



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

**Monday, April 25, 2016**

**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.

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

### **Signing of Election Warrant**

- Each member of the Board of Selectmen signed the Election Warrant which was presented to them by the Town Clerk, Susan Stone.

### **Code Red**

- Michael Pingitore spoke about the Town wide usage of the Code Red system. It is utilized by the Fire, Police, DPW, Light Department and Emergency Management to get out notifications to the residents. There will be a table at the Annual Town Meeting where people will be able to sign up for Code Red if they are not already. There were no objections from the Board in regards to doing this.

### **Discuss the Wetlands Bylaw being presented at Town Meeting**

- **(PB)** I do have a concern that there could be some financial burden on the Town in the compliance area of this new bylaw.
- Mia McDonald, Conservation Agent for the Town of Paxton, expressed that Conservation will always try to communicate with the party involved to try and resolve the situation in order to avoid any financial constraints. Our bylaw follows the states very closely with a few changes to the isolated wetlands and the 15 and 30 foot buffer zone. There are 200 towns in the state that have adopted new wetland bylaws.
- **(PB)** My main concern does remain over what the legal cost could be.

- Mia McDonald stated that the Ma Association of Conservation Commission will work very closely with the Town's health agent and building inspector to try and resolve things at a local level.
- **(JM)** I do share the same concerns that Peter has in regards to the potential legal fees that the Town could incur.
- **(JP)** How will this be presented at Town Meeting?
- Mia McDonald displayed an informational sheet that she has that she will review.
- Town resident Mark Love asked to speak on the topic. Mr. Love wanted to express his objection to this bylaw. I'm concerned that this bylaw will give far reaching authority to the local Conservation Commission. I'm also concerned that there is no grandfathering in this bylaw either. I've heard from an attorney that stated this is not in line with the state bylaw.
- **(PB)** Our Town Counsel has stated to us that it is very much in line with the state bylaw.
- Mia McDonald stated that they downloaded the sample from the MACC website and made very few changes to it.
- **(PB)** Suggested that Mrs. McDonald and Mr. Love speak outside of the meeting to discuss any further items.
- **(CR)** I would like to say that we appreciate everything that Mia has done since she came on board.
- Mia McDonald in closing stated that we did hold a public hearing in reference to this bylaw and no one attended. We would also like to express that the Conservation Commission is in need of additional members if anyone is interested.

#### **Appointment of Jennifer DeFronzo**

- **Motion (JM) seconded (JP) to appoint Jennifer DeFronzo to the Richards Memorial Library Board of Trustees. Unanimous, all in favor.**

#### **Resignation of Miryam Rabinovich**

- **Motion (JM) seconded (JP) to regret accept the resignation of Miraym Rabinovich from the Finance Committee and Capital Improvement Committee effective April 18, 2016. Unanimous, all in favor.**

#### **Appointment of Mark Love**

- **Motion (JM) seconded (JP) to appoint Mark Love to the Capital Improvement Committee as an at large member from the Town. Unanimous, all in favor.**

#### **Appointment of Mary Beth Brown**

- **Motion (JM) seconded (JP) to appoint May Beth Brown to the Cultural Council. Unanimous, all in favor.**

#### **Congregational Church request to use the Town common**

- **Motion (JM) seconded (JP) to approve the request of the Congregational Church to use the Town Common on May 21, 2016 and to place signs along the roadside advertising their event. All proper paperwork has been filed. Unanimous, all in favor.**

### **Introduction of new COA Director**

- **(CR)** Cindy Love has accepted the position of COA Director and will still maintain her current position as Outreach Coordinator as well. Office hours will be adjusted to 9am to 2pm.

### **Planning Board proposed zoning bylaw change**

- Attorney David Bennett represents Dunkin Donuts, who would like to place a drive thru window at their business, and has approached the Planning Board for a change to the Town's bylaw to allow for such. Even if this bylaw change was approved they would still need to apply for a Special Permit in order to be able to put in a drive thru. The Planning Board has presented the Board of Selectmen with this request and upon return to the Planning board they have sixty days to hold a public hearing and then go to Town Meeting.
- **(PB)** I see no reason not to allow the process to move forward and see what the people of the Town want.
- **Motion (JM) seconded (JP) to allow the proposed bylaw zoning bylaw change to go back to the Planning Board so that they may move forward in this process.**  
**Unanimous, all in favor.**

### **Town Administrators evaluation forms**

- **(PB)** I will compile all the evaluation forms and then review them with Carol prior to our next meeting. At the next meeting I would also like to get an outline from the other Board members on their goals for the Town Administrators.

### **Meeting Minutes**

- **Motion (JM) seconded (JPM) to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of April 11, 2016. Unanimous, all in favor.**

### **Town Administrator Update**

- **FY16 Budgets**

No major concerns at this time that haven't already been addressed or will be taken care of in the last two months of the year through transfers.

- **DPW**

The DPW Superintendent took delivery of the new Mack Truck which was voted at the May 2015 Annual Town Meeting.

- **Police**

I was proud to witness on Friday the presentation of an award to Mark Savasta for his part in supporting the Military. He was nominated for the award by Patrolman Duffy.

- **COA**

Following the very recent retirement of Jerry Ryan the Council on Aging Board has selected Cindy Love to replace him. Attached is a letter from Barbara Braley, Council on Aging Chair.

- **Street Sweeping**

DPW has started street sweeping. A Street sweeping schedule can be located on the Town's website.

- **Water Department**

The Water Department will start flushing hydrants so if you notice a change in pressure it is due in part to that.

- **Annual Town Meeting**

The warrant for the Annual Town Meeting is now available at the Town Hall, COA and Library. It can also be found online on the Town's website.

**Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to leave the regular meeting and entered into Executive Session at 8:20pm 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 2, 2016 at 6:15pm.**

**Adjourned Meeting at 9:28pm, Unanimous all in favor.**

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

Meeting minutes

Agenda

Attendance list

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Graf-Parsons

Administrative Assistant