

Select Board
June 9th, 2022

Stanley Wysocki, Chair
Robert Czekanski
Emily Winner

Via Zoom Remote Conferencing*

Don Lowe, Town Administrator
Jenny Jacobsen, Town Secretary

Mr. Wysocki called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and announced that the meeting would be recorded.

PUBLIC HEARING-

Mr. Wysocki opened the public hearing at 7:00pm. The Board considered the petition of Bolton Baba LLC DBA Baba & The Legacy Kitchen for the transfer of the Annual Restaurant All-Alcohol License at 544 Wattaquodock Hill Road. Manager Emily Wang was in attendance with the owner Weidong Wang (Wilson). The Board was supportive of the new business in town. The hearing was opened to public comment. Brigham and Patricia Bentley of 556 Wattaquodock voiced support for the business. Mr. Lowe noted that a certificate of tax compliance is outstanding. Ms. Wang has communicated with the previous owner to obtain the document. There were no other comments.

On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Winner the Board voted unanimously to close the public hearing at 7:05pm. (Czekanski-yes, Winner-yes, Wysocki-yes)

On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Winner the Board voted unanimously to approve the liquor license transfer application conditionally upon receipt of the final paperwork to complete the application. (Czekanski-yes, Winner-yes, Wysocki-yes)

SIGN REQUEST-

Ms. Wang shared a picture of the new sign at 544 Wattaquodock Hill Road. Mr. Lowe confirmed that the building inspector had no issues with the sign. The sign replaced the existing sign with the same dimensions.

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

APPOINTMENTS-

The Board considered the recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Commission to appoint Mary Beth Miskin to the Commission. Ms. Miskin was in attendance.

On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Winner the Board voted unanimously to appoint Ms. Miskin to the Parks and Recreation Commission. (Czekanski-yes, Winner-yes, Wysocki-yes)

Ed Sterling, Chair of the Parks and Recreation Commission who also in attendance thanked the Board.

OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION PLAN-

Rebecca Longvall, Conservation Agent was in attendance and respectfully requested the formation of a subcommittee for the commencement of the Open Space and Recreation Plan update. The existing plan expires in 2024 and takes about a year to complete. The Select Board were given a map of all the open space parcels in Town including municipal or state owned, parcels managed by the Conservation Commission, and parcels owned by the Conservation Trust. The packet also contained and a 7-year action plan which directs the work of the Conservation Commission and Parks and Recreation Commission. The Conservation Commission voted on June 7th to support the formation of a subcommittee. Mr. Wysocki

invited the Conservation Commission to a future meeting to discuss land acquisition as it is at the top of the list.

On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Winner the Board voted unanimously to authorize the formation of a subcommittee to commence an update to the Open Space and Recreation Plan. (Czekanski-yes, Winner-yes, Wysocki-yes)

CEMETERY COMMITTEE-

Betsy Taylor-Kennedy, Donald Baum and Brenda Baum were all in attendance to update the Board on the work of the Committee. The Committee presented a written set of rules and regulations for Bolton cemeteries. The new documents include the option for green burials in two of Bolton's cemeteries, West Cemetery and Pan Cemetery which would make them both hybrid cemeteries. The Committee will update their website with the new rules and regulations and contact information. In the research that was conducted Bolton was the only town to not charge for cemetery lots. Three towns included perpetual care funds. As a result of the study, they have updated grave opening fees. The Committee proposed a bylaw change to allow the Committee to charge \$500 for a grave lot with 70% deposited in the perpetual care account. This would require an article at Town Meeting. It would require a change to the perpetual care fund section of our bylaws as well. Mr. Baum added that the back hoe contractor has increased his rate by 25%. The committee may need to readjust the cemetery fees in the future.

Ms. Pat Bensettler was in attendance and requested information about the Green Burials. Ms. Taylor-Kennedy gave an overview of the green burial process.

PUBLIC WAYS SAFETY COMMITTEE (PWSC)

Traffic Rules and Order-Mary Ciummo of the PWSC was in attendance and presented proposed changes to the Traffic Rules and Order document. Ms. Ciummo noted that one page on the reference to the Salt Box needs to be changed to 626 Main. Ms. Ciummo commented that it is a living document and will need to be updated after the round-about is installed at Main/Forbush/Green.

On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Winner the Board voted unanimously to approve the revised Traffic Rules and Order. (Czekanski-yes, Winner-yes, Wysocki-yes)

On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Winner the Board voted unanimously to remove the stop sign at Wattaquaddock Hill Road and Main Street. (Czekanski-yes, Winner-yes, Wysocki-yes)

Sign Request-Ms. Ciummo requested the approval of a street sign warning drivers to the intersection of Nourse Road that is hard to see due to the rise in the road. The sign was approved by the police chief and DPW director.

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

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS (DPW)

Transfer Station-DPW Director Randall Heglin was in attendance and updated the Board on the transfer station. When comparing municipal solid waste totals to stickers sales the town is not covering the cost of operations. Mr. Heglin wants to look at operations to consider how to 2022 we have collected \$60K to date in sticker revenue and the actual cost of operations has been \$191K. Mr. Wysocki suggested the Board consider purchasing bags rather than stickers. Mr. Heglin noted that storage of the bags would be a challenge. Tessa David who conducts the DEP inspections at the transfer station informed Mr. Heglin that many communities are going with a vehicle sticker in addition to the bag stickers. Ms. Winner commented that we should be focused on reducing the amount of waste that goes into landfills mentioning that some communities have textile drop bins or composting bins. Mr. Wysocki disagreed that the Town should get in the business of composting.

Gentry Ferrell, a resident who was in attendance asked if there was a mechanism for volunteers to assist the transfer station staff. The Town does have a Senior Tax Rebate Program (STRP) that allows seniors who qualify to work up to \$1,500 off their taxes which is the maximum that the state allows. Mr. Lowe said that we can look into using STRP workers at the transfer station.

LIV TOUR EVENT AT THE INTERNATIONAL GOLF CLUB

Steve Brennan, manager of the International Golf Club located at 159 Ballville Road was in attendance and provided an overview of the event. The tournament director Mike Goguen and consultant with Avalon Consulting Kelly Cardoza were both also in attendance. The event is scheduled for Labor Day weekend and is one of 8 events planned for the LIV TOUR. Ms. Cardoza stated that the event qualifies as a special event under the limited business district according to section 250-16 of the town code. Mike Goguen, tournament director was also in attendance and shared a presentation on their proposed plan for the event including security, traffic control, parking, water management and refuse disposal, and charity.

Mr. Lowe pointed out that Ms. Cardoza is as familiar with the zoning as anyone having been involved since 1997. Mr. Wysocki noted that the Board will hold a hearing at the June 23rd which allows the public, boards and committees enough time to comment. Mr. Brennan responded to the Boards questions and confirmed that there will be no on street parking and in addition to sewerage being removed, water will be brought in.

Mr. Lowe added that he is aware of the concerns that some residents have about the LIV group and does not take them lightly.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

HCA Negotiations with United Cultivation-Mr. Lowe reported positive progress and promised a report at the next meeting.

580 Main Street Prioritized List-Mr. Lowe updated the Board on the progress with Mr. Jim Lambert of Wood Partners. Mr. Lowe did not go into too much detail as the negotiations are ongoing. Mr. Lowe explained that many groups, boards and committees provided feedback on the list that was voted on by the Board prior to reorganization.

Master Plan Steering Committee-Mr. Lowe informed the Board of a response to the RFP for a consultant for the plan and congratulated the Board on their support at the previous meeting for the use of ARPA funds.

SELECT BOARD BUSINESS

News and Announcements-Ms. Winner announced that the Agricultural Commission is seeking new members and encouraged the public to consider getting involved.

Annual Dog Warrant-

On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Winner the Board voted unanimously by roll call vote to execute the annual dog warrant. (Czekanski-yes, Winner-yes, Wysocki-yes)

Conservation Trust Lease-

On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Winner the Board voted unanimously by roll call vote to execute the lease with the Conservation Trust for the lease of the Houghton Building. (Czekanski-yes, Winner-yes, Wysocki-yes)

Board and Committee Discussion-Deferred to next meeting.

Town Administrator Report-Mr. Czekanski proposed the addition of a goal to the proposed list of FY23 goals to have discussions with the Library Trustees about the use of the meeting room for public meetings. Mr. Czekanski added that this would represent a unified effort of the board and designate the Town Administrator as the point of contact for the Library Trustees. The Board agreed with the addition.

On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Winner the Board voted unanimously by roll call vote to approve the Town Administrator FY23 Goals. (Czekanski-yes, Winner-yes, Wysocki-yes)

Discussion on Meeting Spaces for the Select Board-The Board discussed the possibility of shifting the location of Select Board meetings once the governor's executive order expires. Mr. Lowe gathered staff as well as Nicki McGachey of Bolton Access Television to discuss the requirements for adopting hybrid options to allow for document sharing and improve the experience for viewers choosing to view from home for the cost of a single monitor for the Town Hall. The Board reviewed the options for achieving this supplied by Ms. McGachey. Mr. Lowe shared concerns that Chief Nelson had about lighting to the Public Safety Building and offered up alternatives for providing accommodations as needed to residents seeking them. Mr. Wysocki commented that moving the meeting room is a want of a single person and not a need. Ed Sterling, Chair of the Parks and Recreation Commission shared his thoughts that the Harold Brown Room at the Public Safety Building does not fit public meetings well and commented an agreement that doorways at Town Hall may be a bit narrow. Mr. Czekanski called the Town Hall meeting room small and crowded with poor ventilation and argued that accessibility is not ADA compliance and went forward with a motion that if the governor's order expires the Board will move the Select Board meetings to the public safety building meeting room. Ms. Winner had concerns with using the public safety building meeting room and couldn't in good faith say that it was the solution to the accessibility issues for town meetings because of parking issues, how you get in and out of the space and potential burden to the dispatch system. Ms. Winner urged the Town to look into widening the doors at the Houghton Building. There was no second for the motion.

Future Agenda Items- Mr. Czekanski suggested the Board consider dedicating the June 23rd meeting to the LIV event if warranted. Mr. Lowe asked the Board's availability in the event that a second meeting is warranted. The Board was all available on the 30th. Mr. Wysocki was not anticipating that the hearing portion of that agenda would wax on.

Ms. Winner noted a comment in the chat from Burt Schnitzler regarding a conservation restriction on the Shultz property and asked if this would impact the Board's decision. Mr. Lowe stated that the Conservation Commission is aware of the restriction but noted that LIV's failure to get approval to use the Shultz property would not prohibit LIV from holding the event.Bills/Payroll Warrant

On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Winner the Board voted unanimously by roll call vote to approve the bills/payroll warrant W22-24 & W22-24A. (Czekanski-yes, Winner-yes, Wysocki-yes)Minutes

No minutes were approved.

Executive Session

On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Winner the Board entered executive session at 9:45pm pursuant to MGL c. 30A, §21(a)3 to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with AFSCME Council 93 DPW union and The Teamster's Union, Local 170 as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the Select Board and to approve Executive Session Minutes. (Czekanski-yes, Winner-yes, Wysocki-yes)

The Board returned from executive session at 9:51 pm.

On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Winner the Board voted unanimously to execute the contract with AFSCME and the Town of Bolton and to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the contract. (Czekanski-yes, Winner-yes, Wysocki-yes)

On a motion made by Czekanski and seconded by Winner the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:51pm. (Czekanski-yes, Winner-yes, Wysocki-yes)

Respectfully submitted by J. Jacobsen.