



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

Monday, August 11, 2014

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

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

Carol L. Riches, Town Administrator

Attendees: Attendee List

The Vice Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:08pm.

(JP) We will enter into Executive Session and will only be returning to the regular meeting for the purpose of adjourning.

Public Hearing with Comcast

- Tim Murnane with Comcast was present to speak about Comcast taking over for Charter. Comcast is best in class for technology. We have a very robust network. We provide a two hour window for service calls. Constantly invest in our network and our employees. Local commitment to community.
- **(JP)** Will there be a change in pricing?
- Mr. Murnane stated there will be no change as a result of this transaction.
- **(JP)** Will there be a change in equipment?
- Mr. Murnane stated there will be no change there either.
- **(PB)** Will customers lose anything for services?
- Mr. Murnane replied no they will not. Nothing will go away.
- Jerry Ryan from the Cable Committee questioned if Channel 12 and 13 will stay.
- Mr. Murnane replied that everything that is in place now will remain.
- **(PB)** The town just entered into a 10 year contract with Charter.
- Mr. Murnane stated that the contract will still be honored.
- Nick Powlovich from the Cable Committee inquired as to what will happen with the charter email address?
- Mr. Murnane replied that if that happens there will be a long transition to allow customers to make the change.
- Nick questioned if there would be any changes in personnel.
- Mr. Murnane stated that there would be no changes of personnel initially.

CMREC

- (CR) Part of the CIC grant. CMRPC is working with us on this and suggested that we have some form of an agreement in place. The grant will pay for the bucket truck, which will be housed in Rutland which is the lead town on this project.
- (JP) Who will operate the bucket truck?
- (CR) We will ask someone to come in.
- (PB) I see that the account will be audited by two communities. I would like to see these two communities rotate each year so that you don't have the same people looking at it every time.
- **Motion (PB) seconded (JM) to accept the agreement with CMREC with the change to the audit rotation between communities each year. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Appeal filing for 313 Richards Avenue

- (JP) Does anyone have any additional comments to make? With none being heard then we will make no further recommendations to this matter.

Resignation of William Clute

- **Motion (PB) seconded (JM) to accept with regret the resignation of William Clute from the Wachusett Regional School Committee. Unanimous, all in favor.**
- (CR) We will post the opening for anyone that is interested, and they will be appointed until the next election.

Paxton Center School Lease

- (PB) The lease with the school can be extended automatically for the next twenty years but I have a problem with some of the terms. In Section 7.3 it mentions \$75,000 that we pay towards major repairs to the school. Is this part of our assessment? In Section 5.3 they pay us \$28,000 for maintenance. Is this still enough? We need to look at this carefully.
- (JM) Where is the money and is it being used? We should set up a separate meeting with the school to discuss these issues.
- (JP) We will set up a meeting for this.

Meeting Minutes

- **Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to approve the Meeting Minutes from the Regular Meeting of July 21, 2014. The Executive Session Meeting of July 21, 2014. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Town Administrators Update

- **Animal Control Officer**
The ACO Acts of 2012 state "the Board of Selectmen shall annually issue a warrant to the ACO directing the officer to seek out, catch and confine all dogs within the town which are not licensed collared or harnessed or tagged as required by this chapter and to enter and prosecute a complaint for failure to comply with this chapter against the owners." I interpret this as being a directive to the ACO to

give him the authority to collect any stray dogs. At the same time the Board needs to reappoint the ACO as this was missed at the annual appointments.

Motion: To reappoint Peter Warren as ACO and as such seek out, catch and confine all dogs within the town which are not licensed collared or harnessed or tagged.

Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to reappoint Peter Warren as ACO and as such seek out, catch and confine all dogs within the town which are not licensed collared or harnessed or tagged. Unanimous, all in favor.

Other Items

- **250th Committee**

Please arrange to appoint the following to the 250th Anniversary Committee:

Jerry Ryan
Kay Kingsbury
Marisol Dittami
Blair Swistak
Patricia Wheeler
David Wheeler
Adam Doud

Motion to appoint these new members

Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to appoint the above listed members to the 250th Committee. Unanimous, all in favor.

- **Conservation Commission**

James Robert reminded me that his letter of resignation only pertained to that of a full member; he wishes to remain on the Conservation Commission as an associate member.

Motion to appoint James Robert as an associate member on the Conservation Commission.

- **Motion (PB) seconded (JM) to appoint James Robert as an Associate member of the Conservation Commission. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Other Items

Remote Participation

Attached is a memo that I presented to the Board in November 2011 at the time the AGO accepted Remote Participation for committee meetings. I am providing again for the Board to review and give consideration as to whether the Town now wishes to accept Remote Participation for all Town Boards and Committees.

(PB) Section E would be the only option that would be of use.

(CR) Yes, this is what is happening lately. It is hard getting members to attend.

(JM) We need to put more restrictions on it and have someone oversee it. We should have Carol come back at our next meeting with some suggestions.

Paxton Shuttle

Following on from my last year-end report of the Paxton Shuttle – we had 55 riders use the shuttle in the month of July (29% capacity) I don't expect this usage every month.

Recreation

It is Paxton Karaoke Night this Thursday, August 11th at 6:30pm at the bandstand. Concessions will be available.

Correspondence

- **(JP)** A letter came from Kathi McCollumn at Paxton Center School thanking the DPW for taking out the old flag pole in the parking lot.

Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to leave the regular meeting and entered into Executive Session at 8:03pm and we will only return to the regular meeting for the purpose of adjourning. Unanimous, all in favor.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 8, 2014 at 7:00pm.

Adjourned Meeting at 9:30 pm, 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