

The Town of Bolton Board of Selectmen, hereinafter the “BOS” held its regular meeting on February 8, 2011 at the Town Hall with First Selectman Robert Morra presiding. Also in attendance were: Selectmen Robert Neil, Leslie Shea, Ray Walker, Robert Lessard, and Administrative Officer Joyce Stille. Also in attendance were Sandra Pierog, John Toomey, Gwen Marrion and Richard Treat.

1. Call to Order:

Mr. Morra called the meeting to order at 7:47 P.M.

2. Public Comment:

John Toomey, President of the Bolton Historical Society, informed the BOS that Heritage Day will be taking place on October 1st. In addition, the Historical Society is in the preliminary stages of planning a 70th Annual Firemen’s Ball.

3. Approval of Minutes:

January 4, 2011 Meeting

A motion was made by Mr. Neil, seconded by Ms. Shea to approve the aforementioned minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

January 25, 2011 Budget Workshop

A motion was made by Mr. Neil, seconded by Ms. Shea to approve the aforementioned minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Correspondence:

A motion was made by Ms. Shea, seconded by Mr. Neil to regrettfully accept the resignation of Raymond A. Walker, Jr. from the Economic Development Commission. Motion unanimously passed.

5. Unfinished Business:

Possible Trail Expansion at Bolton Heritage Farm

Richard Treat reported that Lance Dimock and Joe Dillon had looked at the proposed area. They were able to determine that flooding would not be an issue in this area. Mr. Treat explained that the proposed area is approximately 500-600 feet long and 18 inches wide.

6. New Business:

A. FEMA Reimbursement and Snow Removal Operations

Ms. Stille reported that the town submitted the required paperwork to the state. In the 48 hour period, the town expensed \$26,916, which includes the town and BOE. In the past reimbursement rates have been approximately 75-80%. The BOS and residents commended town staff on the snow removal, which included assisting with the schools snow removal.

B. Discussion on Property Tax Exemption for Buildings Used in Farming

The BOS reviewed the minor revisions suggested by the Town Attorney. Gwen Marrion, spoke on behalf of the Open Space Committee supporting the proposed ordinance. Ms. Marrion, Mr. Treat and Mr. Toomey spoke in regards to the importance of farming to the town and how this will help the local farmers.

A motion was made by Ms. Shea, seconded by Mr. Neil to set a Public Hearing regarding the Property Tax Exemption for Buildings used in Farming on Tuesday, March 1st, 2011, 7:00 P.M. at the Bolton Town Hall, 222 Bolton Center Road. Motion unanimously passed.

C. Discussion on FY11 and FY12 Budgets

The board reviewed the summary by department ending January 31, 2011. The Unemployment Compensation Line Item will require a budget transfer next month. This line item does cover the Town and BOE.

There will be one more budget workshop, which is scheduled for Tuesday, February 15th. The BOS reviewed the draft Board of Finance (BOF) Budget Calendar. Tentatively the BOF has scheduled March 31 to meet with the BOS. To finalize the calendar, the date for the budget referendum needs to be set.

A motion was made by Mr. Neil, seconded by Mr. Lessard to set the Budget Referendum for May 10th, at Bolton Town Hall, 222 Bolton Center Road from 6:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. Motion unanimously passed.

D. Discussion on Proposed Wireless Telecommunications Tower Facility

Ms. Stille reported that on the next Town Administrator's Show, the proposed tower will be discussed. There will also be an informational meeting held at Town Hall on February 28th at 7:00 P.M.

E. Consider and Act on Budget Transfers and/or Appropriation Requests

A motion was made by Ms. Shea, seconded by Mr. Walker to approve the following budget transfers:

Planning and Zoning Budget: \$1,000.00 from the Professional and Business Training line item to the Office Operation Expenses line item.

Fire Commission Budget: \$655.00 from Miscellaneous Activities line item to the Medical Expenses & Training line item.

The motion unanimously passed.

7. Ongoing Business:

A. Subcommittee Reports

Discussed in the First Selectman's Report.

B. Bolton Lakes Sewer Project

Mr. Morra reported that work on the wall should begin soon. Phase 1 is near completion. Meetings will begin with the businesses in Phase 2. Phase 3 and Phase 4 should go out to bid this year.

C. Properties and Facilities

Sandra Pierog, Chairman of the Bolton Heritage Farm Commission reported that the grant pre-application that was submitted for replacement of the sills was approved to move forward. The next step is to apply for a formal grant, which is due on March 1st.

The bid for the roof will be going out to bid later this week and would expect to bring the results to the April BOS meeting.

Ms. Pierog requested approval from the BOS to respond to an RFP for a grant to work with a consultant during the planning process of tying in Historical Assets and Properties. The grant does not require a match. The RFP is expected to be put out in approximately two weeks.

A motion was made by Mr. Lessard, seconded by Mr. Neil to approve the Bolton Heritage Farm Commission to respond to the RFP pending final review by the Board of Selectmen before submission. Motion unanimously passed.

D. Revenue Sources

Ms. Stille distributed a copy of the Capitol Region council of Governments Proposed Region 3 Spending Plan.

8. First Selectman's Report: CAPA Committee Meeting

Mr. Morra reviewed the Capital Plan that was compiled by the CAPA Committee. The final list will be approved by the BOS. All items listed were priority items for both the town and BOE.

Mr. Morra commended town staff on their effort during the multiple storms and snow removal. He also thanked residents for their patience while town staff took the necessary precautions to ensure safe roads.

Mr. Walker urged residents to make sure house numbers are visible from the road.

9. Administrative Officer's Report: A. Route 6 Regional Economic Development Council

On January 31st there was a meeting for the Planning and Zoning Commissions from each of the four towns. Each town will put together a subcommittee to move forward with the project.

B. Personnel

The new evening custodian will begin on Monday, February 14th.

Ms. Stille shared that the Food and Fuel Bank for Bolton is in desperate need of donations. If anyone is considering making a donation, please forward them to the Town of Bolton.

10. Appointments

Letters of interest have been received for various positions. However the BOS would like to review each and defer possible appointments until the March BOS meeting.

11. Adjournment:

A motion was made by Ms. Shea, seconded by Mr. Walker to adjourn the meeting at 8:49 P.M. Motion unanimously passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heidi Bolduk
Board Clerk

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