



Town of Paxton
Board of Selectmen
697 Pleasant Street, Paxton, MA 01612
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Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 26, 2018

Meeting Location: Paxton Town Hall 697 Pleasant St, Paxton, MA 01612

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

 Carol L. Riches, Town Administrator

Attendees: see Attendee List

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

Deirdre Malone to discuss Municipal Lien Certificates

- Deirdre Malone was present to recommend that the fee for requesting a Municipal Lien Certificate be increased from \$25.00 to \$50.00 starting on July 1st. This would be a way of bringing in more revenue for the Town. We have not increase this fee in a very long time and most communities at this point charge at least \$50.00 to provide a municipal lien certificate.
- **Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to approve the increase from \$25 to \$50 for a Municipal Lien Certificate. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Conservation Commission

- Mia McDonald and a few of the Conservation Commission members were present to discuss some changes to the Wetlands Bylaw that the Attorney Generals office and our Town Council recommended. The letter detailing the changes is filed in the Board of Selectmen's office.

FY19 Budget discussion

- Rich Fenton gave an overview of where the Town currently stands with the FY19 budget. I feel the Town budgets are justified. Revenues are still uncertain. We are currently looking at \$393,000 for a deficit. WRSD assessment went up \$321,000 which leaves a \$70,000 difference. We are proposing a \$300,000 override for the school and \$100,000 for the municipal budget.
- **(JP)** I feel that the other four Towns will approve the school budget so if the override fails we have to take on the additional \$300,000. Would it be prudent to split it perhaps \$200,000 to \$200,000 which may pass and present a lesser cut to the Town.

- **(JM)** First I would like to thank Rich for all the work that he has done on preparing the budget. I feel that we will not get an override to pass. I think that we should use the Stabilization account to help with the budget. We could look at letting the library run on its own this year.
- Rich Fenton commented that the override will give the public the opportunity to decide what they wish to do.
- **(PB)** Using Stabilization goes against what I feel should be done. I agree with Mr. Fenton that it needs to go out to the public. I can't support using the Stabilization account at this time.
- **(JP)** Depleting the Stabilization account could hurt our bond rating as well.
- **(PB)** We have needed the Stabilization Account in the past and the auditors tell us that we don't have as much in there as we should.
- Mr. Fenton stated that we will get a better handle on revenues later on down the line.
- **(CR)** Using Stabilization should be our last resort. The budgets are already tight so we have less free cash each year as well.
- **(JP)** Asked Mr. Fenton if need be do you have any thoughts about where cuts would be made.
- Mr. Fenton replied that we would look at taking a percentage of a budget from those that can afford a cut without paralyzing a department.

Review warrant articles for the FY19 Annual Town Meeting

- **Article 1.**
Water Department
Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to accept the article as written. All in favor.
Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to accept this as article #1. All in favor.
- **Article 2.**
OPEB Account
Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to accept the article as written. All in favor.
Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to accept this as article #2. All in favor.
- **Article 3.**
Stabilization
Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to accept the article as written. All in favor.
Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to accept this as article #3. All in favor.
- **Article 4.**
Capital Depreciation
Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to accept the article as written. All in favor.
Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to accept this as article #4. All in favor.
- **Article 5.**
Chapter 90
Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to accept the article as written. All in favor.
Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to accept this as article #5. All in favor.
- **Article 6.**
Revolving Accounts

Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to accept the article as written. All in favor.

Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to accept this as article #6. All in favor.

- **Article 7.**

Appropriate funds for Road improvement

Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to accept the article as written. All in favor.

Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to accept this as article #7. All in favor.

- **Article 8.**

Use funds from the Road Improvement

Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to accept the article as written. All in favor.

Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to accept this as article #8. All in favor.

- **Article 9.**

Wachusett Greenways

Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to not accept the article as written and remove from the warrant. All in favor.

- **Article 10.**

Conservation Bylaw

Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to accept the article with the following change. "Town Hall business hours" to "Town Clerks business hours". All in favor.

Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to accept this as article #9. All in favor.

- **Article 11.**

Holden Rd

Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to accept the article as written. All in favor.

Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to accept this as article #10. All in favor.

- **Article 12.**

Holden Rd

Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to accept the article as written. All in favor.

Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to accept this as article #11. All in favor.

- **Article 13.**

Backhoe

Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to accept the article as written. All in favor.

Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to accept this as article #12. All in favor.

Jeffrey Kent of the Capital Committee stated that the annual cost for this item would be \$25,000 and would increase the average tax bill by \$14.92

- **Article 14.**

Ladder #1 Refurbish

Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to accept the article as written. (JM) voted against the article.

Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to accept this as article #13. (KM) voted against the motion.

Jeffrey Kent stated that this would be an annual cost of \$25,000 and would increase the average tax bill by \$14.92. This will extend the service life of the truck for another 20 to

30 years versus replacing it at a cost of 1.1 to 1.5 million dollars.

- **Article 15.**

COA van replacement

Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to accept the article as written. All in favor.

Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to accept this as article #14. All in favor.

Jeffrey Kent stated that this will replace the 2011 van that currently has transmission problems. We will get \$5,000 on a trade in and \$4,000 is coming from the COA revolving fund.

- **Article 16.**

WRSD Athletic Field Turf Replacement

Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to accept the article as written. (JM) voted against the article.

Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to accept this as article #15. (JM) voted against the motion.

- **Article 17.**

Pickup Truck for Water Dept.

Motion (PB) seconded (JM) to accept the article as written. All in favor.

Motion (PB) seconded (JM) to accept this as article #16. All in favor.

- **New Article**

ECC parking lot

Motion (PB) seconded (JM) to accept the article as presented. All in favor.

“To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$4,850.00 or any other sum from the unexpended balance from the appropriation for the Paxton Center School Green Improvement Project, approved at the May 2, 2011 Annual Town Meetings under Article 3, to repair the parking lot at the Early Childhood Center and District Office; or act in any way thereon.”

Motion (PB) seconded (JM) to accept this as article #17. All in favor.

- **New Article**

Meal Tax

Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to accept the article as presented. All in favor.

“ To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Chapter 64L, Section 2(a) of the Massachusetts General Laws, and impose a local meals excise; or act in any way thereon.”

Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to accept this as article #18. All in favor.

- **Article 18.**

Town Budget

Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to accept the article as written with a contingency on an override of \$100,000. (JM) voted against the article. All in favor.

Motion (JP) seconded (JM) to accept this as article #19. (JM) voted against the motion.

- **Article 19.**

WRSD budget

Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to accept the article as written with a contingency on an override of \$300,000. (JM) voted against the article.

Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to accept this as article #20. (JM) voted against the motion.

- **Article 20.**

Bay Path budget

Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to accept the article as written. All in favor.

Motion (JP) seconded (JM) to accept this as article #21. All in favor.

- **Article 21**

Out of District student

Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to accept the article as written. (JM) voted against the article.

Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to accept this as article #22. (JM) voted against the motion.

- **Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to approve the closing of the warrant for the Annual Town Meeting to be held on Monday, May 7, 2018. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Ballot Questions

- The following items will need to be placed as questions on the ballot for the Annual Town Election.
 - Backhoe –debt excluded
 - Ladder Truck – debt excluded
 - WRSD turf field -capital exclusion
 - COA van – capital exclusion
 - \$100,00 override for Municipal
 - \$300,00 override for the school
- **Motion (PB) seconded (JP) to approve the placement of the above listed items as questions for the ballot for the Annual Town Election on Monday, May 14, 2018. Unanimous, all in favor.**

April license renewals

- **Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to approve the April licenses as follows. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Weekday Soft Drinks

Paxton Marketplace Inc.

Paxton Sports Center Inc.

Theo's

JLC Donuts Inc. d/b/a Dunkin Donuts

Fruit and Vegetable

Howe's Nursery Stand

Jam/Syrup/Bread/Candy/Seeds/Honey

Howe's Nursery Stand

Nursery Stock & Florist

Howe's Nursery Stand
Pleasant View Nursery
Robinson's Greenhouses

Appoint Stefano Marziale as a Part Time Public Safety Officer for Anna Maria College.

- **Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to appoint Stefano Marziale as a Part Time Public Safety Officer. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Town Administrators review

- (JP) a copy of the review is on file in the Board of Selectmen's office.
- **Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to move forward with renewing the contract for the Town Administrator. Unanimous, all in favor**

Meeting Minutes

- **Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from February 26 , 2018. Unanimous, all in favor.**
- **Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from March 19 , 2018. Unanimous, all in favor.**
- **Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to approve the Executive Session Meeting Minutes from March 19, 2018. Unanimous, all in favor.**

Town Administrators Update

- **Snow & Ice Account**
I will update the Board on this account at the meeting when I have figures following the submission of the payroll.
- **Surplus equipment**
I received the following message from the Police Chief. Can I have the Board's permission to dispose of this vehicle?
 - **Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to approve the disposal of the 2009 Explorer. Unanimous, all in favor.**
- **Richards Memorial Library will be closed until April 3, 2018.**

Adjourned Meeting at 8:50pm, Unanimous all in favor.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 9, 2018 at 7:00pm.

Documents from the Meeting filed in BOS office:

Meeting minutes

Agenda

Attendance list

Town Administrators Regular Meeting Update

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Graf-Parsons
Executive Assistant