

**BOLTON BOARD OF FINANCE
REGULAR MEETING
February 19, 2015**

Unapproved - Minutes & Motions

The Board of Finance (BOF) held a meeting on February 19, 2015 at the Bolton Town Hall.

1. Attendance:

- a. Members Chairman Robert Munroe, Morris Silverstein, James Bruner, Kelly Regan, Judy Wilson and Robert DePietro were present. Member Barry Stearns was excused. Administrative Officer Joyce Stille and Interim Finance Director Linda Savitsky also were present.

2. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:18 p.m. by Chairman Robert Munroe.

3. Public Comment: None.

4. Approval of minutes:

- a. January 15, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes: Motion to approve by Robert DePietro, seconded by James Bruner. Motion carried 5:0:1 with Chairman Munroe abstaining.

5. Correspondence

- a. None received. Chairman Munroe noted a tentative state budget proposal was published in the Hartford Courant.

6. Elected Official and Town Staff Reports

a. Tax Collection Summary: Linda Savitsky reported that the town has met 100% of the current amount for budgeted level, so overall collection is looking good.

b. Town Update: Joyce Stille reported on the current town budget summary, now at the seventh-month mark. She noted there will likely be budget transfers next month, and that weather-related expenses are taking their toll and overtime is running out.

- i. Chairman Munroe inquired about parameters for storm-related overtime relief. Officer Stille said Bolton is one of a few towns currently seeking relief but the outcome will depend on federal data collection.
- ii. Robert DePietro asked whether the percentages on the summary chart that show as zero will change. Officer Stille affirmed that they will due to expenses and bills which have and will be incurred.
- iii. Officer Stille also reported that the Board of Selectmen is working with several groups on the bond package, and will make a formal request to the BOF next month. The current total, \$10,507,000, is significantly lower than the original \$17 million.

- 1. James Bruner asked when the sewer debt will hit. Officer Stille said it will be next year and the figures are yet undetermined. She clarified that the debt was approved as part of the bonding proposal so it is accounted for, but is not money the town can spend.

- iv. James Bruner brought up a change in West Hartford's waste management process. Officer Stille explained that Bolton's system is different and is already low cost. She also reported that a change was negotiated in Bolton's bulk pickup contract, which is now bimonthly instead of monthly.
- 7. Chairman Munroe updated the Board on the draft Board of Education (BOE) Budget, referring to a printed packet of Superintendent Heckt's presentation on January 29th. He noted that the total proposed increase from last year is 3.7%, not 3.4%. He reported that the motions to reinstate an elementary world language and fully fund athletics did not pass.
 - a. Officer Stille said 70% of the budget comes from personal benefits, by choice. Chairman Munroe said that the point was not in the proposal or packet but it can be raised.
 - b. Chairman Munroe asked about opening up the choice program more at the BOE presentation. He reported that at most, it would expand to another three seats in kindergarten, and possibly younger siblings of students who are already enrolled.
 - c. The BOE will be meeting with the BOF next month.
- 8. **Old Business**
 - a. Shared Services Update: Director Savitsky reported that a few issues with the financial system remain, and they are working to wrap up with the auditor. Director Savitsky is finalizing the report. She said that next year's town budget will reflect the changes.
- 9. **New Business**
 - a. The Fiscal Year 2016 Budget calendar was discussed. BOF and BOE will not meet during Spring Recess, as the Superintendent requested. The April 23rd date was moved to April 22nd due to schedule conflict. Robert DePietro motioned to approve the calendar with the amendments. Judy Wilson seconded. The motion passed 5:0:1 with the Chairman abstaining.
- 10. **Ongoing Business**
 - a. The status report on the Bolton High School project was discussed under **6)b, Town Update**.
 - b. Kelly Regan was recognized and thanked for her service, as it was her last meeting.
- 11. **Adjournment:** Robert DePietro motioned to adjourn. Kelly Regan seconded. The motion passed 5:0:1. The meeting was adjourned at 8:17.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Benitez
Recording Secretary

Please see the minutes of subsequent meetings for the approval of these minutes and any corrections hereto.