

Select Board
January 13, 2022

Robert Czekanski
Stanley Wysocki
Jonathan Keep

Via Zoom Remote Conferencing*

Don Lowe, Town Administrator
Jenny Jacobsen, Town Secretary

Mr. Wysocki called the Select Board meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The meeting was recorded.

APPOINTMENT

Council on Aging Director Lisa D'Eon was present to recommend Janet Smith for appointment to the Council.

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Keep the Board voted by roll call unanimously to appoint Janet Smith as a member of the Council on Aging. (Wysocki-yes, Keep-yes, Czekanski-yes)

EVENT APPROVAL

Deb Pierce appeared before the Board to represent the Bare Hill Road Duathlon to request approval to hold the Duathlon which will pass through Bolton for part of the route on Sunday June 26th from 8am to 12pm on Harvard, Green and Bare Hill Road. The event has police approval and will submit the necessary insurance documentation for the event in February prior to the event.

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Keep the Board voted by roll call unanimously to approve the request from the Bare Hill Road Duathlon Triathlon Bike Race for the bike race to be held on Sunday June 26th, 2022. (Wysocki-yes, Keep-yes, Czekanski-yes)

ATLANTIC UNION COLLEGE LAND DONATION

Conservation Agent Rebecca Longvall appeared before the Board to request the acceptance of a 1-acre parcel from Atlantic Union College (5.D-55) per her December 22, 2021 memorandum to the Select Board.

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Keep the Board voted by roll call unanimously to accept the parcel of land from Atlantic Union College contingent to the proper due diligence conducted to ensure the land does not contain any materials that shall cause undue liability to the Town and that we obtain clear title to the land. (Wysocki-yes, Keep-yes, Czekanski-yes)

CHIEF LEGENDRE CONTRACT

Mr. Lowe refreshed the Board on the status of the contract with Chief Legendre that was entered into last year. At that time the Chief asked the Board to review his compensation on the grid scale as the department had taken over responsibility for the ambulance department and had built out the Ambulance Life Support. The Board had agreed to have a wage reopener for the second and third year of the contract. Comparisons were reviewed. Chief Legendre thanked the Board for their consideration. The Board were in agreement in their strong support of the work of Chief Legendre.

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Keep the Board voted by roll call unanimously to approve and execute the fiscal years fy22-24 contract between the Town of Bolton and Chief Legendre. (Wysocki-yes, Keep-yes, Czekanski-yes)

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Covid-19 Update-Mr. Lowe shared the numbers of positive tests for Covid-19 was 90 for the previous week. The state positivity rate is down to 20.34% .

MassWorks Grant- Mr. Lowe announced that Thursday January 27th at 10:30am is the tentative date for the ceremony being planned with Representative Hogan and Congresswoman Trahan's offices. Between the \$938K Mass Works grant and the \$400K culvert funds the Town is receiving significant funds which deserve recognition.

SIGN REQUEST

Danielle Bruyere appeared before the Board to request approval for two signs (one on the building and one on the sign Board) for her business, The Soulful Co. Barre & Dance Fitness as well as the placement of temporary yard signs advertising a promotional offering of a free first class. The yard signs would be out until the end of January to be taken in each night.

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Keep the Board voted by roll call unanimously to approve the request from Danielle Bruyere of The Soulful Co. Barre & Dance Fitness, 626 Main Street for the placement of three signs as designated in the packets to include the yard signs to be up until the end of January. (Wysocki-yes, Keep-yes, Czekanski-yes)

Mr. Lowe continued his Town Administrator Report by announcing that the State Office of OEMS has granted the waiver of the Cadet EMT which will allow students ages 16-17 to take the exam after passing all of the requisite course work. Mr. Lowe declared that it could not have been done without the support and efforts of Representative Kate Hogan and the support of Secretary Marylou Sudders.

SELECT BOARD BUSINESS

Public Service Announcements-Mr. Wysocki encouraged the public to get vaccinated. Mr. Keep added his appreciation for front line workers noting that he was so impressed with the nurses at UMass Hospital in Leominster with how they are juggling an impossible job and handling the pandemic and the recent spike.

Mr. Czekanski wished a very happy birthday to Bolton Cane recipient Ruta Baum on reaching her 100th birthday in December.

Recognition of Valerie Oorthuys

Mr. Lowe recognized the achievement of Town Planner Valerie Oorthuys on reaching certification as a Town Planner by the American Institute of Certified Planners. Mr. Lowe proposed the Board approve a stipend of \$500 for this fiscal year and an annual stipend of \$1,000 if Ms. Oorthuys maintains her certification.

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

Legal Counsel Request to represent Wood Partners

Mr. Lowe explained that Town Counsel is requested approval to allow Brian Falk to represent Wood Partners on a project in another town that is completely separate from the project in Bolton. If the project goes forward Robert Gibbons will be the attorney assigned to represent the Town in our efforts with Wood Partners.

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Czekanski the Board voted by roll call 2-1 to approve the request. (Wysocki-yes, Keep-no, Czekanski-yes)

Mr. Keep voiced his concerns that the same firm cannot represent both parties without a conflict of interest.

Animal Control Officer Update

Mr. Lowe explained that Animal Control Officer is meeting with the dog owner for 79 Lancaster Road to approve the kennel and is awaiting confirmation that the training is complete.

127 Nashaway Road Accessory Apartment Plan

The Board reviewed the submitted plan for an accessory apartment at 127 Nashaway Road.

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Keep the Board voted by roll call unanimously to receive the accessory apartment plan for 127 Nashaway Road as presented. (Wysocki-yes, Keep-yes, Czekanski-yes)

Bills/Payroll Warrant

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Keep the Board voted by roll call unanimously to approve bills/payroll warrants FY22-13, FY22-13A FY22-14, FY22-14A. (Wysocki-yes, Keep-yes, Czekanski-yes)

Minutes

No minutes were approved.

Executive Session

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Keep the Board voted by roll call unanimously to enter executive session pursuant to MGL c. 30A, Section 21 (a) for purpose 3 to conduct strategy with respect to collective bargaining as the Chair finds that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the Board's bargaining position, for the Teamster's Union, Local No. 170 and The Bolton Police Union, Local 286, IUPA, AFL-CIO and to approve executive session minutes at 7:51 pm. (Wysocki-yes, Keep-yes, Czekanski-yes)

The Board will not return to open session.

Respectfully submitted by J. Jacobsen.