



TOWN OF BLANDFORD  
Board of Selectmen, Minutes  
June 30, 2016

**Attendance:** Adam Dolby, William Levakis, and Andrew Montanaro, Cara Letendre - Secretary

**Open Meeting:**

7:00 p.m. Mr. Dolby called meeting to order, provided notice that meeting will be recorded.

**New Business:**

1. Joseph Mahoney: Town Administrator Interview (see attached resume and questions)
2. North Blandford Road: Truck Traffic complaints and concerns (Allen Williams – owner of Chester Granite Company, several residents of North Blandford Road, Jake Tonolino, Sargent Dennis Flores BPD ) There has been an increase in frequency and noise of truck traffic on North Blandford Road recently. We have asked the Police Department to be out there to monitor and we have been working with the Highway Superintendent.
  - a. Mr. Williams: there are only about 6 or 7 loads that come out of my quarry per/year and no one is allowed to use North Blandford Road or they won't haul for me. I use that road regularly personally and our company is a responsible member of the community. There are 2 corners on that road where a small vehicle and a tractor trailer would not fit if they were to encounter each other.
  - b. The loads currently on the road are generated from Williams Stone Quarry.
  - c. Sargent Flores: the road is 20 feet wide. The average dump truck and tractor trailer are 8 feet wide. I have not witnessed any trucks speeding, the sound they emit makes them sound like they are going faster than they are.
  - d. Mrs. Boulay (resident): the 18 wheelers have slowed down since I've been watching and recording with my phone. White Wolf trucking is the most frequent and they go very fast.

- e. Sargent Flores: North Blandford is a connecting road between towns so we can't close it to thru traffic. The truckers pay a public tax to drive on the roads.
  - f. Highway Superintendent: spoke with the owner of White Wolf Trucking, they are willing to work with us but it is difficult to get the drivers to follow through when they are not there. I also spoke with Eversource as several of the trucking companies are working for them.
  - g. Tonlino: I am here to give our input and help resolve the problem. We are currently working with Eversource. (Resident stated that Tonlino trucks have been respectful)
  - h. Discussed borrowing a speed board from another town, asked Sargent Flores to follow-up.
  - i. Mr. Montanaro: We need to speak with the start point (Williams Stone) and the end point (Eversource).
  - j. Sargent Flores: We could enforce no airbrakes.
  - k. The communication has to be open with Williams Stone. About 18 years ago petitions were signed and signs were put up banning truck traffic on North Blandford Road. Up until 3 years ago that worked. Williams Stone truck traffic is anticipated to increase over the next five years. Board asked Cara to have Ed Williams in to the next meeting.
  - l. Highway Superintendent: we now also have a small tractor trailer company in town and that has increased the truck traffic as well as Berkshire Hauling.
  - m. Board asked the Police Department to patrol the road more and enforce the speed limit.
3. Minutes: Mr. Dolby motion to approve the meeting minutes of 6/20/2016 and 6/27/2016 as written, Mr. Levakis second, unanimous vote.

### **Old Business:**

- 1. Chapter 90:
  - a. Phase 1 – bid opening scheduled for July 18, 2016. The AG stated that the bid had to go in exactly as it was previously so the phases could not be combined.
  - b. Phase 2 – posted in the central registry.
- 2. Highway Department:
  - a. Currently working on Gibbs Road doing ditches and grading.
  - b. Discussed possibility of hiring an employee for mechanical work, full-time.
- 3. Historical Commission: table
- 4. Insurance: checking on variances. FY16 \$57,136.00 & FY17 \$59,286.00. Mr. Montanaro will follow-up.
- 5. Union Agricultural Inspection: scheduled with Fire Department 7/2/2016
- 6. Appointments: see attached

7. Community Compact: reviewed and signed agreement.
  - a. Mr. Dolby motion to approve the community compact agreement, Mr. Montanaro second unanimous vote.
  - b. Bus tour to identify sites of interest for economic development piece. Recommend sending Chips Norcross.
8. Appointment Letter: Board agreed to add performance clause.
9. Mr. Levakis motion to re-appoint Brad Curry to Highway Superintendent for a term of 3 years, Mr. Dolby second. Discussion:
  - a. Mr. Levakis: We didn't get any serious applicants in and Mr. Curry has been under stress. We need to move forward.
  - b. Mr. Montanaro: we have begun to search for potential candidates. We just posted an ad in the Beacon for the month of July. I think it behooves us to consider all options. I don't think we have completed all of our options as of yet.
  - c. Mr. Dolby: is there a difference between the old postings and the new?
  - d. Mr. Montanaro: yes, we left the rates out and this is the first time posting in the Beacon.
  - e. Mr. Dolby: I don't expect to get too much out of the ads. I don't know about re-appointing Brad for 3 years with the community compact and shared services on the horizon. And I wouldn't appoint a paid employee for 3 years. We could wait a couple of weeks for the Beacon ad to run.
  - f. Mr. Levakis: It's unfair to Brad, he gets high praises. We won't find anyone of his caliber. I will take over the highway liaison position and I will show you the benefits. Andy, you are micromanaging. If I was in charge there would be no union. I don't see shared services working. Let's give Brad 1 year.
  - g. Mr. Montanaro: I don't want to drag it out either, we need to set a deadline to make a decision.
  - h. Mr. Dolby: you are saying that the union is here because of Andy's interaction with Brad? That doesn't make any sense. The next logical conclusion to make is not to unionize because your manager is micro-managing you.
  - i. Mr. Levakis: Brad is a good manager, he was mismanaged by past selectboards. You are blaming him for past Selectboard's mismanagement. They had him do things certain ways and we are blaming him. That is no way to treat people. I can communicate better and get reports and Chapter 90 out. There's bad blood between Andy and Brad. Mr. Dolby: I haven't heard that.
  - j. Mr. Montanaro: I'm not prepared to respond with a counter attack and it is not productive. I don't agree with your evaluation of my performance and its cause and effect.
  - k. Mr. Young: with conservation I work well with Brad I've developed a relationship with him and overlook an awful lot - hiring a new super

would cost the town a lot of money in delays and changes. You guys have to either re-appoint him or let him go.

- l. Mr. Dolby: does Brad know you two (Bill and Bryan Young) are giving the BOS an ultimatum to hire or fire him? Bryan: no he does not.
- m. Mr. Levakis amended motion to one year.
- n. Mr. Dolby: I don't want to drag this out any further but we will wait until the next meeting. Be prepared to vote then. Mr. Levakis and Mr. Montanaro agreed.

10. Assessor's Clerk class: signed and approved request, totaling \$709.00

9:55 p.m. Mr. Dolby motion to adjourn, Mr. Levakis second, unanimous vote.

Submitted by:  
Cara Letendre

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Adam Dolby - Chair

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Andrew Montanaro - Clerk

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William Levakis - Member