

Select Board
March 28th, 2024

Via Zoom

Robert Czekanski, Chair
Stanley Wysocki
Brian Boyle

Don Lowe, Town Administrator
Jenny Jacobsen, Administrative Assistant

Ms. Czekanski called the meeting to order at 8:00 pm.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Senator Robyn Kennedy and Representative Kate Hogan were in attendance to provide an update.

Representative Hogan noted the wonderful relationship she has had with Mr. Lowe over the years and shared her hope that it will continue with the new Town Administrator. It will be a difficult year financially in FY25. The Governor's Budget has a 1% increase in Chapter 70 for Nashoba and a 3% increase for Chapter 90 over FY24's numbers. Representative Hogan reiterated been able to secure over \$1M for Bolton's rural infrastructure needs. Representative Hogan will continue to fight for monies for her towns.

Representative Hogan was happy announced that House 4056 An Act to Establish the Appointment of the Office of the Town Clerk in the Town of Bolton has been signed by the Governor and enacted into law. Representative Hogan thanked the Senator for all the work that she has done behind the scenes to make it possible. Representative Hogan is also continuing to work on DCAMM to dispose of certain parcels of land. They are at the House of Ways and Means.

Representative Hogan the extensions to Pandemic Era measures including monies for emergency shelters, free school lunches, outdoor dining, hybrid participation, and electronic notarizations. They are working toward making the measures permanent.

Representative Hogan announced that they are coming to the end on the hearings for the Commission of 21st Century Agriculture in the Commonwealth. There will be a meeting at UMASS Amherst on March 29th. The Mass PFAS Act is coming out of Health Care Finance and Heading to House Ways and Means later in the week.

Senator Robyn Kennedy thanked Representative Hogan for her update and recognized the strong partnership that they have. Senator added an update on the Housing Bond Bill the Homes Act which is a four billion dollar housing production investment and spans a wide array of housing types.

Representative Hogan and Senator Kennedy addressed Mr. Boyle's questions about the drivers of the less rosy fiscal picture for the Commonwealth and the long-erm trends that communities should be incorporating. Representative Hogan called this a correcting year but it should not affect aid coming in.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

MVP Project Update

The application will be submitted in the next two weeks and totals \$516,282 at this time. It would be a major grant and will have a huge impact at Derby Field.

Mr. Lowe announced that Parks and Recreation Coordinator was awarded the Nancy White New Professional Award. The award is given to Parks and Recreation professionals who have been in the field

for less than five years. She has been recognized for the expansion of the Parks and Recreation programming and also her involvement in the Bolton Community Fund and Bolton Youth Soccer.

SELECT BOARD BUSINESS

Public Service Announcements

There were no public service announcements.

Future Agenda Items

Mr. Czekanski asked the Mr. Petrin be invited to attend the April 11th meeting of the Board to provide information on the steps for the Town Administrator selection process. Mr. Czekanski asked for common questions and a solidification of the schedule for April 23rd and April 24th which were reserved for the interviews.

Appointments

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Boyle, the Board voted by roll call to appoint John Dixon to the Zoning Board of Appeals as an associate member. (Wysocki-yes, Czekanski-yes, Boyle-yes)

Event Approval

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Boyle, the Board voted by roll call to approve the Procession of the Cross on Friday March 29, 2024. (Wysocki-yes, Czekanski-yes, Boyle-yes)

Select Board Statement for ATM Warrant

The Board reviewed some changes that were made to the Select Board Statement which was distributed to the Board in advance of the meeting.

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Boyle, the Board voted by roll call to approve Select Board Statement for the ATM Warrant for 2024. (Wysocki-yes, Czekanski-yes, Boyle-yes)

Vote on Remaining ATM Warrant Articles

Article 3-Fy2025 Operating Budget

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Boyle, the Board voted by roll call to approve Article 3: Fiscal Year 2025 Operating Budget. (Wysocki-yes, Czekanski-yes, Boyle-yes)

Article 6-Replenish the Reserve Fund

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Boyle, the Board voted by roll call to approve Article 6: Replenish the Reserve Fund. (Wysocki-yes, Czekanski-yes, Boyle-yes)

Article 10-Amend Wetlands Bylaw

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Boyle, the Board voted by roll call to approve Article 10. (Wysocki-yes, Czekanski-yes, Boyle-yes)

Ms. Jacobsen noted that the Town Clerk position was removed from Article 13 once the legislation passed as announced by Representative Hogan earlier in the meeting.

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Boyle, the Board voted by roll call to close the warrant for Annual Town Meeting May 6th, 2024. (Wysocki-yes, Czekanski-yes, Boyle-yes)

Bills/Payroll Warrants

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Boyle, the Board voted unanimously by roll call vote to approve bills/payroll warrants W24-19 & W24-19A. (Wysocki-yes, Czekanski-yes, Boyle-yes)

Minutes

There were none.

Mr. Boyle informed the Board that he will not be in attendance on April 11th. Mr. Boyle will review the meeting and be in touch with Mr. Petrin directly if he has any questions.

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Boyle, the Board voted unanimously by roll call vote to adjourn at 8:38 pm. (Wysocki-yes, Czekanski-yes, Boyle-yes)

Respectfully submitted by J. Jacobsen.