In Re:

1. To receive public comment and discuss the proposed Town Government portion of the budget as prepared by the Board of Finance in and for said Town for the ensuing fiscal year, July 1, 2012 to and including June 30, 2013, no vote shall be taken;

2. To receive public comment and discuss the proposed Board of Education portion of the budget as prepared by the Board of Finance in and for said Town for the ensuing fiscal year, July 1, 2012 to and including June 30, 2013, no vote will be taken;

3. To consider and vote upon the following question: “Shall real estate and non-motor vehicle personal property taxes for property on the October 1, 2011 Grand List be payable in two equal installments due on July 1, 2012 and January 1, 2013, except that motor vehicle property taxes and any property tax not in excess of $100.00 shall be due in a single payment as authorized by Connecticut State Law.”

PRESENT ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN OF NEW MILFORD:

George Buckbee, Town Clerk
Kenneth Taylor, Moderator
Robert Driscoll and Marcel Grenier, Registrars of Voters
Eleanor Florio and Barbara Payne, Deputy Registrars of Voters
Kathleen Conway, Tax Assessor
Patricia Murphy, Mayor
Raymond Jankowski, Director of Finance
D. Randall DiBella, Town Attorney

WHEREUPON, the meeting convened at 8:00 p.m.

Mr. Buckbee: Please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance please.

{Everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance in unison.}

Mr. Buckbee: Thank you. Now, we’ll attend to business of the evening. First, I will accept nominations for a Moderator. Mr. Lewin?

Jay Lewin: Move the appointment of Ken Taylor as Moderator for this evening’s meeting.
Mr. Buckbee: Do I have a second?

Female public member: Second.

Mr. Buckbee: Okay. Do I hear any other nominations? Do I hear any other nominations? Can’t even say it fast. Or any other...

Jay Lewin: Move the nominations be closed.

Mr. Buckbee: I have a motion—nominations be closed and Mr. Driscoll agrees.

Robert Driscoll: Second.

Mr. Buckbee: All those in favor of closing the nominations, say, “Aye”.

The Public: Aye.

Mr. Buckbee: Those opposed—Nay?

The Public: (No opposition.)

Mr. Buckbee: All those in favor of Mr. Taylor as the Moderator, please say, “Aye”.

The Public: Aye.

Mr. Buckbee: Opposed—Nay?

The Public: (No opposition.)

Mr. Buckbee: Moved and so ordered. Thank you. Mr. Taylor, it’s all yours.

Mr. Taylor: Good evening Ladies and Gentlemen. I just realized, all these years of being the Moderator—of being elected the Moderator, I never get the gavel from George.

{Laughter}

Mr. Taylor: This evening is the Annual Town Budget Meeting convened pursuant to Section 502 and 707 of the Town Charter to discuss the Town and Education Budgets. I will be giving you some of the rules of conduct of this Town Meeting. There will be no vote tonight with regard to Resolutions One and Two before this Town Meeting. At the conclusion of the discussion about the Town and Education Budgets, there may be a vote and if an appropriate motion is made pursuant to Section 707 of the Charter concerning the number of tax installments and dates of collection. Those eligible to speak and vote, in accordance with section seven dash six (7-6) of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, must be an
elector of the Town or a citizen of the United States of America of the age of eighteen (18) years or more who jointly or severally was liable to the Town for taxes assessed against him or her based on an assessment of not less than one thousand dollars ($1,000.00) on the last completed Grand List of the Town or who would have been so liable if not entitled to an exemption under sub-sections 17, 19, 22, 23, 25 or 26 of Section 12-81 unless restricted by any provision of any special act.

I would like to recognize our Registrars of Voters who, along with the Tax Assessor, determine eligibility to vote—Robert Driscoll, Marcel Grenier, Barbara Payne, Eleanor Florio. Our Tax Assessor, Kathy Conway is here. Thank you all for coming.

I would like to recognize our head table. Our fine Town Clerk, George Buckbee, and our transcriber, Amy LaValle (Holding). Thank you for being here today.

This meeting tonight will be run in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order, revised, 10th Edition. This is not technically a forum for questions and answers and any question must be asked through the Moderator, myself. If someone who wishes to speak would like to respond to a previously posed question, that is that person's right. These rules are designed to maintain a fair and orderly meeting. If you desire to speak, you must come to the podium to my left and your right. State your name and address clearly please. Except for those town officials who will speak, we're going to have a rough time limit but there's not that many people here tonight, so I don't think there should be any issue as far as timing and people speaking all that long. I would remind everyone that different positions are welcome and expected. Personal attacks and inappropriate comments will be ruled out of order. Pursuant to 7-1 of the Connecticut General Statutes, only those items that have been properly warned may be discussed and motions pursuant to Section 707 of the Charter voted on at tonight's Town Meeting.

I would now ask the Town Clerk to read tonight's, uh, Legal Notice for this meeting.

Mr. Buckbee:

Warning
Annual Town Budget Meeting
Tuesday, May 8, 2012

The electors of the Town of New Milford and those qualified to vote in the Town Meeting are hereby Warned and Notified that the Annual Town Budget Meeting will be held in the E. Paul Martin Room at the Town Hall, 10 Main Street in said Town of New Milford, Tuesday, May 8, 2012, at 8:00 p.m. to consider and act (as appropriate) upon the following agenda:
1) To receive public comment and discuss the proposed Town Government portion of the budget as prepared by the Board of Finance in and for said Town for the ensuing fiscal year, July 1, 2012 to and including June 30, 2013, no vote shall be taken;

2) To receive public comment and discuss the proposed Board of Education portion of the budget as prepared by the Board of Finance in and for said Town for the ensuing fiscal year, July 1, 2012 to and including June 30, 2013, no vote will be taken;

3) To consider and vote upon the following question: “Shall real estate and non-motor vehicle personal property taxes for property on the October 1, 2011 Grand List be payable in two equal installments due on July 1, 2012 and January 1, 2013, except that motor vehicle property taxes and any property tax not in excess of $100.00 shall be due in a single payment as authorized by Connecticut State Law.”

Dated at New Milford, Connecticut this 23rd day of April, 2012.

Patricia Murphy, Mayor

Mr. Taylor:

Thank you Mr. Buckbee. I have in front of me a Return of Posting and Publication of the Warning of the 2012 Annual Town Budget Meeting. It states:

I, Patricia Murphy, Mayor of the Town of New Milford, Connecticut, hereby certify that I caused a copy of the above Warning to be posted on the Town signpost on April 24, 2012 and that I caused a copy of said Warning to be published in the Greater New Milford Spectrum, a newspaper having a general circulation in said Town of New Milford, in its issue of Friday, April 27, 2012. Signed by Patricia Murphy, Mayor. Received for record on the 8th day of May, 2012.

This will become part of tonight’s record. Attached to that Return of Posting and Publication is a copy of the Affidavit from the New Milford Spectrum with a copy of the Warning showing that it was indeed published. I also have a copy of the minutes of the March 6, 2012 Town Council meeting where it was moved and authorized by the Town Council, by a majority vote, to schedule and hold the Annual Town Budget Meeting. That document is seven pages in length and will become part of tonight’s record. I also have a letter from the Board of Finance, dated May 3, 2012, addressed to Mr. George Buckbee, Town Clerk, 10 Main Street, New Milford. It says:

Dear George:

On April 11, 2012, the Board of Finance voted to send the Town Government budget of $34,959,953 for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012 and ending June 30, 2013 to a Town Meeting. On April 11, 2012, the Board of Finance voted to send the Board of Education budget of $57,557,533 for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012 and ending June 30, 2013 to a Town Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Joanne Chapin
Chairman, Board of Finance

Finally, there is a letter dated April 26, 2012 from the Office of the Mayor to the Town Clerk indicating the appropriate passage and Warning for the Special Town Meeting scheduled for today, May 8, 2012, and it is signed Marla Scribner, Executive Secretary to the Mayor. That all shall become part of tonight’s record.

Town of New Milford Annual Town Budget Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, May 8, 2012—Page 4
All of our notices and affidavits appear to be in order and I would ask the Town Clerk to read Resolution No. 1, unless someone would like to waive the reading of Resolutions No. 1.

Jay Lewin: So moved Mr. Taylor

Mr. Taylor: There's a motion to waive the reading of Resolution No. 1. Is there a second?

Ray Jankowski: Second.

Mr. Taylor: All those in favor of waiving the reading of the Resolution, signify by saying, "Aye".

The Public: Aye.

Mr. Taylor: Opposed?

The Public: (No opposition.)

Mr. Taylor: The motion carries. Thank you very much. Um, I would also ask the Town Clerk to read Resolution No. 2—because we'll discuss these both together, unless there is a motion to wave the reading of Resolution No. 2.

Jay Lewin: So moved Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Taylor: Is there a second?

Ray Jankowski: Second.

Mr. Taylor: All those in favor of waiving the reading of Resolution No. 2, signify by saying, "Aye".

The Public: Aye.

Mr. Taylor: Opposed?

The Public: (No opposition.)

Mr. Taylor: The motion carries. Thank you very much. I would now ask anyone that would like to discuss either the Town or Education portions of the Budget please raise your hand and come forward and you will have the right to speak about the Budgets. Try not to all rush at once, I don't want to have any problem here.

Mayor Murphy: I'm gonna go. I was gonna go last. But, uh.

Mr. Buckbee: You may be.

Mr. Taylor: You might.
Mayor Murphy: Be first and last. Pat Murphy, 105 Chapin Road. Um, first, I want to say that the Board of Ed has a meeting this evening and that’s why, um, they couldn’t be here. Uh, they are usually here regularly, every single time we have a Town Meeting. I don’t remember the last time they weren’t all present. But, uh, they are doing what they were elected to do. So, I will include them in my support of the Budget. I think that, uh, all of the departments that worked on the Budget this year did a great job starting with the Board of Ed and all the departments that they had. And, on the Town side, uh, through my office to the Town Council and the Board of Finance hearings and then on to, uh, the Board of Finance. Uh, during those times, a lot of people are fairly passionate and make comments and things. But, I think, uh, usually it’s, uh, all with a quest—the all-around quest to try and provide the best budget possible to the community. So, uh, often times, people will say something and when it’s printed, it doesn’t come out as they really meant it. But, all in all, in the end, I think that we have a very fair budget, um, I would ask people to support the Budget. I thought that since everyone doesn’t always have the time to review everything in the Town Budget or the Board of Ed Budget, I will do a quick overview for some of the things that don’t command the most attention. Um, so, I roughed out a couple of notes that probably people don’t always, uh, pay as much attention to. But, with regard to emergency response, we have a lot of really wonderful, uh, volunteers. You call, they come. There’s never a question. One of the things with community volunteers that we have in our Budget is about $500,000 goes directly to the firehouses to help with equipment and purchases of, uh, things to run those organizations which is a far cry less than what it would cost if we were paying for all those people and personnel. So, that’s a big savings. But, uh, still, that $500,000 is in our Budget. We have a volunteer ambulance corps who, uh, in this Budget, there is $55,000 for them, but they also offset the cost of the building that they’re in by paying on the Bond debt for that building. So, that’s an advantage to the taxpayers here in New Milford. And, um, really quite incredible for a group of volunteers to be maintained. The cost of a paramedic which, as you know, we share with other towns, is $183,000 in our Budget, plus. Those are just some of the examples of where people think it’s just volunteers, it’s free. They are volunteer personnel, but it’s not free, but they really are providing the community a service and a savings. Some of the partners we don’t always see or go directly to that page in the Budget would be the dog pound. We share the dog pound with five (5) other communities. Our share is $120,000 plus. Um, another partner in the community would be the Children’s Center. $79,500 for the Children’s Center to help provide a really good, uh, I don’t want to use the word just daycare, because it’s almost like a school, learning experience for some of the young children in our community on a sliding scale. The VNA, another community partner that provides a great service to our community. We help offset their budget with $76,000. The Candlewood Lake Authority to help maintain and improve, uh, Candlewood Lake—the health of the Lake—$60,500. Lake Lillinonah Authority $24,000 is included in this Budget. Something that we kind of take for granted that we don’t remember as we’re driving down the road are street lights. We’ve got $13,000 for street lights that the Town pays for. Going forward for the next
twenty (20) years, we have fire hydrants in this Budget for $95,000. I bet you don’t think of that when you’re driving by a fire hydrant—$95,000. Um, we pay over $10,000 a year to replace signs that seem to disappear depending on, uh, how nice the weather is here and in some of the surrounding communities. So, uh, those are some of the little things in the Budget that you might not, uh, notice right away. Some of the other bigger things that I wanted to point out is the Library. We have a great library. It has a great staff. They are open for the convenience of the public most of the time. That’s a million dollars—the Library, as we have it right now. Well worth the investment, but still, an expense. In the Richmond Center, we have, uh, Social Services and the Senior Center. People say that—it rolls off their tongue—what does that mean? We have social worker counselors, uh, certified counselors up there that provide help to the community. Three, counting Peg, and a clerical support and a whole ton of volunteers. One of the nice things about New Milford is it seems that when people need a little assistance from Social Services at a rough patch in their life that they go there and they get it and then they turn into volunteers. So, we have a really good, uh, volunteer program up there. The Senior Center, same thing. We have senior counselors that help the seniors with their taxes, uh, medical, prescriptions, just somebody to talk to, programs, um, we have a bus, medical service which has a nutrition program, an exercise—if you really want to have fun, you want to go to the Senior Center. I know that probably sounds funny to anybody under 50, but, if you’re over there, it’s really a good time. And, um, people don’t give you up if you’re hiding out.

{Laughter}

So, uh, uh, one of the other, uh, programs that we run—the youth counselors for the, uh, Youth Agency where they help troubled youth, uh, youth that have maybe had an unexpected pregnancy, youth that have had problems obeying the rules, um, work—it’s almost like work programs, but, uh, they’re out now this year rebuilding bridges and trails in the community and they have a partnership with the Police Department, to try to come up with programs on how to keep kids on the straight and narrow and they also oversee The Maxx which is another Teen Center Facility for any kind of programs or dances or things like that. Over here on Bridge Street, we have the Parks & Rec Commission which maintains the—about, I think we have about 14 Town parks now—and they have their park maintainers, their programs—you can go to Broadway, you can go to Lynn Deming and go swimming, they have summer programs which provide, uh, jobs for our youth and also all day things to do for, uh, all the kids. I know my children, uh, enjoyed the summer program with Parks & Rec as did, uh, probably most of the kids in Town because it—it really is a fabulous, uh, thing to have in a community. Because not everybody has those kinds of programs—a Parks & Rec. Um, one of the other big departments for around $4 million or more plus grants, um, would be the Department of Public Works which is not just, uh, truck drivers. We have the snowplow people, we have the people that work on pothole filling, curb repair and drainage, we have welders, mechanics, office management, engineers, data entry, vehicle maintenance, all the building maintenance that’s done, and, uh, it’s, you know, it’s not an easy job and I think they do a great job

Town of New Milford Annual Town Budget Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, May 8, 2012—Page 7
for the community. We have, uh, twenty four seven (24/7) police and dispatch. Twenty four seven (24/7). That’s about $4,600,000 a year. Twenty four seven (24/7). So, whenever you need anybody, you can get people, that’s what they’re there for. They respond. They have a good record. They’re very dedicated. But, they also have records and admin support, committed staff which is really doing remarkable things up there. They just put in a new dispatch center. Um, which is going to be the base for a new communications program so that—are going to make it safer for our volunteers and our emergency responders and the public which is really why they are here. They are here to serve the public and they do a great job. Another building that we support filled with different departments is the Town Hall. The Clerk’s Office where you get everything from, you know, your birth certificate to your death certificate and everything in between. Um, we have records there from when New Milford was first established. George and his, uh, people do a really great job there. We have Land Use, Zoning, Wetlands, ZBA, Planning, EDC, the Registrar is down there. We have the Health Department, the Finance Department, Personnel, Fire Marshal, Building Department, Probate, Tax Assessor, Tax Collector, my office, all here in this building. We have, depending on the season, between 175 and 250 personnel that work for just the Town. Another 600+ to 700 on the Board of Ed side. All here working for the public as a public servant and that’s what they do here. Now, yesterday, somebody mentioned to me that on the Town side, which is the only side I really know a lot of the detail on, we have probably a million and a half or a little more increases in personnel since 2005 or so—that’s pay increases. So, a quick calculation gives you about $260,000 a year on increases with personnel which are mostly dictated by negotiated contracts or requirements. That’s a quick number without taking out any of the, uh, offsetting revenues that may be, uh, like with, uh, the latchkey program award, the summer programs, those are still increases in cost of personnel but there are revenues that offset those. We have quite a few of those. Um, but when you think about 175-250 personnel over a six-year period, in today’s numbers, while it’s a big number to most of us individually for a community the size of New Milford with the services that we provide, and in the State of Connecticut where we do have a lot of regulated, um, programs and personnel support requirements provided by employers, I think that it is well within the realm of reason, although it would be nice to have increases, the cost of living goes up everywhere. So, in most cases, we are mandated to provide certain services and in some cases we do things because we think we should. Um, almost all the services in Town require people, um, there’s not too many things that I think I’ve outlined that we provide to the public that doesn’t need a person to do it and so I would, uh, respectfully request the support of the people of the Town of New Milford for the Town and Board of Ed Budget for this year. So, thank you very much.

Mr. Taylor:  Thank you Madam Mayor. Yes sir, Mr. Crawford.

Ray Crawford:  My name is Ray Crawford. I live at 90 Lake Drive, New Milford. I had time to look at this Budget. I tried to crunch some numbers and to the best of my ability, I come to the conclusion—to the best of my ability with my opinion only—that this is a good, fair and balanced Budget. But, that’s not really what’s important here
tonight. What’s important is not my opinion, but there’s a lot of talented people in the Town of New Milford who put a lot of time and effort in constructing that Budget. A lot of talented people and a Budget is not for today. A Budget is really not for today or maybe tomorrow. This Budget is for the future of New Milford. It’s a pathway to other future Budgets and a pathway to the future and the safety of New Milford. That’s all I have to say.

*Mr. Taylor:* Thank you sir. Are there any other comments about the Education or the Town Budget?

*Mayor Murphy:* I think I have one more.

*Mr. Taylor:* Oh okay.

*Laughter*  

*Mayor Murphy:* I did want to say that, um, the overall spending increase was 0.96, uh, with regard to the entire Budget.

*Mr. Taylor:* Thank you.

*Mayor Murphy:* Thank you.

*Mr. Taylor:* Any further comments? Any further comments? Don’t be shy. Alright, looks like we’re done with any discussion concerning the Town or Education Budgets. I would ask that the, uh, Town Clerk read Resolution No. 3 please.

*Mr. Buckbee:* RESOLVED that the Town of New Milford real estate and non-motor vehicle personal property taxes for property on the October 1, 2010 Grand List be payable in two equal installments due on July 1, 2012 and January 1, 2013, except the motor vehicle property taxes and any property tax not in excess of $100.00 shall be due in a single payment as authorized by Connecticut Law.

I move the adoption.

*Mr. Taylor:* Is there a second to that motion?

*Jay Lewin:* Second.

*Mr. Taylor:* Is there any discussion concerning the motion?

*None voiced*  

*Mr. Taylor:* It’s very surprising. It usually generates a lot of discussion at these meetings. Is there a motion to close the discussion?

*Jay Lewin:* So moved.
Mr. Taylor: Is there a second? Mr. Driscoll.

Robert Driscoll: Second.

Mr. Taylor: All in favor of closing discussion concerning Resolution No. 3, signify by saying, “Aye”.

The Public: Aye.

Mr. Taylor: Opposed?

The Public: (No opposition.)

Mr. Taylor: Motion carries. All those in favor of Resolution No. 3, signify by saying, “Aye”.

The Public: Aye.

Mr. Taylor: Opposed?

The Public: (No opposition.)

Mr. Taylor: Motion carries and is adopted. Thank you very much ladies and gentlemen. There being no further business warned for this meeting, it would be appropriate to have a Motion to Adjourn.

Jay Lewin: Motion to Adjourn.

Robert Driscoll: Second.

Mr. Taylor: Which has been seconded. All in favor, signify by saying, “Aye”.

The Public: Aye.

Mr. Taylor: Opposed?

The Public: (No opposition.)

Mr. Taylor: Motion carries. Thank you very much for coming. The meeting is adjourned. Have a safe drive home.
WHEREUPON this meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

WHEREUPON the following documents are incorporated into these Minutes: Warning dated April 23, 2012; Return of Posting and Publication of Warning of 2012 Annual Town Budget Meeting dated May 8, 2012; Affidavit of Publication dated April 27, 2012; Letter from Marla Scribner, Executive Secretary to the Mayor, to Mr. Kenneth Taylor, dated May 7, 2012; Letter from Marla Scribner, Executive Secretary to the Mayor, to George Buckbee, Town Clerk, dated April 26, 2012; Letter from Marla Scribner, Executive Secretary to the Mayor, to Amy LaValle, recording secretary, dated May 2, 2012; Letter from Joanne Chapin, Chairman, Board of Finance, to George Buckbee, Town Clerk, dated May 3, 2012; and, Annual Town Budget Meeting Resolution.

CERTIFICATION

I, Amy (LaValle) Holding, Notary Public in and for the State of Connecticut, and competent authority, do hereby certify and notarize that the foregoing Minutes are a true and accurate transcript of the tape of the comments that were made in the above-entitled matter heard before the Annual Town Budget Meeting for the Town of New Milford on May 8, 2012 in the E. Paul Martin Room at the Town Hall, 10 Main Street, New Milford, Connecticut, at 8:00 p.m.

Amy (LaValle) Holding
Notary Public/State of Connecticut

Town of New Milford Annual Town Budget Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, May 8, 2012—Page 11
TOWN OF NEW MILFORD

WARNING

ANNUAL TOWN BUDGET MEETING

Tuesday May 8, 2012

The electors of the Town of New Milford and those qualified to vote in Town Meetings are hereby WARNED AND NOTIFIED that the Annual Town Budget Meeting will be held in the E. Paul Martin Room at the Town Hall, 10 Main Street in said Town of New Milford, on Tuesday; May 8, 2012, at 8:00 p.m., to consider and act (as appropriate) upon the following agenda:

1. To receive public comment and discuss the proposed Town Government portion of the budget as prepared by the Board of Finance in and for said Town for the ensuing fiscal year, July 1, 2012 to and including June 30, 2013, no vote shall be taken;

2. To receive public comment and discuss the proposed Board of Education portion of the budget as prepared by the Board of Finance in and for said Town for the ensuing fiscal year, July 1, 2012 to and including June 30, 2013, no vote shall be taken;

3. To consider and vote upon the following question: “Shall real estate and non-motor vehicle personal property taxes for property on the October 1, 2011 Grand List be payable in two equal installments due on July 1, 2012 and January 1, 2013, except that motor vehicle property taxes and any property tax not in excess of $100.00 shall be due in a single payment as authorized by Connecticut State Law”

Dated at New Milford, this 23rd day of April, 2012

Patricia Murphy, Mayor
RETURN OF POSTING AND PUBLICATION
OF WARNING OF 2012 ANNUAL TOWN BUDGET MEETING

I, Patricia Murphy, Mayor of the Town of New Milford, Connecticut, hereby certify that I caused a copy of the above Warning to be posted on the town signpost on April 24, 2012 and that I caused a copy of said warning to be published in the Greater New Milford Spectrum, a newspaper having a general circulation in said Town of New Milford, in its issue of Friday, April 27, 2012.

[Signature]
Patricia Murphy, Mayor

Received for Record this
8th day of May, 2012
## Order Confirmation

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### Ad Content Proof

**WARNING**

ANNUAL TOWN BUDGET MEETING
Tuesday May 8, 2012

The selectmen of the Town of New Milford and the
Town Meetings are hereby WARNED AND NOTED:
Town Budget Meeting will be held in the E. Paul
Town Hall, 10 Main Street in said Town of New Milford.

At 8:00 p.m., to consider and act upon the following agenda:

1. To receive public comment and discuss the proposed portion of the budget as prepared by the Board of Selectmen for the ensuing fiscal year, July 1, 2012, to June 30, 2013, no vote shall be taken.

2. To receive public comment and discuss the proposed portion of the budget as prepared by the Board of Selectmen for the ensuing fiscal year, July 1, 2012, to June 30, 2013, no vote shall be taken.

3. To consider and vote upon the following questions and proposals for non-motor vehicle personal property taxes for the years 2012 and 2013, except that motor vehicles and any property tax not in excess of $100.00 shall be considered as authorized by Connecticut State Law.

Dated at New Milford, this 23rd day of April, 2012.

Patricia Murphy, Mayor

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### Confirmation of Publication

**WARNING** ANNUAL TOWN BUDGET MEETING Tuesday May 8, 2012 The electors of the Town of New Milford and the Town Meetings are hereby WARNED AND NOTED: Town Budget Meeting will be held in the E. Paul Town Hall, 10 Main Street in said Town of New Milford, at 8:00 p.m., to consider and act upon the following agenda:

1. To receive public comment and discuss the proposed portion of the budget as prepared by the Board of Selectmen for the ensuing fiscal year, July 1, 2012, to June 30, 2013, no vote shall be taken.

2. To receive public comment and discuss the proposed portion of the budget as prepared by the Board of Selectmen for the ensuing fiscal year, July 1, 2012, to June 30, 2013, no vote shall be taken.

3. To consider and vote upon the following questions and proposals for non-motor vehicle personal property taxes for the years 2012 and 2013, except that motor vehicles and any property tax not in excess of $100.00 shall be considered as authorized by Connecticut State Law.

Dated at New Milford, this 23rd day of April, 2012.

Patricia Murphy, Mayor

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**4/24/2012 2:15:54PM**
LEGAL NOTICE / REFERENDUM
ANNUAL TOWN BUDGET
May 15, 2012

To the electors and persons eligible to vote at town meetings in the Town of New Milford:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Town Council of the Town of New Milford, pursuant to Section 7-172 of the Connecticut General Statutes, has submitted the vote on the annual Town Budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012, and ending June 30, 2013, to be submitted to a referendum on the following Tuesday month, May 8, 2012, at the polling places designated below, and in the form of the following questions:

1. Shall the sum of $34,995,353.00 be appropriated as the annual town government budget for the 2012-2013 fiscal year?

2. Shall the sum of $27,251,000.00 be appropriated as the annual Board of Education budget for the 2012-2013 fiscal year?

3. Advisory only, if the budget is defeated, do you wish to see the amount of $34,995,353.00 appropriated for general town government increased?

4. Advisory only, if the budget is defeated, do you wish to see the amount of $27,251,000.00 appropriated for education increased?

The hours of voting on said referendum and the polls eligible to vote will be as follows:

Hours of Voting: 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

 Voting District and Location of Polling Places:

District 1: Northville School, Higby Road
District 2: Catherine E. Lillis Building, East Street
District 3: Pettibone School, Main Street
District 4: Gaylordville Fire House, Kent Road
District 5: Schaghticoke School, Higby Road
District 6: Hill & Plain School, Old Town Park Road
District 7: Sarah Noble School, Sunny Valley Road

Taxpayers will vote at Catherine E. Lillis Building at 50 East Street.

The 2012-2013 proposed budget will be on public display at Town Hall, 10 Main Street, New Milford, CT 06776. The posting will be from April 6, 2012, at 8:00 p.m. to consider (at appropriate) the following:

1. To receive public comment and discuss the proposed Town Government portion of the budget as prepared by the Board of Finance for said Town for the ensuing fiscal year, July 1, 2012, to and including June 30, 2013, no vote shall be taken.

2. To receive public comment and discuss the proposed Board of Education portion of the budget as prepared by the Board of Finance in and for said Town for the ensuing fiscal year, July 1, 2012, to and including June 30, 2013, no vote shall be taken.

3. To consider and vote upon the following question: "Shall real estate and non-motor vehicle personal property taxes for property on the October 1, 2011 Grand List be payable in two equal installments due on July 1, 2012 and January 1, 2013, except that motor vehicle property taxes and any property tax in excess of $120.00 shall be due in a single payment as authorized by Connecticut State Law?"

Dated at New Milford, Connecticut, this 23rd day of May, 2012

Patricia Murphy, Mayor

LEGAL NOTICE
At the Regular Meeting of the New Milford Board of Education, held on April 18, 2012, the following decision(s) were made: Open meeting held on April 18, 2012, at 7:16 p.m.

ATTENTION STUDENTS:

$17.25 base/sem, flex schedules, sales/evc, all ages 17+, conditions

SALON DE ROY
68 Main Street, New Milford

DOGS GROOMING - Established Danbury Dog Grooming shop, looking for an experienced Groomer. Call 203-792-4876

ELECTRONIC ASSEMBLERS With Basic Math Skills and a 9-5 Day Schedule

DOUGLAS FUNK - Services for both home and business

GENERAL HELP WANTED

WANTED - Skilled carpenter. Call Scott 340-5678

We are a small firm looking for someone to join our team.

Please submit your resume to: mdouglas@newmilford.net

The New Milford Spectrum is the voice of the Greater New Milford Community.

485-9222

WWW.NEWMILFORD.COM

SPECTRUM | Friday, April 27, 2012

THE GREAT MILFORD SP

PUBLIC NOTICES

DIRECTIONAL SPECIALIST

This position is responsible for implementing an effective program of directional advertising campaigns for Hearst Media Services-Connecticut. The key position in our digital sales department will work closely with remote sales teams and customers to ensure client satisfaction with our digital advertising and sales revenue. We are a media-driven company and our priorities are to grow revenues and meet current expectations. The position is critical to our present and future success and requires strong digital and advertising orientation, ability to multi-task in a fast-paced environment and be able to pick up the computer routines. If you have experience in sales, this could be the job for you! A strong understanding of research related marketing is preferred.

We offer competitive benefits including paid vacation, medical, dental, vision and 401K with match.

Send resumes to: PUNCEL@newmilford.com and reference Digital Retention in the subject line.

DIRECT CARE RELIEF - Per Diem.

Looking for three individuals needed to provide companionship, supervision, life skills training, orientation, transportation and recreational opportunities to individuals with minimal health issues in the Danbury area. Knowledge of or experience with people of all ages and abilities preferred. School diploma or GED required. Valid CT driver's license and dependable transportation needed. Salary: $14.00 an hour. Send resume by May 4th to CHM/ADH-CT, 50 Main St, Danbury, CT 06810. Attn: Carina Almeida AA/EEO/MF

MANUFACTURING/SKILLED TRADES JOBS!

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 Monster Match assigns a professional to hand-match each job seeker with each employer.

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Simply create your profile by phone at 845-382-6200.

SALON DE ROY
68 Main Street, New Milford

Deliver & Store a package to the person named on a job order at the time agreed on by both parties.

To apply, email your resume to: mdouglas@newmilford.net

Position is open Monday - Friday. Experience in the salon business preferred.

Please submit your resume to: mdouglas@newmilford.net

THE GREAT MILFORD SP
May 7, 2012

Mr. Kenneth Taylor  
2012-2013 Town Budget Meeting Moderator  
10 Main Street  
New Milford, CT 06776

Dear Ken,

At the March 6, 2012 Town Council 2012-2013 Budget Deliberations, the following motion was passed:

Mr. O'Brien moved the Town Council authorize and direct the Mayor to warn and convene a Special Town Meeting on May 8, 2012 for a public hearing on the budget and authorize and direct the Mayor to hold a referendum on May 15, 2012 at the usual polling places and the usual hours of 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. for voting purposes. The motion was seconded by Ms. Buck-Taylor and carried unanimously.

Present at this meeting were eight of the nine members of the Town Council. They were:

- Peter Bass  
- Cecilia Buck-Taylor  
- Thomas Esposito  
- Joseph Failla  
- Mary Jane Lundgren  
- Peter Mullen  
- Raymond O'Brien  
- Frank Wargo

Town Council member Katherine Francis was absent. I've included a copy of the meeting minutes for your review.

Respectfully,

[Signature]

Marla Scribner  
Executive Secretary to the Mayor

cc: George C. Buckbee, Town Clerk
NEW MILFORD TOWN COUNCIL
BUDGET DELIBERATIONS
MINUTES
MARCH 6, 2012

Members
Present: Mayor Patricia Murphy
            Peter Bass
            Cecilia Buck-Taylor
            Thomas Esposito
            Joseph Failla
            Mary Jane Lundgren
            Peter Mullen
            Raymond O’Brien
            Frank Wargo

Absent: Katy Francis

Others
Present: Tammy Reardon, Mayoral Aide
        Raymond Jankowski, Director of Finance

1. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
   
   Mayor Murphy brought the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

   The meeting was recessed for 15 minutes.

2. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**
   
   There was no public participation at this time.

3. **BUDGET DELIBERATIONS**
   
   Mr. O'Brien moved the Town Council approve and forward to the Board of Finance the Town budget as amended this evening with the following:

   - Decrease of $75,000 to the Salary/Wage line for the Town Hall and Annex.
   - Decrease of $15,000 to the Youth Agency Personnel salary line.
   - No increase for the Youth Agency Director.
- Elimination of $60,000 for the proposed IT Administrator position.
- Increase of $30,000 for a part-time IT Maintenance Technician for a position of up to but no more than 29 hours and $20 per hour.
- No increase for the IT Director.
- Decrease of $75,000 to the Fringe Benefits line.
- Decrease of $25,000 to the Capital Storm Drainage line.
- Decrease of $5,000 to the Economic Development Commission Development Account.
- Increase of $1,000 to the Housatonic Mental Health Council.
- Decrease of $5,000 for barn removal.

Authorize the Director of Finance to make the necessary changes to the fringe benefits line.

Authorize Mayor Murphy to make the personnel salary line cuts as she determines to be fit.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Bass.

Mr. O'Brien noted that it is difficult to make these changes since the Town budget is starting out with $121,000 less than the current year's budget. The proposed changed would reduce that even further by about $250,000. However, the taxpayers are hurting and it needs to be done. He noted a 3.25% tax increase is just not acceptable in these economic times. He stated the $75,000 from the salary line in the Fringe account should be either from the Town Hall or the Annex. It would eliminate two positions and one Youth Agency position at $15,000.

He noted that personnel are one cost that keeps going up every year including benefits.

Dr. Mullen asked for clarification of some numbers.

It was noted the Fringe account has $220,000 in it. Mayor Murphy stated there are still unsettled contracts in town and the Police Department contract just went to arbitration. Some of this funding is to be designated to cover back wages.

Mrs. Lundgren moved to amend the motion to include $16,381 to the Social Services budget. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wargo.
Mrs. Lundgren stated the people having a hard time paying their taxes are the ones that are utilizing Social Services and that department needs more help. This department provides critical services that are very necessary right now.

Brief discussion ensued as members determined whether the amount proposed by Mrs. Lundgren was already in the budget. Mayor Murphy noted $10,623 was not in the budget proposal. This included hour increases totaling 9 hours for two positions.

Mr. Wargo supported Mrs. Lundgren’s amendment to the motion but not the motion made by Mr. O’Brien. He did not think it was fair to the employees as their jobs would still need to be done. He did not think there should be any more cuts. He felt this would make the Town employees not to care about doing their jobs. He supported the budget proposal the Mayor brought forth, but not more cuts.

Mr. Bass and Mr. Failla both asked clarification questions.

Mr. Esposito stated he would support Mrs. Lundgren’s amendment with the proviso that another place would be found to make a cut to offset the monies included in the Social Services line. He gave several examples of different lines that could be cut such as the barn removal and the sidewalk line.

Mr. O’Brien supported the intent of the amendment to the motion and felt there was enough in the fringe line to cover the amount. He did not feel the need to make a motion to increase the line. The increase should be approved by the Mayor and incorporated into the budget and taken from the salary/wage line.

Dr. Mullen noted that for the past four or five years there have been revenues above what was budgeted for. He felt the town should be more accurate with that line.

He then asked about the constable line. He was told that line is used for private duty police. It starts out with $50,000 and is a wash every year. The money paid out of it is paid back by the entities contracting the services. This money is paid from the payroll line in the Police Department. The incoming monies go into the Constable Revenue line.

He went over a few lines where money could be found including utilities, Town Clerk office, and Police Department. He felt there are revenue monies that could be bumped up as well as spending that could be decreased.

Dr. Mullen expressed his displeasure with removing the IT Administrator line. He felt the proposed position is very much needed.
Mrs. Lundgren felt the amount was small and would not have a big affect. Clarification of the amount again ensued. Mrs. Lundgren thought it might still be $16,381 but it was determined that it was the $10,623 amount.

Mayor Murphy stated the amount in the book is the correct amount. She would agree to take that money out of the fringe account.

She noted that purchasing agent calls every day to give updates regarding utilities. However, the town must budget for current prices and not what might happen in the future.

Mrs. Lundgren changed the amount in her amendment to $10,623 and Dr. Mullen seconded the change. The amendment carried with a 7-1 vote. Mr. Wargo, Dr. Mullen, Ms. Buck-Taylor, Mrs. Lundgren, Mr. Esposito, Mr. Failla, and Mr. Bass voted in favor of the motion. Mr. O'Brien voted against the motion.

Mr. O'Brien moved that the amended motion be amended further to reflect that that the $10,623 be taken from the Fringe account and would have no net affect on his original amended motion. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bass and carried unanimously.

Dr. Mullen stated that every year the Town Council does their due diligence and no one takes the process lightly. He understands that times are tough, but he could not support cutting jobs, cutting expenses and then say they are doing the best for the town. He did not think it would be a good thing to cut the IT Administrator position that was proposed. The town has a lot of computer based functions and one person cannot handle all of this. He understood there could be some town hall jobs that could be eliminated. He felt there were lines that, with money that was left over last year, could fund this much needed position. He supported the proposed IT Administrator position.

Mr. Bass expressed his concerns for the lack of growth in the grand list and tapping into the medical reserve account. He noted that expenditures go up each year and revenues are either going down or staying flat. The taxpayer cannot further this burden. The only option is to grow the commercial sector. Since that is not happening, the budget must be cut to keep the town afloat. He gave kudos to the Mayor and Mr. Jankowski in obtaining a .5% borrowing rate. He noted the sewer expansion and new debts are coming online.
He agreed with Dr. Mullen in regards to IT, but he felt that a part time person or two would help alleviate some of the IT Director’s burden. The town can then look at this department again next year.

Mr. O’Brien agreed with Mr. Bass as he is also concerned about revenues and economic growth. He noted the town must “walk before it can run”. He stated the town does not need another full time IT person at this time. The IT department needs some help. When he needs to upgrade the computer systems in town, then another full time Administrator would be necessary.

Brief discussion ensued as members’ again clarified different numbers.

Mr. O’Brien stated he has mixed feelings but supports taking money from the Internal Service Fund and using it to offset medical costs. The town can do that while keeping a 20% stopgap in place. It does no good to the taxpayer to keep the fund building. It is there to be used. Brief discussion ensued on the use of the medical reserve fund to offset medical expenses the previous year. The town can absorb up to $1,750,000 without hurting the fund.

The motion as amended by Mrs. Lundgren carried with a 6-2 vote. Mr. O’Brien, Ms. Buck-Taylor, Mrs. Lundgren, Mr. Esposito, Mr. Failla, and Mr. Bass voted in favor of the motion. Dr. Mullen and Mr. Wargo voted against the motion.

Mr. O’Brien stated he would like to propose a $250,000 decrease to the amount given to the Board of Education to be comparable with the decreases made to the Town side of the budget. It would leave the Board of Education with $360,000 more than what they are operating with this current year. It would also allow their per pupil cost, which was budgeted at a 4% increase to be slightly less than 4% expenditure. He noted it was not an easy decision. The children are the future but the taxpayers cannot afford it.

Mrs. Lundgren stated she would not support the cut. She noted the education system is failing across the country and internationally it is way down in rank. New Milford also has a very low per pupil expenditure and it is unacceptable. She felt cutting the budget proposal further is a disservice to the children.

Dr. Mullen asked for clarification of numbers. The budget proposal to go forward would be $57,557,533. He stated he would not support the motion. Over the past several years the Board of Education budget has not had an increase at all. He did not agree with decreasing the Board of Education side to offset the Town side.

He also noted that several members of the Town Council also pleaded for the elimination of Pay to Participate. He felt the money cannot be taken away now
when they want that program to be eliminated. New Milford is 154 of 169 in municipalities in regards to per pupil spending. When in the bottom percent, it is not good to cut further.

Mr. Failla agreed he does not want Pay to Participate and noted that by law the Board of Education budget cannot be cut to more than it has had the previous year. He still feels that Pay to Participate is wrong and the town should not be charging students to stay healthy.

However, adjustments must be made as revenues are down. The Town Council owes this to the taxpayers.

Mr. Bass stated he also spoke passionately against Pay to Participate for a number of years. He does not believe in it. However, he also does not think that the Board of Education should have to put it back again next year if times are tough. He doesn’t want to cut anything from anyone, but revenues are not there. Everyone wants what is best for the children, however, the taxpayers cannot afford.

Mr. O’Brien felt the State data regarding education was useful, but the education budget must stand on its own. He noted New Milford is getting substantially less than other municipalities in both State and Federal aid. However, New Milford taxpayers are taking on more than other municipalities because of it. He felt the town should do the best it can for the students.

Mr. Wargo agreed with both Mrs. Lundgren and Dr. Mullen. He stated everything is going up and they are not getting any “extra”. He would support the education budget as proposed by the Mayor.

Dr. Mullen stated the ability to pay is there, but the willingness is not. He noted that some of the highest per pupil spending towns are directly around New Milford and not getting a lot of State or Federal funding.

When asked what the change in the mill rate would be, Mr. Jankowski stated it would increase 2.5%.

Mrs. Lundgren stated the economy is getting better and the town will eventually need to increase taxes. But the town cannot keep cutting the system on the children. A good economy equals good education.

Mr. Esposito again noted revenue shortfalls in town and it will continue if taxes are raised. Businesses and residents alike will see rising taxes and not want to come to town. The town must work to drive revenues and keep a stable tax rate. The cuts are painful for all and he hopes that better years are coming. He noted that New Milford does not have the higher per household income as surrounding towns (Ridgefield, Brookfield, New Fairfield, and Sherman).
He would hope that services could be consolidated as has been done in other towns and to help New Milford find more efficiencies.

Mr. O'Brien moved the Town Council approve and forward to the Board of Finance the Board of Education budget as amended this evening with the reduction of $250,000 so as to be comparable with the decrease to the Town budget; noting that the approved budget would still be $360,000 more than the current approved budget. The motion was seconded by Mr. Failla and carried with a 5-3 vote. Mr. O'Brien, Ms. Buck-Taylor, Mr. Esposito, Mr. Failla, and Mr. Bass voted in favor of the motion. Mr. Wargo, Dr. Mullen and Mrs. Lundgren voted against the motion.

Mr. O'Brien moved the Town Council forward the Town and Board of Education budgets to the Board of Finance no later than the next Tuesday, March 13, 2012 in accordance with the New Milford Town Charter. The motion was seconded by Ms. Buck-Taylor and carried unanimously.

Mr. O'Brien moved the Town Council authorize and direct the Mayor to warn and convene a Special Town Meeting on May 8, 2012 for a public hearing on the budget and authorize and direct the Mayor to hold a referendum on May 15, 2012 at the usual polling places and the usual hours of 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. for voting purposes. The motion was seconded by Ms. Buck-Taylor and carried unanimously.

Ms. Buck-Taylor moved to adjourn at 9:20 p.m. The motion was seconded Mrs. Lundgren and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Judylynn Ferlow
Recording Secretary
/jlf

NEW MILFORD TOWN COUNCIL – BUDGET DELIBERATIONS - MARCH 6, 2012

Page 7 of 7
May 3, 2012

Mr. George Buckbee
Town Clerk
10 Main Street
New Milford, CT 06776

Dear George,

On April 11, 2012 the Board of Finance voted to send the Town Government budget of $34,959,953 for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012 and ending June 30, 2013 to a Town Meeting.

On April 11, 2012 the Board of Finance voted to send the Board of Education budget of $57,557,533 for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2012 and ending June 30, 2013 to a Town Meeting.

Respectfully,

Joanne Chapin
Chairman, Board of Finance
April 26, 2012

Mr. George C. Buckbee
Town Clerk
10 Main Street
New Milford, CT 06776

Dear George,

At the March 6, 2012 Town Council 2012-2013 Budget Deliberations, the following motion was passed:

Mr. O'Brien moved the Town Council authorize and direct the Mayor to warn and convene a Special Town Meeting on May 8, 2012 for a public hearing on the budget and authorize and direct the Mayor to hold a referendum on May 15, 2012 at the usual polling places and the usual hours of 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. for voting purposes. The motion was seconded by Ms. Buck-Taylor and carried unanimously.

Respectfully,

Maria Scribben
Executive Secretary to the Mayor

cc: Registrars of Voters
    Kathleen A. Conway, Tax Assessor
    Tammy Reardon, Aide to the Mayor
    D. Randall DiBella, Town Attorney
    Raymond Jankowski, Director of Finance
May 2, 2012

Amy Lavalle
Ventura, Ribeiro & Smith
235 Main Street
Danbury, CT 06810

Dear Amy,

This letter is to confirm that you have accepted to perform the recording secretarial duties at the Annual Town Budget Meeting on Tuesday, May 8, 2012, commencing at 8:00 p.m. in the E. Paul Martin Room at the New Milford Town Hall. Mr. Ken Taylor will be the moderator.

We have appreciated your efforts in the past and look forward to working with you again. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Marla Scribner
Executive Secretary to the Mayor

cc: George C. Buckbee, Town Clerk
MOTION AND RESOLUTION

ANNUAL TOWN BUDGET MEETING

TOWN OF NEW MILFORD

MOTION:

“That real estate and non-motor vehicle personal property taxes for property on the October 1, 2011 Grand List be payable in two equal installments due on July 1, 2012 and January 1, 2013, except that motor vehicle property taxes and any property tax not in excess of $100.00 shall be due in a single payment as authorized by Connecticut Law”

If motion passes:

RESOLUTION:

IT BEING MOVED SECONDED AND DISCUSSED AND UPON VOTE DULY TAKEN, BE IT

“RESOLVED that Town of New Milford real estate and non-motor vehicle personal property taxes for property on the October 1, 2010 Grand List be payable in two equal installments due on July 1, 2012 and January 1, 2013, except that motor vehicle property taxes and any property tax not in excess of $100.00 shall be due in a single payment as authorized by Connecticut Law”

(As per Charter section 707, the Annual Town Budget Meeting is for discussion only as to the proposed general government and board of education budgets. The annual town meeting also considers and must take action by vote on other “matters that are necessary and appropriate to implement the budget following final referendum approval.” This motion and resolution is required so as to authorize the installment payment of real estate taxes rather than one, lump sum payment. It is standard procedure).