8/11/20 Paxton Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

**Members Attending**:  Richard Fenton (Chair), Mark Love (Vice Chair), Anthony Domineck (Clerk), Tim Linton, Jennifer Lennon, Seth Peters

**Members Not Attending**:  June Herron

**Additional Attendees**:  Carol Riches (Town Administrator), Mark Savasta (Police liaison)

Virtual meeting called to order at 8:00 PM

Police Budget – Question from Mr. Love.  Wasn’t a new position requested for school resource officer?  New officer was put back into budget to cover injuries and other absences.  Did not restore full original amount requested at beginning year due to grant received from Holden.   If/when school reopens new officer will be utilized in school, cover vacations, will be used in a variety of ways.  Mr. Love – Is the grant a recurring grant?  Chief Savasta – Holden must apply each year on our behalf.  Motion to move funds Mr. Love, Second Ms. Lennon, VOTE:  Approved Unanimously

Article 19 – Approve a position on Board of Assessors to appoint the town’s Principle Assessor.  Ms. Riches – This is not to appoint to the board, this is flexibility.  Assessor is currently advertised.  If new assessor is not a Paxton resident, without approval they cannot serve.  Mr. Fenton – This was part of the board before Kathy came on, why does it now have to be voted on?  Ms. Riches – I do not think anything changed, seemed strange that someone could be an employee and a board member.  Was told it can be done but must be an annual town meeting vote, made sense to add to the warrant to have the flexibility.  Mr. Fenton – I do not understand how the employee could also be a boss under the board of assessors.  Mr. Love – Agrees with Mr. Fenton.  We have a paid employee who has resigned.  Now looking for flexibility to appoint a board member to the be the principal assessor.  Is that for flexibility or is there a plan in mind?  Ms. Riches – Assessor must be certified, often a sticking point for new members.  Must be certified within 6 months of being appointed.  Mr. Love – Position is vacant, would we save on the salary?  Ms. Riches – We plan to higher, closing date 8/13.  Motion to Approve – Lennon.  Second – Peters.  Vote:  Approved Unanimously.

Article 17 – Mr. Love – This says finance committee recommends approval.  Passed 3-2.  Misleading to say finance committee recommended approval, should say by “split vote”.  Mr. Fenton will update articles to note split and unanimous votes.

DPW Superintendent Impending resignation - Mr. Love – Recent meeting discussed combining DPW and Water Superintendents and Foreman.  Would this save money?  Ms. Riches – It depends on the salaries; it may not amount to savings.  This was not approved at the meeting, just discussed. Reviewing applicants next week.  Suggest holding off until this process is complete.

Next meeting will be in approximately 2 weeks.  Mr. Fenton will have Water Dept attend to discuss Mr. Love’s concerns

8:19PM Motion to adjourn by Mr. Peters, 2nd by Mr. Litton.  Vote:  Unanimous Approval

Respectfully Submitted

Tony Domineck, Clerk