

**TOWN OF BOLTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING TUESDAY, JUNE 5, 2018**

		Present	Absent
First Selectman	Sandra Pierog	X	
Deputy First Selectman	Robert Morra	X	
Selectman	Mike Eremita	X	
Selectman	Kim Miller (remote)	X	
Selectman	Nicole Sullivan	X	
Administrative Officer	Joyce Stille	X	
Others	5 members of the public	X	

1. Call to Order

By: Sandra Pierog

Time: 7:12 p.m.

Place: Town Hall

2. Public Comment:

Jim Aldrich, 35 Hanover Farms Road – is building the dentist office on Boston Turnpike. He submitted a letter dated June 5, 2017 requesting the lobbying for the elimination of the July 2018 building code update as a way to save money for the state, towns, and the construction industry. The code is changed often and the updated code books are not printed in timely manner to allow builders time to get up to speed on the new code before another update is passed. There should be a grace period after the new book is published in order to digest the updates.

Kim Welch, 51 Vernon Road – thanked the Town for the use of the Everbridge system when Route 44 was closed due to a transformer fire and lines on the road surface. She urges the use of the alert system more frequently. Many people do not use social media while en route. DOT states there are 15,000 vehicles using one lane during the average commuting hours to get into town, whether on Route 6 or Route 44. Welch asks that the Town plead with DOT to fix the intersection to have two lanes of I-384 for Route 44 traffic and an arrow at the traffic signal for Quarry Road. It is frustrating to be stuck in traffic for hours on I-384 when Route 6 is closed. These closures happen fairly often. She has asked DOT about getting digital signage further out so drivers can select an alternate route. Stille stated there are discussions with CRCOG and DOT about placing digital traffic alert signs for I-384 eastbound.

William Anderson, 76 French Road – the Economic Development Committee would like to know if the BOS is in favor of publishing tax incentives on the website in order to be more competitive.

Bike/walk Bolton is looking for a port-a-potty somewhere on the trail. The EDC would be happy to pay for the facility until the money runs out. They are also looking into composting toilets. The EDC believes that trail brings people into town. He suggested the port-a-potty be placed at Notch Pond. Pierog indicated this is State land for which

permission would be required to place anything there. The Selectmen already denied a request to fund the toilet out of Town funds. This item does not fall under the EDC fund. The Finance Subcommittee will review this matter. Anderson asked that this be expedited in order to place the toilet as soon as possible. Morra is wary of the continued yearly cost. The commuter parking lot is a major terminal why not encourage the State to add a simple facility there. A State garage is there for security. The State has been approached about this, but money is the issue. It should be tied to the bike trail, too, not only the commuter lot.

3. Approval of Minutes:

A. May 8, 2018 Regular Meeting

Motion: Move to approve the minutes of the May 8, 2018, meeting.

By: Morra

Seconded: Eremita

Voting:

For: Pierog, Miller, Morra, Sullivan, Eremita

Against: None

Abstain: None

B. May 22, 2018 Special Meeting

Motion: Move to approve the minutes of the May 22, 2018, meeting.

By: Morra

Seconded: Eremita

Voting:

For: Pierog, Miller, Morra, Sullivan, Eremita

Against: None

Abstain: None

4. Correspondence:

An email and supporting documentation was received from Gwen Marrion, President of the Bolton Land Trust, requesting a letter from BOS in support of a grant application that will be used to purchase the property at 89 Church Street.

Gwen Marrion was present at the meeting. 89 Church Street has frontage on Brandy Street and is adjacent to the Lombardi Ridge Preserve. If purchased, the properties will represent the largest, contiguous open space in Bolton. The nationwide competition for the federal grant monies is through DEEP Forest. This forest will be very community oriented in the planning, use, and management. It will serve the important function of educating landowner management of forest land. This area attracts the woodcock and the New England Cottontail along with bobcat and wild turkey. The future vision is to connect this preserve to Heritage Farm. Heritage Farm history includes a Revolutionary War French encampment and 89 Church Street has history of the Second Great Awakening Methodist gathering.

Morra is in favor of the project, but asked how acquiring the parcel would affect tax revenue versus the possibility of it being developed. Marrion replied that this would be a most difficult property to develop. The latest tax bill was for \$243. Eremita asked what strings would be attached if the grant is won. Marrion indicated that the Land Trust would have to own the parcel forever. The Town would not have any obligation for the property.

Motion: Move to provide a letter of support for the grant application to purchase the property located at 89 Church Street by the Bolton Land Trust.

By: Sullivan

Seconded: Eremita

Pierog suggested that the first line of the draft letter be amended to read "...unanimously supports the efforts..."

Voting:

For: Pierog, Miller, Morra, Sullivan, Eremita

Against: None

Abstain: None

5. Unfinished Business:

None

6. New Business:

A. Charter Oak Greenway Shared Use Path and Path Extension

There will be a Trails meeting on June 12, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. at Notch Road. The path continues to be worked on; gas line work continues along Route 85 near Williams Road.

B. Lower Bolton Lake Status Report

A request was sent to DEEP for the annual draw down. The water is looking a little green, which may be because of pollen season. It continues to be monitored by our consultant and volunteers.

C. FY18 Budget

Stille directed the BOS' attention to the Totals line with 79.93% Expensed for 2018 compared to 80.75% in 2017, 79.29 % in 2016, and 80.02% in 2015.

The State Trooper bill was received yesterday for \$318,000 that does not include telephone charges; \$365,293 was budgeted for Police. Base salaries were \$163,000; the remaining is for overhead costs including cars, insurance, uniforms, meals, and travel miles.

The Tax Collector report was provided through April 30, 2018. The Motor Vehicle line item has the greatest change as a different mill rate was used.

The Board of Finance will meet on Thursday; setting the mill rate is on the agenda.

D. Consider and Act on FY19 Budget

The following reductions/additions are proposed to get to the necessary \$50,000 reduction.

+ OR -	Budget/Line Item	Comment from Stille
\$300	Administration \$300 Other Payroll	
-\$4,950	Professional/Technical Services -\$4,950 Official/Administrative Services (Reval)	Not as many inspections were needed.
-\$45,000	Police Protections -\$45,000 Contracts	
-\$2,300	Library -\$1,300 Regular Payroll -\$1,000 Other Payroll	Had funds that were not needed.
\$1,950	Employee Fringe Benefits \$3,250 Fire Fighter Retention Program -\$1,300 Workers' Compensation	More people are aging out.

Motion: Move to approve the reductions/additions as proposed.

By: Morra

Seconded: Eremita

Voting:

For: Pierog, Miller, Morra, Sullivan, Eremita

Against: None

Abstain: None

E. Consider and Act on Stormwater Ordinance

Pierog suggests that throughout the ordinance, "Administrative Officer" be changed to the "Board of Selectman" and use "or Authorized Designee" throughout the document. Sullivan and Eremita agree voiced their support of this change.

Motion: Move to change the language as suggested by Pierog and to adopt the Stormwater Ordinance.

By: Sullivan

Seconded: Morra

Morra commented that the ordinance cannot be revisited until State DEEP changes the Towns' requirements.

Voting:
For: Pierog, Miller, Morra, Sullivan
Against: Eremita
Abstain: None

Eremita voted against the adoption of the ordinance because he does not agree with its premise.

F. Consider and Act on Bid Waiver

A letter from the school Superintendent regarding the Board of Education's approving the waiving of the bid process for the phone system upgrade.

Stille stated that since this is a Capital Reserve purchase, it is under the Board of Selectmen to waive the bid. Granite had installed the current phone system town wide.

Pierog stated that Granite is an approved vendor, but is not on the State bid list as being the lowest bidder for this service.

Motion: Move to approve the bid waiver process for the Board of Education's phone system upgrade.

By: Eremita Seconded: Sullivan

Eremita understands the reason and agrees with the BOE regarding using the current vendor for a smoother upgrade. Pierog added that all of the Town buildings are on the same system.

Voting:
For: Pierog, Miller, Morra, Sullivan, Eremita
Against: None
Abstain: None

G. Appointment of Charter Study Committee

Pierog began the discussion by stating that she intended to appoint Stille to this committee. On further reflection she feels this would not be fair to Stille, the Town, or the Committee because her position is regulated so much by the charter. Therefore, she proposes the following people be appointed to the Charter Study Committee: Robert Gallé, Heidi Luck, William Pike, John Toomey, Jr., Gwen Marrion, Adam Tellier, and Paula Meyers.

Motion: Move to appoint Robert Gallé, Heidi Luck, William Pike, John Toomey, Jr., Gwen Marrion, Adam Tellier, Paula Meyers to the Charter Study Committee.

By: Pierog Seconded: Sullivan

Voting:
For: Pierog, Miller, Morra, Sullivan, Eremita
Against: None

Abstain: None

The committee does not have a specific timeframe by State statutes. Pierog would like to hear back from them with what, if anything, should be changed in the Town Charter.

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

Stille provided the list of transfers to date. More transfers can be expected including requests from the Fire Department.

FY18 TOWN GOVERNMENT BUDGET TRANSFERS

June 2018

BOS

Budget	Amount	From Line Item		To Line Item
Administration	\$1,000.00	Regular Payroll	to	Office Operating
Tax Collector	\$3,100.00	Other Payroll	to	Office Operating
Data Processing	\$840.00	Other Contracts	to	Office Operating
Fire Commission/Fire Dept.	\$38.00	Office	to	Medical
	\$205.00	Other Contracts	to	Uniforms
	\$3,699.00	Purchased Services	to	Uniforms
	\$213.00	Other Contracts	to	Equipment
	\$1,470.00	Professional Business	to	Equipment
	\$5,000.00	Purchased Services	to	Equipment
	\$326.00	Other Contracts	to	Repairs
Seniors	\$4,000.00	Other Payroll	to	Vendor Payments
Fringe Benefits	\$4,000.00	Pension	to	Unemployment
Insurance/Fringe Benefits	\$4,500.00	Property & Liability Insurance	to	Unemployment
Auditing/Data Processing	\$1,450.00	Audit	to	Other Contracts

7. Ongoing Business:

A. Subcommittee Reports

None

B. Properties and Facilities

A meeting is scheduled for June 6, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. with a lengthy agenda.

The Heritage Farm Commission has been working with Deb Livingston, representing the group that runs the Bolton Cross Country series about adding an additional loop to lengthen the trail. Richard Treat walked the proposed route and stated that it looked like a reasonable suggestion and will be a good improvement. The work to create the added loop will take some work and will not be ready this year.

Work continues at Heritage Farm. The house has been scraped and painting started. The porch is still on hold while the columns are hand-crafted.

There will be a Human Resources meeting on June 14, 2018 that includes review of the Fire Marshal's job description and Stille's review.

C. Revenue Sources

None

8. First Selectman's Report:

A. Meeting with Land Use Boards

A meeting will be held with all of the Land Use Boards on June 19, 2018. On the agenda will be the building regulation change suggestions from the Planning and Zoning Commission.

B. Other Updates

Pierog reported that she received a rather strange email from a gentleman looking for recommendations of some open, non-agricultural use, clear or semi-clear land in town that his organization, the Connecticut Green Cemetery Association, may purchase to establish a cemetery for green burials. The land would also have to be 300' from a watercourse and have well-draining soils. Green burials do not use embalming fluids, caskets, and potentially, vaults. Headstones are not used; a tree is planted instead.

Morra suggested that he visit Union as it may have land with the criteria listed.

9. Administrative Officer's Report:

A. Statewide Emergency Management Drill

The Town will participate on June 20, 2018 with the emergency being a tropical storm.

B. CRCOG

Stille, Pierog and Patrice Carson will attend the annual meeting next week.

Items we continue to work with CRCOG on are highway signs with DOT and finishing the hazardous mitigation plan that has to be done every ten years.

C. Refuse and Recycling

It has been reported to the Town that many loads are recycling are contaminated, such as, unrinsed items, pizza boxes with oils, shredded documents, and plastic bags. The Town is paid for what it recycles. If the contamination continues, that revenue could be lost and the Town may have to pay more for recycling collection. This occurs in other towns. Since the DEEP is promoting recycling, the vendors are trying to get towns to pay more attention and take more care with what is recycled. The list of what is recycle and what is trash is on the Town website.

Suggestions from the Members included a one-page visual that can be posted directly on the website rather than having to follow a link to see the list, using the library display cases, sending the list out with the tax bills, an education campaign at the schools, having the flyers at the Town Clerk's office, using social media, and making delivering the flyer to households a scouting project. Stille will check when the library display cases are next available.

The 300th anniversary committee is meeting again on June 11, 2018.

10. Appointments:

None

11. Adjournment:

Motion: Move to adjourn the meeting at 8:39 p.m.

By: Morra

Seconded: Sullivan

Voting:

For: Pierog, Miller, Morra, Sullivan, Eremita

Against: None

Abstain: None

Respectfully Submitted,

Yvonne B. Filip

Yvonne B. Filip, Board of Selectmen Recording Secretary

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