



Town of Paxton
Board of Selectmen
697 Pleasant Street, Paxton, MA 01612
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Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, July 2, 2012

Meeting Location: John Bauer Senior Center 17 West Street, Paxton, MA 01612

Members Present: Peter Bogren, Jr., Chairman
John F. Malone, Vice Chair
Frederick G. Goodrich, Clerk

Carol L. Riches, Town Administrator

Attendees: Attendee List

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

Ambulance

- Jay Conte presented information on the repair work for Ambulance 4. This ambulance is in need of body repair in order to pass inspection. On June 20, 2012 we had an inspection done and the issues were documented, and it was passed as long as these repairs are done. We have 2 estimates for the work. One from M&R and one from Dick's Auto body. The inspector recommended having M&R do the repairs. This is not a complete restoration; it's just to get through the next year or two. Road Rescue may pay for some of the repairs, but we won't know until they pull it apart.
- (FG) Who is writing the letter?
- Jay Conte Road Rescue will write the letter. The ambulance was brought to other shops but they have not yet provided the estimates. We have \$14,500 left in ambulance services in FY12 that I would like to use towards these repairs.
- (PB) You have to plan on paying for all the repairs and hope to get some back. What is partially compliant versus compliant?
- Jay Conte the 21's reflect partially compliant items and if we fix those we'll be ok. The inspector inquired as to why we were doing these repairs rather than replacing the ambulance, due to its age and mileage.
- (FG) Who was the inspector?
- Jay Conte stated Steve Golenis. So, if we do these repairs it will pass inspection, and then I have already purchased tires that will go on for the winter season.
- (JM) When will you do the work and how long will it take?

- Jay Conte stated that the work will be done towards the end of the summer and will take about three weeks to complete. Currently A5 is performing perfectly. How would you like me to proceed at this point?
- (CR) The funds can be encumbered from the FY12 budget.
- **Motion (PB) seconded (JM) to approve the repair work for Ambulance 4 in the amount of \$10,664.78 from FY12 funds that will be encumbered. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Budget discussion

- (PB) We can open the warrant, but we need to wait to schedule the Town Meeting until the school budget is settled.
- (FG) Do you think we should open the warrant without a Town Meeting date? We should review potential cuts, not just across the board, but to get the Managers in and see what additional cut would do to these department.
- (JM) We need to provide the managers with some direction on what they should do with their budgets until the next meeting. I spoke to Dr. Pandiscio and he does not see the number coming in any lower than what Rutland wanted.
- (PB) If the School Committee goes to the Rutland number they do not have to go back to the town to act on that number.
- (JM) The Town has already voted a budget number and the departments should use those numbers.
- (FG) We know that the budget number is going to be lower.
- (JM) We cut the Library at a budget of 162,149, and the COA at a budget of 57,086 and Recreation at a budget of 37,145. This is how we finance the other budgets going forward.
- (FG) I agree we don't cut Public Safety, but these cuts will affect quality of life for our residents.
- (JM) The library has enough in there trust to run the library for at least a year. We cannot afford any other cuts to Public Safety.
- (FG) We still need to meet with the managers.
- (PB) We need to sit with the managers and see what they can live with.
- (JM) The override vote was almost a 2 to 1 vote with people knowing that the library could go and they understood that, and it was ok with the voters.
- (PB) I would like to avoid cutting the library if possible, so we need to talk to the managers.
- (FG) Residents did not just look at this as a library cut, but people thought it was about the school budget as well.
- (PB) We tried at the last meeting to get the word out that this is no longer a school issue, but a town issue.
- (JM) If we cut again the Town will be devastated.
- (PB) We should bring in Fire, Police and DPW.
- (FG) If we bring in everyone at once then they get to listen to each other.
- (PB) My concern is that we will end up pitting department against department.
- (FG) I think it is all in how we approach it.
- (PB) They know that something has to go, and will look at each other for help. In my opinion each manager should go on a budget that is cut by 6.6%.

- (JM) We should go with the way current numbers were voted and when the new number comes in we adjust at that point. My opinion is that they will not back into Rutland's number.
- (PB) The question that I need answered is if neither town supports a compromised number then does Rutland's number still stand?
- (CR) All the department heads have been given revised budget numbers with the 6.6% cuts from the Finance Committee.
- (FG) The departments need to understand that they may need to operate this way for up to three months.

Congregational Church

- **Motion (FG) seconded (JM) to approve the use of the common for the Congregational Church's annual yard sale and cookout, and for the placement of signs in town for the event. Unanimous, all in favor.**

End of year transfers

- **Motion (PB) seconded (JM) to approve the following end of year transfers. Unanimous, all in favor.**

<u>Account transferred to</u>	<u>Account transferred from</u>	<u>Amount</u>
0100-1915-5814-0000	0100-1192-5103-0000	390.00
0100-1915-5812-0000	0100-1913-5200-0000	700.00
0100-1151-5200-0000	0100-1151-5201-0000	500.00
0100-1915-5815-0000	0100-1250-5200-0000	3,500.00
0100-1915-5815-0000	0100-1915-5813-0000	2,000.00
0100-1162-5200-0000	0100-1162-5103-0000	600.00

Wireless Service

- (JM) We already have a bylaw in place for cell towers, but it is not defined. If the tower is obsolete then it should come down or a fine should be charged.
- (PB) Do you have a recommendation?
- (JM) Enough to want to make them take it down.
- (FG) I think it should be based on what the assessment of each tower is.
- (PB) Do we know what the cost is to have a tower removed?
- (FG) We should defer this until we see what they are assessed at and what the cost is to remove. Once we have this information we can place it on the next agenda.

Direct Deposit

- (PB) I spoke to Mrs. Malone and I don't like the idea of mandating things but with the budget constraints we should consider this.

- (FG) It seems to be mainly the part timers that are not currently utilizing the direct deposit. I am not opposed to this.
- (JM) I don't see a bad side, and it would be nice to have the money back in the town's funds.
- (PB) We could put this on the next Town Meeting warrant.
- (CR) I don't think we can mandate this. The Chapter 41 Section 41B that the Town Treasurer is referencing does not apply to mandating employees to have their checks direct deposited. It is something that should be asked of the employees and a letter can be attached to the next paycheck.
- (PB) We should strongly suggest they should utilize direct deposit. **Motion (PB) seconded (JM) to put a notice in the next pay check that strongly urges the employees to set up direct deposit for their pay checks. Unanimous, all in favor.**
- (FG) I think this is more of a change in business policy.
- (CR) Will look into this matter further.

Meeting Minutes

- **Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from June 18, 2012. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Town Administrators update

1. The COA Director along with members of the Council on Aging Board are volunteering their time to clean and paint the room in the basement of the John Bauer Senior Center in an effort to make it a more pleasant place for the seniors to participate in activities.
 - (PB) Will send a letter of thanks.
2. Brian and Monique Sheary, kindly donated their time to provide lettering for the white sign outside of the John Bauer Senior Center and paint the COA sign. Brian and Monique volunteered their time in appreciation of the work of the Council on Aging.
 - (PB) Will send a letter of thanks.
3. The Country Bank concert will take place on Wednesday, July 11th at 6:30pm at the new bandstand. This year the band is a tribute to Jimmy Buffet and all residents are welcome to this free concert. The official ribbon cutting for the bandstand will take place prior to the start of the concert.
4. Paxton Days was a success and many people turned out for a full day of fun and entertainment. The Town was represented by all Town Departments who gave up their Saturday to spend time helping out. A special mention and my personal thanks go out to Donna Parsons, Mike Putnam, Travis Thibeault, Gerry Ryan, Debbie Bailey, Peter Conte, Kathy Card, Anita Fenton, Marybeth Brown and Paul Riches who went above and beyond to represent the Town on the day.

5. Please appoint Marissa Ayvazian to the Sale of Town Owned Property Committee. Marissa is the representative on the committee from the Conservation Commission. **Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to appoint Marissa Ayvazian to the Sale of town Owned Property Committee. Unanimous, all in favor.**
6. The Muir Meadow property has been purchased by the City of Worcester and the Conservation Restriction for Paxton is in place.

Other Business

- (JM) wanted to clarify that the items that were brought before him at the Managers Meeting were discussed and resolved.
- Request to waive fee for the soil perc test to be done at the Congregational Church. Peter Bogren recused himself from this discussion due to his involvement with the church. **Motion (JM) seconded (FG) to waive the application fee for the soil perc test to be done at the Congregational Church. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Correspondences

- (JM) The letter from DCR in reference to the reclassification for the Asnebumskit Dam. This is another unfunded mandate that the town is dealing with.

Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday July 24, 2012, at 7:00pm.

Adjourned Meeting at 8:25pm, Unanimous all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Graf-Parsons, Administrative Assistant

Documents filed with Meeting Minutes:

Agenda

Attendance list

Documents from the Meeting filed in BOS office:

Town Administrators Update

Peter Bogren, Jr.

John F. Malone

Frederick G. Goodrich

Chairman

Vice Chairman

Clerk