



Town of Bolton

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BOS FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2019 12:30 P.M. - TOWN HALL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

The December 6, 2019 meeting of the Board of Selectmen's Finance & Administration Committee was called to order by Chair, Sandra Pierog, at 12:39 PM.

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT: First Selectman Sandra Pierog, Selectman Michael Eremita, and Selectman Kim Miller.

OTHERS PRESENT: Administrator Joshua Steele Kelly.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

AGENDA ITEM 3A – Open Space Committee.

DISCUSSION: Kelly explained that Open Space Committee is entirely vacant and defunct at the present time, and current state statute empowers municipal conservation commissions to act in the same capacity, and thus the ordinance empaneling the Open Space Committee is redundant. Pierog and Eremita expressed interest in not changing the ordinance in favor of the Board of Selectmen taking on some responsibilities until such a time that the committee can become active via volunteers.

CONSENSUS was reached that Open Space should appear on the Board of Selectmen's agenda on a quarterly basis, in which cases the Conservation Commission and Planning & Zoning Commission liaisons to the former Open Space Committee would be invited to come make a report and to discuss questions of open space. This concept will be brought forward to the whole Board for final consent.

AGENDA ITEM 3B – Gun & Lethal Weapon Policy.

DISCUSSION: It was noted that the town currently has no policy regarding weapons being carried in buildings or on town grounds, and several inquiries have been made at the library regarding the legality of carrying lethal weapons in that space. Conversation regarding the status of hunting on town property and carrying of arms on town land ensued. Ultimately, members of the committee agreed that being allowed to carry weapons in one's car and on town grounds made sense, but allowing them inside town buildings was dangerous.

CONSENSUS was reached that a draft ordinance would be drafted by the Administrator, reviewed by the Town Attorney, and referred to the full Board for final consent.

AGENDA ITEM 3C – Narcan Policy.

DISCUSSION: Pierog asked Eremita for input on potential harm that could be caused by improper use and application of Narcan. Eremita stated that improper use would not harm the recipient, and that it could really only help in a situation involving narcotic overdoses. Eremita expressed an interest in seeing general instructions for use being included as part of the written draft policy.

CONSENSUS was reached that the draft policy, with additions as desired by Eremita, would be referred to the full Board for final consent.

AGENDA ITEM 3D – Student Representatives to the Board of Selectmen.

DISCUSSION: Pierog suggested that the draft resolution be amended to include an invitation of students to Board committee meetings as well as regular meetings. Eremita and Pierog both expressed interest in combining this offering with the opportunity to complete a senior capstone project somehow in partnership with the town.

CONSENSUS was reached that the draft resolution, with alterations as suggested by Pierog and Eremita, would be forwarded to the Bolton Public Schools administration for review and comment, after which the matter would again be discussed by committee. This action will be reported to the Board at the next regular meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 3E – Fire Commission & Attendance Policy.

DISCUSSION: It was noted that the Town Charter does not prohibit more than five Fire Commissioners from being appointed, so long as no more than two are members of the volunteer fire company. It was suggested by Eremita that the Fire Commission term of office be reviewed by the Charter Revision Commission.

CONSENSUS was reached that the Administrator would inform the Fire Commission of their opportunity to recruit more members and forward Eremita's recommendation to the Charter Revision Commission. This action will be reported to the Board at the next regular meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 3F – ATV Noise.

DISCUSSION: The specific situation that gave rise to this agenda item was detailed by Pierog.

CONSENSUS was reached on the idea that the state statute governing ATV use was strict enough and simply must be enforced more regularly, but that a local ordinance was not necessary at this time. This recommendation will be reported to the Board at the next regular meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 4A – Blight Ordinance.

DISCUSSION: Conversation was held about the takeaways from the public hearing held on the matter back in September.

CONSENSUS was reached that the subject was simply too difficult to wade through at the current time, and that the Board should set the draft ordinance aside for a while to see what more feedback, if any, is collected from the public on this matter.

AGENDA ITEM 4B – Hartford Foundation for Giving.

DISCUSSION: Pierog explained that town staff may be able to serve on the committee if they are not an elected or appointed official. Outreach to prospective participants will continue to be conducted by the Selectmen on this committee and the Administrator.

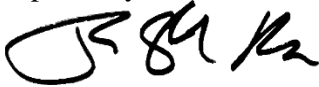
AGENDA ITEM 4C – Cemeteries.

DISCUSSION: Complaints have been made about lawn maintenance and the fact that re-seeding the ground after burial needs to be worked on.

CONSENSUS was reached that the Administrator should bring in more information about the contract currently held with United Cemetery Services to the next committee meeting so that a more education discussion can be held on the matter.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 1:47 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Steele Kelly', written in a cursive style.

Joshua Steele Kelly, Administrator

See minutes of subsequent meetings for approval of these minutes and any corrections hereto.