

Select Board
June 22nd, 2023
Via Zoom Remote Conferencing*

Robert Czekanski, Chair
Stanley Wysocki
Brian Boyle
Wendy Rogers
Robert Roemer (arrived at 6:34 pm)

Don Lowe, Town Administrator
Jenny Jacobsen, Town Secretary

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Czekanski called the joint meeting of the Select Board and Law Committee to order at 6:30 p.m.

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Boyle, the Law Committee voted by roll call vote unanimously to enter executive session pursuant to M.G.L. c. 21A, Sec. 21(a), Purpose 3, to discuss strategy with respect to litigation between the Town of Alan DiPietro v. Town of Bolton, in the U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts docket number 4:23-CV-40004-ADB if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the [Board/Committee] and the chair so declares. (Rogers-yes, Wysocki-yes, Boyle-yes, Czekanski-yes)

The meeting was closed to the public. Mr. Roemer joined the meeting at 6:34 pm.

The Board returned from executive session at 7:11 pm.

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Boyle, the Law Committee voted by roll call vote unanimously to adjourn the law committee meeting. (Rogers-yes, Wysocki-yes, Boyle-yes, Czekanski-yes)

TEMPORARY SIGN APPROVAL

Mike Lastella appeared before the Board with a request from Ty-Rods for temporary show signs along the roadways in Bolton.

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Boyle, the Select Board voted by roll call vote unanimously to approve five 24”X24” signs along roadways in Bolton for approximately one week prior to the Old Timers’ Reunion event on September 10th, 2023. (Wysocki-yes, Boyle-yes, Czekanski-yes)

UPDATE ON HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECT

Mr. Downing appeared before the Board to update the Board on the high school building project. Mr. Downing referenced Board Briefs #6 and #7 which were distributed to the Board in advance of the meeting. Board Brief #7 was an important brief from the meeting when the school building committee approved the scope of the budget to go before the school committee. The school committee has since approved the scope of the budget in the amount of \$241M to go to the MSBA. Skanska is preparing the final documents for submission for June 27th. August 2nd is the date the school committee will be voting to incur debt. If they vote affirmatively they have 7 days to notify the Chairs of the member towns’ Select Boards. The Chairs have 60 days to call for a meeting. Board Brief #8 is forthcoming. The next public forum will be happening a week before the Special Town Meetings.

Mr. Boyle inquired about the subcommittee that was previously discussed. Mr. Mulkerin has engaged with the three towns and the committee has been identified. Mr. Downing did not know off the top of his head who was representing Bolton. There was some discussion about the different strategies for borrowing. The committee will come forth with a recommendation in time before the election.

TRANSFER STATION

Sticker Exchange

The Board discussed the memo signed jointly by the DPW Director and Town Administrator regarding the expiration date of the stickers. Mr. Lowe reaffirmed that anyone using the transfer station needs to use bags beginning on July 1st. The memo recommended lifting the 20-sticker limit for stickers traded at the transfer station while maintaining the limit at the Town Hall. Mr. Heglin would arrange for a third person at the transfer station to assist with the trade in process.

The Board discussed the ending date for transferring stickers for bags. Mr. Czekanski proposed that there be no deadline for trade ins. Mr. Boyle agreed. Mr. Wysocki had concerns regarding leaving it open ended and also for unlimited trade ins for residents with large quantities of stickers at home. Mr. Wysocki stressed the considerable cost for providing unlimited bags to residents with large quantities for bags that will likely remain unused.

Mr. Boyle was in favor of the recommendation.

On a motion made by Boyle and seconded by Wysocki, the Select Board voted by roll call vote unanimously that as of July 1, 2023, trash must be in Bolton -issued trash bags . (Wysocki-yes, Boyle-yes, Czekanski-yes)

On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Boyle, the Select Board voted by roll call vote unanimously that there is no deadline for swapping of stickers for trash bags. (Wysocki-yes, Boyle-yes, Czekanski-yes)

On a motion made by Boyle and seconded by Czekanski, the Select Board voted by roll call vote unanimously to preserve a limit of 20 bags per visit for exchanges at Town Hall and no limit for exchanges at the transfer station subject to staff and resource availability. (Wysocki-yes, Boyle-yes, Czekanski-yes)

Senior Bags Program

Ms. Jacobsen asked for clarification for renters and accessory apartments. The Board concurred that both would be eligible for the benefit.

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Boyle, the Select Board voted by roll call vote unanimously to extend the benefit for \$100 of stickers to seniors 61 and over for the Fiscal Year 2024. (Wysocki-yes, Boyle-yes, Czekanski-yes)

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

ARPA Request

Mr. Lowe requested ARPA funds in the amount of \$35,424 to be allocated for the IT Managed Services contract. The budget had already been set before the procurement process was complete. The incumbent, CMGeeks, who was selected as the most advantageous, as well as the lowest bidder, was under no obligation to maintain their pricing.

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Boyle, the Select Board voted by roll call vote unanimously to approve the ARPA funds in the amount of \$35,424 for the contract for Information Technology Managed Services for the Bolton Town Buildings. (Wysocki-yes, Boyle-yes, Czekanski-yes)

SELECT BOARD BUSINESS

Public Service Announcements

There were none.

Future Agenda Items

Mr. Wysocki suggested a discussion of the implications of the school building project budget on individual household assessments before the Special Town Meeting at the August meeting.

Mr. Wysocki suggested adding a presentation of the school committee strategic plan to a future agenda item. The Board asked Mr. Lowe to make a request to the school district to make a presentation at our July 13th meeting.

Reappointments

Mr. Lowe updated the Board that the Affordable Housing Partnership Trust Fund Committee has three open seats. The committee has not met in years and there is no need for the committee to meet in the near future. The purpose of the trust is to provide the creation and preservation of affordable housing in municipalities for low- and moderate-income households. With 580 Main Street potentially bringing us to 17% we will not be dealing with 40B projects in the near future. Mr. Lowe recommended that the Board need not appoint Committee members at this time.

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Boyle, the Select Board voted by roll call vote unanimously to approve the list of renewals as presented in the packet contingent upon confirmation of continued interest. (Wysocki-yes, Boyle-yes, Czekanski-yes)

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Boyle, the Select Board voted by roll call vote unanimously to appoint Kristen Zina to the Board of Registrars. (Wysocki-yes, Boyle-yes, Czekanski-yes)

Bills/Payroll Warrants

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Boyle, the Select Board voted by roll call vote unanimously to approve bills/payroll warrants W23-24 & W23-24A. (Wysocki-yes, Boyle-yes, Czekanski-yes)

Minutes

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Boyle, the Select Board voted by roll call vote unanimously to approve the regular session minutes of May 25th, 2023. (Wysocki-yes, Boyle-yes, Czekanski-yes)

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Boyle, the Select Board voted by roll call vote unanimously to adjourn at 8:12pm. (Wysocki-yes, Boyle-yes, Czekanski-yes)

Respectfully submitted by J. Jacobsen.