

**BOLTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
SPECIAL MEETING – A/P  
6:00 PM, AUGUST 27, 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, Tim Sadler, Amanda Gordon, Mather Clarke

**Board of Selectmen Absent:** Pamela Sawyer, Gwen Marrison

**Staff Present Via Zoom:** Recording Secretary Linda H. McDonald

**Staff Present In-Person:** Town Administrator James Rupert

**Others Present Via Zoom:** James Loersch, Town Attorney Richard Barger, Attorney Dorian Famigletti, and several others

**1. Call to Order:** R. Fournier called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

**2. Consider and Act on A/P Report:**

A. Gordon MOVED that the Board of Selectmen accept the 2023/2024 fiscal year A/P report in the amount of \$54,844.00. R. Morra SECONDED.

A. Gordon inquired why fiscal year 2023/2024 payments are being made this late into the summer. J. Rupert responded some of the department heads, like the fire marshal, work part-time and submit the bills as soon as they can. He said the bills are paid as soon as the Finance Department receives them and some companies wait months before submitting charges.

A. Gordon asked about the \$12,483.25 payment for the Barger property drainage preliminary design. J. Rupert said the money is for a survey to determine property lines and topography in order to be able to design drainage that flows with gravity. He said it looks like with the topography information, the town will be able to drain into a nearby pond with permission and easement from the pond owner. The work will be done in-house. MOTION CARRIED 5:0:0.

A. Gordon MOVED that the Board of Selectmen accept the 2024/2025 fiscal year A/P report in the amount of \$276,723.06. R. Morra SECONDED.

A. Gordon inquired about the balance of the cost of the replacement doors at the Bolton Center School being paid from the General Fund and where the funds were used for this project. J. Rupert responded that the monies came from the capital fund.

A. Gordon asked if the Selectmen really want to release the \$4,936.52 payment to Vision Government Solutions for the final ten percent retainage fee for the revaluation work if the board is still investigating the company. After discussion, the consensus of the BOS was to withhold the final payment until the issue is resolved.

A. Gordon amended her motion and MOVED Board of Selectmen accept the 2024/2025 fiscal year A/P report in the amount of \$276,723.06 minus \$4,936.52. R. Morra SECONDED the amended motion. MOTION CARRIED 5:0:0.

**3. Consider and Act on Budget Transfers:** No budget transfers for action.

**4. Consider and Act on Bid Waiver for Safety Marking LLC:**

J. Rupert explained the bid is for \$5,995 for work associated with the Connectivity grant and Safety Marking LLC is one of the few companies in Connecticut that actually does line striping. This company is on the state bid lists for the DOT and CRCOG.

R. Morra MOVED that the Board of Selectmen waive the bid for Safety Marking LLC due to the process the town utilizes in the state bidding process allows the town to get the best price out there. A. Gordon SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 5:0:0.

**5. Consider and Act on hiring Mary Huda as a Consultant on the Tax Issue:**

A. Gordon MOVED the Board of Selectmen approve funds to hire Mary Huda for up to five hours for \$1,325 to assist the town with the work on the tax assessment issue. For purpose of discussion, R. Morra SECONDED.

R. Morra said he wants to make sure that the Selectmen are clear that this motion is only for stage one of the process. The BOS would have to approve any additional funds.

Discussion followed on whether the funds and hours allocated in this motion would be enough over the three weeks to the BOS meeting on September 10, the next time the board could approve additional funding, if needed. Concern was expressed with keeping this process on track to refund the taxpayers as soon as possible.

A. Gordon amended her motion and MOVED the Board of Selectmen create a contract with Mary Huda for up to ten hours for \$2,650 to assist the town with the work on the tax assessment issue. R. Morra SECONDED the amended motion. MOTION CARRIED 5:0:0.

**6. Consider and Act on Paggioli Application for a Driveway off Enrico Road:**

R. Morra made the following motion:

After consideration of the evidence presented in this matter, including the testimony and exhibits as well as the cogent arguments presented by both counsel for the applicant and counsel for the abutters, the advice of the Town Attorney, and considering the fact that the Town's subdivision regulations do not support the application, but also considering the fact the Town has previously permitted driveways in future rights-of-way on at least three occasions, denying the instant application would be treating the applicant unequally under the law in violation of the Equal Protection Clause of the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment of the United States Constitution, I MOVE to approve the application subject to the applicant following all applicable Town driveway requirements as well as those specified requirements set forth in the applicant's filed driveway plans.

T. Sadler SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 5:0:0.

**7. Communications: CIRMA Check:** J. Rupert noted the Town has received a check for \$5,241 from CIRMA's Equity Distribution program. He said the Town gets money back under this program almost every year.

A. Gordon MOVED that the Board of Selectmen cancel the September 3, 2024 regular meeting and instead have the as-scheduled A/P special meeting on September 10, 2024 and roll everything into that one meeting, and hopefully as allowable by law to include public comment in the September 10<sup>th</sup> special meeting. R. Morra SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 5:0:0.

**8. Adjournment:** A. Gordon MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 6:28 p.m. R. Morra SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 5:0:0.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 10, 2024 at Town Hall and via Zoom. Time to be determined.

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.*