



TOWN OF BLANDFORD  
Board of Selectmen Minutes  
March 6, 2017

1. OPEN SESSION FOLLOWING TOWN CAUCUS - 7:45 pm  
Present were Andy Montanaro and William Levakis.

2. EXAMINATION OF RECORDS OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- a. Minutes of the February 17, 2017 emergency meeting

**MOTION: A. Montanaro made a motion to approve the minutes of the Board of Selectmen emergency meeting from February 17, 2017** *CLOSING TIME AMENDED.*

B. Levakis seconded the motion.

The motion was passed unanimously

Executive Session Minutes of the November 21, 2016 meeting

**MOTION: A. Montanaro made a motion to approve the minutes of the Board of Selectmen emergency meeting from November 21, 2016**

B. Levakis seconded the motion.

The motion was passed unanimously

Executive Session Minutes of the December 19, 2016 meeting

**MOTION: A. Montanaro made a motion to approve the minutes of the Board of Selectmen emergency meeting from December 19, 2016**

B. Levakis seconded the motion.

The motion was passed unanimously

Executive Session Minutes of the January 4, 2017 meeting

**MOTION: A. Montanaro made a motion to approve the minutes of the Board of Selectmen emergency meeting from January 4, 2017**

B. Levakis seconded the motion.

The motion was passed unanimously

3. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

- a. Introduction of Highway Staff – The new Highway staff were introduced to the BOS. New staff include Bill Messier, Frank Lucia, Chris Camisso and Joe Boisseau. The issue of pay was discussed, as the most experienced and licensed staff are being paid \$13.50 per hour. The town cannot compete when good workers can find jobs that pay much more than Blandford's rate.
- b. Commonwealth Conversations Western Mass – On March 8 from 11-1 p.m., Senator Hinds will be in town hall to meet with the people. If anyone is interested in talking with him, they may sign up and come in. On March 28 Commonwealth Conversations will be coming to

Western Mass. The tour will include Senator Don Humason, Senator Adam Hinds, Senator Eric Lesser, Senator Jim Welch, and Senate President Stan Rosenberg. Commonwealth Conversations 2017 is part of the ongoing effort to make government more responsive and accessible. The Senators will listen to what you have to say and work hard to make sure they carry your voices and ideas back to Beacon Hill. View the full agenda and take the survey by going to <https://malegislature.gov/CC/Details?locationId=11>.

- c. Library Legislation Day – On March 7, Mary Kronholm will be in Boston for this day of support for libraries around the Commonwealth.
- d. Town Flags – Historically, the Boy Scouts have taken care of putting up and taking down flags on the main street in town. Doug Emo has been asked to take charge of this.
- e. North Blandford Road Fire – No people or animals were hurt in the fire. A press release went out from the Fire Department and is available on the town website. The occupants are being assisted by the Red Cross. Highway returned to the site today to cut down a tree along the side of the road that was still smoldering. A. Ellison wanted to thank all departments who responded and assisted for their efforts and great collaboration. Anyone wishing to help the family can find information on the People Who Love Blandford facebook page. A link is available on the Blandford website.
- f. School Committee Meeting – The next meeting is March 8, 2017 at 7 p.m. at Gateway. The budget is being adopted at this meeting.
- g. Assessor's Transition – A plan is being put together to manage the transition after the departure of the Board of Assessors. The staff in town hall were thanked for stepping up to help out wherever needed and their great teamwork to support the community during this time. At the caucus, one person was nominated as Assessor; two other positions are open. Legal is being consulted as to the actions the BOS can take. A request has been made to the State as to whether there is anyone with the appropriate training that they can send us in the interim.

#### 4. ACTION ITEMS

- a. Ted Ondrick Material Credit Application – tabled
- b. Beaver Solutions Proposal – table pending more information
- c. Plumbing Inspector Resignation – Peter Anderson has indicated that he will be resigning his position and will provide a dated letter. Aaron Poteat will be considered for the appointment. His licenses will be verified prior to appointment.

#### 5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM PRIOR MEETINGS

- a. Hilltown Ambulance Contract – tabled pending contract feedback from Hilltown Ambulance.

#### 6. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Interim Treasurer Audit – Josephine Sarnelli will be asked to perform the turnover audit to the Interim Treasurer.

**MOTION: To approve the turnover audit for the Treasurer's Office, by**

**A. Montanaro**

B. Levakis seconded the motion.

As amended, BOS requested notification and cost information prior to the audit beginning.

The motion was passed unanimously

- b. A. Montanaro requested a warrant article at the annual town meeting to consolidate the Blandford school trust fund accounts into an active account. The school trust fund accounts are unused now that we have no school in town. He requested a warrant article to consolidate and relocate the funds.

7. PUBLIC FORUM

- a. Green Communities – TJ Cousineau requested access to a computer and printer to prepare applications and other documents. A computer will be set up in the Planning Board Office for the use of staff, departments and committees as needed.

8. ADJOURN MEETING – 8:46 p.m.

**MOTION: A. Montanaro moved to adjourn the meeting.**

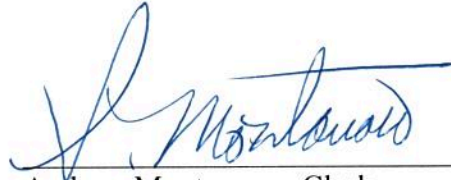
B. Levakis seconded the motion.

The motion was passed unanimously.

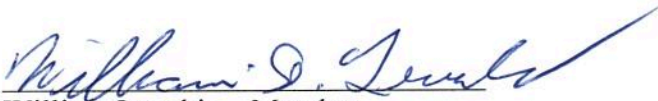
Submitted by: Sue Streeter, Selectmen Secretary



Adam Dolby – Chair



Andrew Montanaro - Clerk



William Levakis – Member