

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2021
7:00 P.M. – VIRTUAL
REGULAR MEETING

The Board of Selectmen held a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, September 7, 2021 with First Selectman Sandra Pierog presiding. Also in attendance were Selectmen: Robert Morra, Michael Eremita, Kim Miller, Robert DePietro and Interim Administrative Officer James Rupert.

Also Present: Pam Sawyer, Milton Hathaway and Skyler Frazier.

1. Call to Order.

First Selectman Sandra Pierog called the meeting to order at 7:03 P.M.

2. Public Comment.

Milton Hathaway was provided the opportunity to speak but declined at this time. Pam Sawyer of 95 South Road Bolton CT requested that the Town provide her a list of any fall activities they were aware of so they could be part of the 300 +1 celebration. She additionally informed the Selectman that she was hoping for a group to participate in the Bolton Congregational Church Christmas tree event by getting a group together to put a 300th themed tree. Sandra Pierog asked that she share the information with Kathy McCavanagh for inclusion into the next Bolton Bulletin.

3. Approval of Minutes.

After a review of the Board of Selectman minutes from the Regular Meeting held August 3, 2021 Robert Morra motioned their approval. The motion was seconded by Robert DePietro and passed 5-0-0.

4. Correspondence.

The Board of Selectmen received a letter of resignation from Pamela Parsons and discussed the current status of coverage for that office. The Town received a letter of thanks from Matt Anderson regarding the RIMACONN Relay which First Selectman Pierog shared with the Board. She also shared a recent communication from CT Greenbank regarding the letter of intent for the solar carport project at the High School. Discussion then moved to a written request from William Anderson and Mike Bugnacki who requested an extension of a reduction in a new home building permit fee for 217 Hebron Road which expired July 19, 2021. After some discussion Robert DePietro moved to grant a one year extension from June 19, 2021 of the \$1240.00 credit for a permit to construct a new home at 217 Hebron Road. The motion was seconded by Robert Morra and passed 5-0-0.

5. Appointments: Public Building Commission.

A brief discussion took place about the Public Building Commission but no action was taken since no applications have yet come in. The Board decided it would review at the next meeting.

6. Reports and Updates.

- A.** The Personnel Subcommittee recently met and reviewed a good portion of the Employee Handbook. They will meet again in the future to continue progress.
- B.** Properties and Facilities report was that most repairs from the recent storms had been completed and no additional damage occurred with the most recent storm.
- C.** Open Space Management and Acquisition had nothing to report
- D.** FY 21 Budget Report was presented by James Rupert. He indicated there were no red flags and that the Finance Department had been encumbering accounts to reflect planned spending. He also shared that the invoice for the repairs to the fire truck had been received and totaled \$39,999.99.

7. Ongoing Business.

- A.** Budget Transfers. One request for transfer was received from the Fire Commission for \$800.00 to move funds from the repairs and maintenance category to a new line for them for transportation costs. Those costs would be related to moving the service truck to Virginia and back for the installation of cabinets. After a brief discussion Robert Morra made a motion to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Kim Miller and passed 4-0-0. Robert DePietro had left the meeting. A transfer report was provided for the previous year that consisted of one transfer of \$205.00 for MidNeroc tipping fees from an old bill.
- B.** Policy concerning possession of cannabis on Town Property. The policy was reviewed and discussed. The Board expressed that it felt their previous comments and concerns had been address in the latest version. After the discussion Robert Morra moved to approve the policy as written pending any changes by the Town Attorney. The motion was seconded by Mike Eremita and passed 4-0-0.
- C.** The signs proposed by the Friends of Bolton Lake was discussed along with the locations. Some concern was expressed by Mike Eremita over locking ourselves into less robust forms of snow and ice management such as reduced salt areas. After some discussion the Board concluded that the signs were just informational and should not have a negative impact on those things. A motion was made to approve the signs and locations as proposed by Robert Morra. The motion was seconded by Mike Eremita and passed 4-0-0.
- D.** Discuss the Town of Andover response to the Bolton BOS request to place a stop ahead sign on East Street to warn of a stop sign at the Webster Lane and Hebron Road intersection. James Rupert explained that he had received a communication regarding the request from Eric Anderson in Andover. Eric's communication was that the request was approved by the Andover Board of Selectmen. There was further discussion regarding the type of stop signs, LED VS regular and after a discussion of the price and features the Bolton Board of Selectmen chose to use convention DOT signage.
- E.** Everbridge Notification list. The list was discussed and Kim Miller made a motion to accept the list. The motion was seconded by Mike Eremita and passed 4-0-0.
- F.** Increase fees for special events permits. Sandra Pierog reviewed the proposed fees with the changes as requested at the previous meeting allowing the Board to waive fees. Mike Eremita moved to approve the fee schedule and the motion was seconded by Robert Morra, The motion passed 4-0-0.

8. New Business.

A. The contract with US Cemetery Services was discussed along with the ongoing issues and complaints that were received. It was decided to have staff prepare a bid for cemetery services and lawn care separately. The Board will review the RFP's at the next meeting and will review bids at the November meeting.

9. First Selectman's Report.

A. First Selectman Pierog shared the total case count for COVID in Bolton to date was 321. She also shared that there had been four cases on the Thursday report and an increase of nine total cases over the last two weeks. Bolton remains a yellow town.

B. Some discussion took place regarding the grant for the forestry truck and if the contract would be single source or multiple source vending. Mike Eremita shared that they were still researching the option but that if it could fall within the cost allotment they will likely consider a single source and if otherwise would get approval ahead of time.

10. Administrative Officers Report.

A. Interim Administrative Officer, James Rupert shared the August Highlights as outlined in the supplemental Board Package.

B. Affordable housing was discussed and was suggested that we let the professional staff work on the draft of the plan on behalf of the Board of Selectmen with input both from the BOS and Planning and Zoning Commission. The Board asks that the staff to come to the October meeting and talk about what is required for the plan and mapping of how we will get there using staff and the grant.

C. Other Items discussed included Mike Eremita looking for direction on how to get an RFP together and out to bid for a fire house addition study. First Selectman Pierog stated that it was a Public Building Commission matter and they should be the ones doing it with assistance from the staff. Mike asked if the BOS could put out the RFP and after some discussion all agreed to see if we could appoint a Public Building Commission in October to move things forward. It was further suggested that if we were unable to do so the Board could appoint themselves as a temporary Public Building Commission.

Sandra Pierog brought up that the Charter revision questions were completed and had been reviewed by an attorney. After making the recommended changes by the attorney the questions have been sent to the Town Clerk and to the Secretary of State thus meeting the required deadlines.

11. Adjournment.

Robert Morra moved to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Mike Eremita. The motion passed 4-0-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:21 P.M.

Any corrections to the minutes will be reflected in the next regular meeting minutes.

Respectfully submitted:

James Rupert