



# Town Council Meeting Minutes



Thursday, May 13, 2021, at 7:00 PM, in the Matthew Thornton Room

## Call to Order

Vice Chair Rothhaus called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm. Present at the meeting were Vice Chair Rothhaus, Councilor Harrington, Councilor Healey, Councilor Murphy, and Town Manager Paul T. Micali. Chairman Koenig and Councilor Woods attended via telephone.

## Pledge of Allegiance

Vice Chair Rothhaus led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## Announcements

### **Upcoming Town Council Meetings:**

- Thursday, May 27, 2021, 7:00 PM, Regular meeting
- Thursday, June 10, 2021, 7:00 PM Regular meeting
- Thursday, June 24, 2021 7:00 PM Regular meeting

The Town Council Retreat/Goal Session is tentatively scheduled for Friday, June 4<sup>th</sup> at Buckley’s Great Steaks located at 438 DW Highway.

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services announced that they will be holding a Town of Merrimack PFAS Public Informational Meeting (as a webinar) on Tuesday, May 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM. More information can be found on the Town’s website: [www.merrimacknh.gov](http://www.merrimacknh.gov).

The Town Clerk’s office reminds dog owners that dog license renewals were due by 4/30/21. Owners who have not yet licensed their dog are urged to do so ASAP. Late charges will begin June 1st and fines are expected to be issued around June 10<sup>th</sup>.

As part of the Town’s 275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration, this Saturday, May 15<sup>th</sup> there will be a 2.75 mile road race which begins at Merrimack Town Hall. Runners will travel up McElwain Street, down O’Gara Drive, turn onto Baboosic Lake Road. They will then turn on to Currier Road to Souhegan Drive and then back up Baboosic Lake Road to end at Town Hall. Roads will remain open during the race. Advanced registration is required, and registration closes at midnight tonight. For questions contact Parks & Recreation at 882-1046 or visit their website.

The town wide resident parking only for the Currier Dr./Wildcat Falls area will begin on May 15<sup>th</sup>. Residents that need to get their placards can do so at the Town Manager’s office at Town Hall. Residents in the area who will be having parties can notify the Police Department and they will be given party placards for the day.

## Comments from the Press and Public

None.

## Recognitions, Resignations and Retirements

None.

Vice Chair Rothhaus moved Item #1 under Old Business up to be discussed and voted on first so that the Town Council vacancy can be filled.

1 **1. Deliberation to Fill the Town Council Vacancy**

2 *Submitted by Town Council Chair Tom Koenig and Vice Chair Finlay Rothhaus*

3 The Town Council to deliberate and elect the individual to fill the vacancy on the Town Council until  
4 the April 2022 election, pursuant to Charter Article 4-5.

5  
6 Vice Chair Rothhaus allowed the present candidates to each speak to the public briefly before deliberation. The  
7 three candidates were Bob L’Heureux, Charles Lafond, and Andy Hunter. Mr. L’Heureux addressed the  
8 public first, sharing his history with Merrimack and its departments. Mr. Hunter then addressed the  
9 public, sharing his background in his career and how his experience could benefit the Council and  
10 residents of Merrimack. Mr. Lafond was not present at the meeting; thus he was unable to address the  
11 public. The Council did not have any questions or comments, therefore Vice Chair Rothhaus  
12 proceeded to nominate all three candidates for appointment, and a vote was called:

13  
14 Councilor Woods voted for Mr. Hunter.

15 Chairman Koenig voted for Mr. Hunter.

16 Councilor Healey voted for Mr. Hunter.

17 Councilor Harrington voted for Mr. Hunter.

18 Councilor Murphy voted for Mr. L’Heureux.

19 Vice Chair Rothhaus voted for Mr. Hunter.

20  
21 After voting, Mr. L’Heureux asked the Council to call a motion to make the votes unanimous.

22  
23 **MOTION made by Chairman Koenig and seconded by Councilor Harrington to appoint Mr.**  
24 **Hunter to fill the vacancy of Town Councilor. MOTION CARRIES 6-0-0**

25  
26 Mr. Hunter was then appointed to the Council and was sworn in immediately at 7:10 pm by Vice Chair  
27 Rothhaus

28  
29 **Appointments**

30 **1. Ratification of Town Council Actions Regarding the Town Manager Position**

31 *Submitted by Town Council Chair Tom Koenig and Vice Chair Finlay Rothhaus*

32 The Town Council to consider the ratification of the appointment of Paul T. Micali as the Town  
33 Manager for the Town of Merrimack.

34  
35 Paul T. Micali was sworn in as Town Manager for the Town of Merrimack by Vice Chair Rothhaus.

36 Mr. Micali thanked the Council for the appointment, as well as his family for their support.

37  
38 *Chairman Koenig left the meeting at 7:25 pm*

39  
40 **2. Annual Review with the Parks and Recreation Committee**

41 *Submitted by Parks and Recreation Committee Chair Laura Jaynes*

42 Per Town of Merrimack Charter Section 6-6, at least annually, there should be an annual  
43 review with the Parks and Recreation Committee. This agenda item is to highlight the  
44 committee’s significant actions, current projects, anticipated actions, and to raise any concerns  
45 the Council should know or could act on.

46  
47 Parks and Recreation Committee Chair Laura Jaynes provided an update for the Committee. She  
48 thanked the Council for the support for the Committee. She shared that the few vacancies they have are  
49 soon to be filled as they have many residents interested in the Committee. The current big project is  
50 Wasserman Park as well as upgrades to the Parks and Recreation office. There will also be a new  
51 waterline being installed at the dog park as well as playground bark mulch and ball pit for the area.

1 Naticook Daycamp will be ready to open on June 21<sup>st</sup> with ongoing registration. They are still looking  
2 to fill positions for lifeguard and swim instructors. Community Clean up day was on April 10<sup>th</sup>, with  
3 over 100 volunteers to clean up Merrimack. The Tennis Court is scheduled to be resurfaced mid-June  
4 once the high school tennis season ends. All the summer movies at Wasserman Park have been  
5 scheduled, as well as concerts at Abbie Griffin Park. The Senior Center remains closed at the time due  
6 to renovations but should be opened this spring. Registrations for youth softball, baseball, and spring  
7 soccer are now open; please visit [www.merrimackyouthassociation.com](http://www.merrimackyouthassociation.com) for more information.  
8

### 9 **Public Hearing**

10 None.

### 11 **Legislative Updates from State Representatives**

12 Greetings, Town Councilors:

13  
14  
15 1.) The following bills ***passed*** through the full House and have recently had Senate Hearings. We are  
16 awaiting the Senate committees' recommendations on:

17  
18 [HB 236](#) (AN ACT creating a statute of limitation on civil actions relative to damage caused by  
19 perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances);

20  
21 [HB 271](#) (An ACT relative to standards for per and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in drinking  
22 water and ambient groundwater);

23  
24 [HB 135](#) (An ACT requiring parties responsible for pollution of a drinking water supply to be  
25 financially responsible for certain consequences of that pollution).  
26

27 2.) The time frame for State Reps to file bills for next year is: September 13, 2021 through  
28 September 17, 2021 at 4 p.m.  
29

30 Thank you for all you do.

31  
32 Respectfully submitted,  
33 Rep. Maureen Mooney (R-Merrimack)  
34

### 35 **Town Manager's Report**

- 36 • The Media Division will be covering 4 school concerts beginning next week. You can watch  
37 Merrimack High School's spring concert this Tuesday, May 18th at 7pm, the Middle School on  
38 June 1st, and JMUES on June 2nd and 3rd. Watch LIVE on Comcast channel 21, streaming  
39 devices, and Merrimack TV.com  
40
- 41 • The LED lighting upgrade project at the Police Department is substantially complete as of  
42 today. The project will save more than 25,000 kWh each year, projecting in annual savings of  
43 more than \$4,000 in savings. The project was subsidized by the NH Saves program through  
44 Eversource resulting in a \$15,800 investment by the Town and a \$13,400 investment by  
45 Eversource. The upgrade is projected to pay for itself in energy and maintenance savings in  
46 less than four years.  
47
- 48 • This year's street sweeping program is underway. Every year, the Public Works Department  
49 sweeps our 180 miles of paved roads to remove buildup of sand and debris from the public  
50 roads, and school and Town parking lots. The program provides aesthetic, safety, and  
51 environmental benefits for the Town and is a required program in our MS4 Permit through

1 EPA. This year’s program began on April 12th, and at this time we are almost 65% complete  
2 with the sweeping operations. You can follow the progress or track when your neighborhood  
3 may be swept by checking on the Town’s website at [https://www.merrimacknh.gov/highway-](https://www.merrimacknh.gov/highway-maintenance)  
4 [maintenance](https://www.merrimacknh.gov/highway-maintenance). Questions on the program can be answered by our Highway Division staff at  
5 423-8551.  
6

- 7 • The Public Works Department is gearing up to begin construction of the roundabout at the  
8 intersection of Turkey Hill Road and Baboosic Lake Road. Following a competitive bidding  
9 process, the Town has selected F.L. Merrill of Loudon, NH to perform the work. The  
10 preconstruction meeting for the project is scheduled for next week and we anticipate  
11 construction starting in June. Details and updates on the project can be found on the Public  
12 Works page on the Town website and on the Public Works Facebook page at  
13 facebook.com/merrimackdpw.  
14

## 15 **Consent Agenda**

16 None.

## 17 **Old Business**

### 18 **2. Updated Covid-19 Guidance – Town of Merrimack 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration**

19 *Submitted by Parks and Recreation Director Matthew Casparius*

20 The Town Council to discuss the latest Covid-19 guidance as it pertains to large scale  
21 community events and whether to proceed with July 4<sup>th</sup> festivities in 2021.  
22

23  
24  
25 Town Manager Paul Micali opened the conversation by stating that Mr. Casparius has been working  
26 diligently to determine what events can and cannot be done this summer based on guidelines from the  
27 Governor’s office. He wanted to reiterate that many individual businesses still require face masks to  
28 enter buildings, including Town Hall. He then shared that Governor Sununu has stated that he wants  
29 the state to be opened up by July, but the town has not received any guidance on this, so they are  
30 awaiting further updates from the Governor on how to proceed.  
31

32 *Councilor Lon Woods left the meeting at 7:45 pm*  
33

34 Parks and Recreation Director Matthew Casparius shared that he has reviewed the now-expired mask  
35 mandate documents from Governor Sununu and spoken with Erin Olsen at the Health Department, as  
36 well as the Police and Fire Chiefs, and it was determined that the town can proceed with the 4<sup>th</sup> of July  
37 festivities. He is now in the process of working with various bands to play at the festivities. Mr.  
38 Casparius would like to ask the Council if it is okay to move forward with planning out the festivities  
39 so he can finalize his plans.  
40

41 Vice Chair Rothhaus stated he is willing to proceed with the planning. Councilor Healey stated that  
42 based on CDC guidelines and regular reports from state epidemiologist Dr. Benjamin Chang regarding  
43 masks, she is in favor of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade and fireworks, and believes in letting people decide what  
44 they feel necessary for their own health and families. Councilor Harrington agreed with Councilor  
45 Healey, stating that individuals can be responsible and decide for themselves if they choose to wear a  
46 mask or not. She then wanted to clarify that the breakfast and the midway- both hosted by the Rotary-  
47 are not taking place, and the parade and fireworks are being discussed at this meeting because the  
48 Town is putting on these events. Councilor Harrington then stated she is in favor of moving forward  
49 with planning these festivities. Councilor Hunter agreed with Councilor Healey, stating that he is in  
50 favor of moving forward based on current CDC guidelines.  
51

1 Mr. Casparius then asked that since he has extra money in the budget, he is wondering if the Council  
2 or Town would be interested in an outdoor concert at James Mastricola Upper Elementary School or  
3 the high school before the fireworks take place, or if he should plan for fireworks only. Councilor  
4 Harrington asked if there would be money requested for other activities, in which Town Manager Paul  
5 Micali wanted to clarify that Mr. Casparius is talking about two different fiscal years since the fiscal  
6 year begins on July 1<sup>st</sup>. The request brought forward in this meeting is under the current 2021 fiscal  
7 year, whereas the July festivities would be under next year's fiscal year. Based on this information, the  
8 Council is in agreement with moving forward with the July 4<sup>th</sup> festivities.

### 3. Merrimack's 275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations & Funding Update

*Submitted by the 275<sup>th</sup> Committee and Parks and Recreation Director Matthew Casparius*

The Town Council will receive an update on Merrimack's 275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations and discussion of upcoming plans with a request for additional funding.

15 Parks and Recreation Director Matthew Casparius stated that the Committee has been working since  
16 November, and currently has planned out 3-6 activities for each month. This past month highlighted  
17 historical Merrimack schools, and next month will focus on photos of Chief Passaconaway and  
18 Merrimack's earliest history. Another topic the Committee worked on was creating 275<sup>th</sup> anniversary  
19 commemorative license plates. The plates went on sale in April and have sold 83 as of this past  
20 Monday. License plates are \$20 and are for sale at the Finance Office in Town Hall as well as the  
21 Parks and Recreation office and Transfer Station. Another accomplishment from the Committee was  
22 the creation of 275<sup>th</sup> anniversary banners that were placed along the DW Highway from Rite Aid to  
23 MYA and then at the center of town up to the Legion. These banners will remain up for the year and  
24 will be paired with American flags for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. The Committee also has been working on  
25 creating a cookbook to share recipes from residents all over town. Over 54 recipes have been  
26 submitted for the cookbook, and Mr. Casparius estimates the cost of producing these cookbooks to be  
27 around \$850. The Committee would like to purchase about 100 books to sell to the community to  
28 commemorate the 275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

30 Mr. Casparius then wanted to discuss the budget he was given for these plans; he shared that the  
31 Committee has spent the initial \$5,000 they were given on the previously mentioned projects and he is  
32 looking for additional funding. The Committee is looking to plan an end of summer Old Homes  
33 Day/back to school type fall festival, ideally in early October. They would also like to plan a Militia  
34 Reenactment in either late summer or early fall, as well as a 275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary parade. Mr. Casparius  
35 also wanted to share that the Fundraising Committee has been working on their covered bridge project  
36 for Twin Bridge, and they are looking to give some type of item to people who donate, such as a pin or  
37 patch as a thank you for their support. The Committee is also looking to do an initial investment in  
38 clothing items to sell at events or outside of organizations. They have asked for \$3,000 to get this  
39 underway, with the goal of recouping the money when they start selling the items. All combined, the  
40 Committee is asking for upwards of \$25,000 to fund these goals. Mr. Casparius stated that since the  
41 town did not have any festivities last year and the Rotary is not doing festivities this year, there is extra  
42 money in the budget to spend towards these items. Town Manager Paul Micali then clarified that the  
43 Rotary would like to partner with the Town for the Old Homes day/fall festival and put their \$10,000  
44 towards that event. Mr. Micali then said that he informed the Rotary that they can be added to the  
45 agenda at one of the June Town Council meetings to discuss their plans with the Council. Mr. Micali  
46 then shared that there is \$40,000 left over from last years cancelled 4<sup>th</sup> of July festivities.; Without  
47 additional funding, there will be \$15,000 left for this years 4<sup>th</sup> of July budget.

49 **MOTION made by Councilor Harrington and seconded by Councilor Healey to designate**  
50 **\$25,000 for future planning for any and all 275<sup>th</sup> Anniversary activities and other items.**

51 **MOTION CARRIES 5-0-0**

1  
2 **4. Transfer Station Swap Shop Re-opening Discussion**

3 *Submitted by Public Works Director Kyle Fox and Town Manager Paul T. Micali*

4 The Town Council to discuss the possibility of re-opening the Swap Shop located at the  
5 Merrimack Transfer Station.  
6

7 Town Manager Paul Micali stated that the Swap Shop was closed during the initial emergency orders  
8 from Governor Sununu last year. As of last week, the emergency orders have ended, and the public has  
9 been inquiring when the Swap Shop will reopen. Public Works Director Kyle Fox has created a plan to  
10 safely reopen the Swap Shop. Because of the small size of the Swap Shop, Mr. Micali and Mr. Fox  
11 have worked out how to limit the number of people allowed in the trailer at a time, as well as limit the  
12 amount of time an individual can be inside. They are asking for no more than 2 people in at a time with  
13 a 10-minute time limit for shopping. Additionally, facial coverings will be mandatory due to the  
14 enclosed space. Mr. Fox shared that the Swap Shop is a popular amenity for residents that helps keep  
15 items out of the waste stream. He then stated that he is nervous to reopen it and anticipates issues. He  
16 is trying to take a measured approach to this to see how reopening will go; if residents are unable to  
17 adhere to the proposed rules, they will have to close the Swap Shop again. Councilor Murphy agreed  
18 that the Swap Shop is a wonderful amenity but is concerned with rule enforcement as well as the safety  
19 of the workers who may find themselves in challenging positions. Mr. Fox agrees with these concerns,  
20 but stated that the Swap Shop is not staffed, rather there are security cameras in the area and the  
21 Foreman will go out if there are any issues and call the Police if escalation occurs. Mr. Micali informed  
22 the Council that they will have signage in the area to ensure residents are aware of the policies and it  
23 may take a bit of time for these new rules to be learned by the community. Councilor Murphy then  
24 asked if it would be up to the public to inform employees if there are extra people in the Swap Shop or  
25 if people are in there for longer than 10 minutes, in which Mr. Micali replied that there is usually staff  
26 around the area who can keep an eye out to ensure rules are being followed.  
27

28 Vice Chair Rothhaus asked if there were cameras inside the trailer, in which Mr. Fox said that there are  
29 not. Vice Chair Rothhaus then asked if cameras can be installed inside, as that may solve the issue of  
30 ensuring the rules are being followed. Councilor Harrington agreed with Councilor Murphy's concerns  
31 and thinks it's unreasonable for people to self-regulate these limits and does not think DPW staff  
32 should be involved with this. Councilor Healey agreed with Councilor Harrington, sharing that the  
33 Swap Shop trailer is a very tight area and she doesn't think people will be cognizant of these new rules.  
34 Further, she stated that DPW staff were not hired to police the Swap Shop and she does not want to put  
35 this responsibility on them. Mr. Micali then said that based on this feedback, they will keep the Swap  
36 Shop closed and keep monitoring the situation based on conditions with the pandemic.  
37

38 **New Business**

39 **1. Committee Appointments**

40 *Submitted by Town Council Chair Tom Koenig and Vice Chair Finlay Rothhaus*

41 The Town Council to consider appointing the following individuals to Town committees,  
42 pursuant to Charter Article 4-8:

- 43 ➤ **Ellen Kolb** - Conservation Commission (*Alternate member*)
- 44 ➤ **Laurie Rothhaus** – Parks and Recreation Committee (*School Board Representative*)
- 45 ➤ **Shannon Barnes** – Parks and Recreation Committee (*Alternate School Board Representative*)

46  
47 **MOTION made by Councilor Harrington and seconded by Councilor Murphy to appoint Ellen**  
48 **Kolb to the Conservation Commission, Laurie Rothhaus to the Parks and Recreation**  
49 **Committee, and Shannon Barnes to the Parks and Recreation Committee.**

50 **MOTION CARRIES 5-0-0**

1  
2 After the vote, Vice Chair Rothhaus swore in Ellen Kolb as Alternate Member to the Conservation Committee.  
3

4 **2. Donation Acceptance for the Parks and Recreation Department**

5 *Submitted by Parks and Recreation Director Matthew Casparius*

6 The Town Council to consider the acceptance and expenditure of a donation in the amount  
7 \$240 from the Lions Club of Merrimack to the Parks and Recreation Department to be used  
8 towards Camp Scholarship Fund, pursuant to RSA 31:95-b and Charter Article 8-15.  
9

10 **MOTION made by Councilor Harrington and seconded by Councilor Healey to accept a**  
11 **donation in the amount \$240 from the Lions Club of Merrimack to the Parks and Recreation**  
12 **Department to be used towards Camp Scholarship Fund, pursuant to RSA 31:95-b and Charter**  
13 **Article 8-15. MOTION CARRIES 5-0-0**

14 The Council thanked the Lions Club for their donation.  
15

16  
17 **3. Donation Acceptance for the Parks and Recreation Department**

18 *Submitted by Parks and Recreation Director Matthew Casparius*

19 The Town Council to consider the acceptance and expenditure of a donation in the amount  
20 \$16.12 from Boy Scout Joy Morris to the Parks and Recreation Department to be used towards  
21 Wasserman Park, pursuant to RSA 31:95-b and Charter Article 8-15.  
22

23 **MOTION made by Councilor Healey and seconded by Councilor Harrington to accept a**  
24 **donation in the amount \$16.12 from Boy Scout Joy Morris to the Parks and Recreation**  
25 **Department to be used towards Wasserman Park, pursuant to RSA 31:95-b and Charter Article**  
26 **8-15. MOTION CARRIES 5-0-0**

27 The Council thanked Joy Morris for her donation.  
28

29  
30 **4. Acceptance of Homeland Security Grant for the Merrimack Police Department**

31 *Submitted by Lieutenant Michael Marcotte*

32 The Town Council to consider the acceptance and expenditure of a grant in the amount of  
33 \$3,600 awarded by Homeland Security to the Merrimack Police Department for the purpose of  
34 conducting Counter Terrorism and Active Shooter training for the Special Response Team  
35 (SRT), pursuant to RSA 31:95-b and Charter Article 8-15.  
36

37 Lieutenant Michael Marcotte shared that each year Homeland Security awards funds to each tactical  
38 team in NH based on their team size, needs, and capabilities. This will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> training grant  
39 awarded to the Police Department from Homeland Security. This year, the SRT was awarded the funds  
40 with the speculation that the money would be used towards terrorism and/or active shooter training.  
41 The team has chosen to conduct training that specifically focuses on fleeing into a wooded area.  
42 Because Merrimack is a heavily wooded town, the likelihood of an active shooter or terrorist fleeing  
43 into a woodland area is very high. The training will be conducted by Ed Anzalone, a retired US  
44 Marine, of Long Range Ranch LLC in Lyndeborough, NH.  
45

46 **MOTION made by Councilor Harrington and seconded by Councilor Murphy to approve,**  
47 **accept, and expend the funds from a grant awarded by Homeland Security in the amount of**  
48 **\$3,600 to the Merrimack Police Department for the purpose of conducting Counter Terrorism**  
49 **and Active Shooter training for the Special Response Team (SRT), pursuant to RSA 31:95-b and**  
50 **Charter Article 8-15 and allow the Town Manager or his proxy to be able to sign the necessary**  
51 **paperwork. MOTION CARRIES 5-0-0**

1  
2 **5. Town Center Committee Charge Revision**

3 *Submitted by Vice Chair Finlay Rothhaus*

4 The Town Council to consider the recommended revision to the Town Center Committee  
5 Charge membership makeup adding a representative from the Media Services Division.  
6

7 Vice Chair Rothhaus stated that he sits on the Town Center Committee and he would like to have a  
8 representative from the Media Services Division added on as a voting member of the Town Center  
9 Committee. Town Manager Paul Micali agreed, stating that Nicholas Lavallee and the entire Media  
10 Services Division brings the social media presence to the Town Center Committee and helps get  
11 important information out to younger generations. Further, the Media Services Division records and  
12 attends the Town Council meetings and are aware of issues in the town.  
13

14 **MOTION made by Councilor Harrington and seconded by Councilor Healey to add a**  
15 **representative of the Media Services Division to the membership of the Town Center Committee.**  
16 **MOTION CARRIES 5-0-0**

17  
18 **Minutes**

19 Approve the minutes from the following Town Council meeting:  
20

21 **MOTION made by Councilor Murphy and seconded by Councilor Harrington to approve the**  
22 **Town Council meeting minutes for April 22, 2021 with revisions. MOTION CARRIES 4-0-1**  
23

24 ♦ April 22, 2021

25 **Amendments:**

26 Councilor Healey: Page 7, 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph: “from the BRIC Program”, remove spacing between BRIC  
27 and Program.

28 Councilor Murphy: Page 11, second to last paragraph from bottom when referring to Councilors  
29 Harrington and Murphy switching positions on the Commission: after beginning insert “wrote the  
30 legislation that created the Bill”.  
31

32 **Comments from the Press**

33 None.

34 **Comments from the Public**

35 None.

36 **Comments from the Council**

37 Councilor Murphy questioned how the upcoming NH DES PFAS meeting is going to be noticed in the  
38 town, such as adding signage to ensure the public is aware. Town Manager Paul Micali stated that  
39 there will be a sign put up at Watson Park as well as several electronic signs throughout the town, such  
40 as at the Police Station, Transfer Station, Public Works Garage, and Library. They will also look at  
41 putting a sign board up at the north end of town near the Fire Station. Additionally, information will be  
42 on Channel 20, as well as the Town’s website. Mr. Micali will ask all departments that have social  
43 media accounts to post the information on their accounts as well.

44 Councilor Healey asked what signage is available for the southwestern part of town towards the lower  
45 end of Continental. Mr. Micali said it is difficult to put signs down there as the state takes over from  
46 Industrial Dr. to 101 and there is not a lot of room on the side of the road to put a sign. Councilor  
47 Harrington asked if the town has ever asked Fidelity to put a sign up in their area, in which Mr. Micali  
48 says he will ask Fidelity. He then stated that considering there are only 2 message boards, the town has  
49 to determine where they want them placed. Mr. Micali suggested discussing this topic further at the  
50 retreat.  
51



1 Councilor Murphy then stated that between March 2016 and October 2017, 217 Merrimack residents  
2 had blood tests drawn by DHHS for the MVD PFAS Community Exposure Assessment. The consents  
3 that were signed at the time allowed DHHS to retain those samples until the study was over. During  
4 discussions at the House Bill 737 PFAS Commission, it was questioned whether those samples could  
5 have potential future value. The Commission agreed to request that DHHS retain those samples for a  
6 period of 5 additional years, which DHHS cannot do without the re-consent of the participants. On May  
7 4<sup>th</sup>, letters were sent out to the 217 participants asking them to agree or disagree to keeping the samples  
8 for the 5 year period. Since there is a 30 day timeframe to respond to this, she is asking that those that  
9 received letters please respond to DHHS as soon as possible. If any participants did not receive this  
10 letter, she is encouraging them to call DHHS to let them know if they can keep the sample on file.

11

12 **Adjourn**

13 The meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM

14

15 **MOTION** made by Councilor Healey and seconded by Councilor Murphy to adjourn the  
16 **meeting. MOTION CARRIES 5-0-0**

17

18

DRAFT