

Town of Paxton Board of Selectmen

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, August 15, 2011

Members Present: William A. Trotta, Chairman
Peter Bogren, Jr., Vice Chairman
John F. Malone, Clerk

Carol L. Riches, Town Administrator

Attendees: See Attendee List

The Chairman called the Select Board Meeting to order at 7:00pm

(JM) took a moment to say a few words in remembrance of Thomas Cunningham who recently passed away, and then observed a moment of silence.

Recognition of the Public Safety Complex Committee

- (WT) Thanked the Public Safety Complex Committee for all their hard work and dedication to seeing this project through to a successful outcome. Individual Certificates of Appreciation were handed out to the following members: Richard Bedard, Veda Ulcickas, Robert Desrosiers, Richard Sansoucy, Paul Crowley, Jay Conte, Harold Smith, and Frederick Goodrich.
- (WT) We should have the exterior and interior of the building taped and make it available so that town residents can view it.
- Dick Bedard spoke on behalf of the committee and stated that the committee began on June 25, 2007 and we had 57 meetings and various onsite visits. The committee did a tremendous job, and I feel that a certificate should be sent to Charles Blanchard as well, because he was instrumental in keeping this project going.

Appointment to the Board of Assessors

- **Motion (WT) seconded (JM) to appoint Doris Huard to the open position on the Board of Assessors, and no pay will be taken for this position. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Anna Maria College Campus Police Agreement

- (WT) A lot of effort and thought has gone into this project for the town, and I would like to congratulate everyone that has participated.
- (JM) The time that was put into this was extraordinary.
- (PB) I'm excited. This is good for the town and the college.
- **Motion (WT) seconded (JM) to sign the grant agreement by and between the Town of Paxton and Anna Maria College. Unanimous, all in favor.**

New Appointments to the Police Department

- **Motion (WT) seconded (JM) to appoint the following candidates to their respective positions. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Shawn Davis – full time Public Safety Sergeant
Miles Macedo – full time Public Safety Officer
Tom O'Neill – full time Public Safety Officer
David Warren – full time Public Safety Officer
Paul Ciance, Jr. – part time Public Safety Officer
John Jovan, Jr. – part time Public Safety Officer
Kevin Mailman – part time Public Safety Officer
Gino Molinari – part time Public Safety Officer
Casey Onuigbo – part time Public Safety Officer
Rachel Pawlina – part time Public Safety Officer

Donation of land on Nanigian Road

- (WT) is concerned that if the town takes over this parcel of land that this will set a precedent and more individuals will try to come forward and do the same.
- (JM) Let's check with Rick Trifero to see if it is a buildable lot. If so perhaps we could donate it to a habitat for humanity project, and receive credit toward low income housing.
- (WT) We should hold off on this for now and have Carol investigate it.
- (PB) Will it be easy to determine if it is buildable? If it is then I would be in favor of taking it.
- (WT) The property owner should be responsible for having the land surveyed to determine if it is buildable and then present this report to the Board of Selectmen.
- **Motion (WT) seconded (JM) to have the Town Administrator send a letter to the owner and have them provide a report to the town as to whether or not the parcel is buildable. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Social media Policy for the Paxton Police Department

- **Motion (WT) seconded (PB) to accept the Social Medial Policy for the Paxton Police Department. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Gifts and Grants procedures

- Hold discussion until the next meeting.

Removal of trash fee for 160 West Street

- **Motion (WT) seconded (PB) to remove the trash fee for the property located at 160 West Street. Unanimous, all in favor.**

December 2008 Ice Storm

- **Motion (WT) seconded (PB) to have the Town Administrator draw up a letter to Lieutenant Governor Murray to coincide with a recent letter sent from the Town of Princeton in regards to recovering some unreimbursed cost from the 2008 Ice Storm. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Meeting Minutes

- **Motion (WT) seconded (PB) to accept the July 25 and August 4, 2011 Regular Meeting Minutes. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Raffle Fee

- **Motion (WT) seconded (JM) to waive the raffle fee to Paxton Land Trust for the 250th Anniversary Celebration. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Joan Bedard

- A letter was presented to the Board from Joan Bedard notifying them of her resignation from the 250th Anniversary Committee. **Motion (WT) seconded (JM) to accept the resignation of Joan Bedard from the 250th Celebration Committee. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Fire Hydrants

- (WT) Last winter the hydrants were buried with snow. I would like the Town Administrator to speak with the DPW Superintendent and have him locate and plot out all the hydrants in town on a map. Carol remarked that the DPW Department does know the location of the hydrants and they are on a map.
- (JM) The hydrants are not on a GIS system but we do know where every hydrant is.

Spencer Rescue

- **Motion (WT) seconded (PB) to sign agreement with Spencer Rescue. Unanimous, all in favor.** (WT) Would like to see a section added next year on page eight as to who will settle the agreement if a stalemate should occur.

Francis and Virginia Fanning

- The Fanning property is located at 184 Grove Street, which is where the end of Maple Street meets Grove. There is a stop sign, but due to its positioning sometimes vehicles do not see the stop sign and continued straight through the intersection and end up in the front yard of the Fanning residents. Mr. and Mrs. Fanning were hoping that the town would put some type of barrier or illuminated sign up that would better prepare motorists for the stop.
- (WT) Chief Desrosiers and the DPW Superintendent will work with the Fanning's to come up with a resolution to this problem and the Board will support their decision.

Matthew Noponen

- **Motion (WT) seconded (JM) to reappoint Matthew Noponen to the Recreation Commission. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Town Administrators update

1. The brickwork at the John Bauer Senior Center was repaired last Thursday and should alleviate some of the water getting into the basement. The work was completed by Stidsen Masonry Inc.

The minor exterior repairs to the building will be completed over the next month in preparation of the painting. The painting is scheduled for September 30th.

(PB) Who was the painting contract awarded to? Carol responded O'Byrne Painting.

2. I attended the Local Historic District meeting on August 10th. Although landscaping is outside of committee's jurisdiction, some of the members asked if we could refrain from putting a permanent evergreen tree on the Common and request donations of a cut tree each year. I informed the committee that I would bring it up for the Board's discussion.
 - **(JM)** This has been an ongoing issue for years.
 - Frederick Goodrich stated that donations of a tree for the center of town dried up fast, and that in the past there have been fir trees located on the common.
 - **(JM)** Did Hank give any other suggestions as to what could be planted there.
 - Carol remarked that no hi did not, he simply stated that there is not enough water available.
 - **(WT)** I would like to go forward with having a tree planted there, and have DPW form a schedule to have the tree watered and fertilized. Bottom line the residents are complaining about the current tree.
 - **(JM)** and **(PB)** would both like to see the tree come from a local business.
 - **(WT)** It doesn't matter to me where it comes from as long as it is installed properly. We need to hold up our end and provide proper maintenance.
3. The resurfacing of Keep Ave is now complete. The DPW did a great job on this and Mike Putnam, DPW Superintendent is very pleased with the outcome.
4. Bill Fraher has started the preliminary work for the fiscal year 2011 audit. Over the next few months his office will be working with the Treasurer, Accountant and Assessor to complete this in a timely manner.

Leicester Police Department

- A letter was sent to the Paxton Police Department from the Town of Leicester thanking them for their assistance in a recent mutual aid call.
- **Motion (JM) seconded (WT) to place a copy of the letter in the personnel file of each individual that was involved. Unanimous all in favor.**

Catch Basins

- Frederick Goodrich raised the question as to when the catch basins will be cleaned, and are we sure as to where all the catch basins are located.
- **(WT)** asked for Carol to check and make sure that we know where all the catch basins are located and that we have a certified catch basin driver. A schedule should be in place for this process.

AMC

- **(JM)** There is some confusion with the town residents on exactly what we are getting and giving to Anna Maria College with the town's police force now being there. Some type of a public session should be held.
- **(WT)** AMC may want to have a reception with a question and answer forum. Carol to set this up with an RSVP to come back to the Administrative Assistant.

Electric Sign

- **(JM)** Many people were unaware of the free concert held in town by Country Bank. First we need to send a Thank you letter to Country Bank for this event, and we also need to utilize the electric sign more for events such as this.
- **(PB)** The sign should be used as often as possible.
- **(JM)** The sign in the center of town is good, but the electric sign needs to be used and left at the Public Safety Building.

Open Meeting Night

- **(PB)** With the previous board it was part of Carol's goals to have an open meeting once a month with a Select Board Member.
- **(WT)** When we have a large event going on that could be done.
- **Motion (PB) seconded (JM) that once a month there is an open meeting with a Select Board member and the Town Administrator. Unanimous all in favor.**

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

Next meeting scheduled for Monday, August 29, 2011 at 7:00pm

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Graf-Parsons, Administrative Assistant

Documents filed with minutes:

None

Other documents filed in BOS office:

Town Administrator's Update

AMC Campus Police Agreement

Police Officer Appointment

Police Department Social Media Policy

Agreement with Spencer Rescue

Thank you letter from Leicester Police