



Town of Paxton  
Board of Selectmen  
697 Pleasant Street, Paxton, MA 01612  
(508) 754-7638 – phone (508) 797-0966 – fax  
dparsons@townofpaxton.net

## **Regular Meeting Minutes (Revised)**

**Monday, April 9, 2012**

**Meeting Location: John Bauer Senior Center 17 West Street, Paxton, MA 01612**

Members Present: William A. Trotta, Chairman  
Peter Bogren, Jr., Vice Chairman  
John F. Malone, Clerk  
  
Carol L. Riches, Town Administrator

Attendees: Attendee List

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

### **Appoint Gerald Ryan to the Cable Committee**

- **Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to appoint Gerald Ryan to the Cable Committee. Unanimous, all in favor.**

### **Joe Kelly 41 Camp Street**

- (JM) I think we should refer to the Police Chief for his recommendation on this matter.
- **Motion (JM) seconded (WT) to have the Police Chief investigate this matter. Unanimous, all in favor.**

### **Meeting Minutes from March 26, 2012**

- Hold for next meeting.

### **Annual Town Meeting**

#### **Article 1.**

Budget

**Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to accept the article as written. All in favor.**

**Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to accept this as article #1. All in favor.**

**Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to recommend approval. All in favor.**

#### **Article 2.**

Money from available funds

**Motion (WT) seconded (JM) to accept the article as written. All in favor.**

**Motion (WT) seconded (JM) to accept this as article #2. All in favor.**

**Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to recommend approval. All in favor.**

**Article 3.**

Bay Path renovation.

**Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to accept the article as written. All in favor.**

**Motion (JM) seconded (WT) to accept this as article #3. All in favor.**

**Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to recommend approval. All in favor.**

**Article 4.**

DPW one ton truck.

**Motion (PB) seconded (WT) to accept the article as written. All in favor.**

**Motion (PB) seconded (JM) to accept this as article #4. All in favor.**

**Motion (PB) seconded (JM) to recommend approval. All in favor.**

**Article 5.**

250<sup>th</sup> Committee.

**Motion (WT) seconded (PB) to accept the article as written. All in favor.**

**Motion (WT) seconded (JM) to accept this as article #5. All in favor.**

**Motion (PB) seconded (JM) to recommend approval. All in favor.**

**Article 6.**

Title V Fund.

**Motion (PB) seconded (JM) to accept the article as written. All in favor.**

**Motion (PB) seconded (JM) to accept this as article #6. All in favor.**

**Motion (PB) seconded (JM) to recommend approval. All in favor.**

**Article 7.**

Chapter 90.

**Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to accept the article as written. All in favor.**

**Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to accept this as article #7. All in favor.**

**Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to recommend approval. All in favor.**

**Article 8.**

Revolving Accounts.

**Motion (WT) seconded (JM) to accept the article as written. All in favor.**

**Motion (WT) seconded (JM) to accept this as article #8. All in favor.**

**Motion (WT) seconded (JM) to recommend approval. All in favor.**

**Article 9.**

Solar By-law.

**Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to accept the article as written. All in favor.**

**Motion (JM) seconded (WT) to accept this as article #9. All in favor.**

**Motion (JM) seconded (WT) to recommend approval. All in favor.**

**Article 10.**

Storm Water By-law.

**Motion (JM) seconded (WT) to accept the article as written. All in favor.**

**Motion (JM) seconded (WT) to accept this as article #10. All in favor.**

**Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to recommend approval. All in favor.**

### **Proposed change to dog license fee date**

- The Board of Selectmen discussed the option of changing the date in which a late fee is incurred for licensing your dog from July 1<sup>st</sup> to April 1<sup>st</sup>.
- (PB) I do not see a need to change this. If you are going to make the fee 100% of the original charge then we should stay with the July 1<sup>st</sup> date.
- (JM) What if we lower the fee to \$5.00?
- (WT) I understand the importance of getting the licenses in and having the rabies checked, so I agree with the \$5.00 fee and change the date to April 1<sup>st</sup>.
- (JM) The article should then be amended with a fee of \$5.00 on April 1<sup>st</sup>. This should be sent back to the Town Clerk for her to reconsider our revision.
- **Motion (JM) seconded (PB) not to accept the proposed change for the dog license fee, because it needs to go back to the Town Clerk for reconsideration. Unanimous, all in favor.**

### **Chief Conte - Ambulance discussion**

- Chief Conte spoke in reference to the letter that he wrote on March 15<sup>th</sup> in regards to the need for a new ambulance. The old ambulance is a 1999 model that is in need of repairs that he estimates will be about \$40,000. Considering the age of the vehicle it may not be logical to put that much money into it. It may be a money pit just to inspect and keep in service, and with level funding there is no money to do these types of repairs. The new ambulance still has air conditioning issues. They think they may have resolved them, but we will not know for sure until we have some warm weather. This vehicle also comes out of warranty this year. If we lose both ambulances together we still have to pay the \$14,166.67 contract that we have with Spencer.
- Frederick Goodrich reiterated that as stated in the report that the Capital Improvement Committee presented at the last meeting the committee feels that repairs could be made to the ambulance rather than purchasing a new one. We looked to see if there is a criterion on the age of a vehicle, and there is none. Inspector said that AMR has established criteria of 7 years or 250,000 as a time to replace an ambulance.
- (JM) Asked Forrest for his opinion on the repairs.
- Forrest Smith replied that I think it could be done and should be done, and would cost less than \$40,000.
- (WT) Asked Chief Conte if he has had an estimate done?
- Chief Conte stated no, and asked how do we pay for an estimate? I can't get it done for free.
- (JM) Will insurance cover an estimate?
- Chief Conte replied no.
- (WT) Get me estimates to support the \$40,000 you estimated.
- (JM) When could you possibly get an estimate done by?
- Chief Conte stated in about a week.
- (WT) Let your inspector take the ambulance around and get a couple of estimates.
- (JM) The town will find the money needed to cover your estimates, so that you can get that done.

- (WT) How much time does it take to fix the AC on the new ambulance when it goes out?
- Chief Conte replied a couple of days; it's the compressor that keeps going out.
- (WT) Why is the backup being run?
- Chief Conte replied because at 50,000 miles the warranty runs out and we are close to that, so we are running the back up to keep the miles under warranty for now.
- (WT) Get the quotes and we will go from there.
- (CR) Brought attention to the di-fib that the Chief brought with him.
- Chief Conte explained that the Fire Department has two di-fib machines and one comes out of service in July of 2012. If we do not have a life pak and we go to a call we don't have a way to get a team ready at the hospital as may be needed in the case of a stroke, heart attack or any type of respiratory incidents.
- (WT) When this comes out of service in July will you be able to use the phone to call through to the emergency room at the hospital?
- Chief Conte replied that no, you would not be able to with the old unit. A new one would cost about \$32,000. Spencer just did a 5 year lease with no interest on one.
- (JM) Can you get a lease plan on this for us?
- (WT) Get those two estimates and we will be off and running.

#### **Close Annual Town Warrant**

- **Motion (JM) seconded (WT) to close the Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Unanimous all in favor.**

#### **Town Administrators Update**

1. We have received correspondence from the Commonwealth of Mass, Veterans Services requesting that we appoint or reappoint our Veteran's Agent for the year. I have checked with Timothy Hackett and he is willing to be reappointed to this position.

Requested Action: Motion to reappoint Timothy Hackett as Veteran's Agent for the year to April 30, 2013.

- **Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to reappoint Timothy Hackett as Veteran's Agent for the year to April 30, 2013. Unanimous all in favor.**

2. Mike Putnam, DPW Superintendent is requesting the following items be declared as surplus equipment by the Board of Selectmen:

1. 1995 Ford Econoline Van
2. 1984 international dump with catch basin cleaner
3. 6 C. Y. steel sander (hydraulic)
4. Austin Western Grader (parts machine only)

None of these vehicles will pass inspection and will be sold "as is."

Requested Action: Motion to declare these items as surplus equipment and to go out for bid.

- **Motion (PB) seconded (JM) to declare these items as surplus equipment and to go out for bid. Unanimous all in favor.**

3. Attached is the final version of the Health Insurance Policy for Town employees. The contribution ratio has been discussed on several occasions in the past months and for that reason I have included an alternative policy that increases the contribution payable for new employees starting with the Town after June 30, 2012. This is not to say that the Board cannot vote at a later date to change the contribution amount for employees employed with the Town prior to this date.

**Next meeting scheduled for Monday, April 23, 2012 at 7:00pm**

**Adjourned Meeting at 8:05pm, Unanimous all in favor.**

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Graf-Parsons, Administrative Assistant

**Documents filed with Meeting Minutes:**

Agenda

Attendance list

**Documents from the Meeting filed in BOS office:**

Town Administrators Update

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William A. Trotta  
Chairman

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Peter Bogren, Jr.  
Vice Chairman

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John F. Malone  
Clerk