

**TOWN OF BOLTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING w/ AP
Tuesday, April 07, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.
Town Hall & Zoom Meeting
MEETING MINUTES**

	ROSTER	IN-PERSON	ZOOM	ABSENT
FIRST SELECTMAN:	Rodney Fournier	X		
SELECTMEN:	Bryce Aaronson	X		
	Mather Clarke	X		
	David Cowles		X	
	Robert DePietro		X	
	Gwen Marrion	X		
	Tim Sadler	X		

STAFF:	James Rupert, Town Administrator
	Andrea Vassallo, Recording Secretary

Members of the Public:

1.0 Executive Session:

First Selectwoman Gwen Marrion called the **Executive Session to order at order at 6:00 p.m** to discuss the Changes to Local 1303-126 Highway Contract. Selectman Bryce Aaronson **SECONDED**. Unanimous.
Present: BOS and Town Administrator James Rupert & Highway Union President Chip White.
Executive Session ended at 6:31 p.m.

2.0 Call to Order Regular Meeting:

First Selectman Rodney Fournier called the BOS Regular Meeting w/ AP to order at order at 6:31 p.m.

a. Pledge of Allegiance

The BOS stated the Pledge of Allegiance.

3.0 Public Comment: None.

4.0 Consider and Act on Changes to the Local 1303-126 Highway Contract:

Selectwoman G. Marrion **MOVED to AMEND** the existing Highway Contract to add a Crewman Supervisor position to be drafted by the Town Attorney.

Selectman T. Sadler **SECONDED; MOTION CARRIED; 7:0:0**

Yea	Fournier, Aaronson, Clarke, Cowles, DePietro, Marrion, Sadler
Nay	0
Abstain	0

5.0 Communications:

a. J. Collins – Resignation

First Selectman R. Fournier thanked J. Collins for her service.

b. Copiers & Printer Info.

First Selectman R. Fournier noted the supplemental information provided to the BOS which explained the existing costs associated with Town wide copiers and printers.

6.0 Heritage Farm Commission Report

Arlene Fiano, Kevin Drake, and Rhea Klein are members of Heritage Farm Commission and explained they want to notify the public that the organization exists. Supplemental information was provided to the BOS. The Heritage Farm Commission went over elements of their Strategic Plan and several other key documents as well as stated their current needs/plans and appealed to the BOS to be proactive when considering potential grant funding for anticipated project work.

Key Documents Discussed with BOS:

- **House and Barn Condition Report:** A 20-year-old document, recently validated by the Connecticut Preservation authority.
- **Master Site Plan:** Comprehensive, including history, business planning, and future visions, designed for both professionals and the public (with a summarized version in development).
- **Working Documents:** Regularly updated, with biannual reviews and a focus on preservation, improvement, investment needs, strategic direction, and phased implementation.

Current Needs & Plans:

- **Phased Development Plan:** The Commission seeks to work with architect Sarah Nelson (proposed as a sole-source consultant due to her expertise and history with the farm) to create a phased plan for barn and property improvements.
- **Funding & Grants:** Discussion of leveraging existing and future grants, including potential \$250,000 state funding, and the need for matching funds for larger projects.
- **Facility Use & Revenue:** The barn and farm are targeted for increased public and event use, with future improvements expected to generate self-sustaining revenue. Examples include historical events, weddings, and community gatherings.
- **Fire Safety:** Following a past fire incident, a new heat-detection alarm system was installed in the barn, tested per state fire code.

Selectman B. Aaronson **MOVED to ADD Agenda Item 6.a - A Discussion on Possible Grant Funds.**

Selectman T. Sadler **SECONDED; MOTION CARRIED; 7:0:0**

Yea	Fournier, Aaronson, Clarke, Cowles, DePietro, Marrion, Sadler
Nay	0
Abstain	0

6.a Discussion on Possible Grant Funds

State Senator MD Rahman wants to be strategically positioned to request state grant money for pending municipal projects. He has communicated to the Town to be poised with a variety project narratives and high-level budget projections for consideration.

Discussion ensued among BOS and Town Administrator J. Rupert about a variety of different rolling grants and known upcoming improvement projects for potential solicitation.

Selectwoman G. Marrion proposed to the BOS to have a short list of projects decided on tonight to respond back to Senator Rahman - who is soliciting project ideas for grant funds for other municipalities in his District.

Short List of Proposed Projects for Consideration for Future Grant Money:

1. Improvements to the Heritage Farm Barn
2. Improvements to Herrick Park Recreation Facilities

7.0 Consider and Act on Approving the Application for the Historical Preservation Grant for \$4,000.00 for use to Preserve Documents in the care of the Town Clerk. No Required Match.

Selectman Sadler **MOVED to APPROVE** the Application for the Historical Preservation Grant in the amount of \$4,000 for the use to preserve documents in the care of the Town Clerk.

Selectman Aaronson **SECONDED; MOTION CARRIED; 7:0:0**

Yea	Fournier, Aaronson, Clarke, Cowles, DePietro, Marrion, Sadler
Nay	0
Abstain	0

8.0 Consider and Act on the Certified Resolution for the Aquatic Invasive Species Grant awarded jointly to the Towns of Bolton and Vernon.

Selectwoman G. Marrion **MOVED to APPROVE** the Certified Resolution for the Aquatic Invasive Species Grant awarded to the Towns of Bolton and Vernon. Selectman B. Aaronson **SECONDED;**

Discussion:

Selectwoman G. Marrion thanked Town Administrator J. Rupert for his work.

MOTION CARRIED; 7:0:0

Yea	Fournier, Aaronson, Clarke, Cowles, DePietro, Marrion, Sadler
Nay	0
Abstain	0

9.0 Consider and Act on AP:

Selectman Clarke **MOVED to APPROVE** the AP amount of \$62,015.42. Selectman T. Sadler **SECONDED**;

Discussion:

Discussion ensued regarding the following including but not limited to:

- Bolton Fire Department Service Award Trust
- Existing boiler repairs
- Temporary generator rental to keep multiple town owned facilities and public water supply online while a new generator was delayed during shipment.

MOTION CARRIED; 7:0:0

Yea	Fournier, Aaronson, Clarke, Cowles, DePietro, Marrion, Sadler
Nay	0
Abstain	0

10.0 Consider and Act on Budget Transfers:

Selectman M. Clarke **MOVED to APPROVE** the Fire Commission budget transfer amount of \$7,500 from Equipment to Fire Security/Maintenance. Selectman T. Sadler **SECONDED**;

Discussion:

Selectman Aaronson asked for more clarification. Town Administrator J. Rupert stated the monies are largely dedicated to the repair and maintenance of town owned vehicles.

MOTION CARRIED; 7:0:0

Yea	Fournier, Aaronson, Clarke, Cowles, DePietro, Marrion, Sadler
Nay	0
Abstain	0

Selectman M. Clarke **MOVED to APPROVE** the Public Works - Highway budget transfer amount of \$9,600 from Payroll to Repairs and Maintenance Services.

Selectman T. Sadler **SECONDED; MOTION CARRIED; 7:0:0**

Yea	Fournier, Aaronson, Clarke, Cowles, DePietro, Marrion, Sadler
Nay	0
Abstain	0

Selectman M. Clarke **MOVED to APPROVE** the Public Works – Highway budget transfer amount of \$9,500 from Payroll to Overtime.

Selectman T. Sadler **SECONDED; MOTION CARRIED; 7:0:0**

Yea	Fournier, Aaronson, Clarke, Cowles, DePietro, Marrion, Sadler
Nay	0
Abstain	0

11.0 Adjourn:

Consensus to Adjourn at **7:45 PM.**

MOTION CARRIED 7:0:0.

Respectfully submitted by Andrea Vassallo, Recording Clerk

Andrea Vassallo

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

Originals Printed on 100% Recycled Paper – Earth Day and Every Day

