



Town of Paxton  
Board of Selectmen  
697 Pleasant Street, Paxton, MA 01612  
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dparsons@townofpaxton.net

## Regular Meeting Minutes

**Tuesday, August 14, 2012**

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

Members Present: Peter Bogren, Jr., Chairman  
John F. Malone, Vice Chairman  
Frederick G. Goodrich, Clerk  
  
Carol L. Riches, Town Administrator

Attendees: Attendee List

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

### **Richards Memorial Library**

- **(PB)** I would like to address an email that was received by Anita Fenton expressing the concern that the Library Trustees have about the Special Town Meeting being scheduled the night prior to school starting. We understand the concern however we were very limited in the dates available to us due to posting requirements, upcoming elections, availability of the school, time to prepare tax rate, and the upcoming Labor Day Holiday. This did not leave us with many options, and our managers need to know what their budgets are.
- Deb Bailey inquired as to whether there would be babysitting provided for the meeting.
- **(PB)** We would need to find volunteers, and I have some concerns with CORI checks, getting space at the school, and overall responsibility if anything happens.
- **(JM)** I don't think the meeting will be very lengthy.
- **(PB)** You have letters from the library?
- Deb Bailey stated that the Board has not supported an across the board cut for all departments. We have not been told that the library will be ok at this point. People have been writing letters of support and signing petitions to support the library as well. I would like to hear that you support the library the way that the Finance Committee has.
- **(PB)** I have read letters supporting the library and will read what you have presented here tonight. I did propose to give Public Safety a lesser cut, but I did not single out the library. I feel that the number one roll of local government is for the safety of our residents. Not having police coverage is a problem. These

types of issues come first and I do appreciate what the Finance Committee has done along with my fellow board members.

- **(FG)** I have spoken to Deb and offered assistance with AMC students, and was told no. Offered support with computer systems from AMC and was told no. I asked if you could live with the present cuts and keep your certification and was told yes. Our intent is not to make any further cuts or close the library.
- Charles Innis stated that the cuts posted in the warrant will hurt, but we will have to live with it. We hope that you can support us in the way that the Finance Committee has.
- **(PB)** It was never put out there that the library would be cut more. Making our recommendation at the Town Meeting is a normal practice for the Board.

#### **Appoint Richard Fairbanks to Dispatch Officer**

- **Motion (JM) seconded (FG) to appoint Richard Fairbanks as a Dispatch Officer for the Paxton Police Department. Unanimous, all in favor.**

#### **Anna Maria College student program**

- Dee Malone expressed an interest in having a student from AMC to assist in her office on Tuesdays and Thursday at a specific time to work on a policies and procedures manual for her office.
- Sue Stone spoke that a similar setup could be utilized in her office. A manual could be set up as well, and this fall will be busy with the elections, which would give the student a good opportunity to see how it runs.
- **(FG)** I have talked to both of these individuals, and if this program is successful it could grow into a PILOT program for all of Worcester County. This program will start in the beginning of October.

#### **Trash Fee 28 Laurel Street**

- **Motion (FG) seconded (JM) to approve the removal of the trash fee from the property located at 28 Laurel Street. Unanimous, all in favor.**

#### **Meeting Minutes**

- **Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from July 24, 2012. Unanimous, all in favor.**
- **Motion (JM) seconded (FG) to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from July 30, 2012 Unanimous, all in favor.**
- **Motion (PB) seconded (FG) to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from August 6, 2012. Unanimous, all in favor.**

#### **Appoint Gino Gangia to COA Committee**

- **Motion (FG) seconded (PB) to appoint Gino Gangia to the Council on Aging Committee. Unanimous, all in favor.**

### **Town Administrators Update**

- The Fire Department through Michael Pingitore has successfully received a \$5,000 MHA Loss Control Grant to purchase an Emergency Response Trailer. Michael took the initiative to apply for this grant as soon as it became available. **Motion (JM) seconded (FG) to approve the purchase of the Emergency Response Trailer with the grant that was received. Unanimous, all in favor.**
- CMRPC has provided information of a public forum for the Central Thirteen on Tuesday, September 11, 2012 starting with an open house at 5:45pm to 6:45pm and a public meeting at 7:00pm. Everyone is invited to attend this forum to see what CMRPC has gathered from the thirteen towns as to the preservation of open space, economic prosperity, transportation and infrastructure needs.
- I was asked by Selectman Malone to gather information from the other towns as to how they handle the potential abandonment of cell towers. From the responses I received (as attached) it would appear that towns request a bond prior to the erection of these structures. I did not receive any response indicating that towns assess a penalty following the abandonment of such structures.
- (FG) We could amend the current by-law with an upfront bond.
- (JM) We can do a bond approach going forward, and give the Planning Board a number, and working back we could go through the public safety and health side.
- **Motion (JM) seconded (FG) to have the Planning Board amend the cell tower by-law to read as such: "Prior to the issuance of a Building Permit for a ground mounted facility, the applicant is required to post with the Town Treasurer, a bond in the amount of \$250,000. This will cover the demolition of the facility in the event the Building Inspector condemns the facility or deems it vacant for more than a year. The Building Inspector shall give the applicant 45 days' notice in advance of any demolition action. In the event that the posted amount does not cover the cost of the demolition, the Building Inspector may place a lien on the property covering the difference in cost." Unanimous, all in favor.**
- (JM) Would like to have this as an article for the next Annual Town Meeting.

### **COA request for Horseshoe Pitch**

- A letter from Jerry Ryan requested that the COA be allowed to install a horseshoe pitch next to the White Building. **Motion (JM) seconded (FG) to approve with discussion. Unanimous, all in favor.**
- (FG) I have concerns about this taking over part of the driveway. I would like to see a plan of how this is to be laid out, and make sure that there will not be any interference with the school as well.
- (PB) I agree. Let's table this until we can get a plan to look at.

### **Correspondence**

- Thank you letter from the Town of Charlton was received in regards to the Mutual Aid that Paxton's Fire Department provided them during a recent Mill fire.

Other Business

- (FG) Personally thanked Chief Desrosiers for the action that he took immediately upon his return from vacation to assist with a standoff situation that occurred in town. We appreciate all that he has done.

**Next meeting scheduled for Monday, August 27, 2012, at 6:30pm prior to Special Town Meeting.**

**Adjourned Meeting at 8:07pm, 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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Peter Bogren, Jr.  
Chairman

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John F. Malone  
Vice Chairman

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Frederick G. Goodrich  
Clerk