

Board of Selectmen  
April 15, 2021

Via Zoom Remote Conferencing\*

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

Approved via Zoom  
on 5/10/21  
by RESWUK

Chairman Czekanski called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

#### SENATOR CRONIN AND REPRESENTATIVE HOGAN

The Board welcomed Senator John Cronin and Representative Kate Hogan to provide an update on the budget. Senator Cronin announced that the House and Senate Ways and Means voted to fully fund the Student Opportunity Act. Senator Cronin updated the Board on the American Rescue Plan which will direct more than 1.5 million dollars directly to Bolton for Covid related expenses.

Representative Hogan provided an update from the House of Representatives highlighting the actions taken by the House to assist the Commonwealth as well as passing the Climate Roadmap for 2050. Mr. Czekanski inquired as to whether there is opportunity to expand aid to include maintaining culverts. Rep Hogan requested a letter from the Board related to the culvert maintenance. Rep Hogan suggested that the Board think about shovel ready programs as the House is working on an Infrastructure Bill and offered to go to bat for Bolton on the eligibility of culverts. Mr. Lowe noted that the Town is working on a MassWorks grant application for the intersection of Main/Forbush Mill/Green.

#### SENIOR APPRECIATION MONTH

Mary Ciummo representing the Friends of Bolton Seniors to request approval for a proclamation to dedicate the month of May as Senior Appreciation Month. This year's theme is communities of strength. Ms. Ciummo read the proclamation.

**Whereas**, Bolton includes a growing number of older adults who have built resilience and strength over their lives through successes and difficulties; and

**Whereas**, Bolton benefits when people of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds are included and encouraged to share their successes and stories of resilience; and

**Whereas**, Bolton recognizes our need to nurture ourselves, reinforce our strength, and continue to thrive in times of both joy and difficulty; and

**Whereas**, Bolton can foster communities of strength by:

- creating opportunities to share stories and learn from each other;
- engaging older adults through education, recreation, and service; and
- encouraging people of all ages to celebrate connections and resilience.

**Now, therefore**, the Board of Selectmen of Bolton, Massachusetts do hereby proclaim May 2021 to be Senior Appreciation Month. We urge every resident to recognize older adults and the people who support them as essential contributors to the strength of our community.

**On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Keep the Board voted by roll call unanimously to approve the proclamation of the month of May as Senior Appreciation Month for the Town of Bolton. (Wysocki-yes, Keep-yes, Czekanski-yes)**

#### PAPERLESS BILLING FOR ONLINE PAYMENTS

Tax Collector Michelle Carlisle appeared before the Board to request the Board of Selectmen approve the ability for residents to choose paperless billing for tax payments. The Town is moving from Invoice Cloud to City Hall Systems effective July 1<sup>st</sup>.

**On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Keep the Board voted by roll call unanimously to approve the ability for residents to choose paperless billing or tax payments. (Wysocki-yes, Keep-yes, Czekanski-yes)**

## MOTHER'S DAY EVENT AT 401 MAIN STREET

Megan Moran appeared before the Board to request approval for a Mother's Day Event at Cultivate Counseling at 401 Main Street. The event would be a ticketed even on Sundays and would allow 10 families to come every 15 minutes to visit with the animals and take a seedling with them. Ms. Moran did receive approval for the event from the police department. The agreement with Cultivate Counseling allows 12 events in a calendar year and is nonspecific as to whether the events fall during regular business hours. The Board had no issues.

**On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Keep the Board voted by roll call unanimously to approve the Mother's Day Event on May 9<sup>th</sup> from 9am -5pm at Cultivate Care Farms located at 401 Main Street. (Wysocki-yes, Keep-yes, Czekanski-yes).**

## 580 MAIN STREET

Jim Lambert and Michael Tulipani of Wood Partners were in attendance. Wood Partners is working on their application but it is not yet ready for the Board. Mr. Lambert wanted to address the access to the community garden and athletic fields issue that was raised at the March 25<sup>th</sup> Board of Selectmen meeting. Engineer, Phil Cordero of Allen and Major Civil Design Group was in attendance and revealed a challenge Woods Partners are facing related to the existing gravel cart paths as depicted on a plan from a 1986 special permit with Flatley for their original office park. The existing paths as well as the parking area for the community garden currently exist in a Zone 1 surrounding the public water supply. No activity is allowed by the Department of Environmental Protection in a Zone 1. Wood Partners presented a plan to offer a pedestrian- only access path that would circumnavigates the Zone 1, proposing that vehicular traffic would enter through the school parking lot.

Mr. Wysocki inquired about the possibility of offering parking spaces to the Bolton Senior Center during the week. Mr. Lambert will look into it. Mr. Lambert, in response to the Board's request, offered to hold an information session for the public. Board fielded questions and comments from Lynn Dischler, Mary Ciummo, Brad Reed, Sharon Shepela, and Gerard Ahearn on topics including walkability, project density, traffic studies and green energy options.

## TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

### Covid-19 Update

Bolton is in the green category, trending toward grey, with 4 new cases. 29.8% of Bolton is fully vaccinated. Mr. Lowe announced that Town Hall is planning to reopen Town Hall fully is Tuesday June 1<sup>st</sup> after the Monday holiday.

Mr. Lowe invited the Selectmen to a ribbon cutting for the Taggart property would be held on Tuesday April 20<sup>th</sup> at 1pm.

### EV Charging Stations

Bolton has been awarded \$76,837 to site 2 electric car charging stations.

Coffee with Town Administrator will be held on April 16<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am.

## SELECTMEN BUSINESS

### Public Service Announcements

Mr. Wysocki urged the public to bring their recyclables to the red barn at the transfer station.

Mr. Czekanski urged all of the Board and Committee members to take part in the ethics training.

### Persons Park

Ed Sterling of the Parks and Recreation Commission reported that the Commission voted to request the demolition of the structures at Persons Park and requested the support of the Board of Selectmen. Resident Rona Balco and Mary Ciummo commented on the historical significance of the cottage. Ms. Ciummo referred to it as "Demolition by Neglect".

**On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Czekanski the Board voted by roll call 2-1 to support the Parks and Recreation Commissions' intent to have the building demolished. (Czekanski-yes, Keep-no, Wysocki-yes)**

Mass Works Grant

Mr. Lowe announced that there will be a presentation and information session on April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 7pm via Zoom discussion the two conceptual plans for the MassWorks Grant application. The public is encouraged to attend.

Houghton Farm Lane

**On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Keep, the Board voted by roll call 3-0 to lay out Houghton Farm Road as a public way as shown on a plan entitled Houghton Farm Road Street Acceptance Plan, Bolton MA prepared for High Oaks Realty Trust by Dillis and Roy Design Group and dated January 21, 2021 drawing number 3375-ACC. (Czekanski-yes, Keep-yes, Wysocki-yes)**

Bills/Payroll Warrants

**On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Keep the Board voted by roll call 3-0 to approve Bills/Payroll warrants W21-21 & W21-21A and Taggart. (Czekanski-yes, Keep-yes, Wysocki-yes)**

Minutes

**On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Keep the Board voted by roll call 3-0 to approve the minutes of March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021 regular session. (Czekanski-yes, Keep-yes, Wysocki-yes)**

**On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Keep the Board voted by roll call 3-0 to adjourn at 8:58pm. (Czekanski-yes, Keep-yes, Wysocki-yes)**

*\*All attendees participated remotely via Zoom Remote Conferencing pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A Section 18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place.*