



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

Tuesday, February 2, 2016

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

Members Present: Peter Bogren, Jr, Chairman
John F. Malone, Vice Chairman
Julia N. Pingitore, Clerk

Carol L. Riches, Town Administrator

Attendees: see Attendee List

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

Presidential Primary Warrant

- **Motion (JM) seconded (JP) to approve the signing of the Presidential Primary Warrant. Unanimous, all in favor.**
- Susan Stone announced that absentee ballots are in and that the last day to register to vote in the primary is February 10, 2016 and the Clerk's office will be open until 8pm that evening.

FY17 school budget

- Darryll McCall, Bob Berlo, Joe Scanlon and Jeff Carlson from the Wachusett Regional School District were all present to discuss the FY17 budget for the school. Mr. McCall provided a handout with the proposed budget details and then proceeded to go through and discuss each section. There is a copy of this report on file in the Board of Selectmen's office. After reviewing the report discussion continued on a number of various topics.
- **(JM)** Asked Mr. McCall if he could provide a figure that would represent what the districts should be spending per student. I would also like to know how many students in the district are from Paxton.
- Mr. McCall stated that what we need per student is enough to get us up to date with technology and supplies. In regards to the number of students from Paxton I will get those numbers to you.
- **(JM)** What is the breakdown on health insurance for the retirees?
- Mr. McCall stated that it is the same as the active employees 78/22.

- **(JP)** The per pupil expenditure is hard to compare to other communities because the enrollment is so different. I would like to see our numbers calculated according to volume.
- **(JP)** How do our teacher salaries and tenure compare to other communities?
- Mr. McCall stated that Wachusett is comparable to other communities in both salaries and tenure. We seem to average out right in about the middle.
- Rich Fenton asked Mr. McCall why he thought Paxton Center School was rated as a level two school.
- Mr. McCall stated that it was primarily because of MCAS scores.
- Mark Love asked what percentage of the transportation budget was being funded.
- Mr. Scanlon replied that 72 percent is funded.
- **(PB)** How many students are on school choice?
- Mr. Scanlon replied that we have gone from about 205 down to 183.
- **(PB)** Does that effect our per pupil cost?
- Mr. Scanlon replied that it does not.
- Mr. McCall stated that there are currently five schools within the Wachusett district that are at a level two.
- **(PB)** Currently with level funding for the Town's budget we are looking at a deficit of \$260,000. Based on your preliminary numbers we are looking at a total deficit of \$600,000 with the school and town together. Keep this in mind when you are looking at the budget and considering possibly increasing it.
- **(JM)** The question was raised that could we and how can we get Paxton out of the school district?

Recreation Commission opening

- **Motion (JM) seconded (JP) to approve the placement of the open position for the Recreation Commission on the ballot in accordance to MGL sec 41 ch. 10. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Meeting Minutes

- **Motion (JM) seconded (JP) to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of January 20, 2016. Noting the correction of the spelling of the word "agreement" on page 2. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Town Administrators Update

- The roof on the Senior Center has been completed. We also put in a claim for the ceiling to be repaired. The plaster was falling down due to water damage.
- The DEP has signed off on the water tank.

Op Tech Eagle Voting Machine

- **Motion (JM) seconded (JP) to approve the release of the Op Tech Eagle Voting Machine to the Town of Brimfield at no cost. Unanimous, all in favor.**

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 16, 2016 at 7:00pm.

Adjourned Meeting at 8:52 pm, Unanimous all in favor.

Documents from the Meeting filed in BOS office:

Meeting minutes

Agenda

Town Administrators Update

Attendance list

FY17 WRSD proposed budget

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Graf-Parsons

Administrative Assistant