

Select Board
May 11th, 2023

Nashoba Regional High School Auditorium

Robert Czekanski, Chair
Stanley Wysocki
Brian Boyle

Don Lowe, Town Administrator
Jenny Jacobsen, Administrative Assistant

Ms. Jacobsen called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and welcomed Brian Boyle as the newest Board member after Monday night's election.

Board Reorganization

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Boyle, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Mr. Czekanski as the Chair. (Wysocki-yes, Czekanski-yes, Boyle-yes)

On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Wysocki, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Mr. Boyle as the Chair. (Wysocki-yes, Czekanski-yes, Boyle-yes)

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Boyle the Board voted unanimously to appoint Mr. Czekanski as the Clerk. (Wysocki-yes, Czekanski-yes, Boyle-yes)

Mr. Czekanski congratulated Mr. Wysocki and Mr. Boyle on winning their respective elections and thanked them for their willingness to serve on the Board.

Mr. Wysocki thanked the voters for their continued support in allowing him to serve another three years.

Sign Approval

Libby Horesh was in attendance to request the placement of a sign for Nurture Acupuncture at her newest business location at 626 Main Street. Ms. Horesh does acupuncture and Chinese herbal medicine with a particular focus on reproductive health. Hours are 8 – 4 on Mondays and 10 – 6:30 on Wednesdays and will be growing those hours. Mr. Wysocki inquired about the existing sign on the building. Ms. Horesh clarified that there is another business in the building with a similar name, Nature and Nurture.

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Boyle the Board voted unanimously to approve the sign for Nurture Acupuncture at 626 Main Street. (Wysocki-yes, Czekanski-yes, Boyle-yes)

Pride Proclamation

Sarah Kaschak was in attendance to discuss the plans for Pride Month 2023. Ms. Kaschak requested permission for a parade on Sunday June 4th at 2pm and will start at the Emerson School, walk down Mechanic Street, take a left on Main Street and cross to the Town Common. The group has requested a police detail with the crossing. A rally will take place until 6pm. Mr. Lowe explained that Parks and Recreation will be finalizing the approval on the 16th of May. The Board reviewed the proposed poster and banner. The 10' X 3' banner proposed to hang on the railing at Pond Park. The sign at the Common is 6' X 2'. The group plans to hang the banner once printed and remove it promptly after the event.

Mr. Czekanski read the proclamation into the record.

PROCLAMATION
PRIDE MONTH
June 2023

WHEREAS, The Town of Bolton strives to be a welcoming community and a good place to live; and

WHEREAS, Bolton recognizes and values diversity of its residents and people everywhere; and

WHEREAS, Bolton recognizes and values the contribution that each and every resident makes to work, improve recreation, and civic life in our Town; and

WHEREAS, LGBTQIA+ members of our Town are full and participating members of our community; and

WHEREAS, We all appreciate the rich tapestry of ethnic, cultural, racial, sex and gender identities of the residents of our Town; and

WHEREAS, LGBTQIA+ youth are at especially high risk of experiencing discrimination, mistreatment and even violence, and have increased suicide rates, and the Town is committed to ensure that they are safe, valued and supported;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that June 2023 be declared Pride Month in the Town of Bolton and that all residents be encouraged to recognize and acknowledge the contributions of the LGBTQIA+ members of our community as we continue to advance the principles of liberty, equity and inclusivity for all.

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Boyle the Board voted unanimously to approve the proclamation as read. (Wysocki-yes, Boyle-yes, Czekanski-yes)

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Boyle the Board voted unanimously to approve the request to hang the banner at Pond Park and to hang the sign as requested in the sign board at the Common. (Wysocki-yes, Boyle-yes, Czekanski-yes)

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Boyle the Board voted unanimously to approve the pride parade contingent upon the Parks and Recreation Commission approving the rally. (Wysocki-yes, Boyle-yes, Czekanski-yes)

Acceptance of Gift

The Board considered the request from the Conservation Commission to accept a gift of work at Bowers Springs from Daniel Kagen. The work includes cleanup and addition of material. The Conservation Commission has approved the work.

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Boyle the Board voted unanimously to approve the request from the Conservation Commission to accept the gift. (Wysocki-yes, Boyle-yes, Czekanski-yes)

3-Way Stop Sign South Bolton/Spectacle Hill Road

Mr. Wysocki and Mr. Czekanski reported on the Site Visit conducted on Tuesday May 9th, 2023. Mr. Czekanski opined that there are line of sight issues at all approaches which make it necessary to have the 3-way stop sign. Mr. Wysocki agreed with Mr. Czekanski and the recommendation of the Police Chief Nelson and DPW Director Randy Heglin that the signs remain. The Board reviewed data from the 12 months prior and 6 months since the stop signs were placed. There was one accident before and no accidents since. The Board noted the possible need for adjustment to the location of the signs, white lines to demark where vehicles should stop and the need for stop ahead markings and will leave it to the DPW Director and Police Chief to work out the details.

Jon Balewicz of Cider Circle agreed that if the signs remain, lines are needed and commented that a reduction in speed limit would be his preferred remedy. Chief Nelson explained that the Town does not have the authority to alter the speed limit. Mass DOT limits the reduction of speed limit for thickly settled roads. Our road don't meet the required standards.

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Boyle the Board voted unanimously to make permanent the 3-way stop signs at South Bolton/Spectacle Hill Road intersection. (Wysocki-yes, Boyle-yes, Czekanski-yes)

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Derby Field Update

Mr. Lowe reported that the grant application has been submitted. Mr. Lowe credited Rebecca Bucciglia with leading the effort on the \$828,855.55 grant application. The Town will learn if it was awarded in late summer.

Liquor License Update

Mr. Lowe updated the Board that the license amendment made its way through the ABCC for the change in manager on the license for The International Beverage Company, LLC. No action is required.

Town Administrator Goals

Mr. Lowe initiated the discussion on goal setting for FY24. Mr. Czekanski put for gaining clarity of when a gift needs to come before the Select Board.

Mr. Boyle noted that it would be helpful for the Board to have their own set of goals which would compliment the goals for the Town Administrator.

Mr. Czekanski asked the Board to bring their ideas for goals to the next meeting for discussion. Mr. Lowe will bring his draft list of goals as well.

SELECT BOARD BUSINESS

Public Service Announcement

Mr. Lowe recognized that effective June 1st Bob Zak will be resigning from the Library Board of Trustees. Mr. Lowe and the Board offered his thanks and best wishes for Mr. Zak in the future.

Future Agenda Items

Mr. Boyle-Setting Select Board Goals

Mr. Czekanski-Review the Banner Policy

Mr. Wysocki-Single Unified Sign Policy

Appointment

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Boyle the Board voted unanimously to appoint Mike Lau to the Planning Board as an associate member. (Wysocki-yes, Boyle-yes, Czekanski-yes)

Select Board Meeting Dates

The Board reviewed the proposed meeting dates:

May 25th, June 8th, June 22nd, July 13th, August 24th, September 14th, September 28th, October 12th, October 26th, November 16th, December 14th

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Boyle the Board voted unanimously to approve the meeting dates from May 25th through December 14th, 2023. (Wysocki-yes, Boyle-yes, Czekanski-yes)

Bills/Payroll Warrants

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Czekanski the Board voted 2-0-1 to approve the bills/payroll warrants W23-22 & W23-23A. (Wysocki-yes, Czekanski-yes, Boyle-abstain)

Minutes

None to approve.

TOWN MEETING REVIEW

The Board discussed the Town Meeting. Mr. Czekanski acknowledged the electronic voting glitches but commented that once it was straightened out the voting went very well. Mr. Wysocki suggested if it is possible to have a screen in front of the panel and to have the Town Moderator control the voting as opposed to calling out to the back of the

room. Mr. Lowe acknowledged that Ms. Jacobsen sorted the technical glitches though the problems were not of her making.

Town Clerk Pam Powell and Town Moderator Doug Storey were in attendance. Mr. Storey reported that the electronic voting is the future. People like it and can do it without much trouble. Mr. Storey is up to any suggestions for how to make the opening and closing of the votes a little tighter.

Mr. Storey responded to feedback he has received that he was too harsh on speakers. Mr. Storey allowed all speakers to be heard, but discontinued back-and-forth dialogue and/or questions that were no longer pertaining to the vote.

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Boyle the Board voted 3-0 to approve the adjourn at 7:59pm. (Wysocki-yes, Czekanski-yes, Boyle-yes)

Respectfully submitted by J. Jacobsen.