

**TOWN OF BOLTON
FINANCE COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
7:00 P.M., WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2025
*TOWN HALL/ZOOM***

Finance Committee Members Present at Town Hall/Zoom: Chair Ross Lally, Member Rhea Klein, Member Ashley Phelan, Member Robert Morra (7:05 p.m.), Member Amanda Gordon, Member Tyler Egner. Absent was Member Chris Connelly.

Staff Present Via Town Hall/Zoom: Chief Financial Officer Jill Collins, Town Administrator Jim Rupert, Board Clerk Mary Johnston, Board of Education Superintendent Kristin Heckt, Building and Grounds John Butrymovich, Selectmen Rodney Fournier and Pamela Sawyer

Others Present Via Town Hall/Zoom: Amanda Balboni, Ashley Paggoli, David and Tatiana Keating, Chris Duffy, Joel Petoski

1. Call to Order

R. Lally called the meeting to order at 7:01p.m.

2. Public Participation:

Amanda Balboni, 7 Valerie Dr., proposed the Committee consider the following: 1) Fire Station request to follow the recommendation of the Auditor before approving any requests; 2) Heritage Farm request consider the restoration; 3) Heritage Park Request for field/basketball courts updates; 4) Indian Notch Park request for installation/repaving of basketball courts; 5) Town Hall consideration of timing; and 6) understanding the need for EV charging stations at the Library.

R. Lally informed the Committee he will abstain from voting going forward due to his position with the Town.

3. Discussion on Budget Calendar (CAPA)

The Budget Calendar will be decided at the Wednesday, January 22, 2025, CAPA meeting.

4. Discussion on CAPA Budget

J. Butrymovich reviewed the budget requests for the 2025-2030 fiscal years. Some budget requests were removed for ARPA funds (BHF Manure Pit, Reclaim INP Basketball Court, Reclaim Herrick Basketball Court, Notch Park Basketball Court, Memorial Park Basketball Court). A. Gordon asked if mileage reimbursement could be used in place of purchasing a vehicle. The budget amount of \$76,124 was added for Fire House Roof Replacement. P. Sawyer wondered if there could be a reduction in insurance costs for roof replacements and asked J. Rupert to investigate. P. Sawyer wondered if the improvements to the Town Clerk's vault were recommended or a requirement. P. Sawyer stressed that the current

Town Hall will continue as a Town Building if a new Town Hall is constructed. R. Lally expressed his concerns about the declining student population and maintaining long-term budget requests and would like to see a plan. J. Collins and J. Rupert will review available funds for the Lyman Road Bridge project and apply for a TRIP grant. P. Sawyer and A. Gordon mentioned spreading out expenditures over multiple years for larger capital projects. K. Heckt reviewed the Board of Education CAPA budget and requested removing the following: BCS Bell System, Camera Security System-Door Safety and Well and Freezer Generator. J. Rupert reviewed the Fire Budget and suggested removing the Utility Task Vehicle funded by ARPA funds.

R. Lally expressed concerns about funding of a new Town Hall without raising mil rates and increasing student population. A. Phelan agreed with R. Lally's comments and felt it was important to prioritize projects. A. Phelan would like to bring in the Fire Department at the next meeting. A. Gordon requested a consolidated version of the CAPA budget at the next meeting. R. Fournier discussed the funding of the new Town Hall and availability of grants. R. Lally pointed out there is no funding available to do all the projects. J. Collins stated there are two projects missing: payment for the "portables" and Revalve and there is a \$53,000 deficit for this year.

5. Consider and Act on CAPA Budget

The Finance Committee will consider and act on the CAPA Budget on Wednesday, January 22, 2025.

6. Adjournment

R. Morra MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 8:57 p.m. A. Gordon SECONDED the motion. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 6:0:0.

Respectfully submitted by Mary J. Johnston

Mary J. Johnston

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

SEE ATTACHMENTS UNDER SEPARATE COVER.