



MILFORD BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Room 11, Town Hall, 52 Main St. (Route 16), Milford, Massachusetts 01757-2679
 Phone 508-634-2303 Fax 508-634-2324

William E. Kingkade Jr., Chairman
 William D. Buckley
 Michael K. Walsh

Richard A. Villani
 Town Administrator

Dear Neighbor,

We hope you have had a wonderful summer. Once again, we reach out to you about the important matter of the Town's purchase of the Milford Water Company (MWC). After dedicating ourselves to a very thorough due-diligence review, the Board of Selectmen has concluded that the purchase and ultimate control of the Town's water supply is in the Town's best interest.

As your elected leaders, we have based our decision on years of research, meetings, analysis and consultation. On your behalf, we challenged, questioned and listened carefully to the expert consultants hired by the town. We partnered with our dedicated and talented town officials, led by Town Counsel Gerry Moody and Finance Director Zach Taylor, to consider all of the administrative and financial implications. We have done all of this because this decision is likely one of the most important that the Town will make in this century. This level of review is what you deserve from us.

You stop us on the street, at meetings, in the store and tell us that what you care most about is the quality of our water supply; the water our children drink, our grandchildren bathe in and our families fundamentally cannot live without. That concern is at the core of our decision to ask Town Meeting to move forward with spending \$63 million to purchase the MWC. We understand this is a Town Meeting vote that will impact the lives of generations to come.

As we promised you, the Board will host another public information meeting on this topic at 6 p.m. Monday, Sept. 11 at Milford High School. Coinciding with the meeting, we will release additional materials prepared for the Town and summarizing the results of the financial and legal due diligence to date. We hope you will join us, and look for these materials at www.milfordma.gov. You will hear more about how our review has shown that the MWC has not been investing as much as water users would want in the long-term health of the system. We will explain why there will be some catch up for us as new owners, and why we are confident Milford is up to the task.

Our finance team and their consultants also will explain that our review has concluded that increasing rates, rather than additional capital borrowing by the town, is a smarter financial way to improve the system. Mr. Taylor will show you step by step how we reached this conclusion.

We, more than anyone, appreciate both the complexity and opportunity that this decision presents for all of us. Neither path is easy, walking away and letting others care for the quality of our water, or taking charge ourselves. But we are now very clear on what is the right thing to do. With all the information before us, we have chosen to try and seize this opportunity to build a community water system that is transparent, responsive and accountable to all residents. Milford Water Department will set quality as its highest priority.

Sincerely,

William E. Kingkade Jr., Chairman

William D. Buckley

Michael K. Walsh

Paid for by the Milford Board of Selectmen



Reverend Tony Lorenzen of Hopedale Unitarian Parish spoke at the “Hate Has No Home” Rally.

By Kevin Rudden
 Staff Reporter/Columnist

Last month's outbreak of violence in Charlottesville, Va. prompted the Milford Area Humanitarian Coalition to plan a rally against racism, bigotry and violence. More than 60 people attended the August 27 “Hate Has No Home” rally at Draper Memorial Park.

Organizer Justin Varteresian explained that the local community wanted to take a stand against violence and bigotry “in response to all that's going on in the country, especially Charlottesville, to show that's not what we're all about.”

“We come together today in solidarity to say there's only one side responsible for hatred and bigotry,” said the Reverend Tony Lorenzen of the Hopedale Unitarian Parish. “We are here to declare what side we're on. We're on the moral side.”

“For the past couple of weeks our country has been reeling from the vile rhetoric of white supremacists,” Varteresian stated. “How much longer must we be affected by the twin plagues of racism and violence?” he asked. “We say it, but do we mean it? All men are created equal.”

Teacher Alejandro Ruelas spoke of having “teachable moments” by stopping after any bigotry or bullying to tell students their language or behavior was not acceptable and why.

“This is our village and it's everyone's responsibility,” he said. “Injustice is injustice and hate is hate.”

Pointing around him to the names of more than 2,000 World War veterans, State Representative Brian Murray, D. Milford, said President Donald Trump's refusal to condemn Nazis was “just unbelievable to me” and an insult to those veterans. “The disrespect to veterans was appalling,” he added.

Murray defended everyone's right to speak, but said people should drown out hate speech with “more speech. We will be hard that it is not right, that we are all equal under the law and we are all children of God.”

Murray joined State Senator Ryan Fattman, R. Webster, in co-sponsoring a resolution from the state legislature condemning the violence in Charlottesville. “I thought it was very important to send a strong message from Massachusetts,” Murray said.

ADVERTISING IN THE TOWN CRIERS MAKES GOOD BUSINESS SENSE.

We direct mail to over 20,000 addresses.

**MILFORD - FRANKLIN
EYE CENTER**

Excellent Eye Care for the Entire Family

Optical
Shop On-site

Offering Blade-Free
Laser Cataract Surgery

Sat & After
Hour Appts.
Available

John F. Hatch, MD • Roger M. Kaldawy, MD • Kameran Lashkari, MD

508-528-3344
391 East Central Street
Franklin, MA 02038

**YOUR EYES
DESERVE
THE BEST**

508-473-7939
160 South Main St (Rt 140)
Milford, MA 01757

**NORTH #1
AMERICA'S Selling Walk-In Tub**

*Presenting the all new
Safe Step Walk-In Tub
featuring MicroSoothe.®*
It oxygenates, softens and
exfoliates skin, turning
your bath into a spa-like
experience.

LIFETIME LIMITED WARRANTY

Arthritis Foundation
Ease of Use

BBB
ACCREDITED BUSINESS

\$1500 OFF when you mention this ad.
 Call Today Toll-Free **1-855-836-1507**

SAFE STEP WALK-IN TUB CO.
CSLB 983603 F1300002885 13HV08744300