



TOWN OF BLANDFORD
Board of Selectmen Minutes
March 20, 2017

1. OPEN SESSION - 7:01 pm

Present were Adam, Dolby, Andy Montanaro and William Levakis.

2. EXAMINATION OF RECORDS OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

a. Minutes of February 21, 2017 meeting

MOTION: A. Dolby made a motion to approve the minutes of the Board of Selectmen meeting from February 21, 2017 as amended

B. Levakis seconded the motion.

The motion was passed unanimously

Minutes of the February 27, 2017 meeting

MOTION: A. Montanaro made a motion to approve the minutes of the Board of Selectmen meeting from February 27, 2016 as amended

A. Dolby seconded the motion.

The motion was passed unanimously

Minutes of the March 6, 2017 meeting

MOTION: A. Montanaro made a motion to approve the minutes of the Board of Selectmen meeting from March 6, 2017 as amended

B. Levakis seconded the motion.

Abstain: A. Dolby

The motion was passed two in favor; one abstention

3. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

- a. Hilltown Collaborative – The town shares municipal services with other towns in the collaborative. We are registered with the state for only one criteria, whereas there are three. The Town Administrator will work with the state to rectify this, as the understanding was that all six towns in the compact were doing the same things.
- b. Payroll Updates – Timesheets will need to be submitted and signed by the employee and their supervisor or board chair. If timesheets are not turned in on time, a paycheck will not be issued.
- c. PVPC Grant – The grant has been approved for \$100,511 for an Economic Development Coordinator through the Hilltown Collaborative to benefit the six communities in the collaborative.
- d. Town Hall Snow Removal – Snow clearing from the town hall doors has been done by whoever comes in first. We need to find someone to clear snow. Brian Young volunteered.

- e. A survey is going out to determine the use and space needs of the town hall to find out who needs office space, filing cabinets, etc.
- f. Bond Remuneration – The Town Auditor sent an email regarding the \$100,000 per year cap on the bond. We need to have Traveler’s clarify this in writing.
- g. Open Meeting Law Regulation Review – If you are a body that is in quorum and the meeting is not posted, you cannot deliberate as it is a violation of the Open Meeting Law. The Open Meeting Law defines deliberation as “an oral or written communication through any medium, including electronic mail, between or among a quorum of a public body on any public business within its jurisdiction.”
- h. Annual Report – Reports need to be sent to the Town Clerk and Town Administrator and should be reviewed by the department heads prior to sending.
- i. Selectmen’s Misc. Expense – This budget line is over budget and expenses are pending.

MOTION: To move \$504.37 from Town office supplies to Selectmens Misc Expense, by A. Dolby

A. Montanaro seconded the motion.
The motion was passed unanimously

4. ACTION ITEMS

- a. Town Administrator Evaluation – Tabled
- b. Kinsley Generator Quote – A revised quote was received. If the BOS has additional questions, B. Levakis will work with the vendor.
- c. Assessor’s Clerk Position Appointment – Deferred to the Assessors
- d. Assessors Appointments –.

MOTION: To appoint Dale Miller as Assessor for the Town of Blandford for the remainder of the 2014-2017 term, by A. Dolby.

B. Levakis seconded the motion.
The motion was passed unanimously

MOTION: To appoint Steve Jemiolo as Assessor for the Town of Blandford for the remainder of the 2016-2019 term, by A. Dolby.

B. Levakis seconded the motion.
The motion was passed unanimously

Now that the Assessors have a quorum, they can appoint a third Assessor.

~~Watson Park, Phase II – A. Montanaro had requested assistance in hauling materials to the park for spring planting.~~

- f. Fire Station Location – At the last meeting, A. Montanaro discussed the location for a new fire station on the fairgrounds. B. Levakis suggested renovating the Highway garage as a substation and adding a Butler building on Chester Road, at the salt shed. Septic exists at the corner of the fairground, whereas septic would need to be installed at the salt shed. Input will be needed from the Highway Superintendent and the Fire and Police Chiefs.
- g. Capital Expenditure: Snow Plow – A new power angle plow is being purchased to replace a broken plow. This will be a \$7,000 capital expenditure. This plow will fit all the trucks. A claim has been submitted to insurance for the cost of the replacement.

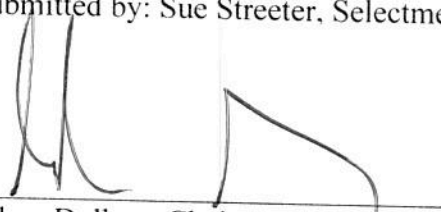
MOTION: To approve the purchase of a Vortex snow plow out of capital, by A. Dolby

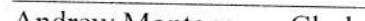
B. Levakis seconded the motion.
The motion was passed unanimously.


5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM PRIOR MEETINGS

- a. Hiring Policy – Tabled
 - b. Blandford Ski Area – B. Levakis proposed that the BOS support the ski club and allow Knox Trail to hold their event. The club needs revenue to stay open, and it is one of the biggest employers in town of town residents. This will be continued at a future meeting, pending notification of the affected town residents.
 - c. Bridge Grant – The Town Administrator met with the DEP to determine if we will go through an engineering firm or out to bid for the bridge repairs. The specifications are already prepared.
6. NEW BUSINESS
- a. Commonwealth Conversations – On March 28 at 6:15 p.m. Town Hall Forum will be held in the Student Union Ballroom at UMass Amherst. A contingent of Senators will be present to listen to what you have to say and carry your voices and ideas back to Beacon Hill. For more information, see News on the Blandford website.
7. PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS
- a. School Committee meeting on March 22 at 7 p.m. at Gateway Regional High School
8. ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION – 9:32 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