



TOWN OF BLANDFORD
SELECTBOARD
Suite 1

Blandford Town Hall
1 Russell Stage Road,
Blandford, MA 01008

**TOWN OF BLANDFORD
JOINT MEETING OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH,
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
AND SELECT BOARD
MAY 29, 2018**

OPEN SESSION 7:28 p.m.

Select Board Members Eric McVey, William Levakis and Joshua Garcia, Board of Health Members Frank Lucia and Laurie Boucher in attendance.
Meeting is recorded.

EXAMINATION OF RECORDS OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

MOTION: E. McVey made a motion to approve the Board of Selectmen Minutes of May 21, 2018.

B. Levakis seconded the motion.

All in favor.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE

Town Administrator – Position Profile

The search committee met today to review the Town Administrator position profile and made several updates.

Relating to the Treasurer/Collector opening, Town Administrator is going to put this position out to bid. There is a question as to whether or not the positions can be combined and if a town vote is required. The positions can be combined, or can be separated at the discretion of the Town. This can be reviewed by Town counsel. For the bidding process it will be broken down into three categories: Treasurer position, Collector position and catch up work.

ACTION ITEMS

Conservation Commission Appointments

At last week's meeting two Commission appointments were made – Dick Gates and John Piper. Frank Lucia advised there is a possibility Florintino Vasquez and Opheous Barrows may be resigning and the Board will await official confirmation. At present with the two new members, the Commission is complete, however, Frank will check on the status of the two members who may be resigning.

Vote to Receive Communication from Board of Health Regarding Vacancy

The Board of Health received interest for the open slot with the Board of Health from Connor Osden, Brian Young, Steve Jemiolo and Jennifer Girard. Absent Cara this will be revisited later in the meeting.

Replace Military Flags at Veteran's Park

B. Levakis advised the flags were replaced and they have been put up.

Fiscal Year 2019 Accountant's Contract – PVPC

Absent information from a few towns this is still in process.

Bond Surety, Municipal Light Board

Absent the appropriate paperwork in which to work with, this is tabled until the next meeting.

Town Clerk Resignation 6/8/18

The resignation of Laurie Boucher as Town Clerk and Assessor's Clerk was received by the Board.

MOTION: B. Levakis made a motion to accept Laurie Boucher's resignation for Town Clerk and Assessor's Secretary.

E. McVey seconded the motion.

Discussion: Laurie will stay on as a member of the Board of Health.

All in favor.

Mary Kronholm will be stepping in as Temporary Town Clerk.

MOTION: B. Levakis made a motion to appoint Mary Kronholm as Temporary Town Clerk effective June 8, 2018 until the next Town election on May 11, 2019.

E. McVey seconded the motion.

Discussion: Marty Lynch discussed that at the volunteer table at the Memorial Day function at Town Hall Kaitlin Rivera expressed an interest in the Town Clerk position and Mary Kronholm will reach out in the future to talk to her about it.

All in favor.

Relative to open positions, there are several candidates who put their names in. Finance Committee will be contacting Janet Lombardo who signed up for a possible opening there. Pat Lombardo put her name in for Agriculture and Shannon Kopacz Historical Society or Recreation. The names will be passed on to the appropriate board/commission.

Board of Health advised there was a problem at the transfer station where the oil was contaminated and there be a \$2,000 charge to pump out the tank. At the next Board meeting it will be discussed as to whether accepting oil should continue in light of this or if there should be a charge levied to leave oil. The Board would like something to be published in the paper regarding this issue.

Cara Letendre entered the meeting at 8:03 p.m.

Vote to Receive Communication from Board of Health Regarding Vacancy

Continuing on with the Board of Health vacancy, C. Letendre was brought up to speed that Connor Osden, Brian Young, Steve Jemiolo, Jennifer Girard and Kaitlin Rivera were candidates for the open seat. Connor Osden and Brian Young presented his interest and qualifications to the Board. The remaining candidates were not present at the time. The Board discussed the candidates, their qualifications and a roll call vote will be taken.

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to appoint Jennifer Girard to the Board of Health to complete the term until the next Town election on May 11, 2019 pending ethics approval. B. Levakis seconded the motion for discussion.

The qualifications of Ms. Girard were discussed and a possible conflict of interest as well as availability. Her related experience lends itself well to the position.

Roll Call Vote:

Frank Lucia	No
Laurie Boucher	No
Eric McVey	Yes
Cara Letendre	Yes
Bill Levakis	Yes

The appointment is for one year.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM PRIOR MEETINGS

Blandford Police Department Officers

The members of the Blandford Police Department were invited to come before the Board to discuss their views relative to the direction of the Police Department in light of the Chief's resignation and possible outsourcing. Sargent Chris Anciello, Sargent Denis Flores conveyed their concerns and their suggestions. A considerable amount of discussion centered around in-house versus collaboration with another town. The police officers present agreed additional staffing would be advantageous but there was a difference relative to hiring from within versus reaching out to fill the position. The Board thanked the police officers for their input.

Otis Police Chief Sarnicki addressed the Board relative to interim coverage and the training of officers and coverage during the decision making process on the direction which will be taken to fill the opening. Ideally it would be advantageous to have an overlapping of coverage.

The Board can appoint an interim chief while in the process of evaluating the direction they should take and it is suggested that Chief Sarnicki could institute training and meet general needs. She is requested by the Board to draft a proposal to address what she feels the needs would be.

Hilltown Ambulance Contract

The Town Administrator advised the Addendum to the contract has been signed and is going forward.

Old Chlorinator Burn

B. Levakis will research the value of the valve in this building to determine if it is feasible to remove it prior to any burn or demolition. Conservation Commission should be notified prior to any action with the building.

NEW BUSINESS

Highway Superintendent – Return to Work

Doctor's note was received by the Board for the return.

Grass Mowing

B. Levakis is taking quotes for the tasks and has requested they be brought to the Select Board Administrative Assistant's Office. He is looking for the type of equipment and an hourly rate. It is suggested that quotes be received relative to specific areas and it be a quote for the job versus an hourly rate.

Bond Renewal for Town Clerk

In light of the Town Clerk's resignation and the billing her bonding, there is not a cancellation provision and there is a five day need. The Town will work with the bonding company to see

what can be done.

Town Administrator Position

Josh Garcia requested approval from the Board to go forward on the Town Administrator's position posting wise.

MOTION: E. McVey made a motion to go forward with the posting of the Town Administrator's position.

C. Letendre seconded the motion.

All in favor.

Outsourcing the Board of Assessors Office and other possible changes were informally discussed.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:54 p.m.

Submitted by: Karen Shaw
Administrative Assistant to the Board

Cara Letendre, Chairman

Eric McVey, Clerk

William Levakis, Member