



Town of Paxton
Board of Selectmen
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Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 24, 2016

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

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

Carol L. Riches, Town Administrator

Attendees: see Attendee List

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

We will enter into Executive Session and will only be returning to the regular meeting for the purpose of adjourning.

(PB) I would like to extend our condolences to everyone at Anna Maria College for the recent loss that they have suffered.

Chief Conte to discuss fire grant

- Chief Conte was present to ask the Board of Selectmen if they would support the Fire Department in applying for a Federal Grant to purchase a tanker truck. The grant would cover all but \$120,000 which would be the town's share.
- Chief Conte stated that if fiscally you don't think the town could afford this then we should not apply for the grant, because if we receive it and then turn it down they will not look at giving Paxton a grant for at least the next five years. If we get the grant we only have 30 days in which to either accept or decline it.
- **(CR)** When will they award the grant?
- Chief Conte replied sometime around April.
- **(JP)** When is the application due by?
- Chief Conte replied November 11th.
- **(CR)** Jay did come forward with this last year. It's been on his capital plan for the about the past 10 years and he is just looking for support at this time.
- **(JM)** I support the Fire Department but I don't see where we can find \$120,000 to help support this.
- **(JP)** I think this would be difficult to get passed at Town Meeting.
- **Motion (JM) seconded (JP) not to support the submission of a Federal Fire grant for this year and to revisit it next year. Unanimous, all in favor.**

MDA Boot Drive

- Members of the Paxton Fire Department wish to conduct a Boot Drive to raise money for MDA. The event will take place on November 5th from 9am to 3pm at the intersections of West, Pleasant and Church Street.
- **Motion (JM) seconded (JP) to approve the request for the Paxton Fire Department to conduct a Boot Drive for MDA. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Sign the warrant for the State Election

- Town Clerk, Susan Stone presented the warrant for the State Election for each Board member to sign. Also an announcement was made about early voting. Times and location were provided.

Continued discussion on Senior Center

- (CR) I checked the basement after the heavy rain on the weekend and the basement was dry with the exception of a small area around the door. A handrail needs to be added in the stairwell and I have purchased some tiles to replace the damaged ones and the tread on the bottom stair needs to be replaced as well.
- Cindy Love, COA Director stated that the Friends of the COA are going to paint the kitchen, office and hallway area.
- Cindy Love also expressed that she would like to see a better way of tracking who is using the Senior Center
- (PB) We are looking at to charge a room use fee and as far as room set ups we are not going to be able to use our DPW employees for this. We could also look into changing the door lock to a non duplicating system so we have better control over who comes in and out of the building.
- **Motion (JP) seconded (JM) to have the Town Administrator get a quote to have the windows replaced in the Senior Center. Unanimous, all in favor.**
- Melinda Johnson, Town resident inquired about having the name of the Senior Center changed from the John Bauer Senior Center to the John Bauer Community Center.
- (PB) told Mrs. Johnson it would have to be presented at a Town Meeting and be voted on so that if she wishes to do so just present the request when the Town Warrant is opened.

Continued discussion on how to handle bats in a residential setting

- (CR) Going forward as a procedure I suggest that when a resident believes that they have had direct contact with a bat that they call dispatch. Dispatch will then contact Mr. Zottoli to come and remove the bat at which time it will be taken to the Paxton Animal Hospital. That resident should then contact their primary care doctor. If contact was had with the bat the resident can either open a window for the bat to leave out of or may attempt to catch it wearing proper gloves and using a container to hold the animal.
- **Motion (JM) seconded (JP) approve the procedure of removing a bat from a residence as presented by the Town Administrator. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Blue Ribbon request

- A request was made from the MASS State Police Wives to place blue ribbons in town as a show of support to all our law enforcement.
- (JP) When will they go up?

- (CR) Within a few days
- (JP) How long will they stay up?
- (CR) For about 30 days
- **Motion (JM) seconded (JP) approve the request from the MSP Wives to place blue ribbons in town as a show of support to our law enforcement. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Meeting Minutes

- **Motion (JM) seconded (JP) to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from July 25, 2016 . Unanimous, all in favor.**
- **Motion (JM) seconded (JP) to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from September 26, 2016 . Unanimous, all in favor.**
- **Motion (JM) seconded (JP) to approve the Executive Meeting Minutes from August 10, 2016 . Unanimous, all in favor.**
- **Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to approve the Executive Meeting Minutes from August 17, 2016 . Unanimous, all in favor. Julia Pingitore was recused from this meeting.**
- **Motion (JM) seconded (JP) to approve the Executive Meeting Minutes from October 3, 2016 . Unanimous, all in favor.**

Town Administrators Update

- **WRTA**

As you are aware we have been running the Paxton Shuttle since December 2013. With the exception of one or two passengers, most are AMC students and faculty. Even with the opening of the Hills, we still only see one resident occasionally use the service.

I contacted Jonathan Church, WRTA Administrator and he agrees that ridership has not improved and that it is our decision as to whether we continue to provide the service or not.

Ridership for FY16 was:

period ending	\$1.50	0.75	Reported	Passes	ADA	Total Passengers
7/31/2015	14	4	\$22.50	6	10	
8/31/2015	7	4	\$10.50	15	11	
9/30/2015	6	2	\$13.50	29		
10/31/2015	31	14	\$57.00	2		
11/30/2015	25	12	\$46.50	2		
12/30/2015	13	4	\$22.50	0		
1/31/2016	10	3	\$17.50	0		
2/29/2016	16	6	\$28.50	0		
3/31/2016	27	3	\$42.75	9		
4/30/2016	40	0	\$60.00	6		
5/31/2016	0	0		0		
6/30/2016	0	0		0		
Total	189	52	\$321.25	69	21	310

With your permission I will inform WRTA that we will cancel the service; the last run being December 16th.

I want to thank our dedicated bus driver Denis Leo, who has been with us since the launch and has gone above and beyond to keep the bus on the road through all elements.

(PB) I would like to commend Jack and Carol for all the hard work they put into trying this.

(CR) If any conversation comes up prior to December 16th I will bring it back to you.

- **Motion (JM) seconded (JP) to stop the WRTA service as of December 16, 2016. Unanimous, all in favor.**

- **Baypath Vocational School**

The Superintendent has requested that the Board of Selectmen Chair selects a member to attend the meeting on Monday, November 5, 2016 to vote on a representative to select a member from the Towns to represent during the upcoming collective bargaining negotiations.

- **Snow Removal**

We are looking for snow removal service for town building for the three months December through February. Our previous contractor is no longer available to assist.

- **Council on Aging**

There are many activities come up at the COA in the next future weeks:

- First Aid & CPR Class (Non certificate course) October 26th 1-3pm
- Name That Tune Trivia and lunch October 27 at 1pm
- Tom Ingrassia book signing November 1 at 11am
- Coffee hour with Jeff Kent, Veterans Agent November 9 at 10am
- Holiday Bazaar November 18th 10am to 1pm

For all programs go to the Town's website or contact the COA to be placed on their mailing list

- **Richards Memorial Library**

I attended the Library Book Fair run by the Friends of the RML and they did a great job. The Library has programs for adults and youngest throughout the fall:

- Author Tony James Slater October 25th at 6:15pm
- Halloween Party with magician Scott Jameson October 29th at 12:30pm
- Music & Movement on October 21st and November 18th at 11am

For all program information you can visit the Town's website and go the Library page.

- **Fire Department**

I was at the Fire Department Annual Open House on October 16th and Chief Conte and Captain Pingitore and the whole department did a wonderful job.

- **Paxton Lions**

The Paxton Lions in conjunction with the Recreation Department and assistance of the Fire Department, will holding their annual Halloween Party behind the PCS next to Illigs pond on October 31st 6:30pm to 8pm. There will a bonfire, hay ride and candy give away donated by Worcester County Memorial Park. In additions there will be prizes for best costumes. Everyone is welcome.

Motion (JM) seconded (JP) to leave the regular meeting and entered into Executive Session at 8:17pm and we will only return to the regular meeting for the purpose of adjourning. Unanimous, all in favor.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday November 7, 2016 at 7:00pm.

Adjourned Meeting at 8:32pm, Unanimous all in favor.

Documents from the Meeting filed in BOS office:

Meeting minutes

Agenda

Attendance list

Town Administrators update

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Graf-Parsons
Administrative Assistant