newlands: The grace period is on the hauler. What's going to happen is when they are dumping in the landfill, there will be somebody inspecting what comes out of the truck and they will be looking at whether there is any yard waste in there. I don't know if they are going to stop January 1st from picking up any yard waste; but at some point in time, they will and probably very close to January 1st, they will just leave it at the curb.

Marion Jones: And how can the Council disseminate that information to the homeowners?

Mayor Newlands: We'll get something out in the water bill that will go out in January. We can put something on the website. I noticed today that Lewes just put something up on their website with information; and most of the

information is just go to DSWA and see what they have. Most of the towns are not doing anything, because it's a little too expensive to do this.

Marion Jones: You'll have yard waste drop off sites; I think two of them are below the canal; Milford, Frankford. There's not a lot, but then I also noted that the cost to remove yard waste to DSWA could be half of what they are charging New Castle County; that's contained in the information I gave you too.

Mayor Newlands: Personally, I'm thinking of just hiring one of the kids in the neighborhood that does lawns, just to have him come by periodically and pick up yard waste. Even though we are a newer development, we do have yard waste.

Marion Jones: Well you're either going to impose the cost of a private hauler upon the homeowners here or actually, I personally think, you're going to encourage people to dump their yard waste out in the middle of the street; and then it becomes the policemen's responsibility, as a public safety issue to call your public service men out to clear the roads. Either that, or people are going to neglect their properties. I can see that also; there's a very high cost to hiring private haulers. I would rather see if it's possible, something worked out town wide to serve everybody.

Mayor Newlands: You see part of the problem I have with that is in my neighborhood, on my street, that half of the neighbors garden and the other half don't; and the half that don't will do their own lawns, but they don't do any gardening. So they're not going to have any yard waste; so charging them becomes an issue. It's something we have to look at and I know its short term to deal with this; but I can't charge everybody for a service they don't use. We need to get feedback from the public as to what kind of ideas they have and this is helpful.

Marion Jones: Thank you.

Mayor Newlands: Thank you.

C Martin-Brown: Mr. Mayor, would you prefer that some additional comment not be expressed by the Council; because I had a couple of calls on this that Marion might want to hear, and the rest; it will just take me a minute.

Mayor Newlands: Please go ahead.

C Martin-Brown: Ms. Jones, I've gotten a couple of calls from people who are unemployed; not expecting them, the call; who said they hope, which is another point of view, the Town didn't hire a big contractor, because they couldn't compete and this might give them a source of income; picking up leaves and yard waste, as a lone ranger with a truck; where they could be retained by individual households and they would take it to the DNREC designated places; but they could charge the person that they were hauling it away, and make a little money. I just thought that was interesting as an additional vision for what to do.

Mayor Newlands: That's what I was looking for, is to have of the kids in my neighborhood who do the lawns during the summertime; have them pick up the yard waste. Because you could go to Blessings...

C Martin-Brown: This man lost his job and he was really...

Mayor Newlands: You don't have to go as far down as the DSWA, you can go to Blessings and dump.

Marion Jones: But you still are talking about the payment to private haulers.

C Martin-Brown: Oh yes, absolutely, no question; it's creating a job.

Marion Jones: You are still talking about imposing the cost to the citizens, of private haulers. I can't imagine that everybody puts out the same amount of garbage for the money they are charged equally every quarter, either. It's a service and I, personally, proactively; I would like to see my Council come up with a service for the town, as part of being included in a municipality, as opposed to being sitting out in the County someplace. I guess I'm saying my tax dollars. I'm not against free enterprise, or giving people jobs; you can't always find those people when you need to take a tree limb down. Right now I do all the work myself. I don't think I'm alone in that, in this town, either.

Vice Mayor Betts: I had a call from a gentleman, and he wondered if the town if this is just open for discussion; if the town could eliminate one week of picking up trash and create that week to pick up the tree limbs and the waste? I don't know if that's possible, but that's what he asked.

Mayor Newlands: Do you mean one week per month?

Vice Mayor Betts: One week per month.

Mayor Newlands: I don't know if health-wise you could do that. I mean one week is a...

Vice Mayor Betts: I don't know; that's what he said; he just asked.

C Martin-Brown: That's interesting.

Mayor Newlands: We would have to think about that.

Vice Mayor Betts: It was just something that he wanted me to bring up.

Mayor Newlands: I'm not sure if we could go two weeks without trash pickup. I don't think that's going to work.

Vice Mayor Betts: Yeah, but that's what he asked.

Mayor Newlands: Okay.

- d. John Bushey: Mayor and Council, I would just like to go on record in supporting Mrs. Jones' idea about the leaf pickup, the branches and all that. I think it's very crucial for the help of the beautification of our community; even though some of your friends in Wagamon's West Shores are not using the service; but perhaps in a few years, they'll wish they had this service to use; because they're going to have trees growing; brush they may want to haul away; or whatever. I think it's a crucial thing for the community. A few years ago when we had the ice storm, perhaps some of you weren't around here then; but the town supplied a place for the people in the community and it was picked up and deposited down there and the town had it all burnt for the community people; and I think it's just those kind of services, should be continued. We find money for a lot of other things. So, Mayor, I just support Mrs. Jones there in her argument, because I use the service and I would have to think that I do have a pick up truck, I'm fortunate. A lot of people don't. I can haul it away, but then there's finding a place to dispose of it. If this has all been created by DNREC because they opened a trash bag up, that's been in

the landfill for 25 years, with leaves in it and it hasn't broken down into other waste; then maybe they should go ahead and accept this stuff and not put it in trash bags and put it in the landfill, so it will breakdown. I leave nothing more. Thank you.

Mayor Newlands: Thank you.

- e. Wendy Harpster, 415 Behringer Avenue: I pretty much learned about this from my neighbor Marion Jones; I knew it was coming, but I guess I never really thought about it and I do agree that we pay taxes and it would be nice to have some service here in town that could help us. My own income, as well as Marion; and there are several people here that have very limited funds. This past winter was really bad; the three properties; just about everyone on our street lost at least one tree. Just a few months ago I lost a willow tree; and was fortunate enough right now to have the services; it took us several weeks to get it all taken care of and little by little out to the curb to be hauled away. I'm just thinking, here we have another winter coming up and I've got a whole line of trees on one end of my property; I have a corner lot; and I've got 15 or 16 huge 25 years worth of growth of pine trees. I'm always losing things from it. I agree that we need to maybe find some way for the town to use our tax dollars that we're already paying to find a way to do this; because I think, I agree, it's a job to keep up with your yard and your lawn, but for most people, I think they want a nice property, but you're going to have people that don't care and they're just going to let it go and it's going to take away from the town.

Mayor Newlands: Everybody keeps mentioning their tax dollars; I don't think this is going to be a service that is going to be taken care of out of your tax dollars. I think this is going to be a new charge for the service. It's something we don't do today; it requires manpower; it has dumping fees associated with it; it's not something that is just going to come out of tax dollars; if something gets created. So you keep mentioning that, but that's not going to happen. It's going to have to come out of new fees for the people who are going to use the service. We'll put this on the January agenda, along with, we were going to talk about recycling in January, as well; because unbeknownst to a lot of people; even though recycling starts in September; DSWA stops picking up recycling in April. That was in an article a couple of weeks ago; they're stopping early. So that's an issue.

John Bushey: Mr. Mayor, can I inject something else here? If you don't want to do this, then lift the burning ban in the community and I can burn my leaves in my yard and my brush, in my yard. If I lived out in a rural area, from September to the following spring, I can burn the leaves and stuff that's grown on my property. So lift the burning ban and I'll burn my leaves in my yard. Then you won't have to institute a new fee or anything else; I can burn my leaves and my branches and stuff from my trees.

Mayor Newlands: We'll address this again in January.

1, cont'd **PUBLIC HEARING: In cooperation with Sussex County Council and the Delaware State Housing Authority to allow citizens an opportunity to participate in the development of an application in the State of Delaware Community Development Block Grant Program**

Mayor Newlands: We have Mr. William LeCates. Just to let you know the microphones are working to record, but it does not project; our speakers are not working.

William LeCates: Thank you Mayor and Council, my name is Bill LeCates; I'm the Director of Community Development and Housing for Sussex County. The purpose of the Public Hearing tonight is to provide the citizens of Milton an opportunity to participate in the development of a Community Development Block Grant Application. The Community Development Block Grant Application is funded by HUD to the Delaware State Housing Authority for roughly about \$2 million a year. Each community, town, county in Kent and Sussex Counties can participate on a competitive basis; put in an Application. The County has helped and assisted most of the towns; about all of them; over the past years and performing the Application and sending it to the Delaware State Housing Authority. Tonight is to get comments and to find out what direction the town wants to go. Most of the policies on the Block Grant Applications are mostly for housing rehabilitation; homeowner occupied. It has historically been the proven program for years; Milton has utilized it; along with most of the towns in Sussex County. It preserves the housing stock of that particular town. Infrastructure is eligible; it is a match for that for \$2 million, or more; you have to put up 20%; for less than that it would be 15% and for less than \$100,000, it would be 10%. So there is a match, the higher the match, the more score the Application. Each Application is scored on its own merit and sent to the Delaware State Housing Authority. This year we'll be taking them up at the end of February; so that they will have a review panel that will review all the Applications and give them a score and then with each Application George Dickerson will be notified. The role of the County will be, as always, my office will do the complete Application; we will administer the grant; follow all the guidelines from HUD; and basically just take the names from the Town and submit with a grant and then we will do the procurement and follow through with an Application for the homeowner and certify them. There is Code Enforcement eligible; it hasn't been funded in many years by the review panel; and there's also Code Enforcement Infrastructure and housing rehabilitation, is the main entities that are provided. As I said, tonight is just mainly for public comments and questions on the Application. Historically, Sussex County has fared pretty well. In the last ten years, Milton has received over \$325,000; and that's pretty appropriate. Milton, during the earlier years, actually received quite a bit of funding; it would be well over \$1 million, if we went back about 15 years. Because it is based on the need, for the low to moderate income individuals in that community and targeted area; and that's how the scoring is. You cannot put it in an area where low and moderate income individuals are not served. There are income guidelines that they have to go

by for a family of one; it's about \$32,000; and it goes up about \$2,000 per person, per household. The total income is counted per each household. With that being said, if there are any questions, Mayor and Council, I would be glad at this time to answer them.

Mayor Newlands: When you say Milton has received funds in the past for this, \$300,000; that's the individual homeowners, not the Town.

William LeCates: Well, the homeowners have, but we have done infrastructure projects; we've done water and sewer. Yes, the homeowner's can get a grant, up to about \$20,000, based on the Codes that are violated; or needs assistance; they will have a ten-year lien for people 62 and younger; and five years for people 62 and older; put against their property; non-interest bearing lien, that will go away at the end of that time period. So we would bid the job out, do all the fixing up, the homeowner would not receive the money; the County would hold it and pay the contractor at the end of the job.

Mayor Newlands: Talking about infrastructure, what kind of infrastructure are you talking about.

William LeCates: We have down water and sewer, in the past, in the town. Then again, when you start talking about water and sewer and sidewalks; they are eligible items, it has to be in a targeted area, where more than 51% would be eligible and that means that more than 51% would have to be on that given street, meet the guidelines and we would have to do surveys for that. The last funding infrastructure in Sussex County was the sidewalk on Mulberry. We ran it and it was based on safety by the school; it was \$90,000; I think the Town had to put up some match; but that's the type of infrastructure. It has to be a safety hazard, be in an area of very low to moderate income, the higher percentage of low to moderate, the better chance it has; because they really don't look at infrastructure as a need; I know this is kind of a bad word, but they once again get back to the tax structure of the town; they feel that's a town responsibility to maintain their sidewalks and things. In other words, it is basically a low priority; instead of the housing Code Enforcement and demolition.

Mayor Newlands: But that's something that the Town would do, the sidewalks, outside of what the homeowner's would do. If we wanted to have a certain section of town looked at, to have sidewalks replaced, and get infrastructure money for that, we would initiate that, not the homeowners.

William LeCates: Yes, that would be a joint effort. The Town would ask or request that they would like a small infrastructure project for sidewalks, drainage, on this particular street; and my staff and I would have to do the income guidelines to make sure it qualifies. Then, yes, submit it as an infrastructure application. The only thing we would need from the homeowner's is to prove that each individual meets the guidelines and go well over 51%.

Mayor Newlands: Okay. Does anybody on the Council have any questions? Does anybody in the audience have any questions?

Bob Howard, 270 Candlecreek: I'm just curious; this program is for low income homeowner's who need repairs, if I'm to understand. How do we get

the word out to people like that? I run into a lot of low income homeowners in February and March; but that's too late for this program. Is this publicized in the newspaper somewhere?

William LeCates: Yes, we run about 15 public hearings a year. Actually we have 23 on the Town of Milton's waiting list right now. Because it is a yearly program, I've been here every year for, I don't know how long, maybe 19 years, probably. We'll go to each community; the county I have one master public hearing; and historically, we get from Code, from the Town and the Council will give us names, such as a gentleman as yourself would call or have somebody call us.

Bob Howard: You have 23 people from Milton that are now on your list.

William LeCates: And we keep the list until they go off, because the way it works is, every community, because there's only \$2 million, they'll be asked and it will be close to \$4 million that would be asked for. So some communities won't get funding this year; and so we keep an active waiting list.

Mayor Newlands: Are there any other questions? Thank you very much.

William LeCates: And there are some forms that need to be signed and passed around; just let us know what you would like us to do. I would appreciate it.

Mayor Newlands: We have them on our agenda, under New Business, item a.

William LeCates: Okay, thank you.

Mayor Newlands: Does anybody else have public comments?

3. Call to Order

Mayor Newlands called the Town Council Meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

4. Moment of Silence

5. Pledge of Allegiance

6. Roll Call:

C Lester	Present
C Martin-Brown	Present
C Duby	Present
C Prettyman	Present
C Abraham	Present
Vice Mayor Betts	Present
Mayor Newlands	Present

7. Agenda – Additions or Corrections

Mayor Newlands: Are there any additions or corrections to the Agenda? We have a short agenda tonight.

8. Approval of the Agenda

Mayor Newlands: Can we get an approval on the agenda?

C Duby: I move for approval of the agenda.

C Prettyman: Second.

Mayor Newlands: We have a motion and a second to approve the agenda. Any discussions? All in favor. Aye. Opposed. Motion is carried.

9. Presentation and Approval of Minutes: August 11th, August 18th, October 4th and November 1, 2010.

C Prettyman: I make a motion that we accept the minutes for August 11th, August 18th, October 4th and November 1st as written.

Vice Mayor Betts: Second.

Mayor Newlands: We have a motion and a second. Is there any discussion?

Vice Mayor Betts: Yes, I want to ask on the August 11th minutes, was there a roll call or was it just a public hearing?

Mayor Newlands: That was just a public hearing?

Vice Mayor Betts: And you never called the roll for the members of the Council?

Mayor Newlands: No, I don't think so.

Vice Mayor Betts: Okay, thank you.

C Martin-Brown: Mr. Mayor, a question on Wednesday, August 18th; I'm again listed as absent; but on the page behind C Martin-Brown says.

C Prettyman: Excuse me, Councilwoman. Could you please speak up, because I didn't hear you?

C Martin-Brown: I beg your pardon C Prettyman, on Wednesday, August 18th minutes, I'm listed as absent, but I'm quoted as speaking throughout the text. I think it needs to be amended.

Mayor Newlands: At one of these meetings, you arrived a little late. So at this point in the meeting, you were absent.

C Martin-Brown: I'm happy to be absolved of anything I said in the meeting.

Mayor Newlands: I don't know why she keeps doing that.

C Duby: Maybe you don't say you're present loudly enough.

C Martin-Brown: Oh, they know I'm here.

Mayor Newlands: Actually, you spoke up quite early in that meeting.

C Martin-Brown: How unusual for me.

Mayor Newlands: Okay, we'll have a talk with Helene; Helene will understand, she'll hear this. She's transcribing this.

C Martin-Brown: Thank you, Sir.

Mayor Newlands: Any other comments, questions, problems? We have a motion and a second to approve the minutes of August 11th, August 18th, October 4th and November 1, 2010, as amended.

Seth Thompson: I just want to be sure that the motion should be revised to reflect the amendments.

Stephanie Coulbourne: Yes.

Mayor Newlands: All in favor. Aye. Opposed. Motion is carried.

10. Discussion on Written Committee Reports

Mayor Newlands: We do not have any written committee reports at this time.

11. Department Reports: Public Works, Project Coordinator, Code and Police
C Prettyman: I make a motion that we accept the Department Reports for Public Works, Project Coordinator, Code and Police as presented.
C Duby: Second.
Mayor Newlands: We have a motion and a second to accept the Department Reports. Any discussion, comments, questions? All in favor. Aye. Opposed. Motion is carried.
12. Finance Report and Expenditures/Revenue Report
Mayor Newlands: First, I have to let Ms. Betts speak on the Finance Report.
Vice Mayor Betts: On the Finance Report, I have a donation from Tidewater Utility for \$500 to be put on the street lights for next year, as we understand they are paid for this year. So there is a \$500 check from Tidewater.
Mayor Newlands: We are just passing out a revised Revenue and Expenditure Report. C Lester, I think you just marked it "Draft for Comment Only"? The other one is the CD that was matured two weeks ago. This is a breakdown of where all the money went to; it's \$118,000 to refund the Water Impact account; \$123,000 for outstanding monies that we owed Tidewater; \$24,500 for the SRF payment that we have to pay back for January 2011; \$143,000 for four payroll cycles for December and January and \$200,000 towards the next two months bills. We have another CD that's about \$562,000 that is coming due the 14th of this month and what we're going to do with that, is stagger that; we would like to stagger it into CD's that go three months; six months; so that if we need to use the money, we have the money available to us at various times throughout the year. We're hoping not to have to use it. I guess you call it laddering CD's.
C Lester: You're learning.
Mayor Newlands: 1%, ½%; you can pretty much keep it in your checking account and do the same.
C Martin-Brown: I think C Lester has something.
C Lester: The statement I just passed out is really exactly the same as the one that was in the original packet; except that I marked it. This is a stamp I use if I don't want clients to use a document in any other fashion and to review it. I'm still not comfortable with the report, as it stands and I will go into that in some detail. If you could have one good item, we did sell that train engine for \$10,000; we'll see that show up as revenue.
Mayor Newlands: That's actually earmarked for the Lion's Club for the train system.
C Lester: But I do have some questions about that, and we'll get to it later. If anybody has any questions about this, I'll go over some of my reservations and why I have them.
C Duby: Can I just ask one question? The column that says Prior Year Revenue; does that mean the prior year, the same month? So October a year ago?
C Lester: Yes, that's what it is supposed to be.
C Duby: It's not the entire prior year.
Mayor Newlands: That entire column is incorrect. What happened was we were given a procedure to use by Edmunds Upload, the spreadsheet that we use for the

budget; and for some reason that column got corrupted coming in; we don't know what happened. So we have to readjust all of those figures in that column.

C Lester: The problem I think that arises for the Council or anybody else that reads the statements, is that the statements are really set up in a hybrid fashion; that part accrual, which means you reflect the income, before it is actually collected; and the same thing with expenses; some expenses are recorded before they are actually paid. Then we have a column that says Year-to-Date Revenue; well that's the actual cash collected this year. I have asked Edmunds' if there is something we can pull from here that is strictly a cash basis statement. I think that would be more effective for reviewing how we stand with the budget.

C DUBY: That was the other question I had; because the year-to-date revenue is the same as the current revenue.

C Lester: Well in some instances, it is cash, like the \$10,000 from the sale of the train, the engine. It's in the current revenue as \$10,000, because it was billed this month and it was also collected. So it shows up in both months; but the same thing for Luther Towers. You'll see we billed them \$2,500 and we collected the \$2,500.

Mayor Newlands: Also you've got to realize that this is the first month and it is only a one month report. So year-to-date and current month are the same.

C DUBY: So you're starting with this month and then adding on. So nothing else is...

C Lester: The way it should be.

Mayor Newlands: But things like on page 5, where the water rents were \$138,000; we haven't collected that much; we've probably collected in October \$45,000, somewhere around there. So that's because it is on accrual.

C Lester: Yes it is on accrual, so somewhere for reporting purposes at the end of the year an accrual statement is correct, because it properly reflects your income and expenses. But I think for budgeting purposes, if we can get a statement that is more on the cash basis, it would be easier for Council to monitor the funds as they come and go.

C Martin-Brown: We have to be quite clear, Mr. Mayor, when we're discussing the Financial Statement, whether it is the calendar year or the fiscal year; and that we declare that when we're in these public sessions; so people know what we're dealing with is we're only in the third month of our fiscal year.

Mayor Newlands: It's always fiscal; it's never calendar.

C Martin-Brown: I just want the citizens to have that clarity, I think that's important.

C Lester: I think everybody's aware that the fiscal year ends September 30th. If I may, I would like to go into some of the problems that I have found; some of the items that have been discovered by the Edmunds Software service people; and the accounting firm, Axelrod, has been in two full days?

Mayor Newlands: More than that.

C Lester: And they are beginning to pick up some items. And there's one thing I think needs attention, because I guess it was last meeting or the meeting before and I made a comment about us having written documentation and that this firm, Axelrod, was going to help us prepare a set of procedures and some other towns

were interested and the comment was made by a Council Member, that maybe we're not so bad as all the other towns; and that comment was parroted in the newspaper recently in a Letter to the Editor. I would like to repeat what I said at that time. Two of the towns that I have spoken to about possibly sharing the cost of our writing the manuals; the Town Manager's in those two instances have strong accounting backgrounds. Their staffs have strong accounting backgrounds. In one instance, the Finance Director is a CPA and in the other instance, they are two well-trained accountants. I think you have heard me say before, that when the trial balance, the year end statements were presented to the outside auditor last year; everything that should have had a balance on this side of the table, that said we have a receivable; showed that we owed people like, for instance, in real estate taxes instead of the town being owed real estate taxes, we owed money back to the residents. Everything was backwards. In these two towns, that would never get out of the door. It would never get out of the door. They reconcile everything each month; things are tied down; it just simply wouldn't happen. I just want to reiterate that; because we don't have to be as good as or bad as anybody. I know when I ran for office, it was my intent that the Financial Statements, if I were to be elected and appointed Treasurer; that these Financial Statements would be as close to being correct on a monthly basis as they possibly could. I'm working towards that. I've spent and one person in my office, we're trying to help Mrs. Coulbourne get caught up; I spent two weeks working on bank reconciliations and some other things and I would like to go over some of the things that I have found and these are problems in setting up the accounting system and the posting of the system, that sort of behind the scene posting of where the software posts its accounts to. For instance, some of the accounts, instead of being a reduction of cash, which is like a credit; for those of you who know, that's almost like an income account. It actually got posted as an income account. The cash was never reduced but on the Financial Statement it shows that we got some money on a grant; which didn't happen. That took awhile to find that out.

C Duby: Are you saying that we showed on the books that we had gotten grant money that we never got?

C Lester: Yes, it was misposted.

C Duby: So we weren't not paid; it was just put in the wrong place.

C Lester: It was put in the wrong place. Yes. And there's a coding that is set up, that when you write a check it should say, this check is written it reduces cash; but that's not what happened. It hasn't happened in many instances. We found monies that were... I didn't find this, but Edmunds Software found, between October and February monies that were posted to the general account; that did not belong to the general account; they belong to another account, like water utilities, or somewhere else. In one case it was Municipal Street Aid; the money should have gone there. And these things are cumulative. I tried to reconcile a couple of accounts and this is hard for someone trying to be a non-accountant; but if you look at the balance sheet, it shows a line item and it will say "Accounts Receivable – Real Estate Taxes". You should be able to run a ledger showing all the people that owe the town money and the total of that listing should agree to the total on the Balance Sheet. It doesn't happen, because they don't agree. And

I don't think they've agreed for a long time. One case in point is and being short of staff was difficult, but I think it had one benefit, because we had a fresh set of eyes looking at the water bills and we found 40 people that had not been billed for water.

Mayor Newlands: Or trash, for a year.

C Lester: These instances simply shouldn't happen. I just want to make sure that I'm covering everything that I'm supposed to cover. One of the things I want to speak about and it leads to my problem with the Financial Statements, that as of September 30th there were probably close to 60 adjusting entries made to the books. Adjusting entries are usually numerically numbered, that's a traditional way of doing it; so there were 60 of these items covering multiple accounts. Two of those multiple entries affected year end at 9/30/2007 and 9/30/2008; which means that there were errors running through 2007 into 2008 into 2009. They were never corrected. Some of it was because the adjusting entries had never been posted by the bookkeeper. The piece that I don't understand is when I look at a client's financial statements, especially your corporation; I always go back to make sure that last year's ending is the same as what I gave the client. I just don't understand why these entries were missed for a couple of years. The other point that I wanted to bring up is I keep talking about internal control. Internal control extends beyond watching the cash. One of the controls is to safeguard the assets of the Town; we should know what we have; where it is; how much it costs; and we're in the process now of preparing a statement for the insurance companies. I recently received this from Mr. Sombar, which is a depreciation schedule for the Town as of last year. We have here 4 maple trees in 1985, which I can guarantee aren't there anymore. We have vapor lights from 1971. The biggest problem that I see is we have the Gazebo for the park; we have swings for the park; this listing shows both the stuff that's gone; because if anybody walks down to the park, you will see the new Gazebo and the new swing set, etc. This includes all the old equipment, plus the new equipment. There are a lot of items on here; I know some people in town have begun looking at this; and they don't understand what happened. In that regard, I have a question for Council. Mrs. Coulbourne seems to believe that we have to have a Resolution to remove items that no longer exist.

Mayor Newlands: She's questioning whether we do or not.

Stephanie Coulbourne: I didn't say Resolution. What I said C Lester is that in the past, the Superintendent for the Public Works Department, the former Finance Director and myself had gone through that list and marked off the items that we no longer had. We took that back to Mr. Sombar and he recommended that Town Council be the one to approve to remove those items from that list. So if you want that list amended, I'm asking Council as a whole whether you want the Department Heads, who know what your inventory is, to come back with a recommendation of removing that and you approve that in January; or how they want to proceed with that.

Seth Thompson: C Lester, it sounds to me if it's a recommendation coming from Mr. Sombar, is that based on an accounting principle? As far as your Town Code and Charter are concerned, it doesn't speak to that requirement; but if it is coming

from Mr. Sombar, I suspect it is based on accounting concepts. I don't know though.

C Lester: Can he respond at this point or are we closed to other comment?

Seth Thompson: I suppose if he wants to respond, he can do that.

Mayor Newlands: It's going to add to the conversation.

Tom Sombar: Although frequently there tends to be a lot of items on the schedules, they represent items that have been acquired over a large number of years; hence some of these things will be inadvertently disposed of, so clearly there should be at least an annual; if not every two or three year process of going through the list and deleting items that are not there; deleting items of a minor nature. So I don't think it needs to... It certainly should be someone other than the individual who initiates the transaction to move the item; to approve it whether it's the Treasurer of the Council or the Mayor or someone with authority to make that decision so it isn't made arbitrarily. Because it's like C Lester was talking about earlier [garbled] keep the things that are made for the accrual basis [garbled]. Just deleting an item isn't going to affect a transaction [garbled]. It cleans up the record.

Mayor Newlands: Right. Thank you.

C Lester: Tom, you did send me an email that said you were going to check on the valuation of the Town Hall. Were you able to find that?

Tom Sombar: It should be in the next day or two [garbled].

C Lester: All right. Just to be clear, I know how much the town paid for the building and that's not what shows up on the depreciation schedule, so I had asked Tom if he would review that item. But to go on, I think the various Supervisors should look at this. I heard today that some land listed here, doesn't exist. There's an old school building that actually is valued at \$1, but that doesn't exist anymore. I think that was Truitt Jefferson's building, that is since gone. It's just haphazard. This galls me that little things like this can't be cleaned up as we go along and it just shows inattention to detail and that shouldn't happen. I just want to touch on two things, because I could probably go on all night. The Tidewater money; the money that was being used in the Certificate of Deposit that was cashed in; that money should have been escrowed as it was collected and it hasn't been, so we have to pay that money to Tidewater. I have broached this subject with both the State Auditors Office and the accounting firm that is looking at this and we have to make a decision and look at the dollars and when they came in. My proposal was that some of the prior Financial Statements would probably have to be restated; because obviously they're wrong. We had a liability to Tidewater that was never reflected. My last point was, and this is a budgetary item, the cost of expense for Town insurance, has been charged to the Administrative side only. I went through it and I have allocated last year's premium to all the departments. The key is that you want to properly state where the expenses are allocated and secondly, the water department earns money; it makes a profit. They could easily pay their share of the expense; so as part of that budgetary cost, we can reduce the Town's expense. We have to pay for the Police Department, etc. but the Water Department can pay for its own insurance; and that should be properly allocated. If I look back and I remember this discussion,

there was a lot of talk about why do we allocate the cost of the website? Well to properly reflect expenses. So \$1,000 bill is allocated among the various departments, but a \$75,000 or a \$90,000 bill is not allocated anywhere; it is strictly to Administrative Expenses. We are going to change that and in that regard, I spoke to one of the people that will be giving us a proposal on insurance and I asked them if they could find a stump period insurance policy; that is our insurance policy expires March 20th and my question was can they write a policy from March to September 30th and then from there on have that policy on the same fiscal period that we are. And they said they could easily do that. They would just extend the period of the policy, so we would reach a point where we could have that part properly match our expenditures and we'll know what our insurance is going to cost us for each department for the full fiscal year. I think that would make life a lot easier. I'm not going to go on anymore; we want a short night. Thank you.

Mayor Newlands: Does C Martin-Brown have a comment to make?

C Lester: C Martin-Brown does.

C Martin-Brown: I cleared it with the Treasurer Mr. Mayor. The point is on this listing of assets, general assets, that rather than getting the Council involved, could it not be an administrative procedure where you have a form and anybody that's wanting to jettison assets of the Town, fill out a form, it comes ultimately to the Chief Administrative Officer of the Town Hall; and its referred to the Mayor and if the Mayor thinks it has policy implications, fine. Otherwise, retiring assets should be a kiddy-land process.

Mayor Newlands: Right, I agree.

C Martin-Brown: And we don't need a Resolution for diddly.

Mayor Newlands: I agree with you.

C Martin-Brown: So we can just move away from that.

Mayor Newlands: Okay so we have nothing to vote on for the Finance Department, so let's go on.

13. Old Business – No old business will be discussed

14. New Business – Discussion and Possible Vote on the following items:

a. Consideration of Community Development Block Grant Program

Mayor Newlands: That's just information that we have some paperwork to sign after Mr. LeCates' presentation.

Seth Thompson: Mr. Mayor I'll read into the record the Resolutions. First Resolution: "WHEREAS, the Town of Milton recognizes the importance of Fair Housing for the citizens of Milton, and WHEREAS, the Town of Milton supports the goals of the Federal Fair Housing law, NOW THEREFORE be it resolved that the Town of Milton heartily encourages all parties involved in the renting, selling or financing of housing in the Town of Milton to ensure that no person shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin or religion, creed, sex, marital status, familial status, age, sexual orientation, or disability be discriminated against or denied a fair and equal opportunity to housing; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town of Milton, when acting as

Administrator of a Community Block Grant, is hereby authorized to take such actions as deemed necessary to affirmatively further Fair Housing in connection with the said Community Development Block Grant. Respectfully submitted, Clifford Newlands, Mayor” And then as far as the second resolution: “Endorsing project to be submitted to the Delaware State Housing Authority for funding from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, authorizing David B. Baker, Sussex County Administrator to submit application, WHEREAS, the Town of Milton resolves to apply for Community Development Funds from the Delaware State Housing Authority in accordance with appropriate regulations governing Community Development Block Grants, State of Delaware Program for Block Grants as contained in Sections 570.488-499 24CFR U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and WHEREAS, the Town of Milton has met the application requirements of Attachment E Delaware Community Development Block Grant Program Policies and Procedures, citizen participation requirements and WHEREAS Sussex County plans on accomplishing the requested projects with CDBG Funds, and WHEREAS the Town of Milton hereby agrees to allow Sussex County to accomplish the projects in the targeted areas of Milton, and WHEREAS the Town of Milton and Sussex County are in agreement with this activity. NOW THEREFORE be it resolved by the Town of Milton and Sussex County that they endorse and grant permission for the following activity: Application, Rehabilitation, Infrastructure, Demolition. The total infrastructure project cost is \$ _____; total CDBG Grant Request is \$ _____; matching funds in the amount of \$ _____ will be provided by the Town of Milton, General Funds. Note to be used for infrastructure purposes only: I DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. ____ passed by the Town of Milton, Sussex County on the 6th day of December, 2010. Mayor Clifford Newlands”.

C Duby: I have a question, Mr. Mayor. Since this is to some extent a matching grant, does this mean that the town matches the Community Development Block Grant money for the homeowner or do we only match if it is our infrastructure?

Mayor Newlands: Infrastructure only.

C Duby: That’s what I thought. Do we need to approve those?

Mayor Newlands: We do need a motion, I’m sorry.

C Duby: I move approval of the two resolutions related to Community Development Block Grant Application.

C Lester: Second.

Mayor Newlands: We have a motion and a second. Is there any discussion? All in favor. Aye. Opposed. Motion is carried. Thank you.

- b. Economic Development Committee request for a Branding Resolution

Mayor Newlands: Did you want to make some comments, Bob Howard and Kristen Patterson? I didn’t know if you wanted to.

Bob Howard, 273 Chandler Street: I am Chairman of the Economic Development Committee. We have prepared some comments to make. Kristen Patterson is also on the Committee working on the Branding Issue with us. Kristen is going to give a little background and then I was going to make the request, if that's all right with you.

Mayor Newlands: Sure.

Bob Howard: And we have a copy of the outline [the balance was garbled.]
Kristen Patterson, 327 Carlton Drive: Thank you. The purpose that we're here tonight is to discuss the Milton Branding meeting that we've had and to take the next steps towards it. To review some recent history, a grant was received from Delaware Economic Development Office ("DEDO") with the branding workshop and the workshop was conducted on October 19th to the 21st, 2010. It was great. It was attended by most of the town stakeholders; we had 45 separate individuals and a total of 66 individuals either attended or discussed at the meeting with us, after [garbled]. So we felt like we have a great, fair representation and felt a lot of people were heard and we're going to end up working with the consultant of Arnett Muldrow who came out from the consulting firm and really knitted the town together and sort of helped Milton shine and create a nice brand for the Town of Milton.

Bob Howard: With that done, we would like move forward and the Committee's thinking is that before we go to the non-profit organization from Town and the civic organizations in Town and ask them to buy into the brand and make changes to what they do for advertisement; that the Town ought to come first. We would like to have the Town commit to starting with the Town's signage and the website. We think that it shouldn't take very much to change the front page of the website to include some of this new branding material; if there are new signs, and I understand that the Town is planning some way of finding signs and if there are opportunities to change signage in the Town, then that should be an opportunity also to include some of the elements of the new branding materials. We're not suggesting that we spend any money right now to just go change things. We talked to the Mayor about it; we would like the Economic Development Committee to take the lead and work with the town staff to implement these changes and we would like to do some testing of the new branding and put up some suggested qualifications on the website and let people suggest them a little bit, before we make permanent changes. With that, we had, a Resolution and I think Seth has drafted that or prettied up the words so that they are appropriate for a Resolution and we would like the Council to endorse this program by its support of the Resolution. Thank you.

Mayor Newlands: Thank you. Just for Council I passed out in your packets tonight some of the artwork that was done by Mr. Muldrow and the colors do not represent what was on his actual presentation; this is a greenish background on the main logo here; so our color printer is not doing all that well and is being replaced.

C DUBY: Mr. Mayor, this is just quick. It is my understanding, and I guess I would like confirmation from Mr. Thompson, of this Resolution, is that it is

broad enough; it's not saying we will change our logos tomorrow, but it is allowing us to take steps as Mr. Howard and Ms. Patterson have requested to begin to examine that and work with some of the non-profits and so on. I've had very positive response from people in town, both people who were at the branding workshops and those who saw this artwork afterwards. But I also have heard some questions about whether it will be incorporated with other things or whether this will just become the logo or whatever; and I think we need to make clear that, in fact, this Resolution is broad enough that we're going to be looking at that. We're making a commitment if we approve this; we're making a commitment to move in that direction; to use this style and logo and so on; but it's not taking the step that it is going to replace the Town's logo immediately.

Seth Thompson: And that's C Duby. I think the key language is going to be it therefore resolved, where it refers to the Town declaring its intent to incorporate elements of the new branding material in the following Town of Milton vehicles, as the opportunity presents itself, or as the need arises for changes or additions. So the Town isn't bound to go out and incur some tremendous expense changing everything now. It's as things go forward. I would love to claim ownership of this language, but Mr. Howard and Ms. Patterson did a very good job in constructing it in that fashion.

C Duby: I also had a couple of just type things. I think in the third paragraph it should be "improve" rather than "approve"; and then the BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, right under the bullets there, it's duplicated.

Seth Thompson: We were really emphasizing that apparently.

C Duby: We really did resolve that.

Seth Thompson: I will make those changes.

C Abraham: And you need to drop the two WHEREAS, WHEREAS.

Mayor Newlands: Yes, we got that. And Mr. Prettyman has some comments.

C Prettyman: Yes I'm looking at the branding and the whole package thing. I just don't feel comfortable with it, at all; because we're losing our history. We're losing the shipbuilder's, the Holly and everything; where is it? There's nothing there to tell... I'm one of the native born here and my house on Mulberry Street and I just think it's a shame that we are going to throw our history away with changing the image and sign for our community.

Mayor Newlands: One of the things that Mr. Muldrow had said during the presentations was that the shipbuilding is not what we do today; so you want to represent some of the things.

C Prettyman: I know, but it is our history.

Mayor Newlands: It is our history, yes; it doesn't mean we have to drop it, totally.

C Duby: This is the reason that I asked for the clarification about what we're doing. We're not saying the ship is gone and this is now the logo of the town. What we're saying is we can look at ways in which we might come up with a logo that incorporates pieces of both; or we might use this type of thing on some signage; but we wouldn't necessarily change it. This will evolve over time, I think, in how both the town government and the organizations in town

decide to use some of this stuff; and that's what the Resolution says. It doesn't say we're throwing out anything else and putting this in its place right now; we're going to explore how we'll use this.

Mayor Newlands: A lot of it is for marketing at this point too.

Kristen Patterson: What I was going to say is that I am a historian, by trade, so we're not trying to toss out of Milton's history. What we're trying to do is bring it all together. I love the ship, but I also love the fact that we're number one in the world in the holly area. Also agriculture and one of the nice things that really with this new logo, we're not going to get rid of the old one, but slowly incorporate this is that it sort of shows that Milton is open for business and that we're trying to cohesively unite the downtown area; get some more businesses down here. I'm a business owner here in town and we would like to be able to use this logo on our literature that we hand out to all the patients that come through our facility; and so again, we're not trying to get rid of the old, we're sort of moving forward towards incorporating all the areas that Milton has to offer. I hope that helps.

C Prettyman: But you are getting rid of it.

Bob Howard: If I could offer something, the intent is not to throw out anything, but we would like to put material or get material incorporated in all the organizations, so that when somebody sees something related to Milton, they recognize it and they're all connected with this. We have a common theme for Milton throughout all of the things. We don't need to all have the same thing; but some element of the same things to tie them together, is what we intended to do.

C Prettyman: You are throwing out the old Milton; because if you're going to bring in this new Milton; this leaves out our history. People around, all over from New York, foreign countries some of them, they know us for the ship and the holly and then we're going to change and get everybody confused; is there another Milton? We're going to have these two things going on and I think it's just going to be too busy for people to really know that one is the same as the other.

Kristen Patterson: That's why we approached it in a very slow step by step way; sort of let's try it; sort of use this as a test market; just to sort of see what appeals to folks and what doesn't. Again I take things more as a _____ in town, and as a business owner; and I would like to see Milton _____ old history, where you have several doctors and _____ businesses and all kinds of neat things. One of the nice things about the branding is that I really felt it brought the town together and it's a cohesive force to go out and _____ back into the area. It's not all at once; it's just a step by step. Does that make sense?

C Prettyman: Well I see my family was in business in this Town for over 100 years and you're just throwing it out.

Kristen Patterson: That's not what we're doing Sir.

C Prettyman: I'm just...

Mayor Newlands: Yes.

C Martin-Brown: I wish you all had a copy of the last page, because the last page; you don't have that; well that's why I wish you did. My only point is that this does something we don't have any signage in town right now. One sign says that this is a National Registered Historic District; another sign says Historic Downtown Dogfish Head Brewery and Museum, with arrows; another one says Fire Hall; Parking; Milton Memorial Park; Police Station. One has a little map on it. One has the theater and the other things downtown that are civic. In other words, in my mind it really helps people find their way around, because we're always getting questions; where's this or where's that. So that to me whether people change their shop signs or stationery or anything else, I think would be a real asset for the town because people don't know where a lot of these things are.

C Lester: Mr. Mayor if I may, I've been contacted a couple of times about this and a couple of people in particular support C Prettyman. We are on the river, we're at the head of the Broadkill, that's where we were; that's where the ships came or were built, etc. So there are some people in the town and maybe some of these people don't come to meetings, but they... So to get it out there and get other people to look at it, because I think Noble's not the only person to feel that way. As one person said to me, we haven't had a governor in Milton in a long time; yet we still celebrate Governor's Day. We have to weigh all the facts, so maybe as Bob said, we could get something out there for people to view; probably in the Library would be the best place.

Mayor Newlands: We can do that and we can put a link to Muldrow's website on our website so that they can view the presentation, because there is a 20 or 30 page slideshow that's out there going through everything; and the color is much better.

C Lester: Maybe Bob you can find somebody that would be willing to donate some material, dummy one up and maybe one of the local sign makers? Just to dummy up a wayfaring sign and a banner, so that people can see it. It's one thing to look at it here; I noticed the other day driving through Rehoboth, they have some new wayfaring signs with some nice stands; and they look really nice. Has Rehoboth had them for a long time? But I just happen to notice it and they really look nice. I think if people could see it. I'm not very good at visualizing, when I see it on a piece of paper. But if I could look at it, and say gee that microphone looks really good, I think that should be in town.

Mayor Newlands: Plus these colors didn't come through all that well on this.

Bob Howard: I picked up the intent of the marketing too. They try to put various types of media with this material on it and incorporate the new with the old and let people see it and see how it flies.

Mayor Newlands: Right.

Seth Thompson: I'll read the Resolution as we've corrected it: "A Resolution on the Town's Branding, WHEREAS, the Town Charter of the Town of Milton authorizes the Town Council to provide for and preserve the health, cleanliness, ornament, good order and public welfare of the Town, its inhabitants and affairs, and WHEREAS, the Town of Milton has had the benefit of a Branding Workshop conducted by Arnett Muldrow and

Associates; provided by the Delaware Economic Development Office, made possible by a grant from the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and WHEREAS, the Town of Milton seeks to improve its attractiveness to potential visitors, new businesses and new residents by improving the coordination of the brand identity of the various non-profit, civic and governmental organizations, WHEREAS there is a reasonable probability of grant money being made available in the near future for much needed new signage that could incorporate the new branding materials, NOW THEREFORE be it resolved that the Town Council of the Town of Milton does hereby declare its intent to incorporate elements of the new branding material in the following Town of Milton vehicles, as the opportunity presents itself or as the need arises for changes or additions to the following: any and all Town of Milton websites; Town of Milton stationery and business cards; Town of Milton signage and any other printed or electronic media. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Council of the Town of Milton does hereby encourage other civic and non-profit organizations in Town to do likewise. I, Clifford M. Newlands, Mayor of the Town of Milton hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Resolution adopted by the Town Council of the Town of Milton at its meeting to be held on the 6th day of December, 2010 at which a quorum was present and voting throughout and that the same is still in full force and effect.”

C Abraham: In the NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, to me it is sounding as if we're going with elements that have been presented to us tonight. Am I right? Because I'm not ready to go with elements, if these are the elements. I'm not. That's what I wanted to make clear.

Mayor Newlands: The design in that is the element; the colors are not; the colors are not true at all to what was on the website.

C Abraham: No I'm talking about the whole thing. I would prefer to see something that incorporated the history, the history is the draw. Businesses coming down I think you need something different than what we have here.

C DUBY: Are you reading this... When you say that we're going with; are you reading this to say that we are adopting this as our logo.

C Abraham: That's what I wanted clarity on, because it is declaring our intent to incorporate elements and if this is the element...

C DUBY: But it says incorporate as the opportunity presents itself or as the need arises for changes or additions to the following.

Seth Thompson: I think the key is that there is not some exclusivity. In essence, it doesn't say this is the only thing the Town is going to be using. There is some fairly loose language in there; again, it's incorporating those elements. It doesn't say that within a certain period of time all stationery needs to reflect the text; or all stationery needs to reflect why; or anything like that. I mean you're correct.

C Abraham: I'm thinking ahead, because I know that our Police Department changes the color on their vehicle; they also have the ship on there; their uniforms also incorporate the changes with their patches. It's just more than

paperwork that can be printed new. It's more. It's materialistic, it's vehicles, it's a hell of a lot more then...

C Prettyman: And there's a cost; it's going to be _____ from the town taxpayer in the long range. Right now may look good, but I'm not planning on living another 60 some years and I don't see the need.

Mayor Newlands: I don't think we're going to go out and take the cars; and the ship is not on the vehicles.

C Abraham: I don't see what's wrong with what we have in one historically.

Mayor Newlands: In marketing, this is what...

C Abraham: This doesn't say anything; just the name. It doesn't say anything; it doesn't give me a visual of Milton.

C Prettyman: It's not warm; it doesn't give me a reason to want to come to Milton.

Mayor Newlands: When you come to Milton, you're not going to see any shipbuilding; that's what they're trying to get to. We want to advertise what we do now; not what we did in the past; and that's the intent.

C Duby: Also, I don't think what we would be passing with this Resolution would preclude somebody sitting down and saying, okay, we have what we've always had, the ship, and we have this which has been suggested as an element. But if we had someone design a new logo, if we decide we want a new logo; we still have a logo for the town; it's the ship. If the decision was made at some point that we wanted to redesign the logo for the Town of Milton, we could take elements of both or even of something else and design the logo so that we wouldn't lose the ship and we wouldn't lose the historical stuff. I don't read this Resolution at all, as saying the town is adopting this as its logo. We're not.

Seth Thompson: That's right.

C Martin-Brown: There's a bit of institutional memory that's been lost in the discussion and that is that this logo on the stationery never came before the Council; never came up for discussion; and just appeared one day; about four years ago and there was some commentary, that this was not the right ship. The town did not have this kind of ship, it had another kind of ship and the anti-ship people had a lot to see; and the pro older ship design people had a lot to say; and it never came before Council. Now we could have, instead of a ship, a profile of John Milton drinking dog fish. The point is that everybody's got a different sense of history in this town and everybody can claim the right ship or the wrong ship or Holly vs. poets or whatever; but what we do need is some common design elements that are available and agreed upon that can be added as the population and the demographics and the representation on this body evolve and the police don't have to rip their badges off or anything else. They could just keep their ship; no one is going to de-ship the police cars. I just think we get so... I'm not running for reelection and this is why. There are about nine different interest groups who have a gridlocked vision on what the town's history is or isn't. Who owns it or who doesn't. Whose is truthful or whose is rumored. If we can just generically say wouldn't it be nice if we passed a Resolution that allowed the community, as a whole, to have some

decent signage so I wasn't stopped cutting grass to be told where I could go; and that if there was signage like that, that it had a common look. If and when we ever have another Mayor, you can arbitrarily and capriciously change the stationery, just like the last person did. But in the meantime, you're not illegal if we pass the Resolution. This is just silliness. I'm sorry, Mr. Mayor, I cannot control my temper after four years anymore. [applause]

C Prettyman: Well C Martin-Brown I agree with you and I don't agree with you. I'm a teacher; I taught several years, history; and when you go to change history and that's what you're talking about; changing history. We can have these same words on the sign that we have and the stationery that we have now; where to park, where to do this and that. To me its history and you just want to throw our history away. I've been here and I've been through the good, the bad... I'm just saying it's something that we need to look at.

C Duby: Mr. Mayor can I call the question when C Prettyman gets through?

C Prettyman: I would really rather table this then make a motion on any Resolution or anything, this evening.

Mayor Newlands: Ms. Duby.

C Duby: I call the question. We have a motion on the floor.

Mayor Newlands: Do we have a second.

C Martin-Brown: There absolutely is.

Mayor Newlands: We have a motion and a second. We'll do a roll call.

C Lester	Aye
C Martin-Brown	Aye
C Duby	Aye
C Prettyman	No
C Abraham	No
Vice Mayor Betts	Yes
Mayor Newlands	Yes

Mayor Newlands: The motion is carried.

c. 2011 Property Tax Appeals Notice

Seth Thompson: Do you want me to read that?

Mayor Newlands: Sure.

Seth Thompson: In accordance with Town Charter Section 25 Assessment of Taxes §F, any taxable person or entity may file an appeal to be heard by the Town Council by filing an application in writing at the Town Hall stating the reason or reasons for the appeal, no later than 15 days before the date on which the Town Council will sit to consider such appeals. Once such application for appeal has been filed, the Town of Milton shall notify the appellant by certified mail of the date, time and location of the scheduled Appeals Hearing and shall confirm that the appellants appeal shall be heard at said hearing. Property owners can get an application to appeal their property tax value at Town Hall, 115 Federal Street or by calling 684-4110. Appeal

notices must be received back to Town Hall no later than 4:30 p.m., Monday, December 20, 2010.

Mayor Newlands: So no motion needs to be taken on that.

15. Executive Session – Discussion on Personnel Issues and Litigation/Potential Litigation

Mayor Newlands: Can we have a motion to go into Executive Session?

C Abraham: Motion to go into Executive Session.

C DUBY: Second.

Mayor Newlands: We have a motion and a second to go into Executive Session at 8:08 p.m. All in favor. Aye. Opposed. Motion is carried.

C DUBY: I make a motion that we come out of Executive Session.

C Prettyman: Second.

Mayor Newlands: We have a motion and a second to come out of Executive Session at 9:21 p.m. All in favor. Aye. Opposed. Motion is carried.

16. Adjournment

Mayor Newlands: Need a motion for adjournment.

C DUBY: I make a motion to adjourn.

C Prettyman: Second.

Mayor Newlands: We have a motion and a second to adjourn; all in favor; aye; opposed; motion is carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:22 p.m.