



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

**Monday, July 29, 2013**

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

Members Present: John F. Malone, Chairman  
Peter Bogren, Jr, Vice Chairman  
Julia N. Pingitore, Clerk  
  
Carol L. Riches, Town Administrator

Attendees: Attendee List

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

### **Appointment of Gary Kellaher**

- **Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to appoint Gary Kelleher as the Deputy Tree Warden for the Town of Paxton. Unanimous, all in favor.**

### **Appointment of Tenley Goodwin**

- **Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to appoint Tenley Goodwin as a Dispatcher for the Paxton Police Department. Unanimous, all in favor.**

### **Appointment of Election Workers**

- **Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to appoint the following list Election Workers:**

Janice Carlson	Kathryn Kingsbury -clerk	Marguerite Ryan
Janet Chapman	Jackie LaFlash	Natalie Siemen
Patricia Cole	John Lucey	Chris Starbard
Anita Fenton	Deirdre Malone	Sandra Vaudo -warden
Gino Gangai	Annette McKiernan	Robert Wilby
Paula Gangai	Jane McTigue	
Melinda Johnson	Michelle Nelsen	

**Unanimous, all in favor.**

### **Special Permit for Sweetpea Friends of Rutland Animals.**

- **(JM)** I'm not clear on how this application is going to work? Sweetpea is a non-profit organization and will be using the building?
- **(CR)** Yes, they did apply for a kennel permit and the Board of Health has been down to the property.
- **(JP)** Would the abutters have any concern over this?
- **(PB)** There aren't many abutters and the property has been a kennel for some time.
- **(JP)** How many animals can they have?
- **(JM)** We can check on that with the ZBA.

### **Special Permit for Theo's Breakfast and Lunch**

- **(CR)** The owner is looking to increase the number of seats that they are allowed.
- **(PB)** There is parking along the common that is not on their footprint but is available to them.
- **(JP)** There seems to be plenty of space inside and plenty of foot traffic, so to just look at parking spaces is a little unreasonable.
- **(JM)** Would we like to write a letter in favor of these two special permits?
- **Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to approve write a letter in favor of these two applications being presented on August 15, 2013. Unanimous, all in favor.**

### **Meeting Minutes**

- **Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from July 8, 2013. Unanimous, all in favor.**

### **Discuss the Special Town Meeting**

- **(CR)** We opened a warrant for August 19, 2013. A provisional warrant has been set up.
- **(JP)** Other towns have decided to forgo any summer meetings.
- **(PB)** We don't need a meeting for the school, but we do need one to clean up the Town accounts.
- **(CR)** Late September may be a better time.
- **(JM)** The article for the water tower can wait and I think late September would be a better time.
- Town Clerk Susan Stone state that we should state whether we are cancelling or postponing the meeting.
- **(CR)** The Clerk is concerned that we have opened a meeting, but Town Counsel has said that we are fine.
- Town Clerk Susan Stone stated that the board should cancel the meeting.
- **Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to cancel the Special Town Meeting for August 19, 2013. Unanimous, all in favor.**

### **Access to Public Safety Complex**

- **(PB)** Pass over to the next meeting

## **Town Administrators Update**

### **FY14 Budgets**

#### **Senior Residential Development**

- Second floor wall panel erection is complete
- Rough plumbing is progressing on the first floor
- Electrical panel boxes in place
- North stair has been built from first to second floor

#### **Financial Management Meeting**

Team met on July 11<sup>th</sup> focus being articles for proposed special town meeting. Worthwhile meeting and next meeting arranged for August 22<sup>nd</sup>.

#### **Davis Hill Rd Culvert**

Bids opening July 26<sup>th</sup>. More information at meeting.

- **Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to allow the Town Administrator to award the bid for this project. Unanimous, all in favor.**

#### **CodeRed**

Our emergency CodeRed system is operational. The system has already been utilized twice by the Water Department to alert residents of water breaks that required the water to be shut off.

#### **Peer to Peer Grant**

The MPIC have been concentrating on a Village Overlay District bylaw and discussions have recently halted due in part to a difference of opinion between the committee. The DCHD offers a Peer to Peer grant which I would like to apply for on behalf of the town to receive \$1,000 to provide technical assistance to the committee. A formal vote of the Board of Selectmen is required to allow me to pursue a grant.

- **Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to support the Town Administrator in pursuing the Peer to Peer grant. Unanimous, all in favor.**

#### **Government Act**

The Government Act went before the Committee on Municipalities on July 23<sup>rd</sup> in Boston. The Committee will review submitted testimony before releasing with recommendations. This will then move along to the senate.

#### **Cooling Center**

During the hot spell of the week of July 15<sup>th</sup> the Senior Center did open up as a “cooling center” on one occasion. However, no residents felt the need to utilize the service.

#### **Other Business**

(JM) The liaison list has been updated.

(PB) Can we put that on the website?

(JM) We are doing a maintenance walk through with Kathi at PCS on August 7<sup>th</sup>.

(JM) Due to changes in the final state budget Bay Path has had to make a slight change to their assessment.

(JP) Congratulations to Holly Robert on completing her training.

## **WRTA**

Jonathan Church and Maryellen Blunt from CMRPC and Steven O'Neil from WRTA were present to discuss the potential of bringing a commuter shuttle service into Paxton. Jonathan Church went through a slide presentation (complete presentation is in the Board of Selectmen's office).

**(PB)** Questioned if the \$30,000 assessment was going to be enough to cover this. Jonathan Church remarked that they are fully aware that \$30,000 is the limit and has suggested that we use only about 2/3 of that amount and then we can build from there.

**(CR)** We would like to start around October 1<sup>st</sup> with this new route.

**(PB)** What would be the cost to ride?

Jonathan Church replied that the cost \$1.50 with a discount to seniors.

**(JP)** Are there any other towns that run on a similar budget?

Jonathan replied that they are currently working with Northbridge and Grafton to set up similar programs.

**(JM)** We met with AMC this morning. They are going to get together and get back to us with more information.

**(JP)** Just because I know that people will ask. What is in it for WRTA?

Steven O'Neil replied that we are just in it for the transportation. There is a big hole in our route which is Paxton. You have unused money so you should use it.

Maryellen Blunt added that it expands the transportation with in communities, and the region and builds a better system.

**(JP)** I just want to reiterate that our assessment will not go up because of doing this.

**(JM)** Thanked all that were involved in getting this to where it is.

Town resident Ashley Carrasquillo of 29 Holden Rd has recently moved to town and was concerned over the potential of a bus route going down the road they live on, and concerned that bringing a bus route into town may increase the crime rate and lower property values.

**(JM)** We do like our rural town, and this is just a small 7 passenger bus.

Jonathan Church reassured that in similar towns we have not heard of any such issues.

Steven O'Neil stated that at this point we need the Board of Selectmen's approval and then we need the WRTA's approval.

- **Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to become a member of the WRTA. Unanimous, all in favor.**
- **Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to close the regular meeting and move into Executive Session. Unanimous, all in favor.**

**Next meeting scheduled for Monday, August 19, 2013, at 7:00pm.**

Entered into Executive Session at 8:40pm and will only be returning to the regular meeting for the purpose of adjourning.

**Adjourned Meeting at 9:05pm, 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

WRTA presentation

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Peter Bogren, Jr.  
Chairman

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John F. Malone  
Vice Chairman

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Julia N. Pingitore  
Clerk