



Town of Paxton  
Board of Selectmen  
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## Regular Meeting Minutes

**Tuesday, April 16, 2013**

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

Members Present: Peter Bogren, Jr., Chairman  
John F. Malone, Vice Chairman

Carol L. Riches, Town Administrator

Attendees: Attendee List

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

A moment of silence was observed in honor of Frederick Goodrich and the victims of the Boston Marathon bombing.

### **Appointment of Officer Steven Mucci**

- **Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to appoint Steven Mucci as an officer of the Paxton Police Department. Unanimous, all in favor.**

### **Appointments to the Master Planning Implementation Committee**

- **Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to appoint Jay Gallant and Paul Robinson to the Master Planning Implementation Committee. Unanimous, all in favor.**

### **Animal Control Officer**

- Animal Control Officer Peter Warren was present to discuss his position. Peter has been in this position for the past 19 years. The position was tough at the start, but the past few years have been good in part to community policing, and going through the neighborhoods. We have 500 dogs licensed. Complaints are down because I do my job, and I give citations. I treat everyone the same. I don't believe that the town would save anything by regionalizing. I met with Sargent Marino and Carol Riches and I don't believe him. He mentioned there would be more accountability when he never checked with dispatch about response times. My response time is pretty decent. For someone coming from Oakham or Barre it

would be hard for them to beat me. I have only had one notable complaint from the Board of Selectmen.

- (PB) What about animals other than dogs?
- Peter Warren responded that the state handles that. I cannot move wild animals. I look into it, but I do not take action. Rabid or sick animals I do remove. Snakes or other animals in homes I do not do those calls.
- (PB) Horses?
- Peter Warren responded yes.
- (PB) Cats?
- Peter Warren stated that we stopped taking cats because of the hold charge and animal rescue. \$75.00 per cat.
- (JM) Do you take them to Worcester?
- Peter Warren replied that yes, I tried Leicester but that didn't work out.
- (JM) What is your time on average per call?
- Peter Warren responded one hour. Also we have a program so when rabies certificates come in if there is no license I go out and get them.

#### **Discussed Warrant Articles 14 through 18**

- Article 14 Section 1:
- (PB) My concerns are that we have yet to hear how they are going to handle the sub-committees. With Holden having 43% and 4 members a 5 out of 12 vote could pass something.
- (JM) Initially I felt encouraged about the reduction; unfortunately my concern is the same as yours in one aspect. There are 6 members leaving and the subcommittee is a big issue. Oversight has been rubber stamped concerning the budget. Brennen and Superintendent Pandiscio were working together. 22 people should have had a committee to review this over the year. You cannot put just two or three people in that committee. I don't know how they are going to define that. The subcommittee question is an important question and if they have not thought it through then they should wait and obtain more answers.
- (PB) Finance Committee will ask School Committee members that are present at the Annual Town Meeting and we will just allow time before the meeting to discuss.
- (JM) Recommended that this is taken up at the Annual Town Meeting on May 6, 2013.
- (PB) Agreed.

#### **Article 15. Section 9**

**Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to recommend approval. All in favor.**

#### **Article 16. Section 14-1**

**Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to recommend approval. All in favor.**

Section 14-2 not underlines will be taken up on May 6, 2013.

#### **Article 17. Section 17**

**Motion (PB) seconded (JM) to recommend approval. All in favor.**

(JM) Asked what the annual capital budget is? What minor fixes will be done this summer? Can we review this information?

(PB) This should be encompassed in the annual maintenance.

(JM) Preventative maintenance needs to be done in order to prevent larger expenses.

### **Memorial Day Flag Request**

- **Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to approve the placing of flags on the common for Memorial day. All in favor.**

### **Meeting Minutes**

- **Motion (JM) seconded (FG) to accept the meeting minutes from the Regular meeting on April 1, 2013. Unanimous, all in favor.**

### **Dedication to Frederick Goodrich**

- (JM) There should be some form of a dedication done. This could be done in the form of a plaque or building.
- (PB) I agree. We will accept suggestions until April 25th to give us time to act on the suggestions by our April 29<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### **Call Special Election for open Selectman's position**

- 2 years remaining on the term. Set for June 25, 2013.
- (JM) Second ballot on June 25, 2013 for open seat on Board of Selectmen.

**Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to appoint Gerald Ryan to the Conservation Commission. Unanimous, all in favor.**

### **Town Administrators Update**

- I received the attached email from the Leicester Assistant Planner inviting the Board of Selectmen, other members of boards and Town residents to their 300<sup>th</sup> Founder's Day Celebration on June 15<sup>th</sup> 2013.
- As you are probably aware the House has passed a \$500 million revenue package intended to assist with the transportation system finances and make investment in the state's network. However they have delayed voting on the Chapter 90 bill. Should the bill pass Paxton intended C90 allotment would increase by \$98,264 from \$196,528 to \$294,792 for FY14.
- Mike Putnam and I attended another meeting of the Route 31 Corridor study which is moving forward under the direction of Richard Rydant, CMRPC transportation staff member. The purpose of the study is to provide an inventory of improvements needed along the section of Route 31 from Spencer through Paxton to Holden. As part of this study, traffic counts will be set up:

Grove St between Holden Road & Maple Street  
Route 31 east of Route 56  
Route 31 west of Route 122

Route 31 at Spencer Town Line

Turn Manual counts will also take place:

Route 31 (Holden Road) /Grove Street

Route 31 Maple Street/Grove Street

Route 31/ Route 56

Route 31/Suomi Street

A map depicting these sites is attached.

- The Senior Residential Development is moving along attached is the proposed construction schedule. (I have requested an update of the project from the project site manager and I hope to have this in time for the meeting.)
- The Town Hall employees would like permission to close the office on Friday, May 31<sup>st</sup> to paint the first floor interior walls. By starting the painting on Friday, if we don't get a chance to complete the work, we can finish the job on Saturday. The walls have not been painted for quite some time and we would like to see this taken care of now.

**Board members signed the warrant to be posted for the Annual Town Meeting.**

**Next meeting scheduled for Monday, April 29, 2013, at 7:00pm.**

**Adjourned Meeting at 8:00pm, 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

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Peter Bogren, Jr.  
Chairman

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John F. Malone  
Vice Chairman