



Town of Paxton
Board of Selectmen
697 Pleasant Street, Paxton, MA 01612
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Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 18, 2013

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

Members Present: John F. Malone, Chairman
Peter Bogren, Jr, Vice Chairman
Julia N. Pingitore, Clerk

Carol L. Riches, Town Administrator

Attendees: Attendee List

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

Holden Road

- John Morgan from CHA Consulting was present to discuss the Holden Road project. The project will go from the intersection of Grove St and Holden Rd to the Holden town line. This is about a 0.8 mile stretch of road.
 - This is a lengthy process.
 - The data collection is complete.
 - We are starting the conceptual design.
 - The pavement in this area is in fair to poor condition.
 - There is edge failure on this road.
 - We will reconstruct the pavement with a new solid base.
 - We have recorded that about 6000 cars a day travel this road.
 - The posted speed is 35MPH.
 - The accident history over the past 5 years shows 5 accidents at the Holden and Grove St intersection and an additional 5 accidents along the roadway itself.
 - The project will include pavement reclamation.
 - We will then put new layers of pavement on top of the mixed reclamation sub-base.
 - We will be making drainage improvements.
 - There are existing culverts under the road that are in need of repair.
 - The catch basins will be worked on.
 - There will be potential water treatment improvements.

- The road will meet the MASS DOT design standards which require an eleven foot travel lane on both sides and a four foot shoulder, so both sides will need some widening.
- We will look at any safety improvements that we can make.
- There will be new signage and striping.
- A short section of sidewalk is being proposed from the Holden Rd. and Grove St intersection up to the Senior Residential Development.
- We should have the 25% design done this winter and then forward it to the DOT. It can then take them up to 6 months to review it.
- There will be additional public hearings as this project progresses.
- **(JP)** Questioned Mike Putnam if he had any concerns over the addition of more pavement, and if that would cause any issues in reaching the water lines.
- Mike Putnam replied that it would not be an issue.
- **(JP)** Will there be any work done to the water lines before this project gets started?
- Mike Putnam stated that there would not be at this point.
- **(JP)** Will work on the catch basins affect the storm water project at all?
- Mike Putnam stated that this will not affect the storm water project at all.
- **(PB)** Will this affect the water testing?
- Mike Putnam replied that if anything it will make it easier.
- **(JM)** As you are coming from Holden into Paxton there is a corner just before the DPW. Will that be straightened out at all?
- John Morgan replied that they will be following the existing line of the road, but we will make sure the curve meets the DOT standards.
- **(JM)** Will there be any additional signage put up at Holden Rd and Grove St intersection?
- John Morgan replied that we may improve the sight distance but no additional signage will be done.
- **(JM)** Will this impact the Reservoir at all?
- John Morgan expressed that it will actually improve the discharge into that area.
- John Morgan also stated that there will be additional hearings as the project progresses.
- **(PB)** How does our project stack up priority wise?
- John Morgan replied that it is not a high accident area so it is not a priority, but it is a definite need so it should score very well.
- **(JP)** How long will the project take?
- John Morgan stated about 18 months at the most.
- Ronald Johnson resident of Holden Rd expressed his concern over the car carriers that travel this road.
- **(JM)** Will there be a weight limit?
- John Morgan stated that there would not, however widening the road will give the tractor trailers a bit more of a buffer.
- Melinda Johnson resident of Holden Rd asked if the four foot shoulder would be similar to what they did on Grove Street.
- Mike Putnam stated that Grove Street is wider than what Holden Rd will be. We need to keep in mind that moving this project along is vital. We get bumped up if we are in a position to start the project.

Release of Executive Meeting Minutes

- **Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to release the following Executive Meeting Minutes. Unanimous, all in favor.**
 - February 22, 2011
 - February 11, 2011
 - January 10, 2011
 - April 8, 2009
 - March 2, 2009
 - February 2, 2009
 - June 18, 2007
 - June 13, 2007

Mutual Aid Policy for the Police Department

- **Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to approve the Mutual Aid agreement between the Paxton Police Department and the City of Worcester. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Meeting Minutes

- **Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from November 4, 2013. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Town Administrators Update

FY14 Budgets

A review of the budget as of November 8, 2013 show that on a whole most budgets are where they should be at 34% expended. I will provide a six month report at the end of December 2013.

Senior Residential Development

Representatives from EA Fish attended the Planning Board meeting on November 12th to hear concerns relating to the Holden Road egress. EA Fish agreed that this would be used for emergency vehicles only.

(PB) I would like to mention that Dana has been great during this whole process to work with.

Snow Removal

I have received two proposals for the removal of snow from the walkway of the COA, Library and Town Hall for the four months December 1, 2013 through March 31, 2014:

Company	Per Hour	Per Month
Putnam Lawn Services	\$45.00	\$500.00
Hansson Lawn Maintenance	\$875.00	\$860.00

For budgeting purposes if the Board agrees I would like to propose that we pay per month regardless of the amount of snow that we receive and award this to Putnam Lawn

Services. If it is a successful this season we should consider extending next season. The purpose being to allow the DPW employees to concentrate on our town roads.

- **Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to contract for three months with Putnam Lawn Services with the option to extend if needed. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Moody's

Last week Donna Couture, Town Accountant and I had a phone conference with an analyst from Moody's Investors Service for the company to consider our bond rating. Following which we were informed that we will be able to keep our current bond rating of AA3. I want to thank Donna for her assistance with this.

(CR) Also stated that she was told that the management behind the town's finances is very strong.

Police Dog Training

Last week I was invited to watch our police dog training at Elm Park. Officer Coggans and Keita are in their eighth week of training and they have bonded extremely well. Having met Keita when we first received her I saw a tremendous change in her demeanor; she is totally focused and is an extremely smart animal.

(CR) They will do demonstrations in town with her when she is ready.

Other Business

(JM) The classification hearing will be held at our next meeting on December 2nd.

Next meeting scheduled for Monday, December 2, 2013, at 7:30pm.

Adjourned Meeting at 7:50pm, 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

Julia N. Pingitore
Clerk