

Town of Paxton Board of Selectmen

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 2, 2007

Members Present: Michael Quinlivan, Chair
John F. Malone, Vice Chair
Fred Goodrich, Clerk

Charles Blanchard, Town Administrator

Attendees: See attendee list

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

Minutes

- **Motion** (FG) seconded (JM) to accept the Regular Meeting Minutes of March 26, 2007, with one amendment. Unanimous.

Special Town Meeting Warrant

- Article 1. **Motion** (FG) seconded (JM) to accept article and recommend approval. Unanimous. This will require a 9/10 vote to pass.
- Article 2. **Motion** (FG) seconded (JM) to accept article and recommend approval. Unanimous.
- Article 3. **Motion** (FG) seconded (JM) to accept article and recommend approval. Unanimous.
- Article 4. **Motion** (FG) seconded (JM) to accept article and recommend approval. Unanimous.
- Article 5. **Motion** (FG) seconded (JM) to accept article and recommend approval. Unanimous.
- Article 6. **Motion** (FG) seconded (JM) to accept article and recommend approval. Unanimous.
- Article 7. **Motion** (FG) seconded (JM) to accept article and recommend approval. Unanimous.
- Article 8. **Motion** (JM) seconded (FG) to accept article and make recommendation at Town Meeting. Unanimous
- **Motion** (MQ) seconded (JM) to close the Special Town Meeting Warrant. Unanimous.

Annual Town Meeting Warrant

- Article 1. Budget: **Motion** (JM) seconded (FG) to accept article and make recommendation at Town Meeting. Unanimous.
- Article 2. Free Cash/Overlay Surplus: **Motion** (FG) seconded (JM) to accept article and make recommendation at Town Meeting. Unanimous.
- Article 3. Ambulance: **Motion** (FG) seconded (JM) to accept article and approve by borrowing. Unanimous.
- Article 4. DPW Replacement Windows/Doors: **Motion** (FG) seconded (JM) to accept article and approve by borrowing. Unanimous.
- Article 5. Police Cruiser: **Motion** (FG) seconded (JM) to accept article and approve by borrowing. Unanimous.
- Article 6. Catch Basin Cleaner: **Motion** (FG) seconded (JM) to accept article and approve by borrowing. Unanimous.
- Article 7. Public Safety Complex: **Motion** (JM) seconded (FG) to accept article and approve wording as written for the Debt Exclusion Ballot Question to be placed on the May 14, 2007 Annual Town Election. Unanimous.
- Article 8. Town Hall Roof Mansard: **Motion** (FG) seconded (JM) to accept article and approve with funding from the Capital Depreciation Account. Unanimous.
- Article 9. Garage: **Motion** (JM) seconded (FG) to accept article, remove some wording and make recommendation at Town Meeting. Unanimous.
- Article 10. Lawnmower: **Motion** (JM) seconded (FG) to accept the article and make recommendations at Town Meeting. Unanimous.
- Article 11. Master Plan: **Motion** (FG) seconded (JM) to accept article and approve. Unanimous.
- Article 12. Highway Funds: **Motion** (FG) seconded (JM) to accept article and approve. Unanimous.
- Article 13. Revolving Accounts: **Motion** (FG) seconded (JM) to accept article and approve. Unanimous. (CB) to clarify whether two Recreation accounts are correct and balances at this time.
- Article 14. Citizens Petition for Mosquito Control: **Motion** (JM) seconded (FG) to accept and make recommendation at Town Meeting. Unanimous.

- Article 15: Extension of Mooreland Cemetery. Cemetery Commission present: Melinda Johnson felt that the Town should be given the opportunity to vote on the extension that was previously planned. Lois Melican spoke against the article, to the extent that the plan was not accurate and did not show any engineer markings.
- Michael Putnam, DPW Superintendent, said that he did not need that information to run waterlines in the cemetery. He had a cost of approximately \$45,000 to complete the extension, excluding water lines. To do an overlay of current cemetery that would amount to a further \$9,000.
- (FG) stated that the plan was not mature, and that the commission needed to come back with a specific plan and dollar amount.
- After much discussion **Motion** ((FG) seconded (MQ) not to place Article 15. on the warrant. (JM) opposed.
- Article 16. Acquisition of land adjacent to cemetery. Lois Melican requested that the article be removed from the warrant. The cost to acquire the land was significantly more than originally thought.
- **Motion** (FG) seconded (JM) to not place Article 16 on warrant. Unanimous.
- Article 17. To reduce the Tax Levy: **Motion** (JM) seconded (FG) to accept article and approve. Unanimous.
- Article 18. Citizen Petition to create a Town Hall Building Renovation Committee: Motion (FG) seconded (JM) to accept article and disapprove at this time. Unanimous.
- Article 19. Local Historic District Bylaw Amendment: **Motion** (FG) seconded (JM) to accept article and approve. Unanimous. (CB) to confirm with Town Counsel wording of this article.
- Article 20. Local Historic District Bylaw Amendment: **Motion** (FG) seconded (JM) to accept article and approve. Unanimous.
- Article 21. Provisions of Chapter 213 Acts of 1989, Abandoned Cars: **Motion** (FG) seconded (JM) to accept article and approve. Unanimous.
- Article 22. Landowners Petition to amend Paxton Zoning Bylaw, to include a parcel for SRD.
- **Motion** (FG) seconded (JM) to accept and approve article. Unanimous.
- Article 23. Open Space Residential Design Bylaw: **Motion** (FG) seconded (JM) to accept article and approve. Unanimous.
- Article 24. Agricultural and Farm Preservation Bylaw and Commission. **Motion** (FG) seconded (JM) to accept article and approve. Unanimous.

- Article 25. Chapter 79 of the Acts of 2006 Provisions, Missed Meetings: **Motion** (JM) seconded (FG) to accept article and approve. Unanimous.
- Article 26. MGL Chapter 32B Sec 18 Retirees to join Medicare: **Motion** (JM) seconded (FG) to accept article and approve. Unanimous.
- Articles to remain in the same order with the exception of the Tax Levy article, which will go to the end of the warrant.

Motion (JM) seconded (FG) to close the Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Unanimous.

Town Administrators Update

Road Projects

- (CB) met with Mass Highway to review the Maple Street and Holden Road proposed projects. Mass Highway believed that with all the priorities that they have, the project may languish for years without construction. May be some assistance from Mass Highway for the Holden Road work.
- Michael Putnam, DPW stated that he planned to use Chapter 90 money to do cold planning on Maple Street and fix another stretch of Marshall Street.
- **Motion** (FG) seconded (JM) to authorize paperwork for Chapter 90 to be prepared for Marshall Street and Maple Street. Unanimous.

WRSD Budget

- (CB) provided spreadsheets showing cost impact of the propose Wachusett budget on the five member towns and how various percentage increases over our FY07 assessment changes our RASA number..
- **Motion** (JM) seconded (FG) to adjourn meeting at 9:55pm but reconvene meeting on Wednesday, April 4th at 7:00pm. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Riches, Administrative Assistant