



Town of Paxton
Board of Selectmen
697 Pleasant Street, Paxton, MA 01612
(508) 754-7638 – phone (508) 797-0966 – fax
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Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, July 30, 2012

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

Members Present: Peter Bogren, Jr., Chairman
John F. Malone, Vice Chair
Frederick G. Goodrich, Clerk

Carol L. Riches, Town Administrator

Attendees: Attendee List

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

Appointment of Election Workers

- **Motion (PB) seconded (FG) to approve the appointment of the following Election Workers: Beverly Berthel, Donald Berthel, Janice Carlson, Cecilia Carroll, Kateri Clute, Patricia Cole, Kathryn Kingsbury, Gino Gangai, Annette McKiernan, Michelle Nelsen, Marguerite Ryan, Sandra Vaudo. Unanimous, all in favor.**

State Primary Warrant

- **Motion (PB) seconded (FG) to approve and sign the State Primary Warrant. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Highland Village Trash Collection

- (PB) referred to a letter that Mr. McDermott sent requesting that the town pick up the trash at Highland Village and they will pay the town directly. Currently the trash fee is part of the condo fee and they pay the waste collection company directly. If the town would be willing to pick up the trash it would give a cost savings to the residents at Highland Village, in addition to the fact that the trash disposal company comes out on a separate day just to collect at Highland Village. If this change were made the collection could be worked into the regular town schedule and alleviate an extra trip for the trash disposal company.
- (FG) Do we foresee any billing issues?

- Donna Parsons stated that the light department had been contacted and they already provide the residents of Highland Village with individual light bills so the trash fee could easily be added onto that.
- **Motion (PB) seconded (JM) to allow the trash collection at Highland Village be done by the town as long as the Board of Health gives their approval. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Budget Review for Special Town Meeting

- Rich Fenton discussed that this has been a difficult year. We have seen a decrease of 1.29% below FY12 for the town with an increase to the WRSD budget. We have broken down how each department has been decrease and have distributed the shortfalls.
- (PB) I agree with the school budget issues. Also I apologize for not getting our proposed budget to you in time for consideration. In the past the Board of Selectmen has put DPW in as part of Public Safety, Finance does not, so we need to be clearer in that area, because we put funds back into the library instead.
- Rich Fenton stated that all departments are important and no one should be slighted. Can we not get coverage for the police department from AMC?
- (PB) There are only 2 officers at AMC and they are to be used as back up and not the primary person.
- (FG) The first three years of the contract with AMC is a qualification time in order to get the AMC staff up to speed.
- (JM) The Finance Committee has done a great job with a difficult situation. Is the Finance Committees decision final?
- Rich Fenton stated that they have one more meeting to finalize everything.
- (JM) I have one final suggestion. Could we look at putting a user fee on the ambulance of \$9.00/month much like we do with the trash?
- (PB) Isn't that just like putting through an override?
- (JM) two thirds of the town's residents utilize the library. This would be a fee for just one year.
- (PB) We had two shots at an override and they failed. I don't think that we can do that.
- (FG) The ambulance is a contract that is already set for this year. You could look at this for next year if needed.
- Rich Fenton stated that the majority of the people turned down the override mainly due to the school budget, but if an override were for ambulance service that may pass.
- (FG) I just don't think that we can do that this year.
- (PB) This is just circumventing the override vote.
- Rich Fenton suggested that perhaps the \$5,600 billed back to the town should be added onto the bills. What about a meals tax.
- (FG) That was looked at a couple of years ago and the town didn't have enough food establishments to make it worthwhile.
- **Motion (JM) to adjust the budget to have a \$9.00/month fee for the ambulance added onto the residents for a one year time period. Hearing no second the motion was not passed.**
- **Motion (JM) to not pay the additional RASA for the school. (FG) seconded for discussion only.**
- (FG) Paxton has been more severely hit this year than in other years. You need to correct the school agreement.
- (JM) We could perhaps get mediation, and bring all five towns together. I

withdraw my previous motion.

- **(FG)** A program from the Tree Warden was put together. Why was that not cut?
- Rich Fenton responded that his budget is mainly all for tree removal, and we left it all together.
- **(JM)** requested that the next three items on the agenda be passed over until the next meeting. These items included the trash removal fee for 28 Laurel St, approve meeting minutes for July 24, and discuss getting assistance from AMC for the town's network.

Town Administrators Update

1. There were four omissions from the lists of volunteers and assistance with the Snack Shack and Bandstand, that I would like to thank:

Paxton Recreation, Little League Organization, Rich McGhee and Rick Trifero Building Inspector

Next meeting scheduled for Monday August 6, 2012, at 7:00pm.

Adjourned Meeting at 7:58pm, 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

Peter Bogren, Jr.
Chairman

John F. Malone
Vice Chairman

Frederick G. Goodrich
Clerk