

**BOLTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
7:00 PM, TUESDAY, JULY 2, 2024
BOLTON TOWN HALL, 222 BOLTON CENTER ROAD
In-Person and Virtual (Hybrid Format)**

MINUTES

Board of Selectmen Members Present In-Person: First Selectman Rodney Fournier, Deputy First Selectman Robert Morra, Mather Clarke, Amanda Gordon

Board of Selectmen Members Absent: Tim Sadler, Gwen Marrion, Pamela Sawyer

Staff Present In-Person: Town Attorney Richard Barger

Staff Present Via Zoom: Recording Secretary Linda H. McDonald

Others Present Via Zoom: Nick Lavigne (Community Voice Channel), James Loersch

Others Present In-Person: Lauren Lalancette, Barbara Amodio, Alan Bicknell, Kristen Moore, Craig Moore, Priscilla Ward, Kyle Paggioli, Kim Welch

1. **Call to Order:** R. Fournier called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. **Public Comment:**

Lauren Lalancette of 1 Lakeside Circle said she has concern that she is selling her house and moving in September and is required by August 1st to pay the taxes on it for the full year. She asked why Bolton makes people pay the full year's taxes when other towns only require 6 months' payment. R. Fournier said the board would take this up at their next meeting.

Barbara Amodio of 50 Volpi Road read the following statement:

"I am speaking for Bike Walk Bolton.

It has been more than 50 years through no fault of the Town of Bolton since the people of Bolton have been able to travel safely from one side of town to the other except by car through the Rte 6/44/384 interchange. This has meant the children could not walk or ride a bike to school. They could not walk or ride a bike to a friends house on the other side of the divide. Adults could not get to the municipal offices, restaurants, parks, schools – any place that was on the other side of the divide, unless they had a car. 50 years!!!! That's a long time.

We ask that the Town of Bolton insist that Connecticut DOT corrects this problem area that was created by their own design over 50 years ago before a pedestrian or cyclist is killed or injured. We know that people pass through that area every day at their own peril!!! We also know that as drivers are more distracted and speeds are faster pedestrian and cyclist injuries and deaths are on the rise.

A feasibility study and a plan for a safe path for peds and cyclists has already been submitted on 2017. We feel the path can be constructed in such a way that it could fit into the design of the complete reconstruction of the corridor which is also badly needed and we fully support. But because of the size and cost of the project it could take many years to come to fruition.

The pedestrian/ bike lane needs to be constructed NOW. We ask that the town of Bolton move forward with the separated lane for the safety of people who travel that dangerous section by foot or by bike - every day - at their own peril.”

Craig Moore of 45 Enrico Road made the following statement accompanied by photos regarding the Enrico Road right-of-way:

“I’m here to speak on 3 points I would really like the Board to be aware of before making the important decision on the Enrico Road ROW driveway permit discussed last week.

1. I don’t think a decision regarding this specific ROW would create a precedent for all other ROW in Bolton. I have taken pictures of the 4 discussed at the meeting last week. All have wide open spaces with no involvement of any driveway. I don’t know if any other ROW in town that has this issue where abutting driveways enter the potential road space as mine does.
2. I don’t know of any other driveway permit being brought to this Board since I have lived here. It seems it is being brought to you for a more favorable decision as the Town lawyer has already clearly made a no decision based on Town rules.
3. I also don’t understand why the use of our deeds was used to favors allowing the gravel driveway to be placed. The deed is a legal document that needs to identify the boundaries of the property. If the road is extended to provide for a future subdivision it would be a continuance of the current Enrico Road. That then also explains why the cul de sac remains “temporary” 35 years after this subdivision was “approved” by the Town.”

He said somewhere somehow someone made a mistake with the right-of-way. He asked that the town own the mistake, learn from it and not continue the mistake 30 years later.

Alan Bicknell of the Conservation Commission made the following statement in support of Bike Walk Bolton movement.

“The Bolton Conservation Commission supports the safe remedy for the residents in the Bolton Lakes area to access the Hop River Trail in the East Coast Greenway. We feel that an open connection will help restore free movement for pedestrian and bicycle traffic between the various parts of town. We further encourage a professional study by qualified persons to determine and resolve satisfactorily access and safety concerns for the residents of Bolton and the towns to the east.”

Kim Welch of 51 Vernon Road commented she is here to support B. Amodio’s request for Bike Walk Bolton’s missing link to be addressed by the board. She suggested the board separate this request rather than trying to tie it with the re-alignment of the entire intersection at Rt 6, 44 and the end of 384 so that pedestrians and cyclists can get through that intersection safely. She said she supports L. Lalancette’s request that the town revisit why the residents cannot pay their taxes in two pieces.

3. Correspondence: No correspondence.

4. Approval of Minutes:

a. June 4, 2024 regular meeting minutes:

R. Morra MOVED that the Board of Selectmen approve the June 4 2024 regular meeting minutes as presented. M. Clarke SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 4:0:0.

b. June 18, 2024 special meeting minutes:

R. Morra MOVED the Board of Selectmen approve the June 18, 2024 special meeting minutes as presented. A. Gordon SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 3:0:1 with M. Clarke abstaining.

5. Appointments/ Re-appointments and Resignations:

R. Morra MOVED that the Board of Selectmen accept the resignation of Sean Bailey as Highway Foreman. M. Clarke SECONDED. R. Morra thanked Mr. Bailey for his service to the town. MOTION CARRIED 4:0:0.

R. Morra MOVED that the Board of Selectmen accept the resignation of Ernest Richardson from the Veterans Commission. M. Clarke SECONDED. R. Morra thanked Mr. Richardson for his service to the town. MOTION CARRIED 4:0:0.

A. Gordon MOVED that the Board of Selectmen make the following appointments and re-appointments:

- Re-appoint Gregory Carini as Alternate to the Veterans Commission
- Re-appoint Rodney Parlee as full member to the Conservation Commission
- Appoint Brenda Cataldo as full member to the Conservation Commission
- Re-appoint Cara Wraight as full member to the Heritage Farm Commission
- Appoint Leslie Shea as full (or re-appoint as Alternate) member to the Heritage Farm Commission (town staff will check appointment/re-appointment status)
- Re-appoint Helen Winkler as full member to the Senior Citizen Commission

R. Morra SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 4:0:0.

6. Ongoing Business:

6.a Deliberations regarding Paggioli Driveway Application:

R. Morra said with only four members present, he does not think it fair to either party to make a rendering tonight.

R. Morra MOVED that the Board of Selectmen postpone deliberations on the Paggioli driveway application to a meeting to be announced. A. Gordon recommended changing the wording of the agenda item to "Deliberations and Act on the Paggioli Driveway Application" for that meeting agenda. R. Morra agreed. MOTION CARRIED 4:0:0.

7. New Business

7.a Consider and Act on Non-Union Pay Raises:

Regarding the pay table provided, A. Gordon said she was not clear with the section labeled "Contract followed/Suggested Increase." R. Morra clarified that where it says "Supervisor's Contact" that means the suggested increase is based on the same structure as the supervisor's contract even though they are not part of that contract. A. Gordon has concerns with how much the town is paying the Deputy Registrars as compared to the normal Registrars and other staff. Concerned discussion followed on the difficulty filling the positions of Registrar and Deputy Registrar, given the demands and complexities of the positions, with the general feeling the town should do more to make the positions more appealing to people. R. Morra commented, in the past, the BOS has adjusted the rates later on in the fiscal year because of the

additional workload. He suggested the board accept the pay increases as presented and revisit a couple of the positions afterward.

R. Morra MOVED that the Board of Selectmen accept the Non-Union pay raises as presented. M. Clarke SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 4:0:0.

7.b Consider and Act Budget Reductions:

A. Gordon explained this is a result of cuts made by the Finance Committee, which is \$25,000 to the Board of Selectmen's budget.

R. Morra MOVED that the Board of Selectmen make the following FY24/25 budget reductions: Fifteen thousand (\$15,000) from Workman's Compensation. Ten thousand (\$10,000) from Liability Insurance.

A. Gordon SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 4:0:0.

7.c Consider and Act on Delegation of Authority to approve Driveway Permits:

A. Gordon MOVED that the Board of Selectmen delegate the review and approval of driveway permits to the Highway Foreman. The Highway Foreman shall seek advice from the local traffic authority or town engineer, as necessary. In the absence of the Highway Foreman such authority is given to the Town Administrator who is also the local traffic authority. M. Clarke SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 4:0:0.

7.d Consider and Act on authorization to submit the Homeland Cybersecurity Grant:

R. Morra explained this is an annual grant submitted by the town.

A. Gordon MOVED to authorize the Town Administrator to submit the Homeland Cybersecurity grant on behalf of the Town of Bolton. R. Morra SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 4:0:0.

8. Reports and Updates:

8.a FY 24 Budget Report: R. Fournier noted everything looks in line.

8.b Consider and Act on A/P Report:

A. Gordon MOVED that the Board of Selectmen accept the A/P report as presented for the 24/25 FY in the amount of \$15,516.57 R. Morra SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 4:0:0.

A. Gordon MOVED that the Board of Selectmen accept the A/P report as presented for FY 23/24 in the amount of \$327,222.88 . M. Clarke SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 4:0:0.

8.c Budget Transfers:

R. Morra MOVED that the Board of Selectmen approve the transfer of \$10,000 from category Payroll to category Professional & Technical in the Administration budget. A. Gordon SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 4:0:0.

8.d Report on Nathan Hale potential Parking Sites: R. Fournier reported Gwen Marrion has drafted a letter to be sent to all the neighbors on the trail regarding the proposed parking area off Stony Road to provide access to the Nathan Hale Greenway. She met with Buildings and Grounds Supervisor John Butrymovich and he said the old house lot site looks doable for the

parking area. Discussion followed on getting from that location to the trail would require a road crossing. R. Fournier commented that the site has significant possibilities.

8.e Town Administrator's Report: R. Fournier commented on the highlight report from the Town Administrator.

- 10. Adjournment:** A. Gordon MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 p.m. R. Morra SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 4:0:0.

Respectfully submitted by Linda H. McDonald

Linda H. McDonald

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

BOS Sign In 7/2/24

Name	Address
Lucille Ward	44 Emerald Rd. Bolton
Kristen + Craig Moele	45 Emerald rd Bolton
Barbara Amodio	50 Volpi Rd.
Kim Welch	51 Vernon rd. Bolton
Lauren Lafonette	1 Lakeside Circle Bolton
Kyle Paggioli	51 Birch mountain