

Town of Paxton Board of Selectmen

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, August 10, 2009

Members Present: Michael T. Quinlivan, Chair
Frederick G. Goodrich, Vice Chair
William A. Trotta, Clerk

Charles Blanchard, Town Administrator

Attendees: See attendee list

Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:07pm.

Meeting Minutes

- **Motion (FG) seconded (WT) to accept the Regular Meeting Minutes of July 20, 2009. Unanimous all in favor.**

Public Safety Complex Update- Charlie Blanchard Town Administrator

- Walk through of upper level to for punch list to turnover some rooms for storage.
- Antenna pad poured – 28 day cure time.
- Finishing up the hook up to cable etc.
- (FG) stated that the air conditioning required the installation another coil.

Gary Henrich – 9 Alrene Drive – Request to Hook up to Worcester Sewer

- (MQ) stated that Mr. Henrich's property went into Worcester and saw no problem with hook up to Worcester.
- **Motion (MQ) seconded (FG) to allow 9 Alrene Dr to hook up to Worcester as long as all legal requirements are met.**
- Mr. Henrich entered the meeting at 7:20pm and (CB) informed him that he would need to have an attorney represent him and draw up agreements with the City of Worcester, Upper Blackstone and The Town of Paxton, there would be a fee to the Town for billing. All Town Counsel bills relating to the hook up would be the responsibility of Mr. Henrich.

Storm Debris Update- Charlie Blanchard, Town Administrator

- Almost complete
- Three more days of grinding and chipping
- Meeting with Fema on August 14th.
- Busy Bee Nurseries have done an excellent job. \$200,000 savings by contracting as a lump sum.
- Will learn more on Friday as to the close out of the process.
- (FG) thanked the Town Administrator and Assistant for all the extra work that they have done.

Appointments

- **Motion (MQ) seconded (FG) to appoint Sara Root-Simone to the Cultural Council. Unanimous all in favor.**
- (MQ) asked (CB) to find out how many members make up the Cultural Council.
- **Motion (FG) seconded (WT) to appoint David Ryan to the Master plan Implementation Committee. Unanimous all in favor.**

Town Administrators Update- Charlie Blanchard

Radio Oil Contract

- Contract signed for FY09 with Radio Oil for fuel oil and #2 low sulfur diesel fuel included a clause that allows the Board to extend the agreement through FY10.
- **Motion (FG) seconded (WT) to extend the contract for a further twelve months. Unanimous all in favor.**

Green Communities Division

- Email received from Green Communities Division to try to encourage energy conservation throughout the state. In order for Paxton to be eligible to participate our Municipal Light Department must opt into the Renewable Energy Trust.
- **BOS agreed to have (CB) pursue this option with the Light Dept Manager.**

Meals Tax

- Municipal Relief Act allows us to adopt the local option meals tax. If enacted by acceptance at a Town Meeting by October 1st, the State estimates that Paxton would receive approximately \$4,100 and this figure could be used in our local revenue estimate.
- (WT) would like to adopt the meal tax along with hotel, motel tax incase there is future growth, (FG) would like to adopt, should Kettlebrook expand it's restaurant service, (MT) not for adopting, fees could distract new business.
- **Motion (WT) seconded (FG) to adopt the meal tax, and place on next Town Meeting warrant. (MQ) No.**

Bay Path Voc. School

- Received notice from Bay Path that due to the new minimum contribution mandates Paxton's assessment will be decreased by \$1,014 to \$177,330.

EMS Service Zone Plan Application

- Application was approved by the Office of Emergency Medical Services.

Benefits for Part-Time Employees

- 14 communities responded to the request for information on benefits for part-time employees working 20 hours or more per week. All 14 communities provide pro-rated benefits, two communities had a waiting period before benefits provided.

- (MQ) questioned recreation summer counselors and if benefits would apply to these people.
- (CB) responded that they are temporary and as such benefits would not apply.
- (WT) asked how we differentiate employees.
- (CB) stated that he would review all employees of the Town to establish who would fall into each category.

COPS Hiring Recovery Program

- Town notified that it was not selected for the COPS Hiring Recovery Program.

Chapter 90 Project

- Request for the BOS to approve a Chapter 90 Project request for reclaiming placing a binder coat on 2200 feet of Laurel St and Terrace Place.
- **Motion (FG) seconded (WT) to sign the Chapter 90 project request for \$125,284. Unanimous all in favor.**

Town Hall Renovation Update- Frederick Goodrich

- (FG) stated that the Architect has almost completed their evaluation and will have a cost estimate at the next meeting on August 12, 2009.

Town Administrators Evaluation

- (FG) provided the other two members with the Town Administrators Evaluation. (CB) had received his copy two weeks ago at which time he had discussed this with (FG).
- (CB) final marking was 63 out of a possible 80, which was at the high end of the "very good" grade range.
- (CB) said he found the evaluation very useful, but would have liked to see a weighting of projects. He did not feel that the Ice Storm work and the Public Safety Project should be weighted for marking the same as renovation to the John Bauer Senior Center, having no budget to do the work. Also the fact that one of the Selectmen did not give grades for all the items lowered the possible mark.
- (FG) stated that the rating borders on excellent and thanked Charlie for all his effort.
- (MQ) added that it was not a salary review, it was a chance to hear our thoughts and for (CB) to respond.
- (MQ) the summary sheet indicates that the BOS are in agreement with the evaluation. This is only the second evaluation on (CB) and for last 2 years. Leaving this to the chairman, has not worked. Will plan to conduct an evaluation every February.

Town Administrators Goals & Objectives

- (FG) stated that they need to list the BOS goals and objectives before setting the Town Administrators.

Correspondence

- Letter from Annette Aubertin resignation from the Board of Registrars.
- **Motion (MQ) seconded (WT) to accept with regret.**
- Letter from Louise Erskine resignation from the Library Trustees.
- **Motion (MQ) seconded (WT) to accept with regret.**

Other Business

- (WT) looking for an update on the basketball courts.
- (CB) waiting for a cost from (MP) this will then be forwarded to Recreation.

Motion (MQ) seconded (FG) to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 8:30pm. Unanimous all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol L. Riches, Administrative Assistant