

**Town of Paxton
Board of Selectmen**

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 20, 2008

Members Present: Frederick Goodrich, Chair, Michael T. Quinlivan, Vice Chair
John F. Malone, Clerk

Attendees: Charles Blanchard, Town Administrator
See attendee list

Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

- **Motion (MQ) seconded (JM) to accept the Regular Meeting Minutes of October 6, 2008, Unanimous. All in Favor.**

Public Safety Complex Update

- Beginning Roof Trusses
- Expect to pour the foundation for the Apparatus Building Slab Floor in next two weeks.
- Looking to having the whole building enclosed by the end of the month.
- November will start inside the building.

Paxton Housing Partnership – Martha Asktin

- PHP is requesting that the BOS sponsor the article for the Special Town Meeting for additional acres of the Klingele property.
- (MA) stated that they had been granted the use of 10 acres at the 2002 Town Meeting now needing a further 20 acres to meet the Paxton's Watershed Protection Overlay District requirements not to exceed a density of two bedrooms per acre.
- Proposing to construct 50 units of 45 one-bedroom units and 5 two-bedroom units.
- Planning Board informed PHP that they needed to see a plan
- (MA) stated that they would still be staying on the same 10-acre footprint, but the other 20 acres to comply with Watershed bylaw, and could become permanently protected.
- (CB) stated that the DCR are more restrictive and that unless it can be shown that the effluent from the pipe leaving the 55 bedroom construction would not produce any more impact on the watershed than a pipe from a two bedroom construction they would not be willing to grant a variance.

- (MA) stated that this article would allow them to go before the state.
- (CB) pointed out that the only way to protect the land would be by a permanent conservation restriction.
- **Motion (MQ) to place the article on the Special Town Meeting Warrant, (FG) seconded for discussion.**
- (JM) stated that he had always supported the PHP but had a problem with allowing more acreage.
- (FG) asked (MA) whether she would agree to Town Counsel reviewing the article and meet next week.
- (MA) agreed.
- **(MQ) agreed to change his Motion to table until next week to allow Town Counsel to review and then vote on sponsorship.**

Election Warrant

- **Motion (MQ) seconded (JM) to sign the Election Warrant. Unanimous all in Favor.**

Appointments

- **Motion (FG) seconded (JM) to appoint Annette McKiernan, Patricia Cole, Ann Cunningham, Cecilia Carroll, Janice Carlson, Marguerite and GERAL Ryan, Mary Byrnes, Janet Chapman, Rosemary Buckley, Peggy Eident, Michelle Nelsen, Jean Urbanowski, Gino Gangai, Nancy Proulx, Melinda Johnson, Victoria Copp, Charlotte Thalin, Natalie Siemen, Sandra Vaudo and Ellen Parsons as poll workers for the Presidential Election on November 4. Unanimous all in Favor.**

Special Town Meeting Warrant

- Article 1. Semi Annual Preliminary Tax Payment. **Motion (MQ) seconded (JM) to approve and place on the warrant. Unanimous All in Favor.**
- Article 2. \$25,000 for a new van for the Water Dept. **Motion (FG) seconded (MQ) to accept and approve. (JM) recused.**
- Article 3. \$35,473.70 from Enterprise Fund to pay an FY08 Worcester Water bill. **Motion (FG) seconded (MQ) to accept and approve. (JM) recused.**
- Article 4. Increase the FY09 Worcester Water budget line item. **Motion (FG) seconded (MQ) to accept and approve. (JM) recused.**

Resolution on Question 1. of the Presidential Election

- (FG) prepared a draft of the opposition to supporting question 1 on the Presidential Election, which would eliminate state tax over two years.
- This would eliminate \$12.5 billion from the States \$31.8 billion budget. If every state employee was terminated, local aid C90, C70 and all SBA payments were ended there would still be a need for an additional \$200 million in cuts.
- (FG) would make the recovery from the recession even more impossible.
- **Motion (MQ) seconded (FG) to support the resolution. Unanimous all in Favor.**

Town Hall Hours

- (CB) provided information from other towns on their experiences of closing their town halls for one day to conserve energy and oil usage of the Town Hall over the last 4 years.
- BOS agreed at this time to leave, but to review if there becomes a budget need.
- (JM) asked (CB) to place notices asking that everyone remember to turn their heating down as they leave.

Chapter 182 Deferral

- (CB) stated that he the Town had never adopted Chapter 62 and has received no requests to adopt.
- Chapter 41A adopted and has been informed by the Assessor that in the past 8 years only one person interested.

Town Administrators Update

Recreation Commission

- Jim Brodin has resigned from the Commission, opening to be advertised and a joint appointment will be made.

AMC Scholarship Committee

- Carol Riches has applied for the opening on the AMC Scholarship Committee.
- **Motion (JM) seconded (FG) to appoint Carol Riches to the AMC Scholarship Committee. Unanimous All in Favor.**

WRSD

- A revised Assessment letter has been received from WRSD for FY09 reflecting the reduction in the excluded debt payment from \$236,364 to \$203,579.

Asian Longhorned Beetle

- Congressman McGovern's office has arranged a meeting for tomorrow with the head of the USDA to see the area impacted with the Asian Longhorned Beetle and has invited the BOS to attend.

Other Business

Regional Board of Selectmen's meeting October 23, 2008

- (JM) would like to make a statement that Paxton is not going up on our WRSD budget.
- (CB) provided a confidential update on a matter that would be the subject of an Executive Session on November 3rd.
- (FG) relayed information from a MMA meeting that he attended over the weekend.
- Martha Akstin returned to the meeting to ask whether the BOS intended accepting the PHP article for inclusion in the Special Town Meeting warrant, as there would not be sufficient time to create a petition article.
- BOS confirmed that it was only a sponsorship issue that they were going to discuss next week.
- **Motion (JM) seconded (MQ) to place article in the Special Town Meeting warrant. Unanimous All in Favor**

Correspondence

- Request by Cathy Friedman to erect several signs on Pleasant Street, Holden Road and Richards Ave to advertise the Booster Club Craft Fair at WRHS on November 8th.
- **Motion (FG) seconded (JM) to allow these signs on the understanding that they would be removed in a timely manner. Unanimous All in Favor.**

Motion (FG) seconded (JM) to adjourn the meeting at 8:55pm. Unanimous all in Favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol L. Riches
Administrative Assistant