

Town of Paxton Board of Selectmen

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, July 5, 2005

Members Present: Frederick G. Goodrich, Chairman, Michael Quinlivan, Vice Chair
John F. Malone, Clerk

Charles Blanchard, Town Administrator

Attendees: See attendee list

Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:04pm.

Patrolman Appointment

- Chief Desrosiers recommended the appointment of Forrest Thorpe III as Part-Time Patrolman. Forrest Thorpe is currently the Assistant Chief Dispatcher and has over 100 hours in the Police Cruiser as part of the AMC Internship.
- **Motion** (FG) seconded (JM) to accept the Chief recommendation to appoint Forest Thorpe II as Part-Time Patrolman. Unanimous.

Holiday Tree

- (FG) Gino Gangai would like to donate a 20ft spruce tree for the Common for December 2005.
- **Motion** (FG) seconded (JM) to accept donation by Gino Gangai of the spruce tree. Unanimous

Appointment of Trustees for the Municipal Affordable Housing Trust Fund

- (FG) Trustee for appointment all BOS, Martha Akstin, Jim Stone, John Burke and Richard Sansoucy.
- **Motion** (FG) seconded (JM) to appoint BOS, Martha Akstin, Jim Stone, John Burke and Richard Sansoucy as Trustees for the Municipal Affordable Housing Trust Fund. Unanimous.

Wachusett Regional School District FY06 Budget

- Received new appropriations of the WRSD budget on pink & blue sheets. New Assessment letter received showing Paxton's share to be \$4,450,770 (pink sheet). Also an invitation to meet and discuss on July 14, 2005.
- (FG) \$4,450,770 is not acceptable and all five towns should continue to unite.
- Richard Fenton, Finance Committee commented offer made by Paxton is fair, new information (pink sheet) received shows an increase in the budget, allocation of state aid shared between towns and school and would like to see E&D Fund used.
- Richard Fenton concerned that next year will see a further increase due to negotiations of a new teachers contract and new equipment needed.
- **Motion** (JM) seconded (FG) to reject WRSD pink sheet budget. Unanimous.
- **Motion** (JM) seconded (FG) to reject WRSD blue pink sheet budget, although not proposed at this time. Unanimous.

Town Meeting Date

- To be set at the next meeting on July 19.

Request for Trash Opt-Out

- Request by Omar Soffan, 7 Hemlock Street to opt out of the Town's trash collection service and not pay the monthly trash fee. Letter from private hauler confirming that he is contracted to pick up trash at 7 Hemlock Street.
- **Motion** (JM) seconded (FG) to relieve Mr. Soffan of the trash fee from today. Unanimous.

Scenic Bylaw

- Bill passed for scenic byway waiting funding.

Notary

- Treasurer requesting a further notary for the Town Hall. BOS ask that more information needed as to why this request put forward.
- (FG) mentioned that the Town does not currently have a Burial Agent, not a Town Clerk position, previously part of the job description for the TSC.

Paxton Center School Windows

- (FG) and (CB) toured the school to review the 1955 and 1968 windows that need replacing.
- (CB) believes that to replace all the necessary windows would amount to at least \$214,000.
- (FG) this could be paid from the impact fee of \$100,000 that will be paid by Woodland Heights on sale of 35 Forestdale Road.
- (CB) has now confirmed with the Town Accountant that \$44,000 is remaining in the account from PCS renovation and would need a Town Meeting vote to use.
- **Motion** (FG) seconded (MQ) to rescind the vote to close this account taken at the June 20, 2005 BOS meeting. Unanimous.

Town Administrators Update

TEA-21 Funding

- (CB) Guertin Elkerton would like to apply for TEA-21 funding on behalf of the Town for sections of Route 56 and 3.
- BOS requested a presentation be given by Guertin Elkerton prior to making a decision.

Town Accountant

- (CB) new Town Accountant has pointed out that the BOS do not need to sign each individual warrant, only the cover sheet.
- (FG) would still like to see all warrant, bills and purchase order etc.

Executive Office of Environmental Affairs

- (CB) requesting BOS authorize Chairman to sign to enable the Town to apply for EOEI sponsored programs.
- **Motion** (JM) seconded (MQ) to authorize the Chairman to sign for these programs. Unanimous.

Council on Aging Director

- (CB) supplied information suggesting that the Council on Aging Director is a salaried position and

that the BOS may wish to consider pro-rating benefits.

- (FG) requested that all positions be rated prior to making any decisions.

Senior Municipal Tax Relief Program

- (CB) Received some suggestions from two departments.

CORI

- Should see approval within three weeks.

Other Business

- (JM) asked that (CB) look into the revolving accounts and fee based accounts to see they are being correctly used.
- (FG) would like to commend Judy Hatstat, BOH for alerting a family to Lyme Disease.

Executive Session

- (FG) relayed that Town Counsel had stated that the Board cannot move to go into to Executive Session to discuss anticipated negotiations; discussions must be conducted in open session.

Motion (FG) seconded (MQ) to adjourn the meeting at 9:00pm Unanimous.

Respectively submitted,

Carol L. Riches, Administrative Assistant