

**Town of Paxton
Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 21, 2011**

Members Present: William A. Trotta, Vice Chair
Peter Bogren, Jr., Clerk

Carol L. Riches, Town Administrator

Attendees: Anita Fenton
Jay Gallant
see Attendee List

The Vice Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

Do to the absence of our Chairman, Fred Goodrich, the meeting with the DPW Superintendant and the Police Chief will be postponed until the next meeting, which will be held on Monday, March 28, 2011.

Debt Exclusion Question

- **Motion (WT) seconded (PB) to include on the ballot for the May 9, 2011 Annual Town Election a Post Proposition 21/2 debt exclusion question in order to finance the project to replace windows and repair part of the roof at the Paxton Center School. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Meeting Minutes

- **Motion (WT) seconded (PB) to accept the March 14, 2011 Regular Meeting Minutes. Unanimous, all in favor.**
- **Motion (WT) seconded (PB) to accept the March 15, 2011 Regular Meeting Minutes. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Mutual Aid Agreement

- **Motion (WT) seconded (PB) to accept the Statewide Public Safety Mutual Aid Agreement. Unanimous, all in favor.**

40 Camp Street – Trash Abatement

- **Motion (WT) seconded (PB) to approve the trash abatement for 40 Camp Street. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Town Administrators Update

- The Planning Board continued the March 14th public hearing for the Solar Bylaw to their next meeting in April.
- We have been informed by the Town Clerk that she never received a resignation from Julie Jacobson from the Planning Board, consequently the opening on the Planning Board for a term of 2 years should never have been part of the caucus, and as such can not be placed on the ballot for the May 2011 Election. I have informed both Julie and Neil Bagdis of this and once we receive an official resignation we will post the opening. Neil has indicated that the Planning Board would like to be involved in the appointment.

Grant for repairs to the White Building

- Anita Fenton provided a listing of towns throughout the Commonwealth that have received funds over the past 7 granting periods, along with the number of times they were received. Many of these were for development and their communities signed the perpetuity agreement with out any questions.
- (WT) Is concerned over the underling matters, such as inspectors coming in to review the property, and bringing up concerns over the maintenance of the building, and requiring us to do additional work. Also there are no final estimates, so what if the bids come in higher than what we expect.
- Jay Gallant – We will be getting other bids. At this point in time we are just following the process that is required in order to file for the grant.
- (WT) Will you go beyond the scope that has been outlined?
- Jay Gallant - No we will stay with in those guidelines.
- (PB) Has the local historic Commission signed off on this project?
- Anita Fenton – Yes.
- (PB) I had a concern over the funds being available for this prior to it being approved at the town meeting. I was informed that if a letter is provided explaining that you have to wait till town meeting for the funds to be approved then you could go ahead with this process. Also, I have been informed that if we do sign this agreement that in the future any alteration that are done to this building will need to be approved by the Historic Commission in Boston. Say if in fifty years from now the town wanted to take this building down it would not be approved. The building would have to basically be declared condemned in order for it to be demolished. I would rather ask the town for the full payment rather than getting the grant and handing over control to Boston.
- Anita Fenton stated that this should be looked at as an opportunity to take care of our infrastructure, as so many other local communities have.
- (CR) The Board should take a vote as to whether or not they will sign the agreement.
- John Stone of 6 Center Drive spoke about his concern for the Town Hall, and the repairs that need to be done on that building as well.
- (PB) This is short money compared to what is needed for the Town Hall.
- Jack Malone of 10 Lincoln Circle wanted to verify that the only things that the Board of Selectmen were being asked to do was to sign the perpetuity agreement.
- Anita Fenton – That is correct, but I would not want the Board to sign if they do not intend to follow through if the grant is approved.

- Rich Fenton stated that we will also be looking to get funding to continue the work on the Town Hall restoration program. We are looking for funds to do the construction plans at this point.
- Anita Fenton stated that you need 75% of the cost of the project available on hand because the funds come in slowly on the grant.
- (CR) This is the best estimate at his time, but we will have a better idea of the cost by the Town Meeting. Either way it will be on the warrant
- Daniel Gehrich of 1028 Pleasant Street spoke on behalf of supporting the preservation of our historic structures in the town. I feel it is important that the state have some input on the preservation of our buildings.
- (PB) Concerned that The Historic Commission in Boston may not know what is best for the Town of Paxton, and feels that 75% of the town's majority would be more likely to do what is right for the town.
- Daniel Gehrich stated this building is one of the few monuments we have in town. I feel that the state will only support something that is historical.
- (PB) stated again my concern is that any work that needs to be done on the inside or out would need to be written up and approved by Boston.
- **Motion (WT) to sign the perpetuity agreement in order to file for a grant to repair the White Building. Hearing no second the item is dismissed.**
- (CR) Do to Fred being unavailable both the meeting with the DCR about Moore State Park and the PILOT meeting with AMC will be postponed until further notice.

Next meeting scheduled for Monday, March 28, 2011 at 7:00pm

Adjourned Meeting at 7:55pm, Unanimous, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Graf-Parsons, Administrative Assistant

Documents from the Meeting:

Town Administrator's Update – File in Town Administrator's Update Folder