

Select Board
April 28, 2022

Robert Czekanski, Chair
Stanley Wysocki
Jonathan Keep

Via Zoom Remote Conferencing*

Don Lowe, Town Administrator
Jenny Jacobsen, Town Secretary

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

SENIOR APPRECIATION MONTH

Mary Ciummo was present on behalf of the Friends of Bolton Seniors to request month of May 2022 to be declared Senior Appreciation month. Mr. Czekanski read the proclamation "Age My Way".

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Keep the Board voted by roll call unanimously to approve the proclamation and declare the month of May 2022 to be Senior Appreciation month in the Town of Bolton. (Wysocki-yes, Keep-yes, Czekanski-yes)

LION'S CLUB VOLUNTARY TOLL BOOTH

Andrew Keane was present on behalf of the Bolton Lion's Club to request approval to hold a voluntary toll booth on 117 on June 4th or June 11th as a rain date. The event has the approval of the police department. Following the meeting Mr. Keane will contact Murphy Insurance regarding parking, DPW for traffic cones and the police department to coordinate a

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

CAR SHOW AT 41 MAIN STREET

Additya Dutta of Hopkinton Concours appeared before the Board to request permission to hold a car show at 41 Main Street. Mr. Dutta, began organizing the event in his junior year in high school which was cancelled due to Covid. The car show which will be predominately exotic high-end cars will benefit the Jimmy Fund and is scheduled on Sunday May 15th with a rain date of May 22nd.

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Keep the Board voted by roll call unanimously to approve the Hopkinton Concours car show to be held at 41 Main Street on Sunday May 15th with a rain date of Sunday May 22nd. (Wysocki-yes, Keep-yes, Czekanski-yes)

FLAG POLICY

Mr. Czekanski shared a draft flag policy with the Board for consideration. Mr. Wysocki requested the addition of flags of the branches of the armed forces of the United States. Mr. Lowe commented that the policy, as written, would not allow the Bolton Town flag to be flown.

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Keep the Board voted by roll call unanimously to accept the Flags on Town Flagpole policy with the addition of the flags of the branches of the armed forces of the United States and the Town of Bolton flag. (Wysocki-yes, Keep-yes, Czekanski-yes)

Resident Emily Winner voiced concern that the policy the Board approved prohibits the pride flag and requested to share the research that she and Sarah Kaschak had done on the issue. She reported that the Towns she contacted reported no problems. Mr. Wysocki explained that the Board fully supports the objectives of the Pride organization. If the Board allows a single group access to the flagpoles it allows access to anyone and everyone and becomes very difficult to control. The Board was responding to a recent lawsuit in Boston and other communities on the South shore.

Mr. Czekanski commented that the pride flag might fit better under the banner policy if it were modified. Mr. Lowe read the existing banner policy. Mr. Czekanski explained that the policy is an effort to protect the town by establishing guidelines for what flags may be hung on the flagpoles in Town.

Ms. Kaschak asked for clarification on the point of the pride flag being considered a banner. Mr. Czekanski suggested that they consider requesting the flag to be hung as a banner. Mr. Lowe noted that the banner policy would need to be modified. Ms. Winner voiced disinterest in hanging the pride flag on the railing at Pond Park preferring the Town Common as a central location. Lauren Mahoney of Spectacle Hill Road commented that flag requests should be aligned with the Town's values. The Board was not inclined to add a new location to the banner policy. Mr. Keep added that nuisance lawsuits can be very expensive. Mr. Keep commented that we can be supportive and open in ways that would not get the Town in trouble. Ms. Winner reminded the Board that the pride flag does not represent an organization, religious or political, in any way and that pride month has been federally recognized since 1999. The Board asked if there was interest in changes to the banner policy to allow for the flag to be flown on the railing at Pond Park. Ms. Winner and Ms. Kaschak agreed to discuss it offline and reach out to Mr. Lowe at a future date.

MVP ACTION GRANT

Lauren de la Parra of the consulting team working on the 2-year action grant project working to identify strategies for enhancing climate resilience through land use and land managements with a emphasis on natural lands. Ms. De la Parra shared a slide show to update the Board on where the project is at. There are a lot of exciting opportunities to enhance local climate resilience with regards to local bylaws and regulations especially in regards to wetlands. There will be a public meeting on June 8th to share the progress of the first year of the project and have a community celebration. That meeting is tentatively scheduled to be held on the Clinton Central Park. Conservation Agent Rebecca Longvall thanked the Board, Town Administrator and community for supporting the project. Ms. Longvall drew the Board's attention to the panel of experts working on the project from a broad range of fields to assure a good product outcome of the project.

PARKS AND RECREATION

No Parking Signs at the Town Common

The Parks and Recreation Commission requested signs on the west side of the driveway to the Town Common. The Board previously approved signs on the east side, but since their installation cars have been parking on the opposite side of the driveway.

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Keep the Board voted unanimously to approve the installation of two no parking signs as requested. (Wysocki-yes, Keep-yes, Czekanski-yes)

Park Bench Donation

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Keep the Board voted unanimously to accept the gift of a park bench from the Nashoba Rotary Club to be installed at Pond Park. (Wysocki-yes, Keep-yes, Czekanski-yes)

Sign Request

Ms. Shepple explained that the signs will be created at a Share the Love event on the Town common. The signs will be delivered to residents' homes.

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Keep the Board voted unanimously to approve the sign request. (Wysocki-yes, Keep-yes, Czekanski-yes)

580 MAIN STREET

The Board created a prioritized list of projects related to the 580 Main Street development for the Zoning Board of Appeals to consider when working with Wood Partners.

The list included:

- 1-The Culvert behind Florence Sawyer School
- 2-Parking for Council on Aging at 580 Main Street
- 3-Sidewalks and Center Loop trail with Emergency Access over the existing cart path.
- 4-Improvements to Derby field
- 5-Relocation of the Community Garden
- 6-Improvement to playground at Memorial field
- 7-Installation of a ADA compliant path to the existing lacrosse field.

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Keep the Board voted unanimously to approve the list. (Wysocki-yes, Keep-yes, Czekanski-yes)

Mr. Keep noted that for comparison Alta River's Edge in Wayland, the Town received \$160K for 120 units which comes out to about \$4,000/unit.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

MassWorks Update-Mr. Lowe asked the Board to start thinking about ideas for the interior of the roundabout to make it as attractive and welcoming as we can. The plan is to have the design done and get out for bid by the end of the calendar year so that in the spring of 2023 work can begin.

Town Meeting Warrant Article 5-Mr. Lowe recommended an amendment on the floor at ATM to Article 5 to add the words, "and to perform other repairs and/or planning"

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Keep the Board voted unanimously to approve the wording change to article 5. (Wysocki-yes, Keep-yes, Czekanski-yes)

Town Meeting Warrant Article 14-The article does not need to be amended. Mr. Lowe reported that the Request for Proposals was completed and the most advantageous submission was received from the current lease holder. The existing lease is for an annual lease of \$130K with an escalator linked to the consumer price index. The alternate option was for a lump sum payment of \$1,220,000. Mr. Lowe recommended the Board accept the terms of the lease option.

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Keep the Board voted unanimously to approve the option to go with the 25-year lease option with Crown Castle. (Wysocki-yes, Keep-yes, Czekanski-yes)

Public Service Announcements

Mr. Wysocki encouraged the public to use the scout barn for their recyclables.

Mr. Wysocki reminded the public that the DPW staff does not set the policies or rates. If the public has issues, they should contact the Town Administrator or Select Board and not take their frustrations out on the hardworking staff at the transfer station.

Mr. Czekanski reminded the public that Annual Town meeting will be taking place on Monday, May 2nd and Town election on Monday May 9th at the Nashoba Regional High School Auditorium.

Mr. Czekanski seconded the comments from Mr. Wysocki on the staff at the transfer station.

Town Administrator Review

Mr. Czekanski explained the process of the review. Mr. Lowe had very good scores receiving no score lower than a 4.6 out of 5. The Select Board has a lot of confidence in Mr. Lowe and was able to identify some areas where they would like to see improvement. Mr. Lowe thanked the Board for the support and commented that he has an outstanding staff who shares the credit in his success.

Bills/Payroll warrants:

On a motion made by Wysocki and seconded by Keep the Board voted by roll call unanimously to approve Bills/Payroll warrants W22-21 & W22-21A. (Wysocki-yes, Keep-yes, Czekanski-yes)

Mr. Czekanski asked that "Future Agenda Items" be added to future agendas.

Executive Session

On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Wysocki the Board voted by roll call unanimously at 9:16pm to enter executive session pursuant to MGL c. 30A, Section 21 (a) for purpose 7, to comply with, or act under the authority of the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. c. 30A, Sec. 22(f), (g), to review and consider the possible release of executive session meeting minutes. The Board will return for the purpose of adjournment only. (Wysocki-yes, Keep-yes, Czekanski-yes)

On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Wysocki the Board voted by roll call unanimously at 9:21pm to adjourn. (Wysocki-yes, Keep-yes, Czekanski-yes)

Respectfully submitted by J. Jacobsen.