

# **Town of Paxton Board of Selectmen**

## **Meeting/Public Hearing Minutes**

**Tuesday, January 11, 2011**

Members Present: Fred Goodrich, Chair  
Peter Bogren, Jr., Clerk  
  
Carol L. Riches, Town Administrator

Attendees: see Attendee List

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

### **Appointment of Patrol Officer Matthew Morin**

- (FG) motioned (PB) seconded the appointment of Matthew Morin to the position of patrolman for the Paxton Police Department. Unanimous all in favor.
- Chief Desrosiers spoke and welcomed Officer Morin to the department.

### **Opened Public Hearing effective 7:05pm**

- Public hearing was requested by the dog office Peter Warren.
- Peter Warren spoke of a dog complaint at 1 Wildewood Drive. The Dworman's dogs have attacked another dog on two separate occasions, and he feels that they should be restrained.
- Mr. John McCarthy of 3 Wildewood Drive spoke of his experiences with his neighbor and the two dogs of concern. Mr. McCarthy has attempted to speak to his neighbor about the dogs being loose, and is concerned for his children's safety, but the Dworman's have not reciprocated with any attempt to keep the dogs restrained when outside. Mr. McCarthy stated further that there are about 12 to 15 dogs on Wildewood Drive, and no one else allows their dogs to be out unless they are restrained.
- Mrs. Joyce Remmes spoke of her incident on November 11, 2010 involving the two dogs from 1 Wildewood Drive. Mrs. Remmes was walking her Labrador on a leash when they walked by the Dworman's residence the two Sheppard's that live there came at her and her dog, and started attacking her dog. After a couple of minutes the owner came over to pull the dogs off and apologies for the incident. One dog did have a leash on him that he was dragging around. Mrs. Remmes is just looking to have the dogs properly restrained so that something like this doesn't happen to anyone else.
- Mr. Dell of 3 Shanandoah Drive also had a similar incident on August 20, 2010, where he

was walking his dog on a leash in front of the Dworman's residence when the Sheppard's again came over and started attacking Mr. Dell's dog. Mr. Dell took his dog to the vet where it was noticed that he had puncture wounds from the Sheppard, was given antibiotics, and is current ok.

- Dog Officer Peter Warren gave further details of the dog's history in town. The first Sheppard has been with the Dwormans for some time. The second Sheppard was taken in by the Dworman's when a relative passed away. The problems seem to start occurring when the second dog joined the residency.
- Neither dog was licensed or vaccinated. Peter Warren quarantined the dogs for 10 days, and then went back to the Dworman's and they still did not have any paperwork for the dogs. Peter Warren fined them at this time, and then the owner went to the Town Hall but only licensed one dog. Peter Warren then fined the Dworman's a second time for not having the second dog licensed. At this point the second dog has been licensed, however the fines totaling \$150.00 to date still have not been paid.
- (FG) motioned (PB) seconded that the Dworman's will be notified that the dogs will be permanently restrained to the property and muzzled anytime that they are outside. Should the dogs be found off the property without proper restraint or muzzles that the Dog Officer is to remove them from town effective immediately. Unanimous all in favor.
- (FG) motioned (PB) seconded the fines of \$150.00 are to be paid to the town no later than February 15, 2011.
- A certified letter will be sent to the Dwormans informing them of the decision that has come from this hearing. The Board of Selectman and Dog Officer will be copied on this letter.

**Closed Public Hearing at 7:40pm Unanimous all in favor.**

**Closed Meeting at 7:40pm Unanimous all in favor**

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Graf-Parsons, Administrative Assistant