

Milton Town Council Meeting April 13, 2015 Preliminary Minutes

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order in the Milton Public Library at approximately 6:30 PM on April 6, 2015. A moment of silence was then observed, followed by the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call:

Sam Garde, present
Emory West, present
Esthelda Parker-Selby, present
Edward Kost, present
Theodore Kanakos, present
Marion Jones, present
Michael Cote was not present
Seth Thompson, the Town Solicitor was also present

These Preliminary Minutes:

These preliminary minutes cover only the high points of the meeting. The discussions were recorded, and will be transcribed. The transcription will serve as the final minutes of the meeting.

Public Participation

No members of the public had registered for public participation. However, the portion of the meeting dedicated to changes in the Town Charter was conducted, as in the past, allowing members of the public to make comments as the various subjects were discussed by the Mayor & Town Council.

Additions or Corrections to the Agenda

No comments were made to amend the Agenda as presented.

Agenda Approval

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to approve the Agenda as presented.

New Business

Amendments to the Town Charter

The Mayor and Town Council resumed going through the Town Charter, and the changes recommended by the Charter and Ordinance Committee, on a line-by-line basis, starting with Section 25. As in the past meetings regarding Charter changes, these minutes will not reflect the specific subjects or discussions held during this meeting. When all the meetings on Charter changes are completed, and the Mayor & Town Council agree on the content of the Charter to be submitted formally at a Town-

wide public hearing on the subject, the agreed draft changes will be published in advance of such public hearing.

Resolution 2015-004 to schedule a public hearing for the purposed amendments to the Town Charter

The Mayor and Council, with input from the Town Solicitor, discussed the schedule for submitting modifications of the Town Charter to the Delaware State Legislature. The current session of the Legislature, which must approve any Town Charter changes, is scheduled to close at the end of June. In light of the fact that the Mayor and Town Council had not completed their line-by-line review, and had left several key matters open for further discussion, it appeared that Milton would not be in a position to have a full change to the Town Charter agreed by the Legislature in the current session. A modified approach was discussed to get the most pressing issues in front of the Legislature as soon as possible. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to issue a Resolution to schedule a public hearing on May 6, 2015 for the purpose of reviewing changes to only Section 29 "Enumeration of Powers", paragraphs 10 (set-back from both high tidal and fresh water ponds, lakes and rivers), 26 (limit on amounts raised by taxes on real estate and improvements), and 27 (limit on transfer tax compared to State transfer tax.)

Executive Session

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to go into executive session. At the end of the Executive Session, a motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to come out of Executive Session.

Discussion and possible vote on Executive Session Items

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to table the Land Acquisition discussed in the Executive Session until more definitive information was made available.

Adjournment

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to adjourn.

Approval

These minutes were approved at the Town Council meeting held on May 11, 2015.

Very Respectfully submitted,
James C. ("Sam") Garde,
Secretary of the Town Council