



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

**Tuesday, January 10, 2017**

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

Members Present: Peter Bogren, Jr., Chairman  
Julia N. Pingitore, Vice Chairman  
John F. Malone, Clerk  
  
Carol L. Riches, Town Administrator

Attendees: see Attendee List

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

### **Wachusett Greenways**

- Colleen Abrams with Wachusett Greenways was present to speak on the current status of the Greenways. The Mass Central Rail Trail will connect 30 miles of trails that can be used for walking and biking and currently about twenty miles of that trail is complete. Not only do we work on extending the trail but also work on sustaining the part of the trail that is already complete. Ms. Abrams requested that the Board of Selectmen sign a letter of support which they have done in the past and this year the Wachusett Greenways is also making a formal request from the town for a contribution of \$1,000.00 to the program.
- **(PB)** This would have to wait until FY18 budget.
- **(CR)** We could put an article on the Annual Town Meeting for it.
- **Motion (JM) seconded (JP) to endorse the annual letter of support to the Wachusett Greenways. Unanimous, all in favor.**
- **(PB)** We will place an article on our Annual Town Warrant to see if the town will vote to provide Wachusett Greenways with a \$1,000.00 contribution.

### **Revenue Anticipation Note**

- **(PB)** Already signed and completed.

### **Record Access Officers**

- **Motion (JM) seconded (JP) to appoint Susan Stone and Eva Ryan as Records Access Officers and to put into place the compliance policy. Unanimous, all in favor.**

### **Wachusett Regional School District lease**

- (PB) There is no maintenance agreement included with the lease so we should not move forward on this until it is complete.
- (CR) The maintenance agreement is not complete because they needed to look at Sterling, Princeton and Paxton's septic systems in order to get a cost associated with maintaining those systems and then they will be able to complete the maintenance part of the agreement which hopefully we will get at our meeting tomorrow.

### **Paxton Light Department**

- (PB) After a conversation with the Light Department Manager it was discussed that perhaps there was some misunderstanding as to how the line of communication between the Light Department and the Board of Selectmen should be handled. It was clarified that the Clerk for the Light Department was just to be a point of contact between the Light Department and the Select Board. With this clarification I forwarded an email to Emerson Wheeler apologizing for my misunderstanding at our previous meeting of how future communications were to be handled.
- (JP) I would just like to clarify that I did not make any agreements on the behalf of the Board of Selectmen when I attended the Light Department meeting.
- (CR) I would like to know what my role is in this since I have been told by the Light Department manager that I was not to talk to any of the Commission members.
- (PB) From Board to Board it should go through our liaison to their Clerk and the day to day processes should go through the Light Department Manager and the Town Administrator.
- (JP) I did ask about a joint meeting with the Light Department and was told that there attorney said that would not be advisable at this time.

### **Meeting Minutes**

- **Motion (JM) seconded (JP) to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from December 19, 2016 with spelling correction on page two. Should be contract not contact in statement made by (JP) under PLD section. Unanimous, all in favor.**
- **Motion (JM) seconded (PB) to approve the Executive Meeting Minutes from December 19, 2016 . Selectmen Pingitore recused herself from this vote.**

### **Town Administrators Update**

- (CR) Everything has been covered in the regular meeting.

### **Other Business**

- (JM) I attended the Wachusett Regional School Committees budget preview meeting last night. They provided a handout and I can highlight a couple of points.
  - Enrollment is down and that may be a trend for a few years before things start to go back up.
  - Still some questions on school choice.
  - Unsure of what we will get for transportation. May be less this year.
  - The budget breakdown is about 80% for salaries and benefits and the other 20% for support, maintenance, etc.
  - COLA is not yet included in these numbers.
  - Benefits and insurance has increased by 20%
  - No money for athletics

- Special Ed tuition has increased by 39%

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 24, 2017 at 7:00pm.

**Adjourned Meeting at 7:54pm, Unanimous all in favor.**

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

Meeting minutes

Agenda

Attendance list

Town Administrators update

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Graf-Parsons

Administrative Assistant