

Board of Selectmen
January 9, 2020

Stanley Wysocki
Robert Czekanski
Jonathan Keep
Don Lowe, Town Administrator
Jenny Jacobsen, Town Secretary

Mr. Wysocki called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

APPOINTMENTS

Chief Nelson thanked the Board of Selectmen and recommended Jonathan Paiva for appointment as a full time police officer. The Chief highlighted that his experience included graduating in the first class of a new 5-year program at Fitchburg State College which includes certification as a police officer. His background check is complete. Mr. Lowe agreed that his review of the file proved an outstanding background.

On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Keep the Board of Selectmen voted unanimously to appoint Jonathan Paiva as Patrolman to the Bolton Police Department.

Agricultural Commission

On a motion made by Keep and seconded by Czekanski the Board of Selectmen voted unanimously to appoint Angie Tollefson to the Agricultural Commission.

Mosquito Response Committee

On a motion made by Keep and seconded by Czekanski the Board of Selectmen voted unanimously to appoint the following individuals to serve on the Mosquito Response Committee:

Don Lowe, Scott Powell, Rebecca Longvall, Brooke Clenchy, Joe Lynch, Warren Nelson and Ali Webb.

Community Choice Aggregation Subcommittee

On a motion made by Keep and seconded by Czekanski the Board of Selectmen voted unanimously to appoint the following individuals to serve on the Community Choice Aggregation Sub Committee:

Lynn Dischler and Sharon Shepela

Economic Development Committee

On a motion made by Keep and seconded by Czekanski the Board of Selectmen voted unanimously to appoint the following individuals to serve on the Economic Development Committee:

Alan Santos and Omid Gharony

At the request of the Economic Development Committee, Czekanski moved to reduce the number of members from 11 to 9. The motion which was seconded by Keep passed unanimously.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Update on Mass Works Project

Mr. Lowe reported continuing work on the truck exclusion to ban thru traffic for trucks on Wattaquodock Hill Road including discussions with Towns of Berlin and Clinton. Berlin will have a letter of support on a future Selectmen agenda. The Clinton Traffic committee will discuss and noted that truck count numbers will be smaller than projected with the closing of Wheatabix. One concern that was noted concerning the concentration of traffic to a smaller area. It will be evaluated. Mr. Lowe will have an update in two meetings.

Other Items:

Mr. Lowe had an update to a concern noted by Mr. Keep in an earlier meeting regarding the availability of funds for tree replacement. There is currently 12K in the fund. There are plans to place a tree in one location in Town but there should be plenty in the account if the trees damaged by the MassWorks construction need replacement.

Third School Committee Rep

The Board discussed the possible third representative to serve on the school committee. Mr. Lowe referenced section 1C of the agreement with the school district which says the population will be determined every 5 years in accordance with national census and certified by the respective towns. The numbers will be reviewed by the school committee to determine if the number of representatives falls within a 10-16% deviation in compliance with the 1 person one vote rule. The district agreement was amended in 2003 and the census was not done since 2003. Mr. Lowe recommended that it be done as soon as possible.

When it was originally done Bolton was at 25% of the total district. The other towns were at 38% which put us at 12% deviation. Now we are at 29% with the other two towns at 36% a difference of 7.02% which is below the standard deviation. Lowe asked the Board to request that it be put on the next agenda for discussion. If the school committee approves it each of the three towns would have to add an article to their Town Meeting. He noted it would not take a seat away from anyone. Each town would need an article on the warrant to approve the third seat.

Czekanski made a motion to direct Don Lowe to initiate an inquiry with the school district to add a third Bolton school committee representative. Keep seconded. Motion passed 3/0.

Tri-Town Meeting Review

Mr. Lowe provided an update of the meeting. The message was delivered clearly that based on our finances we need the district to come in at 3%. The district acknowledged that they heard our message.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN BUSINESS

Public Service Announcement(s)

Mr. Czekanski announced that NRSD will have its budget presentation on January 25th. He encouraged people to observe and contact school committee reps prior to that presentation. Looking over the budget from the last couple of years the budget expenditures for the Town of Bolton has increased \$2,260,000. Of that the increase of expenses for the town was \$161,000. The remaining \$2,100,000 has all gone to the NRSD. Anyone concerned about how their money is being spent should note that it is not the town operating budget that is driving the increase in their taxes.

Mr. Lowe followed up that Minuteman's budget is flat for the next fiscal year.

Mr. Wysocki announced once again to please bring any bottles and cans to the red barn at the transfer station as the proceeds fund the Boy Scouts as their primary funding.

Mr. Lowe announced Coffee with Town Administrator January 17th, 8:30 – 9:30 at the Bolton Bean.

Bills/Payroll warrants

On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Keep the Board of Selectmen voted unanimously to approve Bills/Payroll warrants: W20-13 & W20-13A, W20-14 & W20-14A.

Minutes

Minutes approval process.

On a motion made by Keep to approve the minutes review procedure. Czekanski seconded. Motion passed 3/0.

Minutes Review Procedure

Draft Minutes will be sent out to Selectmen by the Friday prior to the next meeting.

Selectmen will review the minutes and forward changes back to Administrative within 10 days of receipt.

Revisions will be made and final draft will be included in the packets for Selectmen Review.

Selectmen will review the minutes in open session.

If approved, the final copy will be signed at the meeting.

If additional changes are needed, they will be made and the final minutes will be signed at the following meeting.

On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Keep the Board of Selectmen voted unanimously to approve the minutes from November 7th regular and executive session and November 21st regular and executive session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Keep the Board of Selectmen voted by Roll Call to enter executive session pursuant to MGL c. 30A, §21(a)3 to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with Teamster's Union, Local No. 170 if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the Board of Selectmen and the chair so declares. The Board will return to open session. (Czekanski-yes, Keep-yes, Wysocki-yes) 7:31pm.

Board returned to open session at 7:34 pm.

On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Keep the Board of Selectmen voted unanimously to execute the memorandum of agreement with the Teamster's Union, Local No. 170.

Meeting adjourned at 7:44pm.

Respectfully submitted by Jenny Jacobsen