

**BOLTON BOARD OF FINANCE  
SPECIAL MEETING  
March 19, 2015**

**Minutes & Motions**

**Attendance:** Members Morris Silverstein, James Bruner, Chairman Robert Munroe, Judy Wilson, Robert DePietro, and Barry Stearns were present. Also present were Administrative Officer Joyce Stille, Interim Finance Director Linda Savitky, and the Board of Selectmen.

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:23 p.m. by Chairman Munroe.
2. **Board of Selectmen Budget Presentation:** This item was moved to first order of business in order to free up the members' time. First Selectman Robert Morra introduced the budget, noting that the BoS has significantly reduced the requested amount by \$275,529. He reviewed the major budget expenses, which are as follows. These four items comprise about 90% of the increase.
  - a. **Employee Fringe Benefits**, largely due to one change from single to family coverage.
  - b. **Resident State Troopers**, due to the proposed state budget which would require the town to cover 100% of funding rather than 70%. As the House and Senate have brought legislation to return to 70%, the First Selectman anticipates the final percentage to be somewhere between those figures.
  - c. **Personnel**, due to the minimum wage increase, positions changing from part-time to full-time, overtime expenses. There is an additional increase in the Land Use Budget that will be offset by revenue, expected to exceed the initial expense.
  - d. **Other Contracts**, due to increased winter expenses of sand and salt, road repair, and software contracts with a new vendor.

R. Morra also noted that the debt budget increased, due to the town share of the sewer cost and the loss of Columbia tuition funding.
3. **Public Participation:** There was no public participation.
4. **Approval of Minutes:** J. Bruner moved to approve the **February 19, 2015** minutes as written. J. Wilson seconded. The motion passed 5:0:1 with B. Stearns abstaining.
5. **Correspondence:** Letter of resignation from the BoF by Kelly Regan, due to moving out of Bolton.
6. **Elected Official and Town Staff reports**
  - a. **Tax Collection Summary:** Interim Finance Director L. Savitsky reported the tax collection is already above expected with a remaining four months. Supplemental and motor taxes are lower, but overall collection is looking good.
  - b. **Town Update:** Administrative Officer J. Stille reported on the budget summary through the end of February and submitted budget transfer requests under Debt, Highway, and Town Buildings Operations. Chairman Munroe confirmed the transfers.
  - c. **Board of Education Budget Update:** Chairman Munroe reported a slight increase to \$13,000 due to Special Education expenses.
7. **New Business**
  - a. **Appropriation Request – Debt Service School Project:** This item was moved up in the agenda, again to free up BoS members' time. J. Stille said that more funds were necessary to

meet the balance for the Columbia loss and debt budget. M. Silverstein moved to approve the appropriation. Discussion followed on the parameters for moving funds within budgets. B. Stearns moved to appropriate funds to the long-term debt budget from the contingency budget. Robert DePietro seconded. The motion passed 6:0:0.

#### **8. Old Business**

- a. Fiscal Year 2014 Audited Financial Statements:** L. Savitsky asked that the Board review the materials. Questions will be referred to Chairman Munroe, then to L. Savitsky. Any outstanding questions will then be addressed by the auditor in April.
- b. Shared Services Update:** J. Stille reported little change from last month. She expects topics for next month's meeting after discussion continues over the next few weeks. L. Savitsky is finalizing the finance report.

#### **9. New Business**

- a. Board of Finance Vacancy Appointment:** J. Bruner reported that the Republican Town Committee has recommended candidate Ronald Rousseau to fill the vacancy left by Kelly Regan. R. Rousseau previously served on the Board of Education, from which he has resigned. He has agreed to fill out the remainder of K. Regan's term and then run for the seat in November. J. Bruner moved to appoint R. Rousseau to fill the vacant seat. M. Silverstein seconded. Discussion followed as to the status of R. Rousseau's resignation from BoE, which was confirmed to be official. The motion passed 6:0:0.
- b. Appropriation Request – Debt Service School Project:** Discussed in #7a.
- c. Board of Selectmen Budget Presentation:** Discussed in #2.

#### **10. Ongoing Business**

- a. Status Report on High School Project:** No new developments.

**11. Adjournment:** J. Bruner moved to adjourn. J. Wilson seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 9:17.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Benitez  
Recording Secretary

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