



TOWN OF BLANDFORD
Board of Selectmen Minutes
November 6, 2017

1. **OPEN SESSION** - 7:02 pm

Present were Adam Dolby, Cara Letendre and William Levakis

2. **WARRANT FOR SPECIAL TOWN MEETING**

Warrant has five articles

1. To transfer \$283,000.00 for mini pumper
2. To vote to pay Assessor's an hourly rate for training
3. To transfer \$231,250.00 for highway truck
4. To transfer \$6,000.00 for Account's salary
5. To reduce Town Administrator's salary to \$1.00

MOTION: C. Letendre made motion to Appointment Gloria Farrell as Blandford Constable for a today. A. Dolby seconded the motion; Motion was passed unanimously.

MOTION: C. Letendre made motion to close and post the Special Town Warrant. A. Dolby seconded the motion; The motion passed unanimously.

3. **EXAMINATION OF RECORDS OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

4. **TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE**

a. Cultural Council Regional Program

Would like the Selectboard to appointment Mary Kronhom and Lori Bocon to the Cultural Council Board, filling the vacant positions of Jeri Hamel and Susan Racine.

Arts Council Appointments: Mary Kronholm, Lori Bocon

MOTION: A. Dolby made motion to appoint Mary Kronhom and Lori Bocon to a three year term for the Arts Council.

C. Letendre seconded the motion; The motion was passed unanimously

Pilot program for seven communities statewide to participate in a new program called Cultural Compact. Not much is known of the program or what it entails. If Blandford is interested, a meeting can be set up for the Fall.

There is a \$4,400.00 assessment that is given to the Cultural Council each year.

- b. Ski butternut, Dick McCann
Mr. McCann stated that he they are working towards making Butternut a more viable entity. They have started to invest heavily in the infrastructure. They have added more hours; Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9 am to 9 pm and 8:30 am to 9 pm Saturday and 8:30 am to 4:00 pm Sunday.

Butternut would like the select board to help guide them in getting a liquor license to serve alcohol. The Town Administrator will assist in the process.

- c. Treasurer's position update; Sara Hunter
Sara Hunter is an independent consultant and has worked for the past five years in municipalities. The select board has requested S. Hunter to outline a schedule.
MOTION: C. Letendre made motion to hire Sara Hunter to close out and reconcile FY 17 for the amount of \$9,500.00.
A. Dolby seconded the motion; The motion was passed unanimously
- d. September 18, 2017 minutes
MOTION: C. Letendre made motion to rescind the minutes of September 18, 2017.
B. Levakis seconded the motion, The motion was passed unanimously
MOTION: C. Letendre made motion to approve the minutes of September 18, 2017 as amended.
B. Levakis seconded the motion; The motion was passed unanimously
- e. Water Union approval
The Board of Selectman are not contesting the United Public Service Union (UPSU) agreement. The agreement is between the town and the water employees.

5. ACTION ITEMS

- a. Execution of Intergovernmental Agreement with Westfield Gas and Electric
An update was given: There was a meeting and tour at MBI. MBI did have some questions. There is a kick off meeting at end of November for the general public.

A.Dolby departed at 7:56 p.m. for a fire department call.
- b. Highway Truck: Mack GU713
B.Curry, highway superintendent indicated that the 1999 International needs to be replaced. To replace with a 2018 Mack Gu713 will cost \$138,255.00. The total cost with plow, service agreement the cost would is approximately 231,000.00. The International is out of service and the town could get up to 6,000.00 as is.
- c. Security Camera system quote

A.Dolby returned at 8:58 p.m.

Protective Security Services provided a quote for 16 Camera DVR 2TB and monitor. The quote amount of 2,348.13 includes installation, connection and equipment.
MOTION: C. Letendre made motion to accept the quote for the Camera DVR 2TB and monitor for \$2,348.13.
A.Dolby seconded the motion; The motion was passed unanimously
- d. Job Descriptions for Water employees – tabled
- e. Engineering for Bridge - tabled

f. Firewall Quote: Akuity

The quote was \$4,000.00 for service – A. Dolby felt that it was too much and should be tabled.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

7. NEW BUSINESS

8. PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

a. Frank Lucia was in a motor cycle accident. He has a broken hip. TA will be sending out an edible arrangement on behalf of the Selectboard and Town.

9. NEW BUSINESS

a. Liberty Hill Tree Care quote for \$7200.00 to remove all the undesirable trees and prune the good trees to bring back their beauty.

MOTION: C. Letendre made motion to hire Liberty Hill Tree Care at the cost of \$7200.00 for the tree work at Watson Park and to be paid out of the Watson Park trust fund.

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

b. Aaron the plumbing inspector wanted to know how to label the mail boxes outside. TA spoke with Aaron previously with the issue that some of his mail is going through the board of selectman secretary's general mailbox and she is here on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday; he is waiting on checks. The TA had thought they came up with a system but there is no more mailboxes. TA suggested he receive a key and retrieve his mail via the inside mail. C. Letendre asked Aaron to follow up with TA. Aaron stated that he refuses to follow up with TA as he is "elected by the board, this is an elected position for me. I am doing this out of service to the town. I do not need this position and I will walk from this position now if you are going to make this difficult for me." C. Letendre stated that she not making it difficult but to follow up with the town's TA.

c. Appoint Jennifer Girard as the assistant accountant.

MOTION: C. Letendre made motion to appoint Jennifer Girard as the Assistant Accountant position starting immediately for five hours a week at \$20.00 an hour.

A. Dolby seconded the motion

Discussion: B. Levakis would like to outsource the entire accounting positions. C. Letendre felt that at any time Eric Kinsharf could step up and take over fully. TA stated that we are transitioning into a new system and all departments are transitioning that it makes sense to have one person in town hall where items can still be turned into and help with the transition.

A. Dolby, C. Letendre in favor; B. Levakis no; Motion Carried

10. Roll Call into executive session at 9:41 p.m.

Cara Letendre – yes

Adam Dolby – yes

Bill Levakis - yes

11. ADJOURN MEETING – 9:55 p.m.

MOTION: C. Letendre moved to adjourn the meeting.

A. Dolby seconded the motion.

The motion was passed unanimously.

Submitted by: Jennifer Girard

Adam Dolby – Chair

Cara Letendre - Clerk

William Levakis – Member