

**TOWN OF BOLTON  
VETERANS COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING- MOTIONS  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2022, 1:30 P.M.**

Present: Kathy Walsh, Barry Stearns, Jim Clark, Paul Toomey, and Ernie Richardson.  
Others present: Pam Sawyer, Suellen Kamara and Kathy Mcavanagh.  
Not Present: Alexander Dumas and Gregory Carini.

**1-Call to Order:**

By: K. Walsh

Time: 1:32 p.m.

Place: In-Person

**2-Approval of Minutes:**

- a. November 3, 2022 – Regular Meeting Motions.
- b. November 3, 2022 – Regular Meeting Minutes.

**Motion:** I move that the Veterans Commission make some corrections in the name of Barry Stearns in the motions and in the minutes, item 9 (other), "Discussion Regarding Veterans' Tax Reliever." The word is changing, not charging.

By: B. Steans

Seconded: P. Toomey

Voting:

For: Kathy Walsh, Barry Stearns, Jim Clark, Paul Toomey, and Ernie Richardson.

Against: None

Absent: Two.

**6- Discussion Regarding Street Naming:**

**Motion:** I move that the Veterans Commission give the chairman the power to write a letter to the Board of Selectmen requesting the change of the name of the street to Veterans Way.

By: B. Steans

Seconded: E. Richardson

Voting:

For: Kathy Walsh, Barry Stearns, Jim Clark, Paul Toomey, and Ernie Richardson.

Against: None

Absent: Two.

**7- Discussion Regarding Veterans Tax Relief:**

**Motion:** I move that Barry Stearns will bring to the next Selectmen's meeting the possibility of raising veteran tax exemption beginning in July 2023.

By: J. Clark

Seconded: E. Richardson

Voting:

For: Kathy Walsh, Barry Sterns, Jim Clark, Paul Toomey, and Ernie Richardson.

Against: None

Absent: Two.

**Adjournment.**

The Veterans Commission adjourn at 3:12 p.m.

By: P. Toomey

Seconded: B. Steans

Voting:

For: Kathy Walsh, Barry Sterns, Jim Clark, Paul Toomey, and Ernie Richardson.

Against: None

Absent: Two.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Suellen Kamara.

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

**TOWN OF BOLTON  
VETERANS COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2022, 1:30 P.M.**

Present: Kathy Walsh, Barry Stearns, Jim Clark, Paul Toomey and Ernie Richardson.  
Others present: Suellen Kamara, Kathy McCavanagh and Pam Sawyer.  
Not present: Gregory Carini and Alexander Dumas.

**1. Call to Order.**

K. Walsh called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.

**2. Approval of Minutes:**

- a. November 3, 2022 – Regular Meeting Motions.
- b. November 3, 2022 – Regular Meeting Minutes.

**Motion:** I move that the Veterans Commission make corrections in the name of Barry Stearns in the motions and in the minutes, item 9 (other), "Discussion Regarding Veterans Tax Reliever." The word is "changing," not "charging."

By: B. Stearns

Seconded: P. Toomey

Voting:

For: Kathy Walsh, Barry Stearns, Jim Clark, Paul Toomey, and Ernie Richardson.

Against: None

Absent: Two.

**3. Update of Cemetery Review by Boy Scouts.**

K. McCavanagh stated that the full list of Veterans in the Quarryville Cemetery are located in the packet with a photo of each stone. The Boys Scouts are in the process of reviewing and collecting the same Veterans information for the Bolton Center Cemetery. The Boy Scouts initially stated they would try to have this accomplished by the middle of December.

**Action:** KM is waiting for an update on this project and will follow up if necessary.

K. Walsh would like to know who is in charge of the Boy Scout list, and McCavanagh informed that the head of Boys Scouts is Chris Duffy and P. Sawyer shared his number.

**4. Update on Medallions for Cemeteries.**

K. McCavanagh reviewed medallion prices from her research and included them in the packet. Amazon prices were the best, and the price (attached to the packet) is for aluminum medallions. The bronze medallions are more expensive -double the price.

P. Sawyer stated that the town has a cemetery fund, and if the commission would like, they can raise money to put medallions on each veteran's graves.

K. Walsh asked for discussion and that J. Clark initially had requested medallions and flags be placed in the cemetery.

J. Clark mentioned that he had paid for some medallions previously and there was a gentleman who always takes them down. K. McCavanagh will ask J. Butrymovich (Facilities Supervisor) if he knows the name of this individual.

P. Sawyer inquired whether the commission would like to create a marker with just a veteran's sign or one that shows which war they served in. J. Clark thinks it is better to just put veterans in the markers. K. Walsh agreed because the commission would need so many different individualized markers for each veteran. There was

discussion that they could trial this to see if theft would be an issue. The commission will need to know how many veterans' graves they will need the medallions to be placed. P. Sawyer asked Jim what his vision for the markers, and he believes that for medallions and flags it's a year-round project.

**5. Consider and Act on a Monetary Request for Next Year's Budget Proposal.**

The members will list out what the commission will need for the next year and decide the budget in the next meeting.

**Action:** All members to bring forward about the ideas for what should be requested in the budget.

**6- Discussion Regarding Street Naming.**

K. McCavanagh explained that the street is currently not named and is part of town property. The commission can request the area of the road to be named. If they can't do that, K. McCavanagh suggested putting up a sign that said "Veterans Way."

The commission requests a letter written to the Board of Selectmen.

**Motion:** I move that the Veterans Commission give the chairman the power to write a letter to the Board of Selectmen requesting the change of the name of the street to Veterans Way.

By: B. Stearns

Seconded: E. Richardson

Voting:

For: Kathy Walsh, Barry Stearns, Jim Clark, Paul Toomey, and Ernie Richardson.

Against: None

Absent: Two.

**Action:** K. Walsh to write letter to the Selectman.

**7. Discussion regarding Veterans Tax Relief.**

B. Stearns brought to the commission's attention that, according to CT Public Act No. 22-34 Sec. 33 (Veteran Property Tax Exemption), it's a town decision whether or not to raise the actual exemption of \$4,500. B. Stearns thinks the maximum the board will consider is \$10,000.

**Motion:** I move that Barry Stearns will bring to the next Selectmen's meeting the possibility of raising veteran tax exemption beginning in July 2023.

By: J. Clark

Seconded: E. Richardson

Voting:

For: Kathy Walsh, Barry Stearns, Jim Clark, Paul Toomey, and Ernie Richardson.

Against: None

Absent: Two.

**Action:** B. Stearns to present at the next meeting

**8. Name and Dedication of Bench.**

The Bolton P.T.A. came to the Selectman and requested a bench to be named after Sargent Michael Clarke, who passed away while on active duty in July. P. Sawyer provided a list of benches located throughout town.

**Action:** The commission is to review benches at the Town Hall, the Gazebo and on the Veterans Green to make a recommendation for the best place and what should be stated on the placque.

**9. Discussion regarding Memorial Day Parade Coordination.**

B. Stearns requested a list of what is already in place for the Memorial Day Parade at the previous meeting so the commission could review responsibilities. P. Sawyer requested that he contact John Toomey for further clarification.

**Action:** B. Stearns to report at the next meeting.

**10. Any additional Topics from Preliminary Meeting.**

- Adding a monument at the Veterans Memorial for other wars that somebody had
  - Names missing from the memorial that need to be corrected.
  - Regarding names missing at the Veterans Memorial, P. Sawyer believes it's better to put two small stones, saying "in memory of those who served in the "war," with no names on them, so, all veterans are recognized. Or if the commission would like to have more ideas, they can go to other towns and see what they have done.
- K. Walsh called Carrie (the Senior and Social Services Director) to see what veterans need help with in the town work with the social veterans is more occasional, such as with paperwork, applying for benefits, medications, etc.

**Action:** K. Walsh will set up a time for Carrie to come in and talk to the committee.

**11. Other.**

P. Sawyer suggested putting an item on the agenda to get someone from the department of Veterans Affair and have them talk about what kind of programs they have.

K. Walsh believes that Liz Waters (the town clerk) and Carrie Concatelli should also come to one of the meetings to explain what they are doing for the veterans in town.

**Action:** K. Walsh will call Liz Waters to come to discussion regarding the Connecticut General Statutes, Section 27-135, which explains the statutes regarding Veterans. The statute was passed to all members.

**Actions:** All members to review statute for the next meeting for the next meeting.

**10. Adjournment.**

The Veterans Commission was adjourned at 3:10 p.m. by Paul Toomey.

Respectfully Submitted

*Suellen Kamara*

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

Board of Selectmen  
Town of Bolton  
222 Bolton Center Road  
Bolton, CT 06043

Dear Board Members:

I am writing on behalf of the newly formed Veteran's Commission to request your approval to name the small section of street behind the "Veteran's Monument and Honor Roll".

This original request was brought forward by one of our community members. After careful and thoughtful discussion in our Commission, it was unanimously voted to request this currently unnamed section of road to be named "Veteran's Way."

Our veterans have sacrificed their lives for our country and the liberties we have and have contributed to the Town in ways too numerous to mention. This is a small tribute for our veterans, and it is never too late to continue letting them know their sacrifices are deeply appreciated.

Thank you for your honest and sincere review of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kathy Walsh".

Kathy Walsh  
Chairman of the Veteran's Commission

## **Summary**

### **Veteran Property Tax Exemption- Income Related**

CT Public Act No. 22-34 Sec. 33

– Effective Oct 31, 2022

“Veterans whose Federal Adjusted Gross income is less than \$50,100.00 shall be entitled to an exemption for the tax imposed on any dwelling owned and occupied by such veteran as such veteran’s primary residence in an amount equal to 10% of the assessed value of such primary residence.”

## Chart of impact on property tax revenue:

There are currently 361 homes in Bolton that receive the veteran property tax exemption.

I have rounded off the mil rate to 40 mils and the current total property tax revenue to \$18,000,000.00.

EXEMPTION	\$ COST	X 361 UNITS	= Total Cost	% OF TOTAL PROPERTY TAX REVENUE
\$4500.00 <sup>^</sup>	\$180		\$64,980	.36%
\$6,000.00	\$200		\$86,640	.48%
\$7,000.00	\$280		\$101,080	.56%
\$8,000.00	\$320		\$115,500	.64%
\$9,000.00	\$360		\$129,960	.70%
\$10,000.00	\$400		\$144,400	.80%

<sup>^</sup> Current Exemption



## Chart of impact on property tax revenue after State Reimbursement:

There are currently 361 homes in Bolton that receive the veteran property tax exemption.

I have rounded off the mil rate to 40 mils and the current total property tax revenue to \$18,000,000.00.

State Reimbursement is:  $\$1,500 \times 40 \text{ mils} = \$60.00$  per unit  $\times 361 \text{ units} = \$21,660$

EXEMPTION	\$ COST*	X 361 UNITS = Total Cost*	% OF TOTAL PROPERTY TAX REVENUE
\$4500.00 <sup>^</sup>	\$ 120	\$43,320	.24%
\$6,000.00	\$ 140	\$50,540	.28%
\$7,000.00	\$220	\$79,420	.44%
\$8,000.00	\$260	\$93,860	.52%
\$9,000.00	\$300	\$108,300	.60%
\$10,000.00	\$340	\$122,740	.68%

<sup>^</sup> Current Exemption

\*cost numbers are reduced due to state reimbursement.

# Bolton Memorial Day Program

May 30 2022

**Greetings:** Bob

**Opening Prayer:** Rev. Dr. Bruce Macleod

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Girl & Boy Scouts Reps

**Children Place Flags at monuments**

**Greeting form Brd of Selectman** Ist Selectman Pam Sawyer

**Military Salute to the Fallen** Bob Morra former US Army Specialist

**Star Spangled Banner:** Song By Bolton High Coral Group *Dan Ayer*

**Gettysburg Address:** Kelcie Perkins

**In Flanders Field:** Ali Hartzog

**Patriotic Song:** High School Band Directed by Katie *Derostiers*

**Main Speaker:** Lilly Dudek

**Remembrance of the Fallen:** John Toomey Jr. Bolton Historical Society

**Playing of Taps:** *1 + echo*

**Closing Prayer:** Rev Dr. Bruce Macleod

Dismissing of the Attendees

There is a newer version of this Section

# 2018 Connecticut General Statutes

## Title 27 - Armed Forces and Veterans

### Chapter 506 - Veterans

#### Section 27-135 - Local veterans' advisory committee. Veterans' service contact person. Training.

**Universal Citation:** CT Gen Stat § 27-135 (2018)

(a) Any city or town, either separately or with one or more other cities and towns, may, by ordinance, establish a local veterans' advisory committee which shall have the responsibility of carrying out locally the duties and purposes of this section and, within their charter powers and as otherwise provided by law, may make available to such local committees the necessary funds to carry out their duties and responsibilities. The committee may (1) act as the coordinating agency in all matters concerning veterans and their dependents, coordinating the activities of public and private facilities concerned with veterans' reemployment, education, rehabilitation and adjustment to peacetime living; (2) cooperate with all national, state and local governmental and private agencies in securing services and benefits to which a veteran or his dependents may be entitled; (3) use the services and facilities of the veterans organizations so far as possible to carry out the purposes of this section; and (4) encourage and coordinate vocational training services for veterans.

(b) (1) Any city or town that has not established its own local veterans' advisory committee separate from one or more other cities or towns pursuant to subsection (a) of this section and does not otherwise provide funding for a veterans' service officer shall designate a city

or town employee to serve as a veterans' service contact person in such city or town. The Commissioner of Veterans Affairs shall annually send to the chief executive officer of any such city or town an electronic notification of such chief executive officer's duty to so designate a city or town employee in accordance with this subsection. Such chief executive officer shall, not later than thirty days after receipt of such notification, submit to the Office of Advocacy and Assistance, as described in subsection (b) of section 27-102l, the name and electronic mail address of the city or town employee so designated. As used in this subdivision, "chief executive officer" means the officer described in section 7-193.

(2) Any city or town employee designated as a veterans' service contact person shall carry out the duties described in subsection (a) of this section and shall complete a training course conducted by the Office of Advocacy and Assistance, as described in subdivision (3) of subsection (b) of section 27-102l, or attend a training session conducted by the manager of said office, as described in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of said section. Each employee so designated prior to July 1, 2016, shall complete such training course prior to January 1, 2017. Each employee so designated on or after July 1, 2016, shall complete such training course not later than one year after the date of such designation. Upon completion of such training course, a veterans' service contact person may thereafter receive electronically any new or updated training information from the Office of Advocacy and Assistance and shall not be required to complete any other such training course.

(1949, S. 1647d; 1957, P.A. 13, S. 78; P.A. 13-34, S. 2; P.A. 14-56, S. 2; P.A. 16-68, S. 3; 16-192, S. 2; P.A. 17-36, S. 3.)

History: P.A. 13-34 designated existing provisions as Subsec. (a), added Subsec. (b) re veterans' service contact person, and made technical changes; P.A. 14-56 amended Subsec. (b)(1) to replace "a" with "its own" and add "separate from one or more other cities or towns", effective May 23, 2014; P.A. 16-68 amended Subsec. (b) by designating existing provisions re designation of veterans' service contact person as new Subdiv. (1) and amending same by adding provisions re electronic notification to chief executive officer, submission of name and electronic mail address of designated city or town employee and definition of "chief executive officer", designating existing provisions re contact person duties and training course as new Subdiv. (2) and amending same by replacing "may complete an annual" with "shall complete a" and adding provisions re completion of training course, and making conforming changes; P.A. 16-192 amended Subsec. (b) by adding "subdivision (1) of" in reference to Sec. 27-102l(b) and adding provision re attending training session conducted by unit head as described in Sec. 27-102l(b)(2)(A); P.A. 17-36 amended Subsec. (b) to replace references to veterans' advocacy and assistance

unit with references to Office of Advocacy and Assistance, replace “unit head” with “manager”, and replace reference to Sec. 27-102l(b)(1) with reference to Sec. 27-102l(b)(3) in Subdiv. (2).

**Disclaimer:** These codes may not be the most recent version. Connecticut may have more current or accurate information. We make no warranties or guarantees about the accuracy, completeness, or adequacy of the information contained on this site or the information linked to on the state site. Please check official sources.