

Town of Paxton Board of Selectmen

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 2, 2009

Members Present: Frederick Goodrich, Chair, Michael T. Quinlivan, Vice Chair
John F. Malone, Clerk
Charles Blanchard, Town Administrator

Attendees: See attendee list

- Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:05pm and announced that they would go into Executive Session at the end of the Regular Meeting under MGL Chapter 39, Section 23B No3. to discuss Union Contract Negotiations.

Meeting Minutes

- **Motion (MQ) seconded (FG) to accept the Regular Meeting Minutes of January 20, 2009. Unanimous. All in Favor.**

Working From Home – New Personnel Policy

- BOS agreed to send to PAB for review and inclusion in the Personnel Manual.

Compensation for Michael Putnam, DPW Superintendent

- (FG) stated that he was concerned with the large amount of additional hours (118 hours) worked by the DPW Superintendent during the December 2008 Ice Storm and would like to compensate him like they did the previous Superintendent after the 2002 Storm.
- **(JM) felt that other employees had put in additional time during this period and that the compensation should be across the board.**
- Although (FG) felt that Michael Putnam's hour were exceptional.
- **Motion (FG) seconded (MQ) to give Michael Putnam an additional 40 hours vacation. Unanimous all in favor.**

Regional Meeting

- (FG) reminded the BOS that they had a Regional BOS Meeting on February 5 at AMC.

Town Administrators Update- Charles Blanchard

Ice Storm

- In order to borrow for payment of the costs of the December Ice Storm it is necessary to have the approval of the State Emergency Board, as reimbursement is not certain, borrowing may be necessary.
- **Motion (JM) seconded (MQ) to authorize the chairman to request a hearing with the State Emergency Board to approve borrowing for the December Ice Storm emergency response and restoration work. Unanimous. All in Favor.**
- (CB) this will need to go to Town Meeting for approval and special legislation may be allowed to borrow for more than two years.

Public Safety Complex

- USDA – Norman St. Jean has stated that there is a possibility that the USDA might be able to finance the remainder of the Public Safety Complex cost.
- (FG) asked (CB) to look into the cost of this borrowing.

FEMA

- Kick off meeting with FEMA was held on Friday , January 30, 2008 to go over the procedures for filing for reimbursement of the costs of damages from the December Ice Storm.
- A representative from the Army Corps also toured the area with Mike Putnam to determine the quantity of debris.

Other Business

- (FG) provided the BOS with floor plans for the tour of the Safety Complex work site on Saturday, February 7, 2008.
- Email from Moderator requesting that the Town Meeting agenda is kept "light" this year.
- (JM) suggested that the meeting be held on a Saturday. (FG) asked that (CB) contact Town Counsel and the Moderator to ensure no Town bylaws are broken by moving to a Saturday morning.
- (FG) It was suggested at Saturday's meeting that the Town consider some curtailing of Town services to save money. The DPW Superintendent had suggested less sanding.
- (FG) asked the BOS if they wanted to curtail services.
- (JM) stated that he believed that they needed to publicize what they are doing.
- (MQ) expressed concerned for residents safety, but need to let people know that it is going to be worse next year.
- (FG) stated that he would like to meet with (CB) this week and discuss cuts. Looking at a potential FY10 deficit of \$650,000.

Public Session

- Richard Hafey asked when the WRSD had to submit their budget to the Town.
- BOS responded by March 31, 2009.

Motion (JM) seconded (FG) to go into Executive Session under MGL Chapter 39 Section 23B No 3. at 8:00pm for the purpose of discussing Union Contracts. Meeting will only resume to the Regular Meeting for the purpose of adjourning. Unanimous all in Favor.

Motion (JM) seconded (FG) to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 8:30pm. Unanimous all in Favor.

Respectfully submitted

Carol L. Riches, Administrative Assistant