

The Board of Selectmen held its regular meeting on December 1, 2015, at the Town Hall with the First Selectman Robert Morra presiding. In attendance were: Selectmen Michael Emerita, Robert Neil, Gwen Marrion, and Sandra Pierog; Administrative Officer Joyce Stille; and members of the public.

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:14 p.m.

2. **Public Comment:**
 Richard Hayes questioned a recent Journal Inquirer article on the discussion and vote on pay raises. He thought the point of the discussion may have been missed and asked if the article contained inaccuracies. The BOS affirmed there were several inaccuracies and missing details. The total amounts were incorrect: the year's totals for the selectmen were listed, not the increases. Senior van drivers are not getting higher raises to bring them to minimum wage; their wages are already above it. The total increase for all of the part time nonunion positions is \$6000. R. Hayes appreciated the corrections and said he was concerned that the increase was becoming a major topic of discussion, while the BOE is giving historic and much higher raises which are not receiving the same discussion.

3. **Approval of Minutes:**
 - A. November 10, 2015 Public Hearing: R. Neil moved to approve. S. Pierog seconded. Motion carried 4:0:1, M. Emerita abstaining.
 - B. November 10, 2015 Regular Meeting: R. Neil moved to approve. S. Pierog seconded. The motion carried 5:0:0 with the following amendments:
 Under 7A, "G. Marrion and S. Pierog wanted the BOS to forego the increase in recognition of the difficult financial season ahead" will read "G. Marrion and S. Pierog stated they were against the increase to the BOS wages in recognition of..."
 Under 7C, "G. Marrion seconded. Motion carried 5:0:0." will be added at the end.
 Under 9E, it will be noted that G. Marrion asked if a USTA Tennis grant had been pursued and the response was no action had been taken.

4. **Correspondence:**
 Two letters of resignation were received from Ronald Rousseau, Conservation Commission, and Caroline DiDomenico, Energy Committee. Letters thanking them for their service will be sent.

5. **Unfinished Business:** None.

6. **New Business:**
 - A. **Charter Oak Greenway Shared Use Path and Path Extension:**
 R. Morra reported that the subcommittee is reviewing the BSC plans.

 - B. **Lower Bolton Lake Status Report:**
 R. Morra said there would be a public presentation by George Knoecklein at some point this winter. They are also looking to set up a separate discussion on catfish stocking, and are

working on setting up a preliminary informational meeting with the fisheries. J. Stille reported the lake drawdown is at its desired level.

C. Consider and Act on Deputy First Selectman:

R. Neil nominated Michael Emerita due to his past experience as First Selectman. R. Morra seconded. Vote: 5:0:0.

D. FY16 Budget Report: The budget was 34.40% expensed at the end of November. J Stille explained that a new column was added showing monthly expense percentages for FY2015 for comparison.

E. Consider and Act on Bank Resolution:

R. Morra read the resolution. S. Pierog moved to approve the resolution as follows:

“RESOLVED: Those Pursuant to Sec. 7-402 of the Connecticut General Statutes the following depositories are designated for use by the Town of Bolton:

Bank of America

Webster Bank

First Niagara Bank

Connecticut State Treasurer’s Short Term Investment Fund

Citizens Bank

United Bank

M B I A

TDBank

Farmington Bank

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that Webster Bank, be and hereby is designated as the primary depository o this town and that the officials of this town be and hereby are and each of them is, authorized to deposit any of the funds of this town in said Webster Bank.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that, until the further order of this Board of Selectmen, any funds of this town deposited in said Webster Bank, be subject to withdrawal or change at any time and from time to time upon checks, notes, drafts, bills of exchange, acceptances, or other instruments for the payment of money or upon directions for the wire transfer of money when made, signed, drawn accepted, endorsed or orally directed on behalf of this town, by any two of the following:

Catherine M. Peterson, Treasurer

Joyce M. Stille, Administrative Officer/Deputy Treasurer

Robert R. Morra, First Selectman

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that, until further order of this Board of Selectmen, Kristin Heckt, Superintendent of Schools, shall be an authorized signature on the checking accounts of the Board of Education in addition to those individuals authorized above.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that Webster Bank is hereby authorized to pay any such instrument or make any such charge and also to receive the same from the payee or any other holder without inquiry as the circumstances or issue or the disposition of the proceeds even if drawn to the individual order of any signing person, or payable to said Webster Bank or others for this account, or tendered in payment of his individual obligation, and whether drawn against an account in the name of this town or in the name of any official of this town as such.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Town Clerk or Assistant Town Clerk of this town be and hereby are authorized to certify to said Webster Bank, that these resolutions have been duly adopted and that they are in conformity with the Connecticut General Statutes and the Charter and Ordinances of the Town of Bolton.”

M. Emerita seconded. Motion carried 5:0:0.

F. Consider and Act on 2016 Meeting Dates:

The BOS discussed the meeting dates and agreed to have a meeting on March 29th instead of April 12th due to schedule conflicts in April.

M. Emerita moved to adopt the schedule as follows:

January	12 th		June	7 th
	19 th	Budget Workshop		
	26 th	Budget Workshop	July	5 th
February	2 nd		August	2 nd
	9 th	Budget Workshop		
	16 th	Budget Workshop	September	6 th
	23 rd	Budget Workshop		
March	1 st		October	4 th
	29 th		November	8 th
May	3 rd		December	6 th

R. Neil seconded. Motion carried 5:0:0.

G. Consider and Act on Budget Transfer and/or Appropriation Requests:

One transfer of \$3000 in the Senior Citizen Budget from Other Payroll to Repairs and Maintenance was requested for a new wheelchair lift. S. Pierog questioned whether this would impact the chore assistance program. J. Stille clarified that at this point, sufficient funds were left to cover the services and if necessary, another transfer into payroll could occur later in the year. S. Pierog moved to approve the transfer. R. Neil seconded. Vote 5:0:0.

7. Ongoing Business:

A. Subcommittee Reports: No updates.

B. Bolton Lakes Sewer Project:

R. Morra reported the project is substantially complete and therefore will no longer be on the agenda. He said he spoke with Mr. Crockett about the issue he raised and clarified that it is under the jurisdiction of the Sewer Authority and perhaps partially the Town of Vernon, and not within the power of the Town of Bolton.

R. Morra also reported on the meeting regarding odor issues on Hillcrest Road. He said they spent a good hour at the site but could not find the source of the odor. The sensor is very near the affected property but is not picking it up. They will check to see if it is occurring further down in Manchester and coming back into the area, and also checking with Fuss & O'Neill.

C. Properties and Facilities:

S. Pierog said that dry ice blasting at the barn was scheduled for Friday morning. At that time the State Preservation Office will also be on hand to approve the method for removing the soot with dry ice.

M. Emerita asked if there was a written long range plan for the Bolton Heritage Farm.

S. Pierog said the Bolton Center Study had been adopted by the Bolton Heritage Committee and selectmen as its guideline and welcomes the opportunity to review it with him.

J. Stille said the BHS LEED Certification information was to be submitted for state review by the end of the week.

D. Revenue Sources: No updates.

8. First Selectman's Report

A. Subcommittees: R. Morra appointed M. Eremita to fill Robert Lessard's positions on all subcommittees.

B. Economic Development:

There is interest in the commercial parcel by Bolton Lakes. R. Morra and Director of Community Development Patrice Carson met with the interested party to cover initial questions. They will be in contact in the next three weeks as to how they want to proceed.

S. Pierog noted the PZC voted to approve drive-throughs by special permit.

C. STEAP: Small Town Economic Assistance Program grant applications are due by January 15.

R. Morra also reported that the Energy Committee Chair hopes to have a meeting in January. There is a vacancy on the committee which will be posted on the Town's website.

R. Morra wished the town a Happy Hanukkah and a Merry Christmas. Breakfast with Santa is Saturday December 5 at the Firehouse from 8:30 am to 11:00 am. The Winter Faire is at BCS from 9:00 am to 3:00 am. There will be a Christmas Parade starting at BCS at 6:30 pm to the Town Green, where the tree lighting will be at around 7:00 pm. Reservations for seeing Santa at CVS are due by December 3rd.

Tom Hennick, Public Education Officer, will present on the Freedom of Information Act at 6:30 pm, January 25th, at Town Hall.

9. Administrative Officer's Report:

A. Expressway Properties:

J. Stille distributed an opinion from the Town Attorney but had asked for additional information concerning the opinion. No action to be taken yet. J. Stille said she had a discussion with the town attorney on how the properties came to be landlocked, how the DOT is considering giving them back to the town, with and without open space restrictions on them, and options for the use of the land. Legal question raised were: what steps the town would need to take to be able to accept the properties and move forward, what scenarios for moving forward might look like. S. Pierog asked if the owners were compensated. J. Stille said she believes that they were but that the compensation was not reflected in the easements.

10. Appointments:

Tina Guiffre, alternate member of the Senior Citizens Commission, requested to take on an open full seat on the same committee. S. Pierog moved to accept T. Guiffre's resignation as an alternate and moved to appoint T. Guiffre as a full member of the Senior Citizens Commission for a term ending 7/1/2019.

R. Neil moved to appoint Robert Morra to the BLRWPCA Board of Directors for a term ending 12/31/18, and Joyce Stille as an alternate to the BLRWPCA Board of Directors for a term ending 12/31/18. S. Pierog and G. Marrion said they would like to see an elected official in the alternate position. R. Morra said the reasoning for the proposed appointment was that the

towns have historically had the practice of appointing their First Selectmen/Mayor and Administrators for the sake of maintaining consistency. Motion carried 3:2:0 with M. Emerita, R. Neil, and R. Morra for and S. Pierog and G. M. against.

S. Pierog moved to confirm the appointment of Laurie Volkert and James Rupert by the Fire Commission of Deputy Fire Marshals for a term ending 7/1/17. R. Neil seconded. Vote 5:0:0.

11. **Adjournment:** R. Neil moved to adjourn. S. Pierog seconded. The meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Benitez

Recording Secretary

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