



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

Monday, November 3, 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 Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Classification Hearing

- Kathleen Stanley with the Assessor's office presented the Board with four questions that they are required to vote on in order for the Assessor's office to set this year's tax rate.
- **Motion (PB) seconded (JM) to approve the use of Factor 1 to calculate the tax rate. Unanimous, all in favor.**
- **Motion (PB) seconded (JM) that the Town will not provide a discount for Open Space. Unanimous, all in favor.**
- **Motion (PB) seconded (JM) that the Town will not provide a discount for Residential Exemptions. Unanimous, all in favor.**
- **Motion (PB) seconded (JM) that the Town will not provide a discount for Small Commercial Exemptions. Unanimous, all in favor.**
- With these four items voted on a tax rate of \$20.79 was set.
- The Board signed the tax rate recap.

Insurance Advisory Committee

- Eva Ryan and Deirdre Malone with the Insurance Advisory Committee presented the Board with the health insurance renewal for 2015.
- Eva Ryan stated that the committee would recommend renewing the same plan for the current employees with one small change and that would be to add a tiered prescription plan. This would leave the plan flat for next year. We have three plans for the retirees and they would have a small increase to them.
- Deirdre Malone expressed that the retirees want to stay with the plans that they have.
- **(PB)** Did we have many claims?
- **(CR)** They were low which has helped to keep our costs down and we have a good pool of employees.

- **Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to accept the Insurance Advisory's recommendations for the renewal of the 2015 Employee Health Insurance Plan. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Resignation of Margaret O'Donnell

- **Motion (PB) seconded (JM) to regretfully accept the resignation of Margaret O'Donnell from the Zoning Board of Appeals. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Meeting Minutes

- **Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to approve the Meeting Minutes from the Regular Meeting of October 20, 2014 and the Meeting Minutes prior to the Special Town Meeting on October 27, 2014. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Town Administrators Update

- **Town Departments & Committees:**

There are openings on the Historic District Committee; anyone interested in joining the committee should contact me to arrange appointment.

- **WRSD Budget**

We have been approached by Joseph Scanlon, WRSD Director of Business & Finance to arrange a meeting to start the FY16 Budget process. Specifically he wishes to know:

1. What type of information we would like the district to consider as they build their budget.
2. What types of analysis he should be providing (i.e. impact of the school budget increases on an average homeowner, etc. and when the information should be presented to the town?

(CR) We are looking at November 19th at 7pm to meet with Wachusett and Finance.

(PB) Have they requested quarterly payments yet?

(CR) Not that I am aware of.

(PB) That will be coming from what I hear.

- **Wachusett Watershed Recycling Center**

The Center is open Saturday, November 15, 8 a.m. to noon--Chemical and Paint collection with fee. Also collecting all bulk, recycle, reuse and electronics. Also a reminder that hours of operation are every Monday 5 to 7 p.m., Tuesday 9 to 11 a.m., Wednesday 2:30 to 4:30 p.m., third Saturday 8 to 11 a.m. The Center has also started the drive to "Share the Warmth" to collect coats and jackets, hats, scarves, mittens, gloves and snow pants for those in need; now until December 3rd. Center is closed for holidays on November 26, December 24 & 31.

- **Spencer Town Administrator**

The Foundation Review Commission will meet on November 20, 2014 at 6:30pm

(PB) I will be in attendance already as part of the Collaborative Budget group. I would recommend that the Board of Selectmen and the Finance Committee attend as well.

Other Items

- (JM) How are things progressing with the 250 Committee?
- (CR) I have attended one meeting and things are moving along well. They are still working on the location for the reenactment.
- (PB) Does AMC have an issue?
- (CR) They have a concern over insurance coverage. They are planning something for every month and they have put one person in charge of it. The reenactment is the largest event.
- **Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to temporarily adjourn the meeting at 7:38pm. Unanimous, all in favor.**
- **Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to resume the meeting at 7:44pm. Unanimous, all in favor.**

First right of refusal for Howe property on Pleasant Street

- David Fontain of 31 Chestnut Street in Worcester is looking to purchase the Howe property. The property is currently in Chapter land so the town is given the First Right of Refusal. Mr. Fontain would like to keep the property in chapter land to use it for equestrian breeding and training.
- Without the presence of the Howe's attorney the proper paper work was not available for the Board to act on so Mr. Fontain will return to the next Board meeting on November 17th.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 17, 2014 at 7:00pm.

Adjourned Meeting at 7:47 pm, Unanimous all in favor.

Documents from the Meeting filed in BOS office:

Meeting minutes

Agenda

Attendance list

Town Administrators Update

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Graf-Parsons
Administrative Assistant