

Special Town Meeting – May 17, 2022

Electors and others qualified to vote at town meeting in the Town of Bolton met at the Bolton Town Hall, 222 Bolton Center Road, Bolton, CT on May 17, 2022, for Bolton's Special town meeting. Present were: First Selectman Pamela Sawyer, and Selectmen Robert Morra, Michael Eremita, Robert Depietro and Adam Teller; Interim Administrative Officer James Rupert. Also present were 30 members of the public, along with 6 attending virtually.

Town Meeting Moderator Mark Altermatt called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and then read the Call of the meeting and the Return of Notice.

Mrs. Sandra Pierog called a Point of Order. Mr. Altermatt acknowledged her and Mrs. Pierog stated that the notice posted on the exterior signpost didn't contain the signatures of the selectmen. Mr. Altermatt stated that the notice was in order and that the Town Attorney was present and could speak to that if he chose to. No one else discussed or commented on the matter. Mr. Altermatt stated that he would accept the Call & Return of Notice to be accurate and proceeded with the meeting.

Item #1

RESOLVED: To consider and act upon the five (5) year capital improvement plan as presented by the Board of Selectmen in the annual budget document.

Motion: Pamela Sawyer

Second: Robert Morra

Discussion:

Mrs. Sawyer stated that the first meeting on this temporary building failed primarily due to the location of the building. The BOS met about a new location for the building and drew up a hand out showing the floor plan and a rendering of what it would look like at the Notch Road location. She passed this hand out to those in attendance and a copy was available online as well.

Mrs. Pierog asked about internal storage in the building. Mr. Rupert identified several areas of storage. There would likely be storage in the building itself since not all of the office spaces would be used, the YMCA area at Notch Rd would also have some secure and locked storage as well as for the Finance Dept. and Registrar of Voters. Herrick Park would be utilized for storage of cleaning supplies that are now at the NRMC.

Marilee Manning asked about using the space at the YMCA instead for the next 3 yrs. since they would be vacating the space.

Robert Morra explained that the fiscal position of the town is that we don't have any retirement of debt until 2028, which is 6 years out. So, the earliest that the Town can look to reconstruct the building at Notch Rd would be at least 6 years away. This plan would carry out the immediate need at least for 6-10 years until the Town can assume any new large debt. When the BOS studied the available space at the YMCA and compared it to what we needed for office space, 2 of the doors in that area reduced the useable area by 20% and did not provide any meeting space. Currently our Recreation programs are conducted in the space where the YMCA is now. Senior center will use that space as overflow as well.

Rosemary Hathaway asked about useable space at the Schools, particularly the High School.

John Toomey addressed the use of the High School, the Bolton Scholarship Fund and Bolton Alumni have used the High School. The senior center has been used for budget and board meetings, as well as the Charter commission. He wanted to know if there were any restrictions for those areas to be used.

Peter Morra talked about uses at the School since he works there. Some activities were allowed pre-Covid and that they should inquire of the BOE.

No one had any further comments to make so Mr. Altermatt then asked for a vote on the resolution. He reread the resolution. Then asked for a vote of either Yay (yes) or Nay (No) on the motion.

A voice vote was conducted and Mr. Altermatt asked if there was any dispute on the majority of the Yay vote. Hearing none, the motion carried.

Vote: motion carried

Having no further business to discuss. Town Meeting Moderator, Mark Altermatt, then concluded the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth C. Waters

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Town Clerk