

**BOLTON BOARD OF FINANCE
SPECIAL MEETING
TUESDAY, JULY 13, 2021– 8:15 pm
VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM WEBSITE PLATFORM
Minutes**

Board of Finance Members Present: Chairman Emily Bradley, Vice-Chair Robert Munroe, Charles Danna Jr., Kristen Gourley, Robert DePietro and Richard Tuthill

Board of Finance Members Absent: Ross Lally

Board of Selectmen Present: First Selectman Sandra Pierog and Selectman Robert DePietro

Board of Education Members Present: Superintendent of Schools Kristin Heckt, Christopher Davey, Anne Decker

Staff Present: Interim Town Administrator Jim Rupert and Board Clerk Linda McDonald

Others Present: Tom Manning

1. Call to Order: E. Bradley called the meeting to order at 8:20 p.m.
2. Public Participation: S. Pierog reported 803 votes were cast at today's referendum. The final vote was 378 yes and 425 no. The budget did not pass.

Tom Manning suggested the board make the possible maximum cut to the BOE allowed by state statute and a proportional cut to the BOS.

3. Ongoing Business:
 - 3.a Discussion on FY 2021/2022 Revenues and Expenditures:

E. Bradley said, since the budget did not pass, the board has to come up with a new budget for referendum and set a temporary mil rate so tax bills can go out.

S. Pierog noted that July 27, 2021 will be the next referendum date.

To begin discussion, E. Bradley shared a chart that proposed \$56,975 in BOS reductions and \$115,609 in BOE reductions for a total of \$172,584. She said there would be a mil rate increase to 39.22 and noted a \$331,000 total reduction would be needed to keep the mil rate at 38.86. Discussion followed.

R. Munroe MOVED to reduce expenditures by \$80,000, including an additional reduction of \$20,000 from the BOS budget and an additional reduction of \$60,000 from the BOE budget for the upcoming fiscal year. R. DePietro SECONDED. This would result in an annual budget of \$22,828,494 and a mil rate of 39.43, a 1.5% increase. Discussion followed on the motion.

MOTION CARRIED 4:2:0 with E. Bradley and K. Gourley opposed.

- 3.b Consider and Possibly Act on Ballot Question:

R. Munroe MOVED the ballot question as follows:

“Shall the Annual Budget for the Town of Bolton, Connecticut for the fiscal year 2022 as recommended by the Board of Finance in the amount of \$22,828,494 be adopted?”

R. Tuthill SECONDED. There was no discussion. MOTION CARRIED 6:0:0.

4. New Business:

4.a Consider and possibly act on setting a temporary mil rate for FY 2022:

E. Bradley said the temporary mil rate cannot be higher than 38.86.

K. Gourley MOVED to set a temporary mil rate of 38.86 for FY 2022. R. DePietro SECONDED. There was no discussion. MOTION CARRIED 6:0:0.

4.b Consider and possibly act on setting the mil rate for FY 2022: No action taken.

4.c Schedule another meeting date: E. Bradley said a special meeting will be scheduled for July 27, 2021 at 8:15 p.m. after the referendum.

4.d Holding Meetings in Person:

Consensus of the members was to continue with remote meetings through this budget cycle.

5. Adjournment: E. Bradley adjourned the meeting at 9:19 p.m.

Next Special Meeting: July 27, 2021 - 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Linda H. McDonald, Board Clerk

Linda H. McDonald.

PLEASE SEE THE MINUTES OF SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS FOR THE APPROVAL OF THESE MINUTES AND ANY CORRECTIONS HERETO.