



Town of Bolton

222 BOLTON CENTER ROAD • BOLTON, CT 06043
TELEPHONE (860) 649-8066 FAX (860) 643-0021

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2020
7:00 P.M. - TOWN HALL
BUDGET WORKSHOP MINUTES**

The February 25, 2020 Board of Selectmen Budget Workshop was called to order by First Selectman, Sandra Pierog, at 7:11 PM.

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT: First Selectman Sandra Pierog, Selectman Michael Eremita, Selectman Robert Morra, and Selectman Robert DePietro.

OTHERS PRESENT: Finance Director Jill Collins and Administrator Joshua Steele Kelly.

AGENDA ITEM 2 – Discussion on the FY 2021 Proposed Budget.

DISCUSSION: Discussion began with the Administration budget section, where Morra suggested a reduction in the amount of \$16,500. Kelly explained a bit about the Graduate Assistant program he hopes to launch with the funds in question, and Morra withdrew his suggestion after hearing more. Eremita suggested that a total of \$13,550 be cut from the section, as he stated that he and others may not read a hard-copy magazine that Kelly had proposed creating with those funds. Pierog stated that she believes a magazine could be created for less than is requested. **CONSENSUS** was reached to partially reduce that amount, with the reduction totaling \$9,033, leaving \$4,517 leftover for Kelly to use in the creation of such a magazine.

It was asked whether or not additional money would be added to the Finance Department's budget to allow for the Administrative Clerks to work a full 40-hour week. It was agreed that the sum would not be added, and that the budget section would stand as initially requested.

CONSENSUS was reached that both Add Decision Packages would be added to the Town Clerk's budget, including a sum of \$3,491 to increase the Assistant Town Clerk's hours to 35/week and \$4,885 to allow for the codification of Town regulations and ordinances.

CONSENSUS was reached that a sum of \$4,160 will be added to the Town Building Operations budget to be used for personnel.

Discussion was held on the Fire Marshal's budget. Eremita stated that he was uncomfortable with going two years before we met the statutory requirement for Fire Marshal inspections. **CONSENSUS** was reached that the Fire Marshal would be asked how much it would cost to expedite the process to a one-year timeframe before a final decision on the budget section was made.

It was asked whether or not the Library Drop Package should be considered. **CONSENSUS** was reached that the department's request would remain intact.

The Tax Collector's budget request was discussed. Kelly recommended, after further review, that the Collector's original request be funded. CONSENSUS was reached to do so.

The Building & Land Use budget was discussed, and it was generally decided that some form of small reduction should be made. It was agreed that Kelly would ask the department director for input on where a reduction would make most sense.

Kelly described the small changes between line items that were made to the Fire Commission's budget between previous budget workshops and this workshop. He added that the bottom line request remains the same.

The Highway Department's budget was discussed, and it was generally agreed that there was a middle ground to be found between the department's initial ask and the possible reduction recommended by town staff. CONSENSUS was reached that the staff recommendation would be increased by a sum of \$25,000 split between the Repairs & Maintenance Supplies and Sand & Salt lines.

CONSENSUS was reached, after some discussion, that the Transfers budget section would be removed and the lines within would be redistributed back to the locations at which they were found in the FY 2020 budget.

Pierog and Kelly explained the Capital Improvement Plan, as proposed by CAPA. CONSENSUS was reached that this plan would move forward for approval at the Board meeting next week.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:34 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Kelly', written over a horizontal line.

Joshua Steele Kelly, Administrator

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