

**REVISED  
TOWN OF BOLTON  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN- SPECIAL MEETING – A/P  
TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2025 – 6:00 P.M.  
TOWN HALL – IN PERSON ONLY  
MINUTES**

The Board of Selectmen held a special meeting with First Selectman Rodney Fournier Presiding. Also in attendance were selectmen: Robert Morra, Pam Sawyer, Tim Sadler, Amanda Gordon, Gwen Marion; Town Administrator Jim Rupert and Kathy McCavanagh.

Audience members included: Cheryl Udin, Jim Loersch, Sandy Pierog, Ross Lally and John Toomey.

Absent: Mather Clarke (selectman)

1. Call to Order.

R. Fournier called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Consider and Act on A/P.

**Motion:** P. Sawyer made a motion to approve the A/P for \$137,636.35 as presented. P. Sawyer then amended the motion to also approve the voucher detail for \$2519.59 as proposed.

Discussion: A. Gordon asked to note that the Notch Road Municipal Electrical bill seems really high. We had gone down to about \$1,000 and this bill was for around \$4,000. J. Rupert explained that the demolition crew has been running heavy electrical equipment working toward the demolition.

1<sup>st</sup> P. Sawyer

2<sup>nd</sup> R. Morra

Vote:

Yes: P. Sawyer, R. Morra, T. Sadler, A. Gordon, G. Marriion and R. Fournier

No: None

Absent: M. Clarke

3. Consider and Act on Budget Transfers.

None.

4. Consider and Act on Approving Applying for Community Wi-Fi Grant – CENConnect if needed.

J. Rupert reported that Novus became just become aware last week of a grant opportunity for wireless communications that might benefit the town. The due date for submitting the grant is this Thursday. We were going to try to work to apply for it but after more research and a discussion with the Town Administrator today Novus reported back that this grant was to improve wireless internet for town hall, library and senior center it also comes with a myriad of reporting requirements. In order to be able to report on how many users we have on those portals are wireless points that would be installed in the buildings go for a cost from around \$300 to \$1600 a piece. After doing the budget analysis, it is not cost beneficial to apply for this grant and be required to have the added cost for the hardware and reporting. J. Rupert then stated we recommend not to move forward with this grant.

**Motion** was then made by A. Gordon to not apply for this grant.

1<sup>st</sup>: A. Gordon

2<sup>nd</sup>: P. Sawyer

Vote:

Yes: P. Sawyer, R. Morra, T. Sadler, A. Gordon, G. Marrión and R. Fournier

No: None

Absent: M. Clarke

5. Consider and Act on Approving Budget to Send to Finance Committee.

Within the budget presentation the following recommendations made:

- On the FY26 Change by Town Dept also add the percentage to each bar.
- On Budget Change Info add “By Department” to title and add percentage to each department number so that it can be sorted by the change in percentage
- Budget Change info add percentage change column

- Budget Change Summary add “Biggest Drivers of” to the beginning of the title.
- Impact of Inflation - 2<sup>nd</sup> bullet point where did the CPI number come from? 3<sup>rd</sup> bullet point – erase completely.
- Surrounding Town Budgets – keep a running list of your sources for these numbers (don’t put on sheet though). Fill in numbers for any towns you can and erase the rest.
- Organization Chart should be included in presentation with number of FTE’s, seasonal, etc.
- Make presentation available in the meeting so audience can also view it at next year's meeting.
- BOS Goals – add estimated date of workshop to sheet.
- Accomplishments add “building official to last line for town of Marlborough, add Ad Hoc Herrick Park Committee, Community Septic, and Heritage Farm Trail as bullet points.
- Add page numbers.

Discussion: the town is currently estimating a 13% change for insurance and the BOE is at 11.4%. This number may come down, but it still does not include vision or dental which will have a bigger impact on the BOE’s percentage due to the number of employees. We do not have the blended rate yet.

#### Individual Budget Sheets:

- Admin budget – show what line items add up to the \$328,000 payroll line. There is a \$50,000 place holder for raises in the \$328,000. Selectman’s salary increase minus his actual salary now, Town Administrator and administrative assistant’s raise, and possible raise for other selectmen.

**Motion:** A.Gordon made a motion to approve the FY26 proposed budget for presentation to the finance committee in the amount of \$7,426,162 minus the amount of the current first selectman’s wages.

1<sup>st</sup>: A. Gordon

2<sup>nd</sup>: R Morra

Vote:

Yes: P. Sawyer, R. Morra, T. Sadler, A. Gordon, G. Marrion and R. Fournier

No: None

Absent: M. Clarke

6. Approval of Minutes:

**Motion:** P.Sawyer made a motion to accept the minutes of February 4, 2025 meeting.

1<sup>st</sup>: P. Sawyer

2<sup>nd</sup>: T. Sadler

Vote:

Yes: P. Sawyer, R. Morra, T. Sadler, A. Gordon, G. Marrion and R. Fournier

No: None

Absent: M. Clarke

**Motion:** P.Sawyer made a motion to accept the minutes of February 11, 2025 special a/ meeting.

1<sup>st</sup>: P. Sawyer

2<sup>nd</sup>: T. Sadler

Vote:

Yes: P. Sawyer, R. Morra, T. Sadler, A. Gordon, G. Marrion and R. Fournier

No: None

Absent: M. Clarke

**Motion:** P. Sawyer made a motion to accept the minutes of February 25, 2025 special a/p meeting.

Changes to minutes:

#5 – 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph, Ross Lally Assistant Registrar needs to be changed to Registrar and Bernice Dixon to be changed to Deputy Registrar (these also need to be changed on page 1 under Staff Present In- Person).

#6 Last sentence change number to \$1,093,016.

1<sup>st</sup>: P. Sawyer

2<sup>nd</sup>: R. Morra

Vote:

Yes: P. Sawyer, R. Morra, T. Sadler, G. Marrion and R. Fournier

No: None

Absent: M. Clarke

Abstain: A. Gordon

**Motion:** A. Gordon made a motion to approve the Town side to be presented to the Finance Committee in the amount of \$626,700.

Discussion: J. Rupert asked that the highlighted amount on the sheet be added to the capital budget as new line item for grant submittal purposes.

**Motion:** A. Gordon made a motion to approve the Town side to be presented to the Finance Committee in the amount of \$626,700. Motion amended by A. Gordon to add a line item to the 5-year capital plan for renovations for rooms A and B in the amount of \$450,000 falling under fiscal year 2029.

1<sup>st</sup>: A. Gordon

2<sup>nd</sup>: G. Marrion

Vote:

Yes: P. Sawyer, R. Morra, T. Sadler, A. Gordon, G. Marrion and R. Fournier

No: None

Absent: M. Clarke

**Motion:** P. Sawyer made a motion to accept the minutes of February 25, 2025, special a/p meeting.

## 7. Adjourn.

R. Morra made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m., seconded by P. Sawyer.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy McCavanagh

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