

**TOWN OF BOLTON  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING w/ A/P  
Tuesday, January 27, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.  
Town Hall & Zoom Meeting  
MEETING MINUTES**

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

<b>STAFF:</b>	James Rupert, Town Administrator
	Andrea Vassallo, Recording Secretary

**Members of the Public:**

Rob Aloise, P.E., Director of Transportation, Capitol Region COG, Presenter,

**1.0 Call to Order:**

First Selectman Rodney Fournier called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**2.0 CRCOG Presentation for Routes 6/44/384:**

Director of Transportation, Rob Aloise, and First Selectman Rodney Fournier both gave a brief introduction of CRCOG (Capitol Region Council of Governments) as the local regional planning agency serving a total of 38 member municipalities, including Bolton, across several counties. R. Aloise stated that CRCOG also has federal recognition as a Metropolitan Planning Organization and works on state, CT DOT (CT Department of Transportation), and federal, FHWA (Federal Highway Administration) projects throughout the region. CRCOG’s mission is to provide overall public safety and connectivity throughout the region.

R. Aloise began his presentation acknowledging existing multimodal issues (pedestrian/cyclist) at the interchange of Routes 6/44/384. As currently designed, he stated, access to Bolton Notch State Park requires illegal pedestrian and cyclist usage due to a current lack of accessibility.

Aloise, Robert, P.E. Capitol Region Council of Governments, Transportation Planning, January 27, 2026, **Bolton Notch 2026 Concept Introduction Presentation**.

R. Aloise gave a high-level overview of current pedestrian and cyclist circulation trails/routes and access locations of the existing multi-modal interchange. R. Aloise presented concept designs from 2013 and stated, at the time, feedback from the CT DOT deemed the project too expensive, not a priority, and requiring several new bridges and interchange connections. The estimated cost for the 2013 Proposed Site Design Plan was \$80 million.

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Capitol Region Council of Governments. Transportation Planning, **2013 Hop River Corridor Study – Proposed Site Design Plan.**

R. Aloise stated that CRCOG wanted to reexamine previous design studies and find a more cost-effective design solution and presented a new concept site design that proposed a realignment of Routes 6/44 with a preliminary design cost of \$50 million.

Capitol Region Council of Governments. Transportation Planning, **2026 Alternative Concept Design - Major Realignment of Routes 6 & 44 Alternative 1 Signal w/ Relocation of Notch Road.**

R. Aloise stated that CRCOG has not presented this alternative concept design to CT DOT without first gauging interest by Bolton town administrators and the BOS. First Selectman R. Fournier acknowledged the high participation levels from members of the public and stated:

- CRCOG’s presentation was the first public introduction to the alternative concept design.
- Tonight’s meeting is a Regularly Scheduled Board of Selectman (BOS) meeting and not a public information session.
- The BOS would not be taking any questions/comments from the public at that time.
- The BOS anticipates scheduling a public information session in the future.

R. Aloise and R. Fournier both confirmed that a project of this magnitude goes through several public information sessions, with plenty of opportunity for input, throughout the design process (Preliminary Design, Environmental Review, Design, Final Design) when collaborating with CT DOT (Project Concept Unit) and FHWA.

J. Rupert, Town Administrator, stated that the presentation will be publicly available later this week. There will be a public information session prior to any authorization from the BOS to allow CRCOG to move forward with conversations with the CT DOT.

**3.0 Board Discussion on CRCOG Presentation:**

Discussion ensued among the BOS regarding some nuances of the alternative design concept such as but not limited to:

1. Existing pedestrian/cyclist movement patterns and directionality.
2. Clarification of the vertical positioning of the proposed Route 384/6 interchange on ramps and protected pedestrian/cyclist multi-use trail interchange.
3. The height of a second Route 384/6 on ramp.
4. Existing and proposed traffic light analysis.
5. Inquiry regarding an abandoned apartment complex. (The proposed pedestrian/cyclist terminus/access interchange at Notch Road and Notch Road Extension)

R. Aloise addressed the BOS questions by stating that:

1. Pedestrian/cyclist count data would be further examined to understand the depth and breadth of current and future end user patterns.

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2. Clarified that the Route 384/6 interchange “fly-over” on ramps would be vertically positioned over the pedestrian/cyclist trail/route which is proposed at ground level. A roundabout was considered instead of an interchange with secondary on ramp at the intersection of Routes 384/6 however the roundabout would not provide an adequate island of refuge, nor a protected bike lane (safety enhancements) for pedestrians and cyclists to locally access Notch Road.
3. The proposed second on ramp at Route 384/6 interchange would be the exact same height as the existing on ramp.
4. The proposed Alternative Concept Design Plan presents information on the current Level of Service – a mechanism used to determine how well a transportation facility is operating from a traveler's perspective (flow of traffic speed, traffic light timing, and vehicle counts, etc.).
5. The existing apartment complex would be considered a land acquisition by the CT DOT.

**4.0 Consider and Act on A/P:**

Selectman D. Cowles **MOVED to APPROVE** the amount of \$123,043.70. Selectman T. Sadler **SECONDED; the following discussion ensued:**

Selectwoman G. Marrion:

Page 10 – Questioned costs associated with a copyright infringement issue associated with the law firm Halloran and Sage. James Rupert, Town Administrator, stated that there was an error on behalf of Halloran and Sage associated with the use of their publicly posted image and Bolton’s town attorney was engaged to rectify the issue.

Page 12 & 13 – Questioned why reoccurring interest and late fees were on the A/P report issued by the commercial retailer Lowe’s. J. Rupert stated that the total Town A/P review and approval process time by the BOS is approximately 27 days, whereas the Low’s billing cycle is 20 days. Several Selectman opined to finding a more efficient internal process, opting to use another similar commercial retailer with a longer billing cycle, or open a Low’s business account where the billing cycle is 60 days. J. Rupert discussed the Town procurement processes and agreed to investigate a more sustainable solution.

Page 2 & Page 7: Selectman D. Cowles and B. Aaronson:

Asked J. Rupert for more details and clarification regarding the repair of a Dodge Ram driver side mirror and a lift guide mechanical component needed for the Highway Department.

**MOTION CARRIED; 6:0:0**

<b>Yea</b>	Fournier, Aaronson, Clarke, Cowles, Marrion, Sadler
<b>Nay</b>	0
<b>Abstain</b>	0

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**5.0 Consider and Act on Budget Transfers:**

Selectman B. Aaronson **MOVED to APPROVE** the amount of \$6K for payroll. Selectman T. Sadler **SECONDED; MOTION CARRIED; 6:0:0**

<b>Yea</b>	Fournier, Aaronson, Clarke, Cowles, Marrion, Sadler
<b>Nay</b>	0
<b>Abstain</b>	0

**6.0 Adjourn:**

T. Sadler **MOVED to ADJOURN** the meeting at **7:00 PM**. Selectman D. Cowles **SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 6:0:0.**

Respectfully submitted by Andrea Vassallo, Recording Clerk

*Andrea Vassallo*

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

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