

Approved via Zoom
by RCKSW
JTB

Board of Selectmen
May 6th, 2021
Via Zoom*

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

Mr. Czekanski called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and provided an overview of the rules of conduct in the remote meeting environment.

BARE HILL TRIATHLON

Sue Reedich appeared before the Board and requested approval for the Bare Hill Triathlon for one of three Sundays, June 27, August 8TH or October 3rd. from 8am to 8:45am approximately. Chief Nelson has approved the event. Ms. Reedich will submit a safety plan to the Nashoba Board of Health.

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Czekanski the Board voted unanimously to approve the Bare Hill Triathlon as requested. (Wysocki-yes, Keep-yes, Czekanski-yes)

BOLTON COMMUNITY FUND 5K

Mary Jo White of Bolton Community Fund requested permission for their fund raiser, a road race and festival. The race received a preliminary approval from Chief Nelson. A safety plan must be filed with Officer Duffresne and the Board of Health.

On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Keep the Board voted unanimously to conditionally approve the Bolton Community Fund 5K subject to the approval of safety plans with the police and Nashoba Associated Boards of Health. (Wysocki-yes, Keep-yes, Czekanski-yes)

SIGN AT MANOR ROAD

Mr. Keep, as a neighbor to the applicant, recused himself from the discussion.

Joan Bicchieri appeared before the Board to request approval for a sign to be placed at her residence at Manor Road for Counseling Services. The Board reviewed the rendering and proposed location for the sign. The sign will need approval from the building inspector.

On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Wysocki the Board voted 2-0 by roll call to approve the sign as proposed. (Wysocki-yes, Czekanski-yes)

MASSWORKS APPLICATION

DPW Director Randy Heglin and Thomas Loughlin of BETA Construction shared a PowerPoint presentation on the proposed plans for the intersection of Main/Green/Forbush Mill Road for a potential Mass Works grant application. Mr. Heglin reviewed the three possible solutions: do nothing, traffic signal, or roundabout. Board reviewed and overlay of the roundabout design over the existing roundabout on Route in Lancaster. Board discussed the pros and cons of both designs. Mr. Wysocki declaimed concern with the roundabout. Mr. Keep and Mr. Czekanski voiced favor of the roundabout. There were no public comments.

On a motion made by Keep and seconded by Czekanski, the Board voted by roll call 2-1 to support the Mass Works grant application and approve the roundabout as the final design choice. (Wysocki-no, Keep-yes, Czekanski-yes)

Mr. Wysocki noted that he supports the application but does not support the design choice.

580 MAIN STREET LOCAL INITIATIVE PROPOSAL

Jim Lambert of Wood Partners gave a brief presentation on the project they are calling Alta Nashoba Valley located at 580 Main Street. The project is down to 229 units reduced again from 233 when the project was last reviewed by the Board. Parking is increased by 28 spaces. Mr. Lambert reviewed the process and reminded the Board that supporting the application is not an approval. Mr. Lambert announced the public forum regarding the proposed

development at 580 Main Street scheduled for May 11 at 7pm via Zoom. A news and announcements went out and the event will appear on the special events calendar on the town website.

Mr. Czekanski noted that since there is a question answer session scheduled the public keep the questions to the Select Board about issues the Board should consider as opposed to questions about the project itself. Mr. Czekanski asked Mr. Lambert to work with the school district on details related to a safe school pick up location. Board heard questions and comments from residents David Bergsbaken about traffic and pedestrian access. Mr. Lowe noted that a traffic study would be required if the project went forward. Lynn Dischler inquired about access to the public garden. Mr. Lowe noted that the Town has had several discussions already to determine what options are to address this known issue. Mr. Lambert stated his commitment to find a solution to this issue noting complications that will require a collaborative effort with the Town.

Dick Heaton identifying himself as a 40B consultant who has worked with 60 communities stressed the importance of decision before the Board and encouraged the Board to consider what investments the Town departments might request from the developer in exchange for supporting the project. Mr. Heaton commented that he is in support of the project.

Board also heard from Joan Finger and Jason Hutchins.

Mr. Czekanski listed reasons for his support for the project and encouraged the Board to move forward with their support. Mr. Keep and Mr. Wysocki suggested seeking input from other Boards and Committees prior to endorsing the project.

Mr. Lambert noted that the Zoning Board of Appeals process invites comment and participation from all Boards and Committees, but had no issue with the Board taking a meeting cycle to allow Mr. Lowe to gather some information.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Covid-19 update

Bolton is still in the grey with a positivity rate of 1.71% and 5 positive cases in the last 2 weeks. 61.8% of the Town has received at least 1 vaccination and 40.1% are fully vaccinated.

Town Hall remains by appointment only and will open fully on June 1st. The sign Board at the sign building will be reopening for the use of any Bolton based 501c-3 nonprofits once the Town election is complete.

Coffee with Town Administrator is scheduled for May 14th via Zoom.

Annual Town Meeting- Mr. Lowe commented it may have been the fastest Town Meeting he has been a part of and attributed it to the Information Session conducted the week before Town Meeting. All articles passed. Mr. Lowe also credited Nicki McGachey and her team at Bolton Access Television for a smooth meeting.

Town Administrator Review

Mr. Czekanski announced that Mr. Lowe had a very good review. The Board felt that Mr. Lowe was doing a good job in all areas. One area that the Board agreed on was the management of the Town Administration during the pandemic. Mr. Lowe was deeply appreciative of the support he receives from the three Select Board members.

SELECT BOARD BUSINESS

Bills/Payroll Warrants

On a motion made by Keep and seconded by Wysocki the Bolton Select Board voted by roll call vote unanimously to approve bills/payroll warrants FY21-24 and FY21-24a. (Wysocki-yes, Keep-yes, Czekanski-yes)

Select Board Meeting Dates

The proposed dates reviewed by the Board were May 20, June 3, June 17, July 8th, August 19th, September 9th, September 23rd, October 14th, October 28th, November 18th and December 16th.

On a motion made by Keep and seconded by Wysocki the Bolton Select Board voted by roll call vote unanimously to approve the dates as proposed. (Wysocki-yes, Keep-yes, Czekanski-yes)

Letter of Request for Culvert Funding

The Board reviewed a draft letter of request to Senator Cronin and Representative Hogan

On a motion made by Keep and seconded by Wysocki the Bolton Select Board voted by roll call vote unanimously to approve the letter as presented. (Wysocki-yes, Keep-yes, Czekanski-yes)

Minutes

No minutes were approved.

Executive Session

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Keep the Bolton Select Board voted by roll call vote unanimously at 8:51pm to enter Executive Session pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 39, S.23B purpose 3 to discuss strategy with respect to impact bargaining with police union, Local 286 IUPA,AFL-CIO, if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position. Board will return to open session for the purpose of adjournment only. (Wysocki-yes, Keep-yes, Czekanski-yes)
Board returned to regular session at 9:06pm.

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Keep the Select Board voted unanimously by roll call vote to approve the impact bargaining side letter of agreement with police union, Local 286 IUPA,AFL-CIO and authorize Town Administrator Don Lowe to execute. (Wysocki-yes, Keep-yes, Czekanski-yes)

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Keep the Select Board voted unanimously by roll call vote to adjourn at 9:08 pm. (Wysocki-yes, Keep-yes, Czekanski-yes)

Respectfully submitted by Jenny Jacobsen

**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.*