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# TOWN OF BURLINGTON

## Meeting Minutes

Email minutes to [meetings@burlington.org](mailto:meetings@burlington.org) or Bring to the Clerk's Office. Thank you

Minutes need to be posted within 30 days or 2 meetings of the board – Draft minutes can be posted and revised at a later date

DEPT./BOARD: Ways & Means  
DATE: May 3, 2023  
TIME: 7:00pm  
PLACE: Town Hall, Main Hearing Room

**Present:** John Iler, Chair  
Doug Davison, Vice Chair

Shayan Bhattacherya  
Chris Campbell  
Chris Delaney  
Michael Hardy  
Frank Monaco

Steve Morin  
Meghan Nawoichik  
Rob Neufeld  
Sonia Rollins  
David Tait

**Remote:** Roger Riggs

**Absent:** Brad Bond  
Ed Parsons

**Guests:** Brian White, DPW Director  
Nick Priest, Select Board  
John Danizio, Assistant Town Administrator  
Joyce Fay, Historical Commission Chairperson  
Peter Coppola, Historical Commission  
Brendan Egan, Parks and Recreation Director  
Steve Nelson, Recreation Commission Chair  
Paul Sagarino, Town Administrator  
Scott Martin, General Bylaw Review Committee Chair  
Dave Miller, General Bylaw Review Committee

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**Pledge of Allegiance**  
**Public Participation** N/A

*Discussion and votes on the following FY24 budget items and warrant articles.*

*Note: since one Committee member participated remotely, all votes were taken as roll call votes.*

### DPW related warrant articles

7-12 DPW-Dog Pound Renovations (continued from April 19)





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This article was continued from a previous discussion and is for \$100,000 for dog pound renovations. The DPW submitted additional backup information and there was no additional subcommittee report. A motion to approve was made and seconded.

Vote: 12-0-0

*Note: Chris Campbell arrived late and was not present for this vote.*

### 7-13 DPW-Facilities Upgrades/Energy Conservation Measures (continued from April 19)

This article was continued from a previous discussion and is for \$250,000 for facilities upgrades and energy conservation measures. The DPW submitted additional backup information, including a list of items to focus on in the coming years. A motion to approve was made and seconded.

Vote: 13-0-0

### **Town Hall 2 related warrant articles**

#### 22 July 4th Parade

This article is for \$20,000. These funds are used for performers, participants, police details, and other items associated with the July 4th celebrations. The Fourth of July Committee engages in fundraising, but also seeks town support to continue to grow the celebrations. The subcommittee voted 2-0 in support. A motion to approve was made and seconded.

Vote: 13-0-0

#### 24 Seasonal Decorations for the Common

This article is for \$20,000 to purchase seasonal decorations for the Common. This is a one-time request and will be used to replace old decorations and purchase more inclusive decorations. A motion to approve was made and seconded.

Vote: 13-0-0

#### 26 Burlington Celebrate 225

This article is for \$20,000 to provide promotional and advertising materials for the town celebration. The intent of these materials is to have them distributed at various celebrations throughout the year, such as July 4th and Truck Day, and Celebrate Burlington. The subcommittee voted 2-0 in support. A motion to approve was made and seconded.

Vote: 13-0-0

#### 28 Sculpture Park (withdrawn)

This article was withdrawn. It was noted for future reference that the Sculpture Park is a subcommittee of the Planning Board.

#### 25 Historical Shed

Town Meeting initially approved an article for \$33,000 for the purpose of creating a shed at the West School site that resembled the blacksmith shop that was once at the Town Common. After Town Meeting approval, it was discovered that the cost and scope of the project was larger than previously anticipated. It was suggested





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### **Recreation related warrant articles**

#### 7-18 REC-Ford F550 Dump Truck (Replace R2)

This article is for \$90,000 for a Ford F550 dump truck to replace R2. The current truck was bought new in 2011 and it presently has issues with the body and electronics, central maintenance recommended that it be replaced. The new truck will also have a plow. The subcommittee voted 2-0 in support. A motion to approve was made and seconded.

Vote: **13-0-0**

#### 7-19 REC-Outdoor Facilities Master Plan

This article is for \$62,000. Recreation's master plan expired in 2020 and they are seeking to conduct a new one. This is separate from the school department plan, but they will work in conjunction with the school department for the fields that overlap in use so there is no duplication of effort. This plan is all-inclusive and includes playgrounds and other fields not used by the school department. It will also include Mitre Field and concept plans for revitalization of Simonds Park. The subcommittee voted 2-0 in support. A motion to approve was made and seconded.

Vote: **13-0-0**

#### 7-20 REC-Accessible Van

This article is for \$25,000. This would be additional funds that would be added to a warrant article originally approved for \$58,000 in May 2021. Prices have increased and the van was not available in 2022. The new estimate would cover the increased cost and any remaining funds would be returned to the town. The van would be used to transport individuals to therapeutic recreation programs. The subcommittee voted 2-0 in support. A motion to approve was made and seconded.

Vote: **13-0-0**

#### 7-21 REC-Dump body replacement and tailgate

This article is for \$25,000 for the dump body replacement and tailgate. The body was replaced in 2013, but the dump body and liftgate need to be replaced. The body is rotting and the liftgate doesn't latch. However, these items can be replaced and the truck itself can continue to be used. The money required for the placement is significantly less than the cost of a new truck. The subcommittee voted 2-0 in support. A motion to approve was made and seconded.

Vote: **12-0-0**

*Note: Shayan Bhattacherya stepped out briefly and was not present for this vote.*

#### 7-22 REC-Street Hockey Renovation

This article is for \$50,000 to swap the location of the street hockey and pickleball courts. The swap is to reduce noise levels reaching the neighbors. The current street hockey area will be smoothed and leveled and pickleball





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nets will be added and courts marked. Acoustic panels will be added to help buffer the noise. The subcommittee voted 2-0 in support. A motion to approve was made and seconded.

Vote: 13-0-0

### 27 Will of Marshall Simonds

This article is to accept \$74,907.15 from the will of Marshall Simonds. This is the first of two votes on this matter. Recreation noted they are appreciative of the funds that are dispersed every year and will work on a list of projects to propose with the trustees and discuss at the fall Town Meeting. The subcommittee voted 2-0 in support. A motion to approve was made and seconded.

Vote: 13-0-0

### **Town Hall 2 related warrant articles - continued**

#### 15 PEG Cable Access Enterprise Fund

This article sets a cap, as required by law, on the amount of money that can be appropriated from the Enterprise Fund each year. The amount of money has not changed and remains at \$585,000. The subcommittee voted 2-0 in support. A motion to approve was made and seconded.

Vote: 13-0-0

### **Other remaining warrant articles and budgets**

#### 19 Fund Administrative & Professional Compensation Plan

This is the A&P plan, which pertains to full-time employees in the non-union group, such as department heads and assistant department heads. The salary increase for next year is similar to other contracts at 2.5% with some adjustments between steps. There are 48 people in the plan. The total amount is a \$208,516 transfer out of negotiated settlements. The subcommittee voted 2-0 in support. A motion to approve was made and seconded.

Vote: 13-0-0

### Article 31

This article was withdrawn.

### **Meeting related bylaw proposals (with General Bylaw Review Committee representative)**

Scott Martin and Dave Miller from the General Bylaw Review Committee spoke with the Committee about meeting-related bylaw proposals. Back in January, the GBRC had five articles on the warrant in anticipation of the open meeting laws for emergency approval for remote access to meetings expiring on March 31. There was an extension of the open meeting laws for remote access through March 2025. The GBRC is now seeking commentary from various committees and boards about the earlier draft of the town bylaw changes. The GBRC wants to propose that committee meetings and Town Meetings have remote access to increase both accessibility and public participation in meetings and, correspondingly, elections. The Committee raised comments and concerns about outreach, accessibility, drawbacks of mandating hybrid access, impact on subcommittee meetings, technical issues, and remote participation versus remote audiences. The most significant concerns were related to mandated hybrid access (predominantly for subcommittee meetings), advertisement of meetings, technical problems at Town Meeting, and recording of votes. Scott noted that open meetings and Town





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Meetings would be voted on separately, summarized the Committee's concerns, and thanked them for their input.

### **Approval of minutes – discussion, vote**

There was one set of minutes to approve: April 26, 2023. No amendments were proposed. A motion to approve was made and seconded.

Vote:

*Yes: Chris Campbell, Doug Davison, Mike Hardy, John Iler, Frank Monaco, Meghan Nawoichik, Rob Neufeld,  
Roger Riggs, David Tait*

*Abstain: Shayan Bhattacherya, Chris Delaney, Steve Morin, Sonia Rollins*

MEETING ADJOURNED, 9:15pm.

