



Town of Paxton
Board of Selectmen
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Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 15, 2015

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

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

Carol L. Riches, Town Administrator

Attendees: see Attendee List

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

250th Celebration

- (PB) Congratulated the committee on a great weekend with the reenactment.
- Anita Fenton reviewed the remaining schedule of events for the 250th celebration. Visit the 250th website for all the details.
- Robert Wilby spoke about the 250th parade which is scheduled for September 26th and requested that the common be used as a reviewing stand during the parade, and also requested that the time capsule be buried on the Town common.
- **Motion (JP) seconded (PB) to approve the burying of the 250th time capsule on the Town Common. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Conservation Commission

- Holly Robert came before the Board to request that she be made a full member of the Conservation Commission. Mrs. Robert has been an Associate member for eight years now. She has completed a number of training courses and feels that she could be an asset to the Commission.
- (PB) Do you think that you could continue with the work that you are doing as an Associate member?
- Mrs. Robert replied that yes she could but she would feel better being a voting member.
- (PB) I am apprehensive at the moment to make you a full member due to the current litigation that is going on.
- Mrs. Robert expressed that the commission has a difficult time getting a quorum for their meeting, and that she would be the seventh member which would help with that issue.
- (PB) Yes, we would like to have a full board but I would like to see us get through the legal issue first.
- (JM) I agree with Peter. We should get over the current situation before we place you on the commission.
- (PB) No matter what the result of the litigation is we would be happy to see you on the commission at that time.

- **(JP)** I am in agree with Peter and Jack as well. It would be better to wait until all pending matters are taken care of first.
- **(PB)** We appreciate your time but stand where we are. We will revisit this after the current matter is resolved.
- Mia McDonald the Conservation Agent did reiterate that it is difficult at times to get a quorum and that the Commission would like to fill this position.
- Marisa Ayvazian is the Vice Chair of the Conservation Commission and she stated that Holly is a wealth of knowledge and has been obtaining a lot of training and I would support her as a candidate for the position.
- **(PB)** We hope to wrap this up and be able to add Mrs. Robert to the Commission

Town Clerk

- Susan Stone requested the purchase of a new voting machine from funds that have been encumbered. The parts for our current machine will no longer be supported.
- **Motion (JP) seconded (JM) to approve the purchase of a new voting machine. Unanimous, all in favor.**
- **(PB)** Go ahead and place the order for the new machine and once we have everything in place we can then vote to take the old one out of service prior to the deadline provided.

Reconvened Town Meeting

- **(CR)** Our June 22nd meeting was to act on the town and school budgets. The school is not meeting until June 23rd. I would propose that on June 22nd we reconvene until June 29th. Currently we have a deficit of \$351,000 and Finance still needs to take a look at this and see where it will come from.
- **(PB)** Ok so we will meet on June 22nd and reconvene to June 29th.
- **(JM)** I think we should meet with Finance at their meeting on June 24th.
- **(PB)** I will talk to Rich and see what he says.

WRSD lease

- The Legal Affairs Subcommittee has rejected the recommended change to section 7.2 of the lease.
- **(PB)** So now the town would be responsible for all repairs at the school.
- **(JP)** So they are deregionalizing repairs. Will the school filter that money back to the towns? Although regional maintenance helps save money as well.
- **(CR)** I believe that the issue with the school in Princeton has brought this about.
- **(PB)** We have a tentative lease agreement with the school. So could you send a letter to Joe that Paxton would like to sign the lease as tentatively agreed upon.
- **Motion (JM) seconded (JP) to allow Chairman, Bogren to sign a letter to Joe Scanlon to move forward with the school lease. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Resignation of Phyllis Callahan

- **Motion (JP) seconded (JM) to accept with regret the resignation of Phyllis Callahan from the board of Registrars effective June 30, 2015. Unanimous, all in favor.**

End of year transfers

- **Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to approve the following end of year transfers. Unanimous, all in favor.**

<u>Account transferred to</u>	<u>Account transferred from</u>	<u>Amount</u>
0100-1910-5206-0000	0100-1910-5208-0000	\$4,500.00
0100-1915-5812-0000	0100-1915-5813-0000	\$1,450.00

0100-1915-5816-0000	0100-1913-5200-0000	\$1,000.00
0100-1915-5816-0000	0100-1161-5103-0000	\$2,050.00
0100-1171-5200-0000	0100-1171-5700-0000	\$135.00
0100-1241-5103-0000	0100-1241-5200-0000	\$200.00
0100-1243-5103-0000	0100-1510-5400-0000	\$188.00
0100-1243-5103-0000	0100-1510-5200-0000	\$730.00

Meeting Minutes

- **Motion (JM) seconded (JP) to approve the Meeting Minutes from the Regular Meeting of June 1, 2015 . Unanimous, all in favor.**

Town Administrators Update

Purple Heart Community

The Town has been approached to join 65 communities across Massachusetts to become a Purple Heart Town. By doing so you are honoring all the veterans who have made the ultimate sacrifice and the veterans who have shed blood in wars from Paxton.

If the Board is willing to join other towns, I would ask that you make a motion to accept the attached proclamation and sign the original. In doing so proclaim that August 7th as Purple Heart Day. A copy of the proclamation will then need to be accepted by the Dept. of MA military Order of the Purple Heart.

- **Motion (PB) seconded (JM) to become a Purple Heart Community. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Alternate Tree Warden

Will the Board please appoint Gary Kelleher as an alternate Tree Warden for James Robert to act when conflict of interest arise. Although MGL indicates that the Tree Warden can appoint a deputy my conversation with the state agrees that it is a futile process when there is a potential conflict involved.

- **Motion (JP) seconded (JM) to appoint Gary Kelleher as an alternate Tree Warden. Unanimous, all in favor.**

MassWorks Grant

The Town is eligible to apply for a Massworks Grant this year and Mike Putnam, DPW Superintendent has identified two culverts that need relining on Route 56. I need a vote from the Board to allow me to submit a grant for this project.

As a side note we initially considered submitted a grant for the reconstruction of the West Street water main but the project needs to be shovel ready in order to be given any serious chance of receiving funding. This is not the case as we do not have the money at this time for engineering. Massworks grants are only available under the STRAP portion of the grant for funding up to \$1 million and will only pay for 10% of engineering costs.

- **Motion (JP) seconded (JM) to allow the Town Administrator to submit a grant to MassWorks for two culverts that need relining. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Maple Street Water Tank

Work began today at the site of the water tank. The project will take approximately 6 months depending on the weather. The old tank will remain in place until the new elevated tank is tested and online and then demolished.

(JM) Thank you to Carol, Mike and Travis for doing a great job in getting this project up and going.

EMS

The ambulance service is working out very well with the exception of per diem coverage. As with any department using part-time employees to complete coverage it can be a struggle keep employees and to make employees work weekends and overnights.

The Chief would like to remedy this by hiring a further full-time paramedic. This will not increase his budget as he will no longer need to pay overtime for call outs. The Chief has provided a memo for the board as back up for this request.

- **Motion (JM) seconded (JP) to approve the hiring of a full time paramedic as long as it has no negative impact on the budget. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Paxton Days

- **(CR)** I would like to extend a Thank you to everyone involved. Paxton Days Committee members, Recreation Commission, The Leo's, Kirk Huehls and Matt Remmes.
- **(PB)** Send a Thank you letter to those involved.

Public Session

- Mark Love spoke on a phone scam that is currently affecting Paxton residents. Phone calls are being made to people supposedly from the IRS urging you to call them back. I would like to assure residents that the IRS does not call you in this fashion. Perhaps something could be placed on the town website and done through the Senior Center to raise awareness.

Correspondence

- **(PB)** Read a letter from an attendee of the 250th reenactment weekend stating that they had an enjoyable experience.
- **(PB)** Read a letter from Marc Basso with the 250th celebration thanking the Police Department for a job well done.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 15, 2015 at 7:00pm.

Adjourned Meeting at 8:35 pm, Unanimous all in favor.

Documents from the Meeting filed in BOS office:

Meeting minutes

Agenda

Town Administrators Update

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Graf-Parsons
Administrative Assistant

Peter Bogren, Jr., Chairman, Paxton Board of Selectmen