

Town of Paxton Board of Selectmen

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 10, 2008

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

Charles Blanchard, Town Administrator

Attendees: See attendee list

Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

- **Motion (FG) seconded (MQ) to accept the Regular Meeting Minutes of February 25, 2008. Unanimous.**
- **Motion (MQ) seconded (FG) to accept the Regular Meeting Minutes of March 3, 2008. Unanimous.**

Public Safety Complex Update

- Contract with B.W. Construction Company approved.
- **Motion (FG) seconded (MQ) to authorize the Chairman to sign all 5 copies of the contract and send to the USDA. Unanimous.**
- Expecting to break ground April 16, 2008.
- Temporary building to be moved to the DPW will be utilized by the Fire Dept initially until apparatus room is ready at the Public Safety Complex, then DPW will move in.
- **Public Hearing for the Transfer of the Kettlebrook Liquor License from Robert Moss to Donald Marrone**
- Mr. Marrone stated that he did not plan on any major renovations, but would like to develop the banqueting side of the business. Food would be catered from his other business at the Wachusett Country Club.
- **Motion (FG) seconded (MQ) to approve the request to transfer the All Alcohol Liquor License for Kettlebrook Golf Club from Robert Moss to Donald Marrone. Unanimous.**

Carlton Lodge – Paxton Lion

- Mr. Lodge was following up on his previous visit with the BOS to request the use of the Paxton Center School parking lot to hold a one-day electronic hazardous waste collection

event on May 31, 2008. He stated that should there be an earthday this year, they will not hold the event, but he had been informed that this was not likely.

- Mr. Lodge provided an event outline for the BOS and stated that he had met with the Police Chief who said he would have two officers available to assist with traffic control.
- Paxton Lions have insurance through their organization. The company, who runs this collection, will unload all materials from vehicles.
- **Motion (MQ) seconded (FG) to give permission for the Paxton Lions to use the Paxton Center School parking and hold this event. Unanimous.**

Wachusett Regional School District Budget

- Richard Fenton, Finance Committee Chairman provided information from the recent school meeting.
- Three budgets were presented by the Superintendent
- \$2.7 million increase – was status quo budget
- \$3.0 million increase – provided for increased enrollment
- \$5.4 million increase – provided for all their needs.
- 3 out of the 5 towns are able to afford the increases, Rutland & Paxton being the towns unable afford these increases.
- Town's potential deficit for FY09 is approximately \$280,000, which would require the utilization of all free cash.
- Richard Fenton stated that a cut of \$100,000 from the operating budget would provide for \$1.0 million contribution to WRSD budget and that the Finance Committee had already put together a potential list of cuts to the Town's budget.
- Next WRSD budget meeting is March 24th to present the budget; assessment letter will be issued March 28th. Richard Fenton felt that WRSD would be looking for a \$4.01 million increase.
- BOS reviewed the revenue and expenses projection provided by (CB), and need for more state aid, BOS will meet March 17th to review possible cuts in the operating budget if necessary.
- BOS stated that a letter should be sent to WRSD stating the amount that Paxton can afford for their Assessment.
- (JM) suggested a level funded budget from WRSD.

Town Administrators Update

Eagle Scout

- Michael Urbanowski will receive his Eagle Scout award, March 19th. A proclamation noting this important achievement has been prepared for signature.

- **Motion (MQ) seconded (FG) to sign proclamation. Unanimous.**

Town of Leicester

- Letter received from Town of Leicester informing the BOS of a letter that they have sent to their Legislators advocating an off ramp at the intersection of the Mass Turnpike and Route 56.

Capital Improvement Committee

- The Capital Improvement Committee has provided a report of the priority ranking for three projects considered for capital funding FY09.
- (JM) requested (CB) obtain from the Treasurer an estimated cost for funding these projects.

Wachusett Regional School District Budget

- Preliminary Wachusett budget provided. Level funded budgets received from the Police, DPW and Fire Departments. Revenue and Expense projections also provided.
- (CB) added that new construct may need to be reduced from \$55,000 to \$50,000.

Ambulance Service

- (CB) and the Fire Chief met with Spencer Rescue representatives to review the first six months operation results of the ambulance service and will meet again in two weeks to finalize the FY09 budget.

Correspondence

- Resignation letter received from Matthew Attanian from the Historical Commission.

Motion (JM) seconded (FG) to accept the resignation with regret.

- Holden BOS provide their comments to the preliminary revised Regional School District Agreement.
- WRSDC provided a letter to all regional towns to request that all elections held on the same day.
- (JM) problem should be alleviated with the new Public Safety Complex, will have a place other than the school to hold elections.

Public Session

- Katie Siemen came into the meeting to respond to the allegations made by Mike Ross at the meeting on February 25th that she and another Recreation Commission member (Jim Brodin) had spoken with the Paxton Sports Center's owner regarding his wife Candice Ross, who now worked at the center.
- Katie Siemen brought a letter from the owner that stated this to be untrue. (CB) read this letter aloud.

- Katie Siemen also mentioned that she was disappointed that (FG) stated that he knew of this and looking into but did not contact the Recreation Commission.
- (FG) responded that he knew of it, but had not said that he was looking into.

Other Business

- (JM) not available March 19th to 30th. Next meeting March 17th no meeting March 24th as planned. BOS will start meeting weekly from April through budget season.
- (JM) suggested writing a letter to the WRSD and regional towns looking for a \$3.5 - \$ 3.8 million reduction in their budget and that the Paxton WRSDC representatives should be asked to attend their next meeting.
- (CB) suggested waiting until after the next meeting to give time to review the budgets, to reach a more reasonable number that can be conveyed to WRSD to avoid them not considering working with us.
- (JM) requested (CB) ask the representatives attend the next meeting.
- **Motion (JM) seconded (MQ) to adjourn the meeting at 9:00pm. Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted,

Carol L. Riches
Administrative Assistant