



Town of Paxton
Board of Selectmen
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Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 21, 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 7:04pm.

Deirdre Malone to discuss Treasurer / Collectors budget

- Selectman Malone recused himself from this discussion.
- Account 1145 – would like to add an increase for a merit raise for the Assistants position.
- The only other change would be the interest refund for Verizon.
- Account 1146 – level funded with the exception of a \$100.00 increase to cover bank wire deposits.
- Account 1911 For Worcester County Retirement this budget is our share of the Town's expenses.
- Accounts 1710, 1715, 1752 these budgets are set.
- Account 1910 for the employee insurance we will keep \$10,000 for premium deductions. Through the end of March we still have \$6,400 left.

Susan Stone to discuss Town Clerks budget

- Account 1161 there is an increase to the election workers due to the impending early voting for the presidential election.
- **(JM)** Is this just to cover hours?
- Susan Stone replied yes, this will cover about 60 hours.
- **(JP)** The maintenance on the voting machine has gone down?
- Susan Stone stated that the new machine is covered for this year and the overall maintenance cost is lower.
- **(JM)** What is the 700 for dog licenses for?
- Susan Stone stated that covers the yearly maintenance and any IT work that is needed.
- Account 1162 is all set.

Gerald Ryan to discuss COA budget

- Account 1541 is level funded this year.
- **(CR)** How is the van driver's budget working out?
- Gerald Ryan replied that it is working out very well this year. The seniors are being very cooperative and working with us.
- **(PB)** Why did the budget for the handicapped van go down?
- Gerald Ryan replied that we anticipated heavier use but it has been much lighter.

Discuss the two warrant articles for WRSD

- **(PB)** The first article that the school has asked the Town to place on the Annual Town Warrant is to rename the Science Project Room to the Dr. Neil Ault Science Project Room. All board members are in favor of supporting this article.
- **(PB)** The second article that the school has asked the Town to place on the Annual Town Warrant is to fund capital improvements for technology infrastructure in town-owned schools.
- **(JM)** For the individual towns that wish to put this forward in their town meetings they should go ahead, however I would not put this as an article on our town warrant. We have been given a figure of \$51,000 with no backup to where this number comes from.
- **(CR)** The school has given all the towns a number and it looks to be about \$50,000 per school.
- **(JM)** I would like to see the school come up with a better way of raising the money other than an article on the town warrant.
- **(JP)** Shouldn't this be a capital item? I cannot support this without any back up as to what it is for.
- Jeffrey Kent – Chairman for the Capital Improvement Committee spoke on behalf of the Capital projects that have been brought before the committee this year. We have two projects to evaluate. We did not receive a request from the school for this particular project. Therefore we have not had a chance to review the project and we are not prepared to bring it forward. I would ask the school what is your IT plan for the next five to ten years and see what the school comes back with.
- **(PB)** I don't see how we can go forward with this.
- Jeffrey Kent had an aside questions as to how FEMA grants are spent. One of the projects that we are evaluating is a truck for the Fire Department. Does this have to be a new piece of equipment or can it be used? There is a big difference in the price between new and used.

April license renewals

- **Motion (JM) seconded (JP) to approve the April licenses as follows. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Weekday Soft Drinks

Paxton Marketplace Inc.

Paxton Sports Center Inc.

Theo's

JLC Donuts Inc. d/b/a Dunkin Donuts

Fruit and Vegetable

Howe's Nursery Stand

Jam/Syrup/Bread/Candy/Seeds/Honey

Howe's Nursery Stand

Nursery Stock & Florist

Howe's Nursery Stand

Pleasant View Nursery

Robinson's Greenhouses

John Bryan – road race request

- John and Aleshia Bryan were present at the Select Board meeting on February 16th to request 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. At this point in time the Bryan's have provided the permit with all necessary signatures.
- **Motion (JM) seconded (JP) to approve the permit requesting the running of a road race on August 13, 2016. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Meeting Minutes

- **Motion (JM) seconded (JP) to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of March 14, 2016. Unanimous, all in favor. Selectman Peter Bogren recused himself from this vote.**

Town Administrator Update

- Paxton Days will be held on June 11th this year. We are moving the event to the Town Common. We will be closing off Richards Avenue alongside the common. We will have a car show in the parking lot of Saint Columba's. We will have food, music and local vendors.

Debra Bailey and Trish Dawson to discuss Library budget

- Account 1610 we level funded with the exception of the CWMARS and merit raises.
- **(JP)** So you have taken out the \$6,000 that was previously under maintenance?
- Trish Dawson replied that they are going to use the state money for maintenance rather than put it in the budget.
- Debra Bailey stated that they are looking to update the carpeting, put in some new lighting and do some painting.
- **(JM)** Your children's librarian is retiring?
- Debra Bailey stated that she has given her notice effective April 15th and that we are currently in the process of accepting applications for the position.
- **(JM)** Do you know what the pay rate is for the position?
- Debra Bailey replied that she is not certain of the pay scale but would like to start the new person with the 5% increase that we are looking to add to the current salary.
- Trish Dawson explained that they are looking for someone that could step up in the future to fill open positions.
- Debra Bailey explained that tomorrow is the deadline for applications to be accepted and that they currently have eight applications. I am looking to retire soon and I'm looking

for a salary increase.

- **(JP)** Do you have a time line on when you are looking to retire?
- Debra Bailey replied in the next two or three years.
- Trish Dawson explained that they are looking at different things that could be done with the library. We have underutilized the space in the basement. Perhaps that could be made more accessible for town meetings. We are working with Cable to see if we could put in a media center. We redid our mission statement to become more relevant with in the town.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 28, 2016 at 7:00pm.

Adjourned Meeting at 7:55pm, Unanimous all in favor.

Documents from the Meeting filed in BOS office:

Meeting minutes

Agenda

Attendance list

Request for Road race on file in the Selectman's office

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Graf-Parsons

Administrative Assistant