

The Town of Bolton Board of Selectmen, hereinafter the “BOS” held its regular meeting on March 1, 2011 at the Town Hall with First Selectman Robert Morra presiding. Also in attendance were: Selectmen Robert Neil, Leslie Shea, Ray Walker, and Administrative Officer Joyce Stille. Also in attendance were resident Gwen Marrion and several local farmers.

1. Call to Order:

Mr. Morra called the meeting to order at 7:17 P.M.

2. Public Comment:

None.

3. Approval of Minutes:

February 8, 2011 Budget Workshop

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

February 8, 2011 Regular Meeting

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

February 15, 2011 Special Meeting

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

4. Correspondence:

None.

5. Unfinished Business:

Possible Trail Expansion at Bolton Heritage Farm

Nothing new to report.

6. New Business:

A. Consider and Act on Property Tax Exemption for Buildings Used in Farming

A motion was made by Ms. Shea, seconded by Mr. Neil to adopt the Property Tax Exemption for Buildings Used in Farming. Motion unanimously passed.

B. Discussion on FY11 and FY12 Budgets

The group reviewed the Town Government FY12 Budget with an increase of 3.55%. The budget will be submitted to the Board of Finance (BOF) by March 15th. The BOF will meet on March 24th to review the BOE budget; March 31st to review the BOS, Capital & Debt Budget. The BOF will finalize the budget by April 14th. The Public Hearing will be taking place on April 28th, and the referendum will take place on May 10th.

The group reviewed the 2010 grand list totals that equal a 1.11% increase from 2009.

The group reviewed information from COST and CCM detailing proposed budget impacts on towns. COST reports that the majority of municipal aid stays level. CCM’s preliminary analysis reports a loss of \$6287. However this may not include everything. Municipalities may be expected to cover 100% of Resident State Troopers Overtime, which would include not only wages

and salaries, but also uniforms, car, office expenses, etc. This would apply to any Resident State Trooper working in Bolton. Currently the town covers 70% of the costs.

Mr. Morra shared that budgets were not severely impacted by the multiple winter storms. However, snow removal equipment and buildings will need additional repairs due to increased usage and leaks.

C. Discussion on Proposed Wireless Telecommunications Tower Facility

Mr. Morra discussed the informational meeting that took place on February 28th. The BOS received a report on the meeting from John Pagani. AT&T will be floating a balloon at the proposed height. Residents that attended the meeting provided contact information to receive e-mails specifying when this will take place. Information will also be posted on the town website.

D. Discussion on Revaluation

Ms. Stille shared information from Northeast Council of Governments (NECOG) and their recent process of going out to bid for revaluation services for their entire entity. One master contract was signed for all towns. The fees are based on per parcel basis. It appears to be a better price than towns receive independently. NECOG is willing to extend their contract to other towns. After a brief discussion, the BOS agreed to pursue this further.

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:

Highway Budget: \$7,000.00 from the Regular Payroll line item to the Other Payroll line item.

Unemployment/Refuse Services Budgets: \$655.00 from Refuse Services Budget/Tipping Fees line item to the Unemployment Budget/Misc. Department Activities line item.

The motion unanimously passed.

7. Ongoing Business:

A. Subcommittee Reports

None.

B. Bolton Lakes Sewer Project

Mr. Morra reported that work began on March 1. A public hearing will be taking place on March 15th to adopt the benefit assessment policy. Two public hearings will be taking place on March 30th to set the EDU's for Phase 1 and the other is to approve Phase 3 to go out to bid.

C. Properties and Facilities

Ms. Stille reported that the grant for replacement of the sills at Bolton Heritage Farm has been submitted.

Ms. Stille will be attending a meeting on March 2nd to discuss the town taking over the cemeteries.

Ms. Stille reported that the bids have come in for the FF&E on the High School Project. The majority of the equipment will have to be rebid; however it is not expected to delay the April move in date. Technology is expected to go out to bid soon. PCB's are still a concern. It appears to be

cost and time effective to remove all cement blocks and replace rather than continued testing and do a partial replacement.

D. Revenue Sources

Ms. Stille shared that the town received a grant from the Savings Bank of Manchester for the Closure in the Greenway. Gwen Marrion submitted the application on behalf of the town.

8. First Selectman's Report:

Mr. Morra requested to have subcommittee meet to discuss the possibility of purchasing a front end loader this year. This would not be a replacement; it would be in addition to the current equipment. The subcommittee will consist of Ray Walker, Robert Neil and Robert Morra. Highway Foreman, Lance Dimock will also be invited to attend.

9. Administrative Officer's Report:

The BOS needs to move forward with the Storm Water Ordinance. If the town does not have an ordinance in place, it may result in a fine. Other comparable towns have already approved this type of ordinance.

A. Route 6 Regional Economic Development Council

The Route 6 REDC is asking that all BOS or Town Council's adopt the final report prepared by LADA P.C. The BOS requested that a brief power point be presented at the next meeting, and then the BOS will act on it.

10. Appointments

Mr. Morra reported that he has been working on recruiting residents for current vacancies on boards and commissions.

11. Adjournment:

A motion was made by Mr. Neil, seconded by Mr. Walker to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 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.