



Town of Paxton  
Board of Selectmen  
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## **Regular Meeting Minutes**

**Monday, September 14, 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.

### **Matthew Lavoie funding for WRSD**

- Pass over. Mr. Lavoie was unable to attend.

### **Liaison assignments**

- **Motion (JM) seconded (JP) to accept the Liaison assignments as put forward for FY16. Unanimous, all in favor.**
- Assignment list is kept in the Selectmen's office

### **Zoning Board of Appeals**

- (PB) I have no problem with the Board reorganizing their positions but I do have an issue with non-voting members becoming voting members without being appointed first.
- (JM) I agree. The reorganization is fine, but a non-members needs to be appointed if they want to become a voting member.
- (JP) I agree as well. This needs to work the same as the other Boards.
- (CR) Just to clarify the bylaw does state that when there is an absence a non-voting member can move into an opening until the position is filled. There has also been a recent vacancy on the board.
- **Motion (JM) seconded (JP) to deny the request to move around the voting and non-voting members without an appointment. Unanimous, all in favor.**

### **Charter merger**

- **Motion (JM) seconded (JP) to agree to sign letter of support for the merger of Charter Communications, Time Warner Cable and Bright House Networks. Unanimous, all in favor.**

### Meeting Minutes

- **Motion (JP) seconded (PB) to approve the Meeting Minutes from the Regular Meeting of August 24, 2015 . Unanimous, all in favor.**

### Resignation of Warren Bock

- **Motion (JP) seconded (JM) to accept with regret the resignation of Warren Bock from the Planning Board. Unanimous, all in favor.**
- (PB) Please send a letter thanking Mr. Bock for the time that he served on the Planning Board.

### 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration

- Anita Fenton spoke about the last few events that are coming up for the 250<sup>th</sup> celebration. The parade will be held on September 26<sup>th</sup> at 12pm. We are in good shape at this point. Bob has done a great job in putting this event together. We are trying to get the word out as much as possible.
- Bob Wilby explained the parade route and how the parade is set up. There are 6 different divisions which will be judged as they pass by the viewing stand on the common. Richard Fenton will do the opening ceremony as the parade enters the end of Maple St. We would like to place a van from Charter at the common for them to video tape the event.
- **Motion (JM) seconded (JP) to approve the request to have a van from Charter set up on the common to video tape the event. Unanimous, all in favor.**
- Anita discussed the final event which will be the burial of the time capsule. On October 18<sup>th</sup> there will be a viewing of the items that will be placed in the capsule, and then some time in November the capsule will be buried on the common. We would also like to plant an anniversary tree somewhere on town property so we would like to give some thought to that process.
- Anita also announced that the Paxton Historical Commission calendar is now available.
- The Paxton Cultural Council has received \$4,500 this year for grants and we also have some funds left over from last year, so anyone that wants to present the Council with a grant request please do so by October 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Final comment from Robert Wilby wanted to thank the DPW for the work that they have done at the end of Alderwood Dr.

### Town Administrators Update

- Legislative meeting  
MMA has three legislative meetings coming up on October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. The meeting on October 2<sup>nd</sup> is being held in Holden at 8am.

### Jeffrey Kent

- Mr. Kent came before the Board to express his concern over the process that has taken place by the Light Department Commission in the selection of a new Manager for the department. Some of these concerns were that the position was not publicized well either in the newspaper or on the web. The job posting lacked the details of what the job entailed. According to the meeting minutes there were 20 applications and 8 were interviewed, and no notice went out to the non-

selected applicants. I question if the Light Department is doing all the appropriate processes for hiring someone for this position. Why did they not put together an external group as a selection committee? I respectfully request that the Board of Selectmen put a hold on the hiring process if you have the authority to do so. If not then hopefully the Light Commission will see fit to do so.

- **(PB)** The Light Commission is an independent board. I have spoken with Mr. Crowley and our Town Clerk and they have spent time with the Attorney General's office to ensure that they have gone through the proper process. They do not have to set up a selection committee. They choose to use the Light Commission as the search committee and have done this process all in an open sessions. The Select Board does not have the authority to stop the process and call for a new search.
- **(JM)** No comment. This is not our area to interfere. We have no authority in this area.
- **(JP)** I agree.
- Mr. Kent expressed that I appreciate your time and thank you for allowing me to air my concerns and I will address these same items with the Light Commission at their Wednesday night meeting.

**The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 21, 2015 at 7:00pm.**

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

**Documents from the Meeting filed in BOS office:**

Meeting minutes

Agenda

Town Administrators Update

Attendance list

Liaison assignments

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Graf-Parsons  
Administrative Assistant