

Town of Paxton Board of Selectmen 697 Pleasant Street, Paxton, MA 01612 (508) 754-7638 – phone (508) 797-0966 – fax dparsons@townofpaxton.net

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, September 22, 2014

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

Members Present: Julia N. Pingitore, Madam Chairman

Peter Bogren, Jr, Vice Chairman

John F. Malone, Clerk

Carol L. Riches, Town Administrator

Attendees: Attendee List

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

Scenic byway kiosk

- Bonnie Farrell of 3 Camp Street was present to discuss the potential placement of a scenic byway kiosk along the front of her property. Ms. Farrell expressed her concern for safety and security for the homes on Camp Street. There have been a number of break in's in our neighborhood and there is a concern that this kiosk will attract even more unwanted people to our area. There is also a safety concern for the people pulling out of Camp Street because of the additional traffic and placement of the kiosk. The first we learned of this was just recently when they cleared the trees in this area.
- Anita Fenton and Paul Robinson of the Scenic Byway Committee were also present to discuss this matter. Mrs. Fenton stated that there has been a year and half worth of planning in order to find a location for this kiosk. We have worked with the Police and DPW to make a proper set up. I do apologize that the introductory letter did not go out. Mrs. Fenton also read a letter in support of the kiosk from Mr. Howe who owns the abutting property.
- **(JP)** Where there trees removed?
- Mrs. Fenton replied yes the undergrowth and dead trees were removed. This kiosk is needed to provide information for people coming into town. We are the gateway to the Scenic By-way. This location was picked because it is only .6 miles into the town and there was no curb cut needed, and this area was check by the police for traffic safety.
- Ms. Farrell replied that this just opens up an area for people to just sit there. People park in the ends of our driveways already. This is an ongoing issue.
- Mr. Robinson replied I don't see where two parking spots will increase or decrease this already on going issue. The additional parking may even prompt the police to sit here even for frequently.

- Mr. Sadegh of 52 Camp Street expressed his concern that he has lived on Camp St for 13 years and has never heard about this. Our neighborhood has been broken into many times and this will bring more traffic.
- Ms. Golemo of 47 Camp Street also expressed her concern over safety. She has 3 children and the traffic in this area will increase and it will bring in outside people that will watch the neighborhood.
- Ms. Mahoney of 2 Camp Street stated that her property has been broken into twice and both were during the day. I have a concern over traffic in and out of Camp Street, and I hope you will recognize the needs and safety of the residents of Camp Street.
- **(CR)** We do have a 24/7 police force that the Board of Selectmen has worked hard to maintain. This area is town owned land so we did not need to bring this before the town. Perhaps we could see if the Howe's would allow the kiosk to go on the other side of their property.
- (JP) We understand your concern over the break-ins which does warrant looking at a little more.
- (JM) I agree we should hold off putting up the kiosk and do another search. Are there any residents of Camp Street that would like to work with the Scenic Byway Committee to research another location?
- **(PB)** When is the kiosk supposed to go up?
- Mrs. Fenton replied this week. We are working with Bay Path on this.
- **(PB)** I agree to research this a little better. Look at the minutes from the meeting in March when this was discussed.
- Mr. Robinson stated that there is a clear view coming from both sides to see it.
- (PB) That was an initial concern.
- Mr. Robinson requested a timeline to come back on this.
- (CR) Our next meeting.
- Bonnie Farrell and Kathryn Mahoney offered to help the Scenic Byway Committee to look at other locations.

Wachusett Regional School Committee Appointment

- Harriet Fradellos has come forward as an applicant for the position recently vacated by William Clute on the Wachusett Regional School Committee. Mrs. Fradellos expressed that she has two children in the school district and that she is a member of SEPAC and already works with the School Committee.
- Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to appoint Harriet Fradellos to the Wachusett Regional School Committee until the election in May of 2015. Unanimous, all in favor.

Appoint Donna Graf-Parsons to the Paxton Cultural Council

• Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to appoint Donna Graf-Parsons to the Paxton Cultural Council. Unanimous, all in favor.

Raffle request from Richards Memorial Library

• Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to waive the fee for a raffle permit for Richards Memorial Library. Unanimous, all in favor.

Trash Abatement for 78 Asnebumskit Rd

- The Paxton Light Department is requesting a trash abatement for the property at 78 Asnebumskit Rd. The property has been vacant for some time and each year the Light Department has to right off the fees.
- Motion (PB) seconded (JM) to approve the abatement of the trash fee for 78 Asnebumskit Rd. Unanimous, all in favor.

Noise Ordinance

- **(PB)** I'm concerned that this could cause more problems with some of the restrictions that are on it. With a distance of only 100 feet this could be used to pit neighbor against neighbor. I think this goes further than what we need. We want something directed more towards contractors.
- (JM) I agree that it should be directed towards contractors.
- **(PB)** The time should be from 7am to 9pm.
- (CR) Do you still want to include this in the Special Town Meeting?
- Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to approve the noise ordinance as revised for the Special Town Meeting. Unanimous, all in favor.

Mullins Rule

• To be placed on the Special Town Meeting.

Parking for Muir Meadow

- Indian Hill resident Kim Melick sent a letter about her concern with people parking in front of her house on Indian Hill Rd and crossing over Route 122 to get to the entrance for the Muir Meadow walking path.
- (JM) What area is open? There are logs going up but not sure if it is for Muir Meadow or neighboring property.
- **(PB)** Where do people park?
- (JM) It is dangerous to cross Route 122. The whole thing needs to be looked at.
- **(JP)** Could we contact the Land Trust?
- (CR) I will contact Colin Novak and see if they are planning on a parking area.
- (JM) We should have Colin in to discuss future plans.

Review warrant articles for the Special Town Meeting

Article 1.

WRSD Budget

Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to accept the article. All in favor.

Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to accept this as article #1. All in favor.

Article 2.

Water Enterprise

Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to accept the article. All in favor.

Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to accept this as article #2. All in favor.

(JM) Recused himself from the vote.

Article 3.

Water Enterprise

Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to accept the article. All in favor.

Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to accept this as article #4. All in favor.

(JM) Recused himself from the vote.

Article 4.

Paxton Fire Department

Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to accept the article. All in favor.

Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to accept this as article #5. All in favor.

- **(PB)** Where are the funds coming from for this article?
- **(CR)** From local revenues.
- (JM) What is this and why do we need it?
- (PB) Automatic CPR system.
- **(CR)** It's a life saving device.
- **(JP)** It's more effective than manual process. The odds of survival are higher. It can be done for a longer duration than a manual process and it reduces back stress on EMS workers. It's becoming a standard of care.
- **(PB)** I'm concerned on how we are going to pay for it.
- (CR) We just had our Free Cash certified and we do have extra funds from FY14 that will go into FY15.

Article 5.

Stabilization Fund

Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to accept the article. All in favor.

Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to accept this as article #6. All in favor.

Article 6.

Capital Depreciation

Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to accept the article. All in favor.

Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to accept this as article #7. All in favor.

Article 7.

MGL Chapter 40 Section 57

Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to accept the article. All in favor.

Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to accept this as article #3. All in favor.

Article 8.

MGL Chapter 29 Section 23D

Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to accept the article. All in favor.

Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to accept this as article #8. All in favor.

Article 9.

Unreasonable Noise

Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to accept the article. All in favor.

Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to accept this as article #9. All in favor.

• Motion (PB) seconded (JM) to close the warrant for the Special Town Meeting. Unanimous, all in favor.

Meeting Minutes

• Motion (PB) seconded (JM) to approve the Meeting Minutes from the Regular Meeting of September 8, 2014 with spelling correction on page one noted. Unanimous, all in favor.

Town Administrators Update

Accounting

Free cash has been certified for FY14 at \$290,173 and the Water Enterprise Fund retained earnings certified at \$163,575. Donna Couture, Town Accountant did an excellent job closing out the year and making the submission to the DOR.

Senior Center

Jerry Ryan, COA Director contacted the Sheriff's office to request assistance with painting the steps, ramp and porches, here at the Senior Center. Jerry has received confirmation that this will take place the week of September 29th thorough October 1st.

• Fire Department

The Office of Emergency Medical Services at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health has reviewed and approved the Paxton service zone plan for the provision of emergency medical services.

Scenic Byway

The Scenic Byway Committee has provided a copy of a letter that will go out to businesses wishing to be included in the Town map and flier as attached.

DPW

Flushing hydrants

Bay Path

Ribbon cutting for the Bay Path project.

Worcester State

Annual event at Moore State Park on September 27th.

Other Items

(PB) Collaborative Budget Meeting on October 1st.

(JM) Real Estate Taxes are due on October 1st.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 6, 2014 at 7:00pm.

Adjourned Meeting at 8:35 pm, Unanimous all in favor.

Documents filed with Meeting Minutes:

Agenda

Attendance list

Documents from the Meeting filed in BOS office:

Town Administrators Update

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Graf-Parsons, Administrative Assistant