



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, April 27, 2015

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: see Attendee List

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

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

Open Space and Recreation Plan

- Robert Bertin spoke on behalf of the Open Space and Recreation Plan Committee to let the Board know that the plan was officially accepted as of March 31st of this year and that the plan will be in place until 2021. Some state funding could now be available that we have a current plan in place.
- (JP) Thanked the committee for all their efforts. It was very professional and the committee did a great job.
- **Motion (PB) seconded (JM) to accept the Open Space and Recreation Plan as presented. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Appoint Mark Anthony Rouse

- **Motion (PB) seconded (JM) to appoint MarkAnthony Rouse as a part time dispatcher. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Meeting Minutes

- **Motion (PB) seconded (JM) to approve the Meeting Minutes from the Regular Meeting of April 6, 2015 . Unanimous, all in favor.**

Budget update

- **(CR)** The warrant is in for the Annual Town Meeting and it is also on the town website. The school is meeting tonight to look at updating the budget and Paxton may see a reduction of \$59,891 from this. Looking at June 22nd if we need a reconvened Town Meeting.
- **(PB)** If the debt exclusion question passes at the ballot can it come back?
- **(CR)** Yes, but not until you have a town meeting vote. You need to have both to pass it.

Town Administrators evaluation

- **(JP)** A total score of 93.84% on her performance. I would like to thank Carol for another year well done.
- **(PB)** I would just like to mention that what people don't see is the time that Carol puts in that goes above and beyond.

Town Administrators update

DPW: Deficit Spending

The current deficit spending for the Snow & Ice Account stands at \$30,626, we still have a couple of outstanding invoices to pay so I am expecting this to be in the region of \$35,000. Considering the winter that we have just experience this is very good.

Snow Events

I will be attending a briefing for the January 26-28th Blizzard on May 4th after which I would anticipate submitting a claim for the first major storm of the season. I just want to mention if we had been able to claim for all the four big 2015 snow events, we would be looking at a claim of over \$223,000. \$123,000 of this claim would have related to wear and tear on the DPW vehicles.

FY 15 Budgets

We are going to be very tight on many of our FY15 expenditure accounts. In some cases due in part to the past winter. We will be taking advantage of the ability to transfer within accounts during May and June. This will however affect excess money available that would generally fall into free cash for the year.

Revenue

Revenue as of March 31, 2015 is looking okay with 93.65% Real Estate and Tax Title having been collected. Dee Malone, Tax Collector informs me that a further \$613,220 has come in for the month of April leaving \$230,000 outstanding at this time.

Annual Town Meeting

The warrant for the Special and Annual Town Meeting on May 4th can be found on the Town's website. Hard copies will be available at the Town Hall before the meetings.

Lighting on the Common

I attended the Historic District Committee's meeting last week with Greg DeStasi to present the proposed replacement lamps on the Common. The District did sign off on the request. I want to thank Greg and the Light Commissioners for their generous donation of these two lamps and labor for the installation.

Rt. 31 Corridor Profile Report

Richard Rydant, CMRPC will attend your meeting on June 1st to present the results of the Rt.31 Corridor Profile Report.

COA Basement

The carpet in the basement here at the John Bauer Senior Center has now been replaced along repairs to doors and a window. I would like to thank the Recreation Commission for funding this; without their support we would not have been able to make these improvements.

Holden Road Project

A Design Public Hearing is scheduled for May 7, 2015 at 7pm in the John Bauer Senior Center for the proposed Holden Road Reclamation Project. Information is available on the Town's website under the DPW page, including a page to submit comments to MassDot.

Paxton Community Blood Drive

There is an American Red Cross Community Blood Drive scheduled for May 13th at the Paxton Center School between the hours of 3 and 8pm. Appointments can be made by visiting redcrossblood.org or 1-800-RedCross

Facebook

I will be launching a Facebook page to provide an additional source of information for residents. It will not be replacing email; if anyone has questions they should continue to contact town departments either by phone, person or email. I will be using it merely as a bulletin board. The Emergency manager will also be using the same format for the emergency departments.

Other Business

- **(PB)** Is the electronic sign working? If it is could we use it to announce the Town Meeting?
- **(CR)** Update on the water tower. We received a letter from bond counsel that we are all set to proceed. Jack signed the letter to award the bid. The two bids came in a little higher than expected. The Special Town Meeting article is for the additional money from the retained earnings.
- **(JM)** The group did a phenomenal job on getting this done.

Request to utilize new voting machine

- Town Clerk, Susan Stone requested that this be passed over at this time. We need to wait until after the Town Election.

Motion (PB) seconded (JM) to leave the regular meeting and entered into Executive Session at 7:42pm 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, May 18, 2015 at 7:00pm.

Adjourned Meeting at 8:37 pm, Unanimous all in favor.

Documents from the Meeting filed in BOS office:

Meeting minutes

Agenda

Attendance list

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Graf-Parsons

Administrative Assistant