

Blandford Water Department

P.O. BOX 220
Blandford, Ma. 01008

William Levakis, Chairman (413) 579-4586
Mark Boomsma, Clerk (413) 717-0212
Brad Curry, Member (413) 579-1949



Water Department Meeting January 23, 2014

Attendance: Bill Levakis, Brad Curry, Mark Boomsma, Cara Letendre – Water Department Secretary

12:00 Mr. Curry called meeting to order and announced that it may be recorded.

Posted Items:

1. Minutes: Mr. Levakis motion to approve meeting minutes from July 1, 2013, Mr. Boomsma second, unanimous vote.
 2. Purchase of New Equipment:
 - Mr. Levakis proposed trading in the old mini for a new mini which Mr. Curry and Mr. Boomsma have test drove. . Highway Department will provide the old excavator for a trade in of \$12,000. New equipment will be jointly owned by Water and Highway Departments.
 - Discussion regarding employees available to work in “the hole”. Mr. Levakis asked Mr. Boomsma to work on a labor list and an ad for the paper. Mr. Curry will put together call list in case of water break.
 - Mr. Levakis motion for Blandford Water Department to go to Special Town Meeting to vote on free cash to purchase a Kubota Trackloader at the price of \$63,949.60 (on state bid), and a Kubota Excavator at the price of \$70,876.62 for a total of \$125,000 Mr. Boomsma second, unanimous vote.
 3. BOH use of Water Department Truck for Plowing:
 - Mr. Levakis motion to allow the BOH to use the Water Department truck for plowing, Mr. Curry second. Discussion:
 - Highway Department currently plows the Transfer Station and would need to continue to sand the station as Water Department truck does not have that ability.
 - Concerns about Water Department Truck being older and already put money into repairs.
 - Water Department Truck is higher than highway trucks and would not work with Transfer Station roof.
- Unanimous vote against BOH use of Water Department Truck. Board asked Cara to draft letter to BOH and BOS with reasons request was denied.

Old Business:

1. Bernard St. Martin: Expressed concerns about not being notified of water use. This Friday EJ Prescott meeting with him to discuss chemicals and sand filters for better water flow.
2. Hydrants: Discussion regarding marking fire hydrants with gallons per/minute. Mr. Boomsma will number the hydrants sequentially on the flags and/or caps and get list to Fire Department. Mr. Curry will work with Fire Chief and Mr. St. Martin to set-up time to work together to check flow and flush hydrants this Spring.
3. Old Chlorinator & Storage Barn N. Blandford Road: Will ask resident to move horse trailer again. Discussion regarding giving old fence to Westfield Equipment in exchange for maintenance. Mr. Levakis asked Mr. St. Martin to look into when they would need the fence and the building is to be torn down 7/1/14. Mr. Levakis will file demolition permit with Building Inspector.

New Business:

1. Dry Hydrants: Mr. St. Martin would like to have dry hydrants put in around town, via a Fire Department grant, to reserve water in case of an emergency. Discussion regarding filling old Smith tank across from fairgrounds for same purpose. Would need grant money to fix up roof and put in an air gap. Follow-up at next meeting.
2. Ice Rink: Discussion regarding how to fill
3. Water usage: Discussion regarding usage in town.

1:15 p.m. Mr. Levakis motion to adjourn, Mr. Boomsma second, unanimous vote.

Minutes presented by: Cara Letendre, Water Department Secretary

William Levakis

Brad Curry

Mark Boomsma