



Town of Paxton
Board of Selectmen
697 Pleasant Street, Paxton, MA 01612
(508) 754-7638 – phone (508) 797-0966 – fax
dparsons@townofpaxton.net

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 17, 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.

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

Introduce new fire lieutenant

- Peter Conte introduced himself as the new Fire Lieutenant for the Paxton Fire Department. Peter has been with the department since 2007. He has acquired his EMT license and his Firefighter I and II certifications. Peter is currently attending Anna Maria College for his masters and works at Conte Insurance.
- Michael Benoit of the Paxton Fire Department was one of the Board members involved in the search for a new Lieutenant. Mr. Benoit explained the process. Applications were accepted about six weeks ago. An assigned Board of officers conducted interviews and scored each candidate, and Peter was successful at getting the position.
- **(PB)** I understand that you have a concern about getting new recruits. Could you tell us what you might do to help that?
- Peter Conte replied that we need to try and bring in younger and new recruits. Perhaps college students that dedicate some time to go through the training courses that are needed during their time off from school.

DCR request

- **(JP)** The DCR would like to put in a gate just beyond the pillars on Saw Mill Rd. They are concerned about vandalism and would like to close off the road during off hours.
- **(JM)** I have a concern on how we will get through if there is a fire.
- **(JP)** I agree, or if a hiker gets into trouble and we need to get to them.
- **(CR)** They are looking for a letter of support so these are things that can be put in the letter.

- **Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to send a letter of support to the DCR to install a gate but to make sure all safety measures and concerns are handles with the proper departments. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Gas bids

- (CR) We only received one bid from Bill's Garage in Rutland.
- (PB) Did anything ever come through with the town of Rutland?
- (CR) As I looked further into it we would have ended up paying more than we do now.
- **Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to accept the gas bid from Bill's Garage. Unanimous, all in favor.**

School budget

- (CR) PCS walk through. We were looking to see if there were any capital items that were over \$25,000 that the town would be responsible for but they do not have any. Same issues as last year. The floor and the boiler.
- (PB) I have a concern over the new contract.
- (CR) The Town Administrators from each town have discussed this. A copy of the contracts has been requested from the Superintendent.
- (PB) As the liaison to the school committee I would be happy to reach out to Darryll McCall if that is something the Board would want me to do.
- (JM) They still have the same issues as last year and they are trying to bundle projects together.
- (PB) Last year we told them that we were not interested in bundling projects together.
- (JM) They have quotes already for a lot of these projects.
- (JP) Let's see if the School Committee members can come to our next meeting.

Meeting Minutes

- **Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to approve the Meeting Minutes from the Regular Meeting of November 3, 2014 . Unanimous, all in favor.**

Holden Rd

- Michael Putnam was present to ask the Board to sign a request for Chapter 90 in order to move forward with the project on Holden Rd. This is for Phase III of the project which will cost \$98,500 and they will break this out over the next two years.
- **Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to approve the request for \$98,500 for Chapter 90 to proceed with Phase III of the Holden Rd project. Unanimous, all in favor.**
- Michael Putnam informed the Board that the bucket truck that was obtained with a regional grant has been delivered to the Rutland where it will be housed and a scheduled will be worked out and training will be done in house.

Town Administrators Update

FY15 Budget

At this time I do not see any problems with our budgets but I do anticipate a deficit in our legal fees account.

- **(CR)** We just received a bill today which will leave us with only about \$4,000 left in the legal budget.

Tax Rate

The 2015 tax rate has been certified by the Bureau of Accounts, the new rate is \$20.79 per \$1,000 value.

DPW

The bucket truck that was purchased through the CIC grant has arrived and Mike Putnam and two of his employees received a demonstration of the equipment.

Recreation Commission

The Tree Lighting will take place on the Common on December 5th followed by dinner and movie.

The skating rink is set up once again and will be filled in due course.

250th Celebration

The Army reenactment that is scheduled to take place June 5th-June 7th next year as part of the Town 250th celebration will take place at the Paxton Center Fields and Wentworth Pool area and not at AMC as originally planned. I along with Anita Fenton, Chief Conte, Chief Desrosiers, Captain Pingitore and Lt. Savasta conducted a walkthrough of the area accompanied by Marc Basso from New England Civil War Events. There is a great deal of planning involved with an event such as this and Chief Conte and Chief Desrosiers will be coordinating all the safety aspects. In addition Anita will be looking for volunteers to help throughout the weekend.

- **(CR)** Baseball has been made aware of the field use that is needed. We will still use AMC for parking and bus people down. We will have an ambulance on duty at all times. There will be a fire pit and arms checks done by our town departments as well as the organization.
- **(JP)** What repairs to the field post event if needed?
- **(CR)** They cut back the turf for the fire pit and then lay it back when they are done so there should not be any repairs needed. Also, we are looking for volunteers to help out that weekend. Contact either myself or Anita Fenton. We are still working on obtaining the \$20,000 grant from the state.

Cable Committee

The Cable Committee is in the process of upgrading the studio equipment. I want to thank Scott Wilson and Nick Powlovich for all the hours that they have dedicated to this project over the past week.

Other Items

- (JM) The Public Safety Building is accepting new unwrapped “Toys for Tots” until December 15th.

Motion (JP) seconded (PB) to leave the regular meeting and entered into Executive Session at 7:48pm 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, December 1, 2014 at 7:30pm.

Adjourned Meeting at 9:20 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