

Town of Paxton Board of Selectmen

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, January 11, 2010

Members Present: Frederick G. Goodrich, Chair
William A. Trotta, Clerk

Attendees: See attendee list

- Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.

Meeting Minutes

- **Motion (FG) seconded (WT) to accept the Regular Meeting Minutes of December 28, 2009. Unanimous all in favor.**

Continuation of Public Hearing AMC Liquor License to Extend the Premises to include Socquet House, Miriam Hall and Attached Patio , Fuller Activities Center, Alumni/Coghlin Hall and the Athletic Fields.

- No one in attendance from AMC at 7:00pm tabled to later in the meeting to give time to show.

Board of Selectmen Goals & Objectives

#4 Traffic Study

- (FG) expressed concerns with traffic around the Common and Holden Road, suggestion at one time was to replace the blinking light at the corner of Grove St and Holden St with a traffic light.
- (WT) concerned that the sidewalk up to the lights on Rt 31 and around to Rt 122 is narrow and not adequate and that parking on Richards Ave across from of St. Columba creates a single line of traffic and safety issues. No parking in this area might alleviate problem.
- (CB) stated that he was not ware of any traffic studies conducted by the state but would enquire.

#7 Daily Communication between the Town Administrator and Board of Selectmen

- (FG) received lists of ongoing goals from (CB) but looking more at Monday through Friday, when (CB) is going to be in the office.
- (WT) asked that (CB) continue to provide the 4:15pm update.
- (CB) would like guidelines as to what BOS want to have reported.
- (WT) need to know if things are going on that they need to be aware of, so that they can be responsive to public if asked.

Town Administrator Update

FY10 Tax Bills

- Several calls received with questions about the final FY10 tax bills that went out recently. Spreadsheet supplied showing how the property valuation reduction, the FY10 operating budget increase, the debt exclusion for the Public Safety Complex and the debt exclusion for the ice storm contributed to the increase in the FY10 tax rate.
- FY10 is the first year of the new preliminary tax assessment, so all burden of increase shifted to second installment as first installment issued based on FY09 tax assessment.
- (WT) suggested that (CB) could put something on the cable to allow residents to see this explanation of the FY10 tax increase.

Impact of Public Safety Complex Borrowing

- (CB) provided a debt cost analysis for the BOS (attached).
- (FG) stated that the portion relating to the Ice Storm borrowing should come down next year if money from the state is received.
- Information showed a total saving on interest payments of \$5,108,245. Two loans for PSC a 40-year USDA loan for \$2,000,000 and a 20-year conventional loan for \$5,800,000.

FY09 Audit

- Fieldwork for FY09 audit is just about completed. Auditor has indicated that the audit and Single Audit required by our receipt of Federal funds in FY09 went quite well. He expressed his appreciation for the significant help Town Accountant Donna Couture provided in addressing a number of issues that date back to before Donna joined the Town.
- (FG) also added his appreciation for Donna Couture's efforts and stated that she was an excellent choice, all the accounts are kept update.

Snow Bank Lottery

- (CB) stated that John Benenda, had filed a bill for a Snow Bank lottery to help Towns with snow and ice deficits.
- **Motion (WT) seconded (FG) to send letter to State Representatives in support of this bill. Unanimous all in favor.**

FY10 Budget

- (CB) stated that budget books would be put together next week and provided a spreadsheet of projected revenues and expenditures. With the current budgets received and including an estimated increase of 4½% increase, showing a deficit of \$813,778.
- WRSD are discussing at their meeting this evening when to meet with towns.
- (FG) would like to meet here in order to televise for residents.

Other Business

- (FG) has reviewed the budget accounts and found some accounts with spending above 50%, could be due to the nature of how payments are made.
- (FG) received some calls over the past two weeks from Seniors not able to make contact with the COA, appears no one around at times when usually there.
- (CB) to follow up.
- (FG) has been approached by someone looking to rent out the old Police Station to use to sell fresh fish and meat.
- (WT) if we were to lease, suggested any revenue go directly into renovation of the building and restrict the basement for records storage.
- (CB) this would require an RFP.
- **Motion (FG) seconded (WT) to prepare RFP to lease out the building. Unanimous all in favor.**

Continuation of Public Hearing AMC Liquor License to Extend the Premises to include Socquet House, Miriam Hall and Attached Patio , Fuller Activities Center, Alumni/Coghlin Hall and the Athletic Fields.

- **No one from AMC arrived for meeting.**

Motion (FG) seconded (WT) to continue the hearing to 7pm on January 25, 2010. Unanimous all in favor.

Motion (WT) seconded (FG) to adjourn regular meeting at 8:10pm. Unanimous all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol L. Riches
Administrative Assistant