TOWN OF BOLTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING with A/P
Tuesday, October 20, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.
Town Hall & Zoom Meeting
MEETING MINUTES

	ROSTER	IN-PERSON	ZOOM	ABSENT
FIRST SELECTMAN:	Rodney Fournier	X		
SELECTMEN:	Bryce Aaronson	X		
	Mather Clarke	X		
	David Cowles		X	
	Robert DePietro		X	
	Gwen Marrion	X		
	Tim Sadler	X		

STAFF:	Stephanie Smigala, Interim Finance Director
	Andrea Vassallo, Recording Secretary

1.0 Call to Order:
First Selectman Rodney Fournier called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2.0 Public Comment:
Jim Loersch – Brookfield Road, Bolton

- Asked the Town to make more information available about major projects, including the school roof, Town Green, soccer field, and sewer project. He requested details on each project's scope, status, schedule, and how those decisions are made.

3.0 Old Business:

a. BOE to Discuss Student Activity Fund

Additional parties present for discussion:

- David Caruso, Superintendent, Bolton Public Schools
- Board of Education members

Board members discussed annual approval to carry forward Student Activity Fund balances. The funds are considered Town funds rather than fiduciary funds, so the rollover requires approval; the requirement was described as arising from an audit finding.

The accounts support activities such as athletics, pay-to-play fees, game-agent donations, school events, bake sales, and class trips. Advisors manage deposits and spending requests, with bookkeepers and principals involved in processing and approval.

Officials said previously identified negative balances—including exam fees that had not been collected—had been addressed or would be cleared. Members asked for more information about negative balances, account oversight, and the process for transfers when an account is negative. A more detailed written policy may be needed.

Selectwoman G. Marrion **MOVED to TABLE** any potential action to the next BOS meeting, Monday, November 2, 2026. Selectman T. Sadler **SECONDED; MOTION CARRIED; 7:0:0**

Yea	Fournier, Aaronson, Clarke, Cowles, DePietro, Marrion, Sadler
Nay	0
Abstain	0

4.0 Consider and Act on A/P:

Selectman M. Clarke **MOVED to APPROVE** the accounts payable FY26-27 in the amount of $153,421.64. Selectman T. Sadler **SECONDED;**
Discussions:

B. Aaronson – Page 6, Frontier late fee ($41.15)

- Questioned why late fees were still accrued. Interim Finance Director, S. Smigala stated the town is still receiving paper bills and arrives with delays, contributing to late processing. Staff said they would contact the account representative about receiving bills electronically.

B. Aaronson – Page 8, Halloran & Sage legal fees: Hanover Farms Mansion Parties Cease & Desist

- Reimbursement may be possible if the Town ultimately prevails; they were still waiting for a court date on the injunction. The BOS also requested a tally of the legal costs in case reimbursement does not occur.

B. Aaronson – Page 12 – Minute Man Printing Press ($123 = 250 business cards)

- Highway Dept Manager – didn't use preferred printing vendor for business cards. Issue being addressed.

B. Aaronson – Page 14 – Patrice Carlson, Town Planner Contract

- An update was unavailable because the relevant person was on vacation; it was expected at the next meeting.

B. Aaronson – Page 16 – "Prevention Starts With You" Opioid Public Outreach Campaign

- **Medication-disposal project:** The payment was for the "Prevention Starts With You" project, funded through the Town's opioid settlement allocation (not taxpayer funded). The project would mail medication-dissolving pouches to households; members noted the pouches can also be used for pet medication.

G. Marrion – Page 15 – Conservation Activity Fund $100 donation to Eagle Scout

- The BOS asked about a $100 donation toward an Eagle Scout project at Freya Park. The donation was made by the Conservation Committee; members discussed whether the fund consists of non-taxpayer donations, S. Smigala, Interim Finance Director, stated she understands the Conservation Activity Funds are raised independently and not taxpayer funds.

M. Clarke & G. Marrion – Page 14 Laser Level, Highway Department, $14,000.

- Members asked what the approximately $14,000 purchase covered and how necessary the equipment was. It was described as a laser-related system for town equipment, potentially involving hydraulic controls. Staff offered to locate the capital project worksheet; the recording clerk recalled that the purchase had already been separately approved by the BOS at a previous meeting.

MOTION CARRIED; 7:0:0

Yea	Fournier, Aaronson, Clarke, Cowles, DePietro, Marrion, Sadler
Nay	0
Abstain	0

4.0 Consider and Act on Budget Transfers:

Selectman B. Aaronson **MOVED to TRANSFER** $27,000.00 from the Regular Payroll Budget to Other Payroll (within budget) to satisfy payroll for the temporary ABO (Paul Collin). The temporary employee position is paid from the "Other Payroll" budget line which currently does not contain enough funds to cover payroll. This transfer is expected to cover the payroll through February 7, 2027. Selectman M. Clarke **SECONDED;**

MOTION CARRIED; 7:0:0

Yea	Fournier, Aaronson, Clarke, Cowles, DePietro, Marrion, Sadler
Nay	0
Abstain	0

Selectman B. Aaronson **MOVED to TABLE** the transfer of $10,711.25 until more detail is provided by the requesting department. G. Marrion **SECONDED;**

Discussion:

Involving assessor-related accounts and a QDS computer-system bill—was unclear, including which budget/accounts were involved and whether the correct board was listed.

MOTION CARRIED; 7:0:0

Yea	Fournier, Aaronson, Clarke, Cowles, DePietro, Marrion, Sadler
Nay	0
Abstain	0

No action required by the BOS as transfers were observed as being under the $2000.00 threshold for approval. Budget transfers for this meeting are an informational notice to the BOS in the amounts of:

- $650.00

6.0 Adjourn:

M. Clarke **MOVED to ADJOURN** the meeting **at 6:29 PM.** Selectman T. Sadler **SECONDED.**
MOTION CARRIED 7:0:0.

Respectfully submitted by Andrea Vassallo, Recording Clerk
Andrea Vassallo
Please see minutes of subsequent meetings for corrections to these minutes and any corrections hereto.

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