Milton Town Council Town Hall Meeting Milton Public Library 121 Union Street Saturday, May 31, 2014, 10:30am – 12:30.

- Call to Order Mayor Jones
 <u>Mayor Jones</u>: Welcome to another Town Council Forum Meeting.
- 2. Moment of Silence
- 3. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
- 4. Roll Call Mayor Jones

Vice Mayor Booros Present
Councilman Coté Present
Councilwoman Parker-Selby Present
Mayor Jones Present
Councilman Collier Present

Councilwoman Patterson Present (arrived late)

5. A "Town Hall"-style meeting and discussion with public and Council participation on matters raised by the public. No votes will be taken on any matters.

Mayor Jones: The purpose of today's meeting is another Town Hall Style Meeting in which no votes will be taken. It's an opportunity for the public and the Council to speak freely on topics that concern our citizens. We will observe a three minute talk limit, however, you can certainly return to the microphone after others who have not spoken before you have come forward. The only thing I would like to announce as we anticipate the holiday, there is an events committee that's been formed here in town and just to let you know there is a 4th of July celebration planned. It goes through the day with all kinds of activities for the children. There will be a Concert in the Park during the evening, so just to let you know that. No fireworks. Not to my knowledge, unless we have come up with a... The Farmer's Market is still continuing. It will be on that Friday. So it will be a big day for the town. The only thing I ask since we really don't have a public participation sheet for sign up, when you come to the microphone, just please announce yourself.

<u>Lynn Ekelund</u>, 406 Union: Just to sort of segue on that, I'm here for the Farmer's Market. We are having a fund raiser at Abbott's Grill on Tuesday, July 1st. It's 11 in the morning until it closes, both lunch and dinner and Abbott's will be giving 10% of all profits to the Farmer's Market. That's Tuesday, July 1st, 11 until it closes. Thanks a lot.

<u>Mayor Jones</u>: Thank you. We're just relying on respect here, so step up to the microphone when you're ready to have something to say.

Mohamed el Gindy, 307 Brick Lane: I'm just going to address a few points here, no criticism of anybody, township, or otherwise. I'm just trying to let you know, what is the rule to good construction and successful projects; because a few months back I called the Township for a

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copy of underground propane piping system in our Community. I'm sure you remember that. Mayor Jones: Yes.

Mohamed el Gindy: To my surprise, I was asked to talk to the contractor, or to the developer. I called Poore's and I was asked to call the developer. I'm not going to call the developer. He's not going to give me anything, so I don't call the developer. I don't want my blood pressure to go up talking to that guy. Honestly. I talked to him once, and that was enough. To the best of my knowledge, upon completion of any construction project, a complete set of construction documents, hard and electronic copies, should be in the file with the authority that issued a construction permit; which happened to be the Town of Milton. So if you don't have that, you're short of a lot of information that you should have. Now, let me elaborate how a construction project is supposed to be done. The developer or investors, willing to invest in a construction project should hire a consulting engineering firm first; to provide construction documents to ensure the safety of the users and minimize any impact on the surrounding community and environment. The consulting firm will insure that all related national, state and local codes will be adhered to and shall be reflected on an issuing document. All that is supposed to be included. The documents will be provided to the Township, with the proper signature and seal of insured State Professional Licensed Engineer. Upon review and approval of local authorities, the developer, after providing the proper construction bond, will be granted a building permit. A regulated township and authority, will not have the experienced staff and know-how to execute such a task, the authorities should select and hire an engineering firm to assist in this task. Now, who is going to pay for that? The developer. He comes to an area like this, he wants to put 180 units and make money; you guys don't have money, so you hire another consulting firm to oversee what's going on and the developer will pay that.

Kristy Rogers: Three minutes.

Mohamed el Gindy: New construction, town officials and building inspectors will inspect subject site to ensure that contractor's will adhere to construction documents during every phase of such a project. Again, if the township will not have the proper staff for such a task, inspectors and experienced staff, should be hired by the township and paid by the developer. Upon completion of the project, the developer shall provide a complete set as built drawings, signed and sealed by the design engineer and it should be kept in the township. It has proved through the construction business, which I witnessed for well over 40 years, earlier as a design and field engineer, and later as a Professional Licensed Engineer, following the basic fundamental rules of construction will result in successful project and full protection of consumers. Based on the above, and I hate to say that, the sole responsibility for the mishap in Cannery Village will fall only on the shoulder of the township, for not enforcing the proper steps to execute successful and safe projects for our community. Now, finally, and this is after the roads and everything are turned over to us, just a reminder, once the developer turns over the road to the township and associated buildings, we, the taxpayer's will pay dearly for any mishap that was not fixed by the developer. Now, any comments?

Mayor Jones: I agree with you and question. May I have...

<u>Mohamed el Gindy</u>: Okay, before I give you that, I have one more thing. I understand that curb construction will delay the paving. I'm completely against that. Let's do the paving, please. I do appreciate it. Here's your copy.

Mayor Jones: Thank you.

Mohamed el Gindy: If you need any help, call me.

Mayor Jones: Thank you very much.

Jeff Dailey, 211 Gristmill Drive: Mo, thank you very much for that articulation of what we need to look into, what we must do. I was out on my bike this morning, on this absolutely gorgeous day; the honeysuckle at some turns almost knocked me off my bike seat, it was so powerful and thank God there is no longer the smell of the manure wafting across the Town of Milton. We have a beautiful town and I hope that every investment we make in this town is always top dollar and first quality; especially when it comes to infrastructure that will last for years and years. I was blessed in growing up in what is referred to as the Western Reserve in northeastern Ohio. Last year, the town in which I was born, Solon, Ohio was named one of the ten best small towns in the U.S. Chagrin Falls, Ohio is referred to as the New Hope of the Midwest; maybe you are familiar with New Hope, Pennsylvania. Medina, Ohio which is the County Seat of Medina County, which is just southwest of Akron, Ohio, the tire kingdom, at least it was known as that some years back. Medina lost it's 1896 courthouse and they rebuilt it to be identical to the facade; all new inside, but the facade is the same. There are great towns all over the country. I understand on Monday night's agenda, we're going to be looking at clocks and clock motif's; perhaps to replace the clock. The first thing I want to say is, we have a pad for a kiosk and precious little space around the kiosk. There is something new in technology and it's called Clock Projections and towns do projections of antique clocks and they then put the temperature read; the end wall of the about to reopen Milton Theater, would be painted a solid color and then you would do the projections. You've seen these at Christmas time, the way people put Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays on the side of their houses, where there are no windows. So this might be an alternative and we might be able to get the look and feel the artifice of an antique clock, but in more than one location at a fraction of the cost. We need to institutionalize a number of things in this town. Every box of beer that comes out of Dogfish Head says Dogfish Head Brewery, Milton, Delaware. We need to declare that this is the home, that Milton is the home of Dogfish Head Brewery, because as we can see by the expansion, after the land acquisition, we need to do this. I'll be happy to come back. Other institutionalizing would be we recently had a little kerfuffle over folks not wanting to have higher property taxes on their solar panels...

Mayor Jones: Mr. Dailey...

Jeff Dailey: We need to declare ourselves a green community.

Mayor Jones: You will have another opportunity. Thank you.

Gwendolyn Jones, 204 Atlantic Avenue: Thank you. I first wanted to thank Mayor and Council for the opportunity for the public forum, which I think is a brilliant idea and continue on with the image and look and feel of Milton; the fact that we can be discussing how Milton looks and esthetics I think shows that through the concerted efforts of our representatives and municipal officers, that we can talk about esthetics, rather than the nitty gritty, less savory elements that we've seen and have brought before Council in past administrations; so I think that's a big bonus and I highly applaud it. Considering on with the esthetics, we have the issues with the Town clock; maintaining the flavor of quaint, homey, flavorful and esthetic, old-time values I think that Milton has the potential and I think this branches into the issues with the fencing; the issues with M&T Bank, the signage and things like that; I think that there's so much that we've accomplished and covered and yet the talk about the esthetics and issues like those, shows that we have yet some work to be done, but I wanted to compliment all the progress that Mayor and Council have done so far and that we can be talking about something like esthetics; I wanted to

comment that we've come this far to talk about esthetics, but to remind you that the fencing, the clock, the M&T Bank; I think those are examples of how those things can be addressed to improve and will rebuild and promote Milton too; not from what it was, but what it could be and Milton has a lot of potential and I think to continue that diligence and vigilance on something like that, because potential can be to improve and to advance and raise the quality and the potential is also there to undermine and detract and to make Milton less than what it could be, so I hope that the esthetics is something that we can improve upon and I see what things could be and the esthetics in my mind are something that I think should be addressed. I don't know the legalities and the particulars regarding the M&T sign. It's sort of garish to me and every time I see that, it sort of sticks out like a sore thumb and I'm sort of imagining what a chain link fence is going to do to the image of Milton.

Mayor Jones: Gwendolyn, your time is up and you can come back.

Gwendolyn Jones: Thank you very much.

<u>Mayor Jones</u>: Thank you. I don't need to recognize you, you can just come up to the microphone.

Jim Welu, of no known address at this time: I do have a mailbox. I would like to address about three issues fairly quickly. Number one, I'm not a great techy, but I know that anybody can establish a group of email addresses and then send, with one click of the button, send something out to everybody. I am recommending that the town create such a group list of all the local media, newspapers, 105.9, 92.7, whatever; plus any citizens that want to be on this email list and that all agenda items, all notices of meetings, be put on this group email, so that people don't have to be checking their websites of the town and the newspapers and they will know when meetings are going to be held and what the agenda is for those meetings. Secondly, an issue that I had brought up, at least going back to the Newlands administration, maybe to the Post administration; is every council member receives a package a week before the meeting, I believe. I think a copy of that entire package should be available at the Town Hall and if the library agrees to it, at least one at the library, so people can go in the evening and see what the Council has before them. I mean to have a notice that we're going to discuss the town clock, isn't quite enough. I want to have the same background that the Council has, if we want to have a whole transparency, so that I know what's really on the agenda and what the issues are. It's difficult to come up in public comment, before the meeting, and discuss something if you don't know the details and what the Council has seen. Thirdly, an issue that I raised probably back in the Post administration, was that Dewey Beach, Rehoboth Beach, and I believe Lewes, have a non-resident council member position. And I think with the number of people that live in this town or own property in this town don't have a voice on the council, because they're not permanent residents; it would give outsiders an opportunity to be in the decision making position. I know that's maybe a drastic change in our charter, but I think that our community is very similar to Dewey Beach, Rehoboth Beach, and Lewes where there are a lot of interested owners of property, but they don't live in town permanently. One condition I would put on that, it probably should be individuals, not corporate members of a corporate ownership. That's all I have to say right now.

Mayor Jones: Thank you.

<u>Jim Welu</u>: I would also note that Jeff Dailey was not at the Planning and Zoning Commission meeting, because I was there. I've been back in the hospital twice since then. I just got out Thursday again. But I will survive. Thank you.

<u>Mayor Jones</u>: Thank you. I just want to state, for the record, that Councilwoman Patterson has joined us.

<u>Gail Slaughter</u>, 219 Summer Walk, Cannery Village: I was under the impression and told by a member of our community that... I'm sorry to bring this up again, but number one I wanted to thank the Mayor and Council for all the work that they're doing on trying to get the roads put in in Cannery Village; but I was told that there's going to be a hold-up on the road construction because of sidewalk issues and I was wondering if that is correct? Can anybody answer that question for me?

<u>Mayor Jones</u>: I can tell you the latest information is that the Cannery Village developer's are, for the first time, offering to our Town Solicitor a list, based on the punch list that has been created, of what they are willing to do and what they're not willing to do. We are still waiting for that correspondence and if this Council decides to include the alleyways or lanes; however we address them; Chestnut Properties by process would need to go back to Planning and Zoning to have that reviewed and that's the latest information I have at this time.

<u>Gail Slaughter</u>: Well, again, thank you for all the help you've been giving us with this issue. Mayor Jones: Thank you.

John Hoffman, 101 Allison Drive, Cannery Village: I'd also like to thank the Mayor and Council for all the work they've done. Something Mr. Dailey said. Every day I've been walking up and down Chestnut Street and I see cars coming out of Dogfish, heading down Chestnut Street, getting to Cave Neck Road, making a right and going out. Same way with going the other way. I'd really like to see our town somehow get signs or something promoting downtown, visit Milton half a mile away, with the names of shops and stores, or things to draw these people. I mean the other day I counted ten cars turning on Cave Neck Road and just going out of town instead of... I'll be walking and they will be in Dogfish and I say well visit Irish Eyes. Oh, you have one here? Yeah, right downtown. You can go right downtown and get a nice meal, or whatever. People don't see that. We need to get some type of focus and bring those people downtown; there's somebody every day. That's my one topic. My other topic is, I hope that some sidewalk issues don't stop from the streets being done. The sidewalks will come once the houses are built and we've seen that in the past six months; where there was a lot and the sidewalk was finished, so I'm hoping that we don't allow little things to stop this, because the streets need to be done. Thank you very much and I think the rest will follow in after that. Mayor Jones: Stay still for just one moment. In reference to the Dogfish issue, actually I'm surprised that Google is taking them down Cave Neck Road because if you look at it, it takes you right back out Chestnut Street to 5 to 9; when you exit. This has been an ongoing issue for years, literally years, of whether or not Milton ought not to identify itself proudly of home of Dogfish Head; they're internationally known, not exclusively that that's what Milton is known for, but the Economic Development Committee does have a U.S.D.A. Grant at this time for signage. It is somewhat restrictive, but I will pass this information onto them again, because that signage along Chestnut at the exit of, or entrance of, needs to be very clear that there is life outside of the brewery.

<u>John Hoffman</u>: Right, the same way with coming out the other street on 5; now when they turn Chestnut Street, or coming in off of 16; they'll turn down and go down, but they won't go through the town. They'll go past Ace and come up that way. Or they'll go down and come in on Sand Hill.

Mayor Jones: I absolutely agree and let's see if we can't drive this into Economic Development

Committee's awareness.

John Hoffman: I think we're losing a lot of business that way. Thank you.

Mayor Jones: Thank you.

John Horan, 304 Brick Lane, Milton, Delaware, which does happen to be in Cannery Village: I am a Milton residence and I think it would behoove all of us Cannery Village folks, to identify ourselves more closely with Milton than Cannery Village. I just have a couple of comments. One is taking on a statement that was made at the last Monday meeting regarding the wording in Ordinances. Shalls and wills. Now, in my particular case, some 2-3 years ago, I sent a letter to the Mayor, at that time, Newlands, citing the town ordinance that dealt with developments; which said a definition of "shall": Shall is directive and it said the developer shall be responsible for the street lighting. It also went on to say the developer shall be responsible for the streets, including the safety, which includes snow removal. Now, in response, as most of you know, the resident's of Cannery Village have been paying for snow removal and lighting in addition to paying their taxes to the Town of Milton. The response I got from the Mayor at that time was, well you would think they do that; it's a good business practice. The response I got from our Town Solicitor, who isn't here today to defend himself, was that that statement is to protect the Town; it's not really directive. So what I would like to see is, when we are rehashing our directives, our ordinances or such, let's say what we mean and let's not be selective in one, for example, alright this benefits the developer; let's perhaps think about the citizens of the town and I can go through a litany of things, such as the expansion of the brewery. Has anyone driven through Chestnut Crossing recently? What has that done to their property values? We have environmental studies and such as that; we don't take it upon ourselves the studies of how does it affect our citizens. That's all I have to say. Thank you.

Mayor Jones: Thank you.

Virginia Weeks, 119 Clifton Street: I just want to remind people, in case it hasn't been done, because I arrived late, that on June 9th there is a Comprehensive Plan Meeting here and the Planner for the Department of Transportation will be addressing us and it's a good time to bring up a lot of items about transportation and buses and so on and Mrs. Greg, who is the Planner, happens to live in Lewes, so she should be familiar with what we're looking to happen in Milton and it might be a good place, that if you guys want signs for Milton, I know the Economic Development Committee has worked very hard on getting that done and I believe, isn't it true, Bob, that you've had a problem with the Department of Transportation about getting those signs put up around town? So if you came out in force to request this from this woman, perhaps we could help the Economic Development Committee get done exactly what you're asking for. Second of all, I want to talk about openness for a minute. Alright? I noticed that recently when we're having meetings, you're having meeting in Town; that no longer systematically and regularly advertise in the "Briefly" section in the Cape Gazette, as they have been in the past and I don't know why that has happened. On this month's agenda, we have two ordinances that are going to be discussed. One is water conservation and the other is sidewalks and I imagine that it affects each and every one of us; but those ordinances aren't on the website; what you are reviewing is not available to us. Do I have to go and FOIA that?

<u>Vice Mayor Booros</u>: They're on the website.

Virginia Weeks: Where are they?

Kristy Rogers: I just received those yesterday and I put them on the website yesterday

afternoon.

<u>Vice Mayor Booros</u>: We hadn't received them. They weren't in our packages. But when they were received, she put them up on the website.

<u>Virginia Weeks</u>: Thank you very much, because I looked at it yesterday during the afternoon and it wasn't on it. Thank you.

<u>Vice Mayor Booros</u>: And it wasn't in our packages that we picked up either.

<u>Virginia Weeks</u>: Things like a couple of months ago in April we did the six month review of finances and the budget; where can we get a copy of that? Do I have to FOIA that?

Kristy Rogers: That's also on our website, under the Financial Document section.

Virginia Weeks: It is now. Thank you very much. Was that on beforehand?

Kristy Rogers: It went on after it was approved.

<u>Virginia Weeks</u>: You know we can't talk to it, when it's going to be discussed... what you have in your packet should be on that website. That's what I'm getting at. I think that's only fair. They've become public documents at the point when you put the agenda up. Thank you. Mayor Jones: Thank you.

<u>Sandy Money</u>, Milton, Delaware: I have two things. I think Gail, Jeff and Mo covered pretty much, because that's my main thing. I like to know who to blame, because we're going to meet with these developer's again on the 26th; they're going to stand there and blame you all. Your the town _______; I think it's just a simple question. Who is it? Is it them giving us... they stood at our last meeting and said absolutely, unequivocally, they were doing the streets. Then I understand these sidewalks are holding it up, so I know what's going to happen on the 26th, they're going to just rant and rave about you all; so I think it's just kind of your chance to defend yourself. I understand what you just said, but that still doesn't really answer our question. Who do you feel is really to blame here?

Mayor Jones: Personally, I believe the buck stops with the Town of Milton.

<u>Sandy Money</u>: Okay, thank you for being honest Mayor, I appreciate that. Now the other thing I'd like to say, which I kind of thought this was a meeting about moving things forward, but I just couldn't resist asking that question. John had a great idea about bringing people in and blah blah. But are they going to do when they get here? Because basically all we do have is the theater which isn't going to be open during the day and then Irish Eyes; we've got a couple of restaurants, but there's no real pull and I thought this meeting was kind of about what can we do as citizens to make this town better. So my other question is, what is you all's projection for the Town? What do you all want to see happen here?

Mayor Jones: One of the avenues for the citizens of Milton to share ideas, would also be to attend the Economic Development Committee meetings. It is the conduit to Council on exactly both commercial and residential development. Councilman Collier and I met with Steve Crawford and Bob Howard just last week and I think for all of us it was a somewhat eye opening experience to bring up some of the very infrastructure issues that are obstacles to Economic Development at all levels and that will come out during the Comprehensive Plan, but for ideas such as you're talking about, I encourage you to watch the website and that is one thing that we see very little of is public participation at the Economic Development Committee Meetings, so that is an excellent way to get your thoughts heard.

<u>Sandy Money</u>: Can I ask what they're doing with all those little shops across from the theater? I see a lot of renovating and things going on there. Does anybody know?

<u>Mayor Jones</u>: I don't want to speak totally for Mr. Howard, except he has a structural issue on that front column and until that building is fixed...

Sandy Money: That's the old antique store?

Mayor Jones: Yes.

Sandy Money: How about right next to Irish Eyes? What are they doing there?

Vice Mayor Booros: They're going to knock the wall down and make an opening between the

two and Irish Eyes...

Sandy Money: So it's just going to be a bigger Irish Eyes?

Vice Mayor Booros: They're expanding.

Mayor Jones: They're expanding.

Sandy Money: Is the food going to get any better?

<u>Mayor Jones</u>: Now you're asking stuff we can't answer, but it's a good time to say... if anybody hasn't read it in the papers yet, the grand opening of the Theater is next Saturday night and I encourage everyone who has an interest, to share that with your neighbors and come out and show your support for the opening of a new place.

<u>Sandy Money</u>: It's one thing to get people in town, but when they get there, what do they have? <u>Councilwoman Patterson</u>: That's always sort of been the problem. I'm up at the Medical Park and our facility, Ocean Medical, we see about 10,000-12,000 patients a year; not including all the other doctor's offices. That was sort of the way I got into this. How can my patients or people that come to that park, because they're not always sick...

Sandy Money: I've been to yours and it's great.

<u>Councilwoman Patterson</u>: Well you come in for a well visit and you just go downtown and have lunch; but it's always been a harder drawer to try to get the brick and mortar stores. You know a lot of the stores that are doing well in smaller towns, have a web presence and then they have like a little store front and we're hoping that if the antiques come back, from what I understand, the folks that like to frequent the Dogfish Head, like antique shops and that would be a nice draw back down as well and signage; because our beautiful park here is kind of obscured by some of the buildings; but better signage along the property.

<u>Sandy Money</u>: Making them aware of the pond and they can take their boats out; one thing I was going to recommend following up with John was maybe because you are having some kind of grant for signage, Dogfish is always very willing to participate in things; maybe they could do a little kiosk or a little thing like don't forget...

Councilwoman Patterson: That's what I was hoping, like at their exit there...

Sandy Money: Right, because you even have some things in your place.

Councilwoman Patterson: Right and we had a great art show last night that was well turned out, and I told the Economic Development Committee we have a nice little spot, as you're pulling in on Route 5 north heading into town, that we'd be happy to put a sign up, because I think what it's going to be is maybe some private ventures to put signage up, because our Transportation, our roads, are DelDOT roads, so when I was one Economic Development Committee and we were involved with signage, there's so many limitations with signage, so if you can come out to that meeting, please come out and let them know... we just need some signs to say turn down here, or go over here. We're willing to put a sign right there, Welcome to Milton, this is the way into town or something to that effect.

<u>Sandy Money</u>: I think the biggest drawer, unquestionably, is Dogfish, so if they had like a little information stand, like you see at...

<u>Councilwoman Patterson</u>: Right as they're turning onto Chestnut Street, like go here to downtown and there's food...

Sandy Money: Or just little brochures...

Councilwoman Patterson: But that comes from them privately wanting to put it up...

<u>Sandy Money</u>: Brochures. In other words... But I think they'll do it, they're always cooperative with anything, but when you consider how many people visit that place.

<u>Councilwoman Patterson</u>: And from all over the world, we had a whole group in from Italy last week, because of the Eatily and their whole connection and they wanted to meet the American that also brewed the beer and so there was a whole busload of Italians.

<u>Sandy Money</u>: That's our format for getting brochures out, not necessarily the signs, but the brochures so people there can visit all this.

<u>Councilwoman Patterson</u>: Because it doesn't define our town, but it is a big part of our town/ <u>Sandy Money</u>: It is absolutely; but like I said we have to have something to go to.

<u>Vice Mayor Booros</u>: Ms. Money, also and I've mentioned it to the Mayor and everybody else, about the Comprehensive Plan meetings is for the people's vision. It doesn't necessarily... what I envision in this town is not necessarily going to be what you envision, because the lands to expand this downtown, we're one and a half blocks, basically, in a little L-shape. You can't go anywhere towards the sewerage treatment plant, the Fire Department owns all that land along the waterfront; you have this corner over by the Historical Society, you can't build there, because the Historical Society owns that part.

Sandy Money: You're limited, there's no question.

<u>Vice Mayor Booros</u>: We're limited, really limited, so people can keep comparing Milton to Lewes or we could be just like this place or we could be just... no you can't; if you're only a block and a half long. You can't do it. If they expanded it maybe onto some of the side streets within the Historic District, possibly; where you had shops on the first floor and people living on the second floor, but it's my understanding that was proposed several years ago and that didn't go over real well.

<u>Sandy Money</u>: No you are limited. All you can do is make it esthetically a beautiful little town. Vice Mayor Booros: That's all you can do.

Councilwoman Patterson: That's right.

<u>Vice Mayor Booros</u>: But besides hairdresser's and restaurants and a couple of antique stores... <u>Councilwoman Patterson</u>: But the restaurants that are coming in are starting... there's a bigger draw. At the art show last night, a lot of people came out and had dinner; oh we haven't been to dinner in Milton forever.

<u>Vice Mayor Booros</u>: My only question is, you're not going to put six more shops down the street that's going to be a dress shop, this shop, that shop, because the space doesn't exist in the downtown district.

<u>Sandy Money</u>: Well the people won't support them either. They want variety. If you're going somewhere, you want to know there's more than one dress store, or one... so that's the other side of that.

Vice Mayor Booros: Yes.

<u>Councilwoman Patterson</u>: So not yet, but all of that is building and having all these new restaurants actually makes us... and then the theater coming back, so now we're an area to come and have dinner, because we've got a...

<u>Sandy Money</u>: And we need other things opened at nighttime too, because Irish Eyes really is the only place that's opened.

Councilwoman Patterson: Hopefully, that would slowly grow and with the Comprehensive Plan

we really want everybody's input. It's your town. Come out to these meetings and let your voice be heard.

<u>Sandy Money</u>: And support it, that's the main thing. That's what I was talking about John, just hanging on the wall with showing all the... instead of them saying, oh we didn't know all this was here.

<u>Councilwoman Patterson</u>: So Economic Development had one actually, that was for downtown Milton for a little while, but yes, those are all ways to bring people here.

<u>Sandy Money</u>: Yeah, because he's right. Everybody comes in and everybody goes out and I'm to blame... I did the same thing for years on my way to Rehoboth; I used to go I wonder what Milton is; just right on by.

<u>Vice Mayor Booros</u>: Like the Mayor said, MapQuest is taking you in and out of Route 5 over to Route 9; when you're looking at how to get back to Rehoboth, it's not taking you through the middle of Milton.

<u>Sandy Money</u>: Alright, well I thank you for your time and thanks for coming in on such a pretty day.

Mayor Jones: Thank you.

Lorraine Wasserman, Wagamon's West Shores, Milton, Delaware: The Mayor stole my thunder regarding the theater. I met with Fred, the owner of the production company and there are a lot of good news about that. Number one, the tickets are almost sold out the red carpet opening. A lot of people from Lewes and all over can't wait until the theater opens, with the new venues. They're going to have children's venues but they're also having a Bistro on the weekends for the adults and they're ordering a baby grand piano and they're having a lot of talent come in from the shore and it's going to generate a lot of people coming in for the theater and I think that's a key for Milton to build up the commerce and see what a beautiful jewel Milton is and what a wonderful Mayor and Council that we do have. Now the other comment I'd like to make, is seven or eight years ago, my husband and I were looking for a place to retire. So we rode around weekend after weekend and we looked at different places and we just fell in love with the town, the theater and just the quaintness of everything, but on the other hand, you really need to do your homework when you buy into a property, as my husband did. We rode around ten times before we did the deal at Wagamon's West Shores. In fact, they begged us, they reduced the price. We looked at Cannery Village and we just thought who in the hell would buy a property, in the middle of an industrial center, with a TV station and a platform of trains. Now in Wagamon's West Shores we had our problems, our issues with flooding in basements, but we were on the builder's tail every second; we bugged him until he couldn't take anymore phone calls and then he fixed it. You've got to get to the developer's. I told him 60 Minutes, Mike Wallace, is on his way. Oh, oh, they hurried up and they did everything. You need to put some fire under his behind. It's not the Mayor, it's not the Town Council, they're working hard. They want Milton to make it; they'd move heaven and Earth to get to what you wanted and that's all I've got to say. You've got to get on those builders. No matter what. Any kind of publicity. Tell them. Tell the developer that you just have to make sure that you complain. I'd drive down there and I'd get a flat tire. I ruined the brakes in my car and the underneath of my car was torn up from the streets. I don't know how you guys can put up with it. At Wagamon's West Shores they fixed the sidewalks 10 times; they ripped them down, tore them up and they were right and complete, before our streets were turned over to the town. I remember somebody called Channel 12 News and it hit the news. You've got to get the legislature. You've got to scream,

because you really do. We love Wagamon's West Shores. It's great because it was a boom town. That's all I've got to say. The prices have gone up. Thanks to the Mayor and our wonderful, wonderful Council. I just had to speak from my heart. I'm 66 and I want to speak from my heart now, so thank you everybody. Good luck to the theater and go to the red carpet and the Mayor is going to be wearing Valentino. She said she would wear Valentino.

<u>Mayor Jones</u>: Thank you, Lorraine. And who is that anyway? My sister made a comment this morning when I told her that and she said, isn't he dead? I said, I think so. Who else would like to speak? Mr. Dailey would you wait please until there are others who haven't had their turn. Jeff Dailey: Sure. Don't mind.

Mayor Jones: We have plenty of time.

Bob Howard, 217 Chandler Street: I just wanted to thank everyone for the comments about Economic Development in Milton. I'm on the Economic Development Committee. Let me just say, I know you all are here because you love Milton and you're interested in Milton. Our Charter on the Economic Development Committee is to give advice and make recommendations to the Council. That's about all we're empowered to do. We're working hard on a lot of subjects. We're all volunteers and it takes a lot of work to dig into things to do all the homework that makes something happen. A lot of ideas, we try, don't work. You don't have to be a member of the Committee to work on these things and help us out and we're always looking for volunteers to assist in working on issues for the town, so I encourage anyone who's interested to come to our meetings, contact me outside of the meetings, send me an email with recommendations. Again, my name is Bob Howard and I'm in the phone book and my email address is bobhoward61@verizon.net, so you can send me your ideas. Thank you.

Mayor Jones: That was your elementary school year, wasn't it, Bob?

Ellen Passman, 305 Federal Street: I'm a Milton survivor of only 13 years, but they've been a wonderful 13 years. Very briefly, I ask the Town Council that the famous fence issue, that when there is kind of a hue and cry and a concern that the people bring up, that things don't get pushed through, that the Council can stop and say we're getting a lot of kickback; we're getting a lot of feedback; that is not necessarily supporting the decision that we're making. I would like to make the request that the Council really listen when we take the time to speak up, that you can stop the process because there's always another way to do something. As you mentioned, the Fire Department doesn't own, the Historical Society owns, or Tom Draper owns. That's basically what defines us. We only have a few esthetic decisions that we can make in this town and we've done pretty well over the last 15 years, since I've been here, the town has changed amazingly and I'd like to keep that up that we have all the potential of being one of those destination towns and that when we want to make better esthetic choices, that the Town Council just stops and listens and that we have the opportunity to make these choices, not a lot, and it's going to define us. We're only going to do it once, or at least once every 20 years, so we need to take the time to make the right decisions that the people actually support, not what's necessarily expedient. Thank you.

Mayor Jones: Thank you.

<u>Valerie Valeska</u>, 204 Atlantic Avenue: I too would say thank you to Mayor and Council for these meetings. My idea, if I've got time to address a couple of them, was started actually with the Habitat right outside the wall of the Library here; and there's two other micro-habitats over here at the pond. It's also partially fueled by the maintenance issue of the property, town property bordering 204 Atlantic Avenue; that I'm thinking that it also has several impacts of

turning pieces of property like that, that the Town is in charge of, into micro-habitats. I have enough full sun wildflower seeds to cover that 10X10' area to the left of the driveway at 204 and enough partial sun seeds to cover the 10 by roughly 50' to the right, as you're looking towards Atlantic Avenue. My whole idea was that if areas like that could be turned into microhabitats, yes it supports the ecology, it supports birds. It supports bees and other beneficial insects and can add a touch of charm and flavor to the Town; save the town maintenance money, minimize maybe once a year that the overgrowth needs to be cut down before snow falls and that's basically just what I wanted to present was consider the possibility of small pieces of dirt like that, that do have a tax on town resources to maintain; but I'm sure that a lot of people besides myself would like to see 3' of flowers, instead of 3' of weeds and if we can have small micro-habitats like the three I outlined, why couldn't something like that be done; not only at 204, but I'm sure there are other pieces of property around town, where that could be done. I'm thinking the drainage culvert over on Mulberry; that could be turned into a microhabitat that could also enhance the Town, that will draw people that are into the study of nature, etc. People just like to take pictures of it and it would add an attractiveness to the town without a whole lot of cost and maybe others, like myself that would be willing to... I can go to Dollar General, I can get some localized seeds or I can go up here to the nursery and get some localized plants. That's really about it. Thank you.

Mayor Jones: Thank you.

Buddy Nunziata, 317 Brick Lane: I'm not going to talk about Cannery Village. I'm very happy that the Mayor and Council have made sidewalks around our town a priority, before anything else, because to try to walk here on Chestnut Street, is kind of impossible, you have to keep going back and forth on different sidewalks and as I was walking around, I noticed that by some of the churches, there are no sidewalks and by other houses there are no sidewalks and a lot of the sidewalks are broken up and it's not because of this last winter; I've been here 6-1/2 years. It's been like that for 6-1/2 years. There are many other properties that have no sidewalks around the houses and it doesn't look like there were ever sidewalks there, so I just think for the esthetics of the town, seeing that sidewalks have become a priority, before anything else, that maybe we can start fixing those sidewalks, so I could walk from Cannery Village to the town to go to the Theater and walk up and down those side streets, where there are no sidewalks and you have to walk in the street, on a very tight street. That's all I wanted to say. Thank you very much.

Mayor Jones: Thank you.

Jeff Dailey, 211 Gristmill Drive: Bob, before you arrived I was mentioning institutionalizing things like the fact that this town might one day become a "green" town; that's kind of like free advertising. Also home of Dogfish Head Brewery. The Neighborhood Watch that we have, that could be institutionalized and signage, so it just sends a message that this is a very cohesive, out there community and a town is only as good as it's businesses and industry. That creates tax base. We have the plastics company. We have the imaging enterprises, doctor's offices, we have Dogfish Head Brewery; a town is also as good as it's wonderful neighborhoods; my hat's off to Wagamon's West Shores. I rode my bike through there and thank God they have a reputable builder building and finally the lots are filling in and I can hear the Mayor's brain going kaching, because every house that's sold and built is money in the bank for the Town of Milton. I do want to mention the Comprehensive Plan and thank you Ginny for pointing that out, reminding us of that meeting date. We had a huge issue in the County and it continues and that

is spray irrigation. Some of our neighbors in Pemberton, even though that's not in the town limits, they can talk to you about having lived there before certain acreage to the north of the town and bordering the town took on spray irrigation and they can comment on the abundance of flies and the increase in flies; so when we talk Comprehensive Plan and we have members from the County here and from the State, we want to look at that. The Town is not good if word gets out, well it would be akin to Dogfish Head Brewery having to announce that there were pollutants in a neighboring property. That might make their sales take a nose dive. So we don't want to have negative things happening around us and that's a cooperative relationship with the County. The Town is also only as good as it's retail and attractions and there again, the signage. We've institutionalized the Historic District for Milton and that's great, but we've got to lay claim to what it is that makes this town unique and beautiful. We have a bridge, in our town; people ride over it all the time. Maybe we could get the clock, if we get a physical feature affixed to the bridge; maybe the bridge could one day be covered with wisteria by our Garden Club; maybe we could make an over arch so that trucks couldn't go through town and we really enforce that. There are all kinds of things we can do. I don't think we have as much fun here in Milton, in looking at all the opportunities. The Rails to Trails Park, Angerstein's has a wonderful little waterfall complex. If the Town kicked in some bucks it could be big enough and we could declare go to the fountain in Milton. You know, there are all kinds of things that we need to look at and unfortunately this last bout with the fencing and petitioners, etc., puts a bad taste in too many mouths.

Mayor Jones: You are welcome to step up to the microphone again.

Jeff Dailey: I will and thank you. I heard the bell.

Councilwoman Patterson: I just wanted to add something about the bridge. Melinda Hoffman was at the Historical Society before Ally Schell who's there now. She had mentioned that at one time, the bridge in Milton was red and then we had someone come in and talk about towns and how you can do fun, quirky things and red bridges, he was telling me, are really fun. It's white right now. It always looks like it might need a coat of paint, which is fine, because the flowers do a beautiful job hiding it; but I just think that that bridge, red, would just be the neatest thing and I even talked to my husband, who said he would donate the paint, because it's just one of those quirky things, like the little red bridge in town and fun things like that; especially with the new clock, that would look much more fitting with the town. It could be a nice little draw downtown, so just think about that. Thank you.

Patricia Sandman, 218 Village Center Boulevard, Cannery Village, Milton: Just listening to everyone and we're trying to uphold the town image and I think what the town is most noted for is Dogfish, but yet the Town is named after a famous poet, John Milton. I was just thinking that maybe we could do something with that; maybe we could have some type of poetry reading. His famous poem is Paradise Lost; maybe we could just do something with Paradise Found, Paradise Regained and maybe start building the town in honor of John Milton, who the town is named after. We have a statue in the park with Milton, so maybe we could sort of go in that direction, as well, instead of being identified as a beer town. Personally, I've never had a beer in my life. I can't stand the smell of it. If we had a winery, that would be great, so maybe we could start a winery and maybe we could have some poetry readings and dedicate it to John Milton. Thank you.

<u>Mayor Jones</u>: Patricia, there used to be an event connected to the John Milton... It was a literary. If I'm not mistaken Joanie Martin Brown did some of that.

<u>Ellen Passman</u>: It was the John Milton Poetry Festival and we partnered with the schools and the kids wrote poems and I think if there's a way to reinstitute that, the Brown's just got pooped out. They just got tired, but it's definitely something that drew a lot of people and there are festivals that are now established and then we could resurrect one that we have had and it was very successful and it again brought various groups together for a common cause.

<u>Patricia Sandman</u>: Why identify yourselves with this rotten beer; I'm just speaking from the heart; because I hate the smell.

Ellen Passman: Because that rotten beer brings a lot of people down to our town.

Vice Mayor Booros: 10,000 people a week.

<u>Patricia Sandman</u>: Why be identified with beer and this other fish. Maybe we should be identified with something a little more gracious and esthetically pleasing than a fish. A Dogfish. <u>Councilwoman Patterson</u>: It's funny. We seem to be the town of b's, because it was books and beads and buttons and berries and beer. I know through the Historical Society all those things made this town. And boats, how could I forget boats? So there's a lot of b's in our history. Right now it seems to be the beer, but remember all the boats and the berries and the books and my kids buttons. We go out and do archeological hunts all the time up in the Cannery for the old shells, especially after the rain. We love that. So there are a lot of things that incorporate in this town.

<u>Patricia Sandman</u>: Just think of an eyesore image of us as Miltonians, would be nicer than Dogfishians, or whatever.

Mayor Jones: Thank you for your ideas.

Councilwoman Patterson: Thank you.

Mohamed el Gindy, 307 Brick Lane, Cannery Village: Two meetings ago, two of the developer's were standing here and they decided to pave the alleyway, which I live in, 307 Brick Lane is an alleyway. Now it seemed to me that somebody was trying to say, oh we're not going to do it, we're going to do it. Did we write the minutes of that meeting, to prove that these two people were standing here said that?

<u>Mayor Jones</u>: Right now and I'm going to look at Mrs. Rogers, right now the woman who does all of our transcription has been out with surgery. They are preserved and they will be transcribed, as soon as she returns, so yes that is preserved.

Mohamed el Gindy: Because that's evidence for them to say yes we will do the alleyway and then, I don't care if the third person is not here, because it's two, it's supposed to be three people, but I don't care; two of them were here and they admitted that they were going to do the alleyway, so please, don't let that go. Okay? Second thing, I keep looking and Councilman Coté, do we have enough money in our budget once our community is turned over to the township, that you have enough money to do what has to be done, without raising taxes? Because it seems to me like your budget is... Councilman Coté could tell me I'm wrong. Do we have money? Councilman Coté: Now, when you mention budget, I have two of them that I work with. One is the town; I assume you are referring to the town?

Mohamed el Gindy: Yes.

<u>Councilman Coté</u>: Well, I think it would be... I can't tell you for sure and we're beginning the budget process for next fiscal year very shortly. If you add services, that were not previously done by the Town, we have to come up with the money somewhere; which is to either cut something else, or raise taxes. I think and it's a little awkward, but I think that if the folks in the development that currently... the development currently pays the streetlights and the snow

removal; assumes that they're not going to have a tax increase when all of those streetlights and those streets are now maintained by the town; I think is short-sighted. I think when a development, such as Cannery Village or Heritage Creek, when those streets are turned over to the town, taxes will go up, because there's just more work to be done and we don't have an excess; basically our budget now covers what we do now and if there's more to do, there will be more money needed.

<u>Mohamed el Gindy</u>: Now let me tell you something. These people have been paying taxes, some of them for seven years; where did the money go since it's not used for our community? Thank you. I don't want to bother you, that's all.

<u>Vice Mayor Booros</u>: I do want to add something to what Councilman Coté said, because I remember it from the last budget thing. When the streets and streetlights are turned over, we do get money from the State, to offset a portion of it, but currently we're already running a deficit; we don't get enough to cover the full amount of the streetlights and the streets. You're adding a lot of streetlights when you take over a neighborhood like Heritage Creek. They have one heck of a streetlight bill now, that the town... They're not paying nearly as much in taxes, as they would be paying to have this town pay for those streetlights, because they have a big streetlight bill in Heritage Creek.

Mohamed el Gindy: I personally don't mind to pay more, but other people probably don't have the money, so that's something I hope you people understand.

Gwendolyn Jones, 204 Atlantic Avenue: I just heard you talking about the streetlights. There's an increasing interest in movement to people switching to LED's. I don't know currently the types of bulbs that are in the streetlights. LED lighting, I don't even know the feasibility of converting the town's lights; there's probably quite a significant initial investment in something like that, but they consume far less energy in order of magnitude, at least and also they last forever, practically; so I think that's something to consider when John has mentioned about the tremendous streetlight bill and energy and things and that's sort of works into the "green" aspect of promoting the green and the environmentally friendly aspect; a potential that Milton has, to sort of segue into one of my pet peeves or projects is the water conservation issue and the private agricultural wells. I heard mentioned today that there's talk about water rationing or water conservation measures. I will mention that the water conservation measures are going to impact the town on an economic basis, because you're not going to be selling as much water; it sort of says well why not advocate, or at least permit private agricultural wells because they draw from a different level of aquifer. There are several layers of aquifers and typically the agricultural wells draw down say from 40-50', whereas the town's drinking supply comes from wells that are several hundred feet down and there's an impermeable layer of clay, etc., between the two. Now I sat in on a Water Committee Meeting last summer where Mr. Abbott and Councilman West and Jack Bushey were sitting there talking about this being an increasing issue and interest from the town's populace and the topic has been raised and the consciousness has been focused on that and how they could sort of spin this that that idea, that movement, that interest in private agricultural wells being dangerous to the town's water supply, etc., etc. and sort of basically taking a few minor possibilities and blowing it way out of proportion to saying that the people who are advocating something like that were looking to poison the town's water supply and I thought that was sort of heinous; but I sat there and listened to them talk about it openly; I don't want to use a word such as "conspire" but the word popped into my mind. It also positively impacts the need to upgrade and increase the infrastructure that's required to upgrade

the town's water supply, so I think the agricultural wells are a solution that is a win/win situation for everybody. Thank you very much.

Councilman Collier: I can tell you that recently some members of the Council, and town staff, met with Delmarva Power about several issues and one of the issues was about what we could do as far as conserving power and how we power our streetlights. They were able to direct us to someone who could possibly do an assessment of all the lights throughout town and see to the conversion. One thing I can tell you is Delmarva Power has not adopted the standard LED light yet and that has to occur, but we can at least get a sense of what the potential of going to LED lights would do in cost savings, towards the town's lighting bill. So we have been proactive in that affect, that we have met with Delmarva Power. There were some other questions from the citizens regarding how the power grid is structured in and around Milton, so we sought out answers for those; but I can tell you that we are in that process and we are thinking in that direction and it's a matter of making the arrangements with the gentleman that does these assessments and having it done and I understand that there's small if any cost to get this done. Gwendolyn Jones: Great. I commend you for that. I think it's a big step in the right direction and again, I think in the long term, it's a big benefit.

<u>Mayor Jones</u>: Georgetown actually scooped the pilot program on LED lighting, so you can go to Georgetown and see that in action, as Councilman Collier said, it just has not been adopted as a standard, though our Representative is well aware of our interest. There appears to be a higher cost getting into the program, but a lower cost in having the lighting and there is an awful lot of lighting through old Milton that is sub-standard, not enough lighting, dim lighting, so we're taking the bigger picture of all of that for you.

<u>Gwendolyn Jones</u>: On a private, domestic basis, personally I hate those CFL bulbs and I recognize the old incandescent bulbs are very energy wasteful, but as those things die out, the things that we're replacing, I personally and also Valerie and her partner, are replacing it with the LED bulbs and in time the energy use, on that kind of scale, I think it's perfectly applicable to the Town of Milton as well. Thank you very much for your efforts on that. Mayor Jones: Thank you.

<u>John Oates</u>, 115 Arch Street, Milton: I'd like to get a clarification. The question of new development streets being dedicated to the town. If I understood what was just said, that almost by default, that is going to mean a town wide tax increase. Is that correct? Councilman Coté: Almost, yes.

John Oates: If it is almost yes, then every time a new development comes online, ultimately gets dedicated, all the resident's in this town can expect a tax increase and we are, it appears to me, making every effort to consider annexation and encourage new development. That kind of seems to be self-contradictory. I don't understand... I was under the impression that between the Impact Fee... let me give you an example, where I live in Heritage Creek the first phase of development, 40 homes, \$16,000 expense on an annual basis for the streetlights; about \$400 per home. I thought between the residential property taxes and the Impact Fees that would kind of cover that for a dozen years, at least.

Councilman Coté: I don't think any Impact Fees cover anything with streetlights.

John Oates: Well, it's going towards the town budget, yes?

Vice Mayor Booros: For police, the park...

<u>John Oates</u>: Road maintenance, I understand all the other services the town provides. Can you tell me what the Impact Fee is, approximately, on any given average lot?

<u>Councilman Coté</u>: Impact Fees for what service or... Maybe Mrs. Rogers has that at her... <u>John Oates</u>: Kristy, when a home comes online for the town, what does that do for the town budget, besides property taxes?

Councilman Coté: I want to go away from the Impact Fees for a minute, to talk about the other half of your question; is my house has been where it is now for 7 years, 6 years and there's been no town expenditures for the roadways where I live. Eventually, the town is going to pick up the snow removal and the streetlights where I live and some of those houses have been there... mine's been there about 6; there's 8, 9 years that some of those houses and we're paying taxes now and basically we balanced the budget; we don't... the last few years we've been balancing the budget. We haven't been building up a surplus. So what comes in goes out and it went out and nothing was spent on the street where I live. Eventually it will, so I have to assume sometime when we're spending more money, somehow more money will have to be collected. When you annex a new development, new houses go on the tax rolls and that covers what's going on at that time; when those new streets get added, there will be more work performed by the Town to be covered, so yes, there probably will be an increase when those new developments go online and when the rest of Heritage Creek goes online and all of those streets get dedicated, those houses will have been there for, well hopefully it's shorter than some of the existing places, but I mean you pay taxes and work gets done, but there's no work being done on... the town's not doing any work on your street or my street. But when they get those, there's going to have to be more.

<u>John Oates</u>: Let's talk about someone that's lived here since 1950. Every time a new development goes online, if I'm here since 1950, my taxes are going to go up. Is it any surprise that folks are not wild about this idea?

<u>Mayor Jones</u>: The town needs to take a very hard look during this budget process and stopping the use of their transfer taxes to operate. Our transfer taxes should be put away, or at least a portion of, because that's how it needs to start for future growth and for future upkeep. Right now, transfer taxes go into the general operating pot...

John Oates: Sounds very Federal.

<u>Mayor Jones</u>: It is a terrible idea. It ought to be part of your savings. It ought to be part of your future planning, not your year to year operations and it's going to be hard to wean this town off of it, because they've been dependent and operated like this for years. But it has not paid off. John Oates: I think the danger is obvious.

Mayor Jones: It's evident.

<u>John Oates</u>: Between the transfer taxes and the Impact Fees and the property taxes, theoretically these new developments should be self-sustaining for 10-20 years, at least, but clearly we're doing exactly what the Federal Government does. Okay, that's...

Councilman Coté: One solution that's been discussed or has not been mentioned, I don't think we really discussed it much and it was brought up by a past administration when I talked to the, is setting up separate tax district and possibly separate lighting districts; so for example, Wagamon's West Shores would have their own tax rate; Cannery Village would have it's tax rate; Heritage Creek would have it's tax rate and including lighting bills; and the "old town", in general, would have it's own tax rate, which I'm personally not a big fan of that...

John Oates: This is my last comment. In a situation where I live in Heritage Creek, is particularly egregious when we have lights every 30' and in the Old Town, that's clearly not the case, so why am I as a 1950 resident, paying for that luxury. There's something inherently

wrong here.

Mayor Jones: Thank you, John.

Myra Oates, Milton: The fact that that is how I describe myself is exactly my point, that I'm going to make. About a year ago, when the last Town Hall meeting was, I got up. It's the first time I ever got up in front of one of these things and this is the second and probably the last. I'm basically going to say the same thing I said a year ago and I'll probably say it next year too. There are a lot of different issues, obviously in this town and every other one. There are a lot of different developments in this town. There are a lot of different opinions and focuses among all of us. I would really like to see us stop talking about Heritage Creek and Cannery Village and business and this focus and that focus and start talking about how anything that impacts anything, in any development, impacts all of us and to stop being so self-centered and worrying about our own butts and not worrying about everybody; because we are our brother's keepers, as far as I'm concerned and that's all I have to say.

Mayor Jones: Thank you, Myra.

John Horan, 304 Brick Lane: I just want to make a couple of comments, based on what has been said here today. Number one, and this is related to Cannery Village, the punch list. It sounds to me as though the punch list is not a living document. Now I think that punch list was developed back in the October time frame; a lot has happened weather-wise and everything else since last October. I would think that the punch list be damned; those streets have to be completed in compliance with the standards of the Town of Milton, the State of Delaware. I don't care if the day they finish, before the inspectors come in for the town, if something else goes wrong, they've got to come back and fix it and there should be periodic inspections while the work is going on, rather than wait until the end. The second item I'd like to address is getting back to shalls and such as that. We obviously have no leverage over Chestnut Properties. Now, it's always been thought I guess in the political world, that the admission of the fact that you were wrong, is a weakness. I've always considered it as a strength in character. Now, what would be wrong with the Town of Milton saying Chestnut Properties we messed up; we gave you a break. The Ordinance says you shall... you shall... as of today you shall pay for the streets in Cannery Village and you shall pay for the streetlighting. Might that get them off their duffs and act a little bit quicker, so they get those costs out of their hair. Right now they have paid not one cent, in spite of the fact that the town ordinance says it's their responsibility. Thank you. Mayor Jones: Mr. Horan, the cost of your lighting and your streets, is that now being passed on to your Homeowner's Association?

John Horan: It's passed onto the homeowners.

Mayor Jones: Okay.

<u>John Horan</u>: And some two years ago, it's tens of thousands, if not at this stage over \$100,000 of resident funds that have been used to pay that, because we've had certainly a couple of years ago we had the big snow storms and this past year we had the snow storms.

<u>Mayor Jones</u>: I also want to assure you that with our new Supervisor of Public Works, once that work begins in your community, you will have someone who will oversee that constantly. <u>John Horan</u>: Thank you very much.

Jim Welu, 409 Union Street: First of all I would like to just acknowledge John Oates, for taking the time on Thursday to drive up to Chester, Pennsylvania and bring me back to Milton. I hear what Councilman Coté is saying about taxing districts and maybe that's a thing if a particular community, as developed by the developer, has some amenities in it that are in excess of what

the town usually uses, such as how many street lights do we have? Are they 90' apart, 30' apart, 1,000' apart? I don't like the idea of taxing districts, because it kind of disunifies the town, so I don't' think that's a really good idea. An issue that I would like the Town Council to seriously consider, I raised it with the transportation person that was at the Comprehensive Plan and I'll raise it again when she comes on the 9th, and this may be a lobbying effort on part of the town, with DelDOT, with the County Council, we definitely need a traffic light at Route 1 and Cave Neck Road. They did spend some money putting some new lights up, but if we want people to come to Milton, to our businesses, to visit and see the signs to the right, Irish Eyes and other shops to the left the imaging and the medical facilities, Dogfish Head, people have to get into town and making that left turn from Route 1 and that's where we're drawing most of our people from Lewes and Rehoboth Beach and Dewey Beach, we need a traffic light to allow for a left turn onto Cave Neck Road. It's bad enough for us resident's. It's even worse for visitors who are not used to it every day, so I'm going to push it with DelDOT in our Comprehensive Plan but I think we need to have the County and the Town pushing it, as well. It's for the benefit of the town, as well as a safety issue. I like the idea of a winery, in addition to Dogfish Head. We have a winery just outside of Lewes, maybe... I don't think it's in the town limits of Lewes, that Peg Railey owns. I don't know if you're all aware and I don't know the condition of the soil, but the Railey family owns a large parcel at the end the apartment complex on Bay Avenue, all the way up to County Road. It's owned by the Railey family. Some of it's in the town, some of it's in the County. It might be a long term investment for her, but it would be an excellent site for annex of Nassau Vineyards to grow their grapes, right here in town and it would be a good sales pitch, I think, for the town, as well.

<u>Mayor Jones</u>: Your time is up, but I would like to comment on one of your issues. Milton as it's entity, can certainly look to Route 1 and 88, but anyone needs to lobby your County Councilwoman Joan Deaver who is the person that has spearheaded getting the lights up at that location; she is on top of that location that is in her District. Your leverage is greater with her, than it is inside the Town. So I just want to put that out to you.

Jim Welu: I understand, yes.

<u>Councilwoman Patterson</u>: Thank you for that; because also all those new developments that just continue to grow down there, so the Town would benefit, but outside of town limits, still in Milton, all of those homes... that is a terrible intersection.

Mayor Jones: Thank you.

Valerie Valeska, 204 Atlantic Avenue: Thank you for the second opportunity to speak at the mic. Revisit an idea as I was sitting here listening, the solar cells and it's outside the box thinking and our current Town Ordinances assess on people with solar cells, is that incorrect? Okay, so I misread that at the time, but Councilman Coté saying about the necessity of raising taxes to pay for streetlights, etc., it would also maybe encourage people to put more solar cells in, or solar panels. Most people that have solar panels would be able to... the excess energy that they generate that would normally go back to Delmarva Power and Light, could that not be directed to an account to Milton, Delaware? The property taxes don't have to necessarily go up, the homeowner gets a reduction in their power bill, Milton has the advantage of a very renewable resource and where the power company receives all that excess energy generated back into their grid, Milton gets the credit for it, which would also allow for additional streetlighting and when the conversion finally does occur into LED lights and I'm seeing it basically as a win/win/win all the way around and the shortly revisit the private irrigation well; if those well heads were

allowed and say metered at say 1/3 the present cost of town water; the town doesn't totally lose. You're not making the expense your maintenance on the regular lines, you're not having to put in fluoride and chlorine into the water, you're still getting some income and 30% of something is better than 100% of nothing. Like I said, with the LED lights, or like the solar panels, allowing that excess energy to be credited to Milton, that also relieves the tax burden; it relieves the burden on the town treasury; allows the town to have the lighting for all these where the lighting is dim or rather than the best of sufficiency, etc., and a little thinking outside the box, a little planning, a little coolheadedness and a little bit of patience, to me there's a way around everything and anybody that says stuff like that can't be done, to me can't died in the hospital and just one more side note on Dogfish, before everybody starts ready to crucify Dogfish, there's a movie out called "How Beer Saved the World" and I know it's on Netflix. If you haven't seen it, see it. Thank you.

<u>Mayor Jones</u>: Thank you. I'm not an electric wizard Valerie, but I believe Milton would have to have it's own power facility to credit solar energy back...

<u>Vice Mayor Booros</u>: I'm going to go one step further than that. The homeowner that's selling that to the grid, back to Delmarva Power and Light, they're going to have to give up their check to the Town of Milton, because they get paid for the power they sell back to Delmarva Power and Light.

<u>Unidentified Speaker</u>: They're saving it...

<u>Vice Mayor Booros</u>: They're not only saving, they're selling the power back to Delmarva Power and Light and getting a check at the end of every month.

<u>Valerie Valeska</u>: Okay, but my thinking wasn't originally based thinking that the town was assessing a tax or property tax on those solar.

Mayor Jones: That has recently changed.

<u>Valerie Valeska</u>: That has recently changed, so my thinking was a win for the homeowner, a win for the town, a win for the resident's, a win for streetlighting and that's the way I'm thinking. Vice Mayor Booros: The homeowner won.

<u>Valerie Valeska</u>: Throwing ideas up against a wall like this and then we all bounce it around and what have we got 50 brains in here to think on something; we've got to get a winner.

Mayor Jones: Thank you.

Karen Young, 105 Mill Pond, Heritage Creek: I just want to revisit this lighting, transfer of the roads and the lights to the town and I have two thoughts. One is certainly I don't think any of us new developments, not Wagamon's West Shores, not Cannery Village, not Heritage Creek, want to be held responsible for the taxes of Milton going up. If that's how this is going to be presented and spread out in these meetings, we're not going to be Miltonians after we live here for awhile; we're going to be the bad guys that made everybody's taxes go up. I think there's got to be a better way to visit this idea, that you do need to raise taxes and come up with other reasons, than we just annexed in this development, this development, and this development. It certainly isn't going to do much for us and for the record, those of us in Heritage Creek also are paying for the lights in our Homeowner's Associations. We're paying dearly, we're not getting a free ride and we are paying our taxes, as everyone else in the room is doing, we're paying our taxes, same rate, same everything and yes, we're getting partial services that the rest of the town gets. So, I just think you need to re-figure it. We love Milton. We researched it dearly. We love the town. I love the quaintness. I miss the antique shops, if they could just come back, that would be nice, but please try and help us out a little bit. We really want to be part of Milton, not

be the problem of Milton.

Mayor Jones: Karen, I would say that my vision, if when a developer comes for a plan to be presented, instead of the lighting, which is enjoyed in Heritage Creek, it seems to me that that lighting should be in keeping with the rules we already have on the books, for the rest of the town; which if I'm not mistaken is every 100'. Mr. Wingo, I don't want to quote that incorrectly. It is not what Heritage Creek has and that would eliminate that excess, lighting and the cost. Karen Young: Let me comment on that. I'm sorry to interrupt you, but what I understand... now I'm not an original owner; we've been here two years, going on three now. But what my understanding of those lights were, that Milton wanted them that close together when the plan went out; not necessarily the developer, at that time; because now we've been pretty active in asking that they be a little further apart. Sometimes it's nice, but it's a little too bright. I actually had to have Delmarva Power and Light come out and put a shield on one of the lights that sits right in my front bedroom, because you didn't need a light, in the middle of the night, it was so bright. We love the way it looks, but it is bright and that was my understanding. I don't know. Do you guys know any better about the lights when they were first put in; because that was my understanding that somebody in town said, this is what you need to have and that's what happened.

<u>Mayor Jones</u>: How about if we do a little research for you, will you come see me after the meeting and I will get a contact, so that I know how to reach you with an answer?

Karen Young: That would be good. Great. Sure. Thank you very much.

Ann Gilligan, 119 Wagamon's Boulevard: About the solar panels, we do have them, we lease them from the company, so we don't get any money back; I don't know about if you own them or not and we just did it, because we thought this would be a cool thing to do, ecologically speaking, whatever, so just wanted to clear that up. Thank you.

Mayor Jones: Thank you.

Myra Oates, 115 Arch Street: I just want to add two very short things. Heritage Creek, Cannery Village and Wagamon's West Shores are not the only three developments in Milton; there's also Shipbuilder's Village, which is part of Milton and that's really what I'm speaking to. We have to stop ignoring certain parts of the town according to what our own particular liking is. There's also Chestnut Crossing, I'm probably missing one; the new developments, okay. I just would like to stress that we really need... if we're going to be together, we have to care about what's happening to everybody and that, by the way, which is going to be the end of my statement, includes people who are indigenous to Milton; for whom we can really be thankful that they've welcomed us and we've gotten a really good tax rate; no matter... I've had no complaints. We came from New York. You want to talk about high taxes? Those of you who came from New Jersey, do you want to talk about high taxes? If mine doubled, and I'm not asking for that, but if mine doubled I would have nothing to complain about. And I really do think and this is my thing, if you will, anyone who knows me, knows this, is you really can never forget the people who are very seldom in this room, who have a voice in this whole thing too, because their history, Milton's history is on them and the generations before them and I don't think we can ever forget that and that's my point.

<u>Mayor Jones</u>: Myra, hold on one moment. My first point would be to applaud you, from the moment I met you, you have carried consistently the same message, cohesiveness. I will tell you from a governing standpoint, I find sub-divisions fracture this community, as a whole. Myra Oates: Amen.

Mayor Jones: That is from this side of the table. That is taking care of all of it's resident's, without the banner of what community you live in, because we all live in Milton and I do applaud and I know that it's difficult for you to get up and carry that message again, but you have been honest and consistent in delivering that and even though today's standards call for developments of large parcels, I will say again, it fractures the community. Personal opinion. Myra Oates: The best example I can think of and the most recent one is the people behind you, what they are planning. The people on Union and Mulberry are very upset about that and so am I. But I don't think it's a major concern for most people in Cannery Village, or Heritage Creek and Wagamon's West Shores, because it doesn't have anything to do with them and that's my point. Anything that happens here, has to do with all of us, because if anybody here thinks that they can do something in one part of town and you're immune, I've got a bridge in Brooklyn I'd love to sell you. It's not going to happen. It never has and it's never gonna and the only way anything ever gets done, anywhere, anything, is when large groups of people who don't necessarily have a whole lot in common, get up and say something and put their so called money where their mouth is. If we don't do that, we're going to leave a legacy of having been the generation that sunk Milton instead of built it.

Mayor Jones: Thank you.

Virginia Weeks: I just wanted to say thank you Myra and Mayor Jones I wanted to say that I agree with you wholeheartedly on your philosophy about the transfer tax. Life has gotten very complicated in the world and money doesn't mean much anymore. It doesn't buy anything anymore and eventually we have to look at raising taxes in this town, if we want to be the town that everybody's standing up here and saying they want. You've got to pay for what you get and it's just a simple mathematical reality. I'm going to just address what Myra talked about; I come from a place in New Hampshire. It's a destination town. It's 21,000 citizens. It's budget this year is \$96 million. We have a very vibrant Historic District that has made it a destination town. In the 1960's it was basically a shipbuilding town and very poor, lots of brothels and those brothels, where they were located are now the more costly housing in town. My 50'X80' little plot of land with a house that was built in the 1790's, the taxes on it were \$8,000 a year. I'm not looking for that. What I'm saying is, you've got to pay for what you get. We also didn't have sales tax and we don't have income tax in New Hampshire, so some of that had to go to that. It's just a reality that if we want this town to be what we want it to be, we have to pay for it and so if you need a group to start saying yes, let's look at the budget, let's look at the taxes, come on folks. It's something that's got to be a reality. Second of all, the water thing. Just a quick thing. I'm a little confused. The water conservation, I know you're doing this Monday, but luckily for you I'm out of town, so I wanted to know. Is the water conservation because of infrastructure, or because of the lack of water in the aguifers?

Councilman Collier: It's a combination of both.

Virginia Weeks: Is there a lack of water in the aquifers?

Councilman Collier: Not at this time, but why wait until it happens?

<u>Virginia Weeks</u>: No. No. I don't even know when it's going to happen. What I'm just saying is, the so called perceived reality of living in Delaware, that our aquifers are plentiful.

<u>Mayor Jones</u>: My view of the water conservation is it came before us once and it came in the form of water conservation all year long and it rode the tail of capacity, when we were talking about missing water and failed referendums. The water conservation in this phase, my understanding is to take more of a proactive measure; to not only ensure capacity, but because it

is the responsible thing to do.

Virginia Weeks: I agree.

<u>Mayor Jones</u>: This ordinance will come back with a measured time, so that when our capacity is most under duress, the summer, spring into early fall, those will be the time frames that we're looking for the folks in Milton to do some water conservation for good reason.

<u>Virginia Weeks</u>: I have no problem with water conservation. I just wanted to know what was indeed driving it, because when the fellow from the car wash came, he said there was a lack of water and I think that an idea has gone out there that perhaps we don't have any water in the ground and I wanted to clarify that, as far as I know we have plenty of water in the ground. <u>Mayor Jones</u>: I believe the issue is still capacity and making sure that we have capacity. <u>Virginia Weeks</u>: Infrastructure. Thank you. Second of all, just to bring up an old thing. Has anyone ever found the 11 million gallons of missing water?

<u>Mayor Jones</u>: Yes, actually it wasn't missing at all. It was counted twice, new pumps, check valves were put in and Mr. Wingo is pleased... we are at compliance, are we not? Yes, we are. <u>Virginia Weeks</u>: So we're not using 600,000 gallons a day anymore.

Greg Wingo: Well, not right this moment, but if you see me in about a month, when everybody starts irrigating, we might be over 500,000 or something. The numbers that kind of help explain this, the loss of water there were a lot of errors, went from meters; we had quite a few bad meters in the actual well houses and the pump houses; some bad calculations on the administrative side; not on the billing side. I don't want you to misunderstand me there, there was basically nothing written down when we had leaks; when we opened up our fire hydrants, between that and the leaks, I found out there was a lot. So we brought it within 7% and you want to be around 12% and we brought it down to 7%.

Virginia Weeks: Thank you.

<u>Greg Wingo</u>: I don't want to say that we still have some leaks probably out that we haven't found, but the meters were a huge step in the right direction on getting them changed and the calibrations on them, keeping that together, so we're in the ballpark on exactly where we need to be.

Virginia Weeks: Thank you.

<u>Vice Mayor Booros</u>: One comment on Ms. Oates that you've said about the neighborhood that was proposed behind Ms. Weeks' house, between Union, on this side of town and how nobody else in the other neighborhoods probably cared one way or the other. The difference between an apartment complex and single family homes or townhouses or condominiums that may resell every couple or few years, there are transfer taxes every time one of those places resells. In an apartment complex, where people are paying rent, those units aren't selling over again. They're not reselling, three years from now when somebody gets transferred out; it's just rental income, so we would in a case like that, if they were apartments be missing out on transfer taxes, for resales, so it should matter to everybody, because that's income to the town vs. an apartment complex.

Jeff Dailey, 211 Gristmill Drive: Thank you Vice Mayor Booros for that comment. I know that I speak on behalf of so many of my neighbors in my neighborhood, which is the Homeowner's Association neighborhood Cannery Village and with all due respect Myra and thank you to Karen for her comments on keeping us united; we bought in Cannery Village so many of us, because we came to a walkable town and we don't want to be walking past apartment houses and anything that would really besmirch our Historic District, so I think you would have gotten

town wide, from one neighborhood to the next, just absolute outrage for a request to change the zoning behind Ms. Weeks' house. I can't see that not being a ground swell movement of people saying no, because that is in my backyard. I drive past there to go to the Food Lion all the time. It can't happen. But I also want to say, the people in Cannery Village wants their streets top coated; they want their developer's to do what they promised to do. They want the town to step forward and use the town muscle to get that job done, but so saying, it is incumbent upon every member of this table and the Mayor, to demonstrate that good neighborhoods make a good town. It's not just Cannery Village screaming, or people at Wagamon's West Shores screaming over this issue or that issue; no it's the Town of Milton. I said it before, a town is only as good as it's businesses and industry, because that's a tax base; a town is only as good as it's neighborhoods, retail and attractions. So there, it's said. This Mayor and Council has got to fight tooth and nail to keep us united and each and every one of you, I'm going to say it, it's incumbent upon you not to point the finger at any one neighborhood or any neighbor, for that matter, as demanding more than what is his or her fair share. It starts with you all, so if we have this divisiveness and I'm going to say it, if we have rule by petition, if we have rule by factions, then we have a problem, which brings me to this point again and I'm going to go on record, saying it one more time. I think the Mayor and Council need to look at a cap on spending and a cap on loss of revenue. We allowed Dogfish Head to put in a well. There is money that we could have set down as money they would pay on an annual basis; we let it go. That is not good planning. That is not good governance and every time the opportunity, every time we do something on this Council that could lose us money, or every time we plan to expend money, there should be a cap and issues like fencing and purchasing houses, to augment parking, should come before public forum, because we the citizens get blindsided and I'm going to say it; then we get scolded for not having spoken out sooner; not having spoken out in larger numbers; waiting too long; not enough petition signatures. I mean, come on, this cannot happen again and you all have got to figure out a way to keep this from repeating and it does repeat. We need an Ad Hoc Committee to look at the parking dilemma. We purchased a house. I'm in favor of that purchase, I've said it once, I've said it a hundred times. We're going to have a beautiful view of the lake, the pond. If we get 6, 8, 10, 2 parking spaces, it's 2 parking spaces we didn't have; this downtown is going to thrive. We need a committee to look at how we are going to augment parking. Thank you.

<u>Mayor Jones</u>: Mr. Dailey, we have a Streets and Sidewalks Committee and it is already driving many of those issues that you've brought up. Okay?

<u>Vice Mayor Booros</u>: And there is a dollar amount, I think in the Charter of \$500,000 for actual referendum if the Council intends to spend \$500,000 or more and I asked the question this morning, when the new Town Hall was purchased several years ago, did the people in this town get together with the referendum to vote on buying that Town Hall building and the costs that went into that and my understanding is, it didn't happen during that administration.

Jeff Dailey: Right and all the more reason why we need to have a cap.

<u>Vice Mayor Booros</u>: Well there is a cap and the cap in the Charter is \$500,000; anything that we spend over \$500,000 has to go for referendum.

<u>Councilman Collier</u>: Excuse me Vice Mayor Booros, that \$500,000 amount is a number triggered for borrowing money. There is not cap on that.

Vice Mayor Booros: I'm sorry. Okay. You're right, for borrowing.

Jeff Dailey: If we look for instruction from the fence issue, as it's being called, it needs to be

considerably lower in my opinion. I also want to thank Councilwoman Patterson for pointing out the red bridge. That is absolutely true. Meet at the clock. Meet at the red bridge. These are things that towns can use as fodder for marketing and bringing into the town. What a great idea that is.

Councilwoman Patterson: Thank you. Let's do it.

<u>Mayor Jones</u>: We have a couple of minutes left. Who would like to wrap things up? Mr. Welu? <u>Jim Welu</u>: I just want to quickly address the water conservation issue. My understanding of that was first discussed by Win Abbott. One of the main purposes was not because we had a lack of water. It's because we had a lack of supplying reservoir and if we were on the conservative basis of using our water, we might not need an additional water tower, for a long time, so it was really let's use less water and we need less capacity, overall over a 24 hour period. Just for history purposes for those who don't know this, the New Development is probably what 60 years old? <u>Councilman Collier</u>: Mr. Welu, actually if you want to go by the name of record, it's Conwell's Addition.

Jim Welu: It is Conwell's Addition.

<u>Councilman Collier</u>: It's commonly referred to as the New Development in this town, but the name is for the record.

<u>Jim Welu</u>: It's the area between Hazzard Street and County Road and between Bay Avenue and Atlantic, which goes up to the VFW, that is often referred to as the New Development. Councilman Collier: Tree streets.

Jim Welu: One other thing. I know that Cannery Village is looking to the Council to be very hard to the letter of the law with the developer's of Cannery Village, but I think Lorraine Wasserman had a very important point to make to the people of Cannery Village and any other community. If all the people that came to these meetings a year ago and have come consistently before the Council, went out to the various developments, that Pret Dyer and Capstone are developing and had a little protest sign, I think they would react very quickly. I think P.R. is a much more important power, than the government, even. I think she made an excellent point and I want to thank Myra again for her emphasis on let's keep this town as one town. Thank you very much.

<u>Mayor Jones</u>: Well I believe that concludes today's opportunity. We will be doing this quarterly so as soon as Council can put their calendars together to meet again, we have some follow-up and some answers to get from today's meeting. I want to thank everybody for taking their time on a lovely Saturday to come out and join us. Thank you.