



# Town of Bolton

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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 31, 2021  
7:00 P.M. - VIRTUAL  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

The March 31, 2021 special meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM.

## ROLL CALL

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** First Selectman Sandra Pierog, Deputy First Selectman Kim Miller, Selectman Bob Morra, Selectman Bob DePietro, and Selectman Michael Eremita.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** John Toomey, Gwen Marrion, Emily Bradley, Richard Hayes, James Aldrich, and Administrator Joshua Steele Kelly.

## DISCUSSION ON CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS

### Section 1.4 (B) - Definitions

The Board agreed that gender neutrality is important, but felt that the subject is too divisive to move forward. Marrion asked that the Commission be given an opportunity to revisit this subject to find a new solution that works for all, and the Board agreed.

### Section 2.3 - Eligibility

Pierog stated that she was in favor of anyone serving in public office having to be a citizen of the United States. Eremita stated that he saw benefits from allowing non-citizens, in the country legally, to serve on boards and commissions. Morra stated he felt the same way as Pierog. Miller asked if there is a state law against non-citizens holding elected or appointed offices. Marrion stated that Connecticut law allows for non-citizens to hold appointed office, but not elected office, but that it is the Commission's recommendation to not allow any citizens to hold any office. The Board's consensus appeared to support the Commission's position on all items under this heading.

### Section 2.4 – Breaking a Tie

The Board's consensus appeared to support the Commission's position on all items under this heading.

### Section 2.5 – Vacancies in Elected Offices

The Board's consensus appeared to support the Commission's position on all items under this heading.

### Chapter 3 – Elected Commissions, Boards, Agencies, and Officers

The Board's consensus appeared to support the Commission's position on all items under this heading.

#### Section 3.1 (B) – Town Elections

The Board chose to skip discussion on this item until a later date.

#### Section 3.5 – Town Elections, Terms of Commissions and Boards

The Board chose to skip discussion on this item until a later date.

#### Chapter 5 – Board of Selectmen

The Board chose to skip discussion on this item until a later date.

#### Section 5.1 (D) – Administrative Officer

The Board chose to skip discussion on this item until a later date.

#### Section 6.1 – First Selectman, General

The Board chose to skip discussion on this item until a later date.

#### Section 7.1(A)

The Board's consensus appeared to support the Commission's position on all items under this heading.

#### Section 7.3 (A) – Membership

The Board's consensus appeared to support the Commission's position on all items under this heading.

#### Section 7.3 (C) – “Deemed” Resignation

The Board's consensus appeared to support the Commission's position on all items under this heading.

#### Section 7.3 (D) – Vacancies in appointed boards and commissions

The Board's consensus appeared to support the Commission's position on all items under this heading.

#### Section 7.3 (E) and (F) – Term of appointment to vacancies and reporting

The Board's consensus appeared to support the Commission's position on all items under this heading.

#### Section 7.4 (B) – Board of Fire Commissioners

The Board's consensus appeared to support the Commission's position on all items under this heading.

#### Section 7.4 (D) – Temporary Public Building Commission

The Board's consensus appeared to support the Commission's position on all items under this heading.

## Section 8.2 – Audits

The Board’s consensus appeared to support the Commission’s position on all items under this heading.

## Section 8.3 – Treasurer

Pierog stated that she would like the Treasurer to be able to be either the Finance Director or the Town Administrator. The Board’s consensus appeared to support Pierog’s position on this matter.

## Section 8.4 – Preparation of the Budget and Capital Improvement Report

The Board chose to skip discussion on this item until a later date.

## Section 8.5 (B) – Annual Budget Referendum Action

Pierog stated that she was troubled by what a “simplified financial statement” means. Aldrich explained his intended meaning of that phrase. Pierog stated that she appreciated his clarification and supported the recommendation.

## Section 8.5 (C) (1) – Failure to Adopt the Budget

Pierog stated that she agreed with the recommendation, but noted that she believed this item should be a standalone question in the referendum. Arguments were made in multiple directions, and the group consensus was to change the phrasing of this Charter section to “revise.”

## Section 8.5 (E) – Levy and Collection of Taxes

The Board’s consensus appeared to support the Commission’s position on all items under this heading.

## Section 8.6 (B) – Transfers of Appropriations, Town Boards, Commissions, Agencies, and Officers

The Board’s consensus appeared to support the Commission’s position on all items under this heading.

## Section 8.6 (C) (3) and (5) – Supplemental Appropriations, Board of Finance Action

The Board’s consensus appeared to support the Commission’s position on all items under this heading.

## Section 8.6 (D) (1) – Supplemental Appropriations, Town Meeting Action

The Board’s consensus appeared to support the Commission’s position on all items under this heading.

## Section 8.7 (A) – Reserve Fund for Capital and Nonrecurring Expenditures

The Board’s consensus appeared to support the Commission’s position on all items under this heading.

## Section 8.7 (C) (3) – Operation of the Reserve Fund for Capital and Nonrecurring Expenditures

The Board’s consensus appeared to support the Commission’s position on all items under this heading.

### Section 8.8 (B) (3) – Borrowing

The Board chose to skip discussion on this item until a later date.

### Section 8.9 (E) – Expenditures and Accounting

Pierog stated it may be better to have a time period in which the annual report must be issued. For example, perhaps the annual report must be published within 30 days of the completion of the town's annual audit. Consensus seemed to support Pierog's position.

### Section 8.11 – Public Records

The Board's consensus appeared to support the Commission's position on all items under this heading.

### Section 9.1 (B) – Voter Eligibility

The Board's consensus appeared to support the Commission's position on all items under this heading.

### Section 9.7 Actions that Require Referendum

The Board appeared to achieve consensus on the notion that numbers listed within this section by the Charter Revision Commission need to be increased to allow for greater flexibility on the part of town boards and commissions, requiring that less go to referendum.

### Section 9.9 – Procedure

Pierog expressed concern with the proposal to require paper ballots at Town Meetings. Morra concurred and suggested that a motion should have to be made and voted on if someone wants to have paper ballots used. DePietro stated he agrees. Board agreed that they disagree with the Commission's proposal.

### Section 10.2 – Incompatible Offices

The Board expressed its concern with the inclusion of the Town Administrator as someone who could not be a part off the volunteer fire department.

### Section 10.3 – Conflicts of Interest

The Board's consensus appeared to support the Commission's position on all items under this heading.

### Section 11.1 (A) – Organization Meeting (Elected Commissions)

The Board expressed its concern with the Commission's suggestions in this section.

### Chapter 12 – Removal/Recall

The Board's consensus appeared to support the Commission's position on all items under this heading.

### Section 12.1 (A) – Suspension and Removal

The Board's consensus appeared to support the Commission's position on all items under this heading.

Section 12.1 (B) – Suspension Process

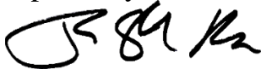
The Board's consensus appeared to support the Commission's position on all items under this heading.

Section 13.7 – Effective Date

The Board's consensus appeared to support the Commission's position on all items under this heading.

The meeting adjourned at 9:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Steele Kelly', written in a cursive style.

Joshua Steele Kelly, Administrator

*See minutes of subsequent meetings for approval of these minutes and any corrections hereto.*