



TOWN OF BLANDFORD
Board of Selectmen, Minutes
February 1, 2016

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

Open Meeting:

7:03 p.m. Mr. Dolby called meeting to order, provided notice that meeting may be recorded.

New Business:

1. Hilltown Ambulance: New director Angela was present. Visiting all 6 hilltowns to check-in and discuss the new assessment letter.
 - a. When the program began they were only able to offer 24 hrs of service 5 days per week. Starting in August they will be offering 24 hours of service 7 days a week with paramedics on duty 83% of the time. Next year's assessment increase will cover 1/2 of the cost for this increase in hours.
 - b. The new assessment will also aid in a new vehicle rotation program.
 - c. Angela has recently applied for \$300,000 in grant funding
 - d. Discussed being a part of the REPC planning driven by MEMA to designate a shelter for emergency planning. Mr. Dolby will cc Angela in any further emails.
2. Regional Emergency Shelter: Mr. Dolby attended a meeting for the Regional Emergency Planning Committee recently. The hilltowns are working to establish a regional emergency shelter.
 - a. Had been proposed to use Gateway as a shelter however the criteria from FEMA and MEMA requires that the shelter not be across a river, across railroad tracks and in a flood plain, of which Gateway is.
 - b. Have sent a proposal to Westfield University to use their facilities as an emergency shelter.
 - c. The planning for this project is funded through a grant and there is a deadline. The next step is for the Selectboard to indicate their approval of the path forward to show progress.
 - d. Expectation of costs for shelter- about \$25 per/person per/day
 - e. Mr. Dolby motion to support the REPC initiative to establish a regional emergency shelter at Westfield University, Mr. Montanaro second, unanimous vote.
3. Minutes: Mr. Montanaro motion to approve meeting minutes of January 25, 2016 as written, Mr. Dolby second, unanimous vote.

Old Business:

1. Conservation Commission Chair: Mr. Young met with the President and Vice President at the Blandford Ski Area yesterday to discuss the incident last week. They assured Mr. Young that they have no problem with the Conservation Commission doing the inspection. The individual that gave Mr. Young a problem last week is not employed there but is on the Board and is not a representative. Mr. Young took the samples needed and completed his report.
2. Chester Road: Richard Kowalczyk complaining about the dangerous state of the end of the road with several deep potholes.
 - a. Selectboard- we have Mr. Curry putting together a price to completely re-do that part of the road with the Chapter 90 money received this coming year.
3. Mr. van Werkhoven distributed letters to the Selectboard regarding the Gateway assessment for FY17 to discuss next week.
4. Special Town Employees Water Department: tabled
5. Special Town Employees: tabled

7:55 p.m. Mr. Dolby motion to go into executive session not to reconvene to discuss the discipline of a highway employee and ongoing union negotiations, Mr. Montanaro second, Cara called roll call vote, Mr. Levakis - no, Mr. Dolby - yes, Mr. Montanaro - yes motion carries 2-1.

Submitted by:
Cara Letendre

Adam Dolby - Chair

Andrew Montanaro - Clerk

William Levakis - Member