



Town of Paxton
Board of Selectmen
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Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 16, 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.

250th Committee

- Anita Fenton and Robert Wilby of the 250th Committee presented two final projects to round out the celebration. The 250th Committee would like to place a historical marker for the Town near Center Cemetery. The cost will be about \$2,200. They are looking to get a donation from both the Paxton Historical District Committee and the Historical Commission to help make this purchase. Along with the marker they would also like to purchase and plant a Sycamore tree on the common. The Lions Club has their Arbor Day event in cooperation with the 4th graders at Paxton Center School which will be held on May 7th. We would like to plant the tree and set the marker at the same time if possible.
- **Motion (JM) seconded (JP) to approve the purchase and placement of a historical marker and tree with the cooperation of the DPW Superintendent. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Conservation Commission – new bylaw

- Conservation Agent – Mia McDonald presented a new wetlands bylaw that the Commission would like to put forward at the Annual Town Meeting. This new bylaw would give the Commission the enforcement tools that they need to be able to handle more on a local level. Landowners can be very unresponsive to matters and currently the Commission has no additional choice but to pass a matter onto the DEP at which point the matter is completely out of the Commissions hands.
- **(PB)** What are the changes in this bylaw that are different from the MGL?

- Mia McDonald replied that the 15/30 buffer control is the only change from the state bylaw.
- **(PB)** Are these the same definitions as the states?
- Mia McDonald stated that the only one that is different is the definition for the “isolated wetlands”. We are still working on this definition and if it is not ready for the Annual Town Meeting we will pull it from bylaw.
- **(JM)** Is this bylaw looking to raise fees to help pay for salaries or will it go into the General Fund?
- Mia McDonald replied we are looking to make it so that the cost per filing will match the agent’s salary.
- **(JM)** Has the Commission looked at a fee structure to help support the agent’s salary? They could work that into the bylaw. You may want to get some background from some other towns.
- **(PB)** Do you have any examples of an undesirable outcome that went to the state?
- Mia McDonald expressed that one time the state had reviewed a wetlands issue. The Commission disagreed with the state on the line designation for the area and the Commission never received the opportunity to discuss it further. The control of the project was taken away at the local level and landed in the state’s hands.
- **(PB)** Could we end up running into more expenses if the town takes on more responsibility?
- Mia McDonald stated that the state level will still be the superseding model.
- **(PB)** When will you have the final draft done?
- Mia McDonald stated after their next meeting on March 10th.
- **(PB)** Could you please provide a few examples as to why this bylaw is necessary.

John Bryan – road race request

- John and Aleshia Bryan are requesting permission to hold a road race in Paxton on August 13th at 8:30am to raise money and awareness for the Endometriosis Foundation of America. They are expecting about 100 participants. The course will run along Grove St, Streeter Rd and Richards Ave. Once the Bryans have obtained all the information requested by the town the board will review the information and provide a decision at that time.

Appointment of Election Workers

- **Motion (JM) seconded (JP) to approve the appointment of Deborah Henderson and Marlo Richards as election workers for the presidential primary. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Appoint Jason Sherblom

- **Motion (JM) seconded (JP) to approve the appointment of Jason Sherblom as a part time dispatcher. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Meeting Minutes

- **Motion (JM) seconded (JP) to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of February 2, 2016. Unanimous, all in favor.**

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 29, 2016 at 7:00pm.

Adjourned Meeting at 8:05pm, Unanimous all in favor.

Documents from the Meeting filed in BOS office:

Meeting minutes

Agenda

Attendance list

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Graf-Parsons
Administrative Assistant