



TOWN OF BLANDFORD
Board of Selectmen, Minutes
February 23, 2015

Attendance: Andy Montanaro, Bill Levakis, Adam Dolby and Cara Letendre – Secretary

Open Meeting:

7:06 p.m. Mr. Levakis formally called meeting to order, provided notice that meeting may be recorded.

Posted Agenda Items:

1. Warrants: Reviewed and signed
2. Minutes: Mr. Montanaro motion to approve meeting minutes of February 16, 2015 as written, Mr. Levakis second, unanimous vote.
3. State of Emergency Water Main Freeze:
 - a. Mary Kronholm noted that Mr. Boomsma did an excellent job directing the fix, he was very professional.
 - b. Cara has sent emails to Senator Downing and Representative Pignatelli asking for help with funding.
 - c. Mr. Levakis discussed the steps taken to fix the repair and the problems they ran into.
 - d. Have requested bridge inspection reports for the last 5 years from Mass DOT.
 - e. Tom Ackley is the point person for FEMA as the Emergency Management Chair.
 - f. Funding:
 - i. Three possible options: Short term borrowing, Stabilization fund, Water Department Free Cash
 - ii. Discussed using Water Department free cash. Not certified yet. Scheduled a Special Town Meeting to vote on moving Water Department free cash after it's certified for March 16, 2015
4. Chapter 90: Discuss use of current Chapter 90 funds for coming summer with Highway Superintendent.
 - a. We have about \$240,000.00 saved and are expecting \$280,000.00 this year.
 - b. Top Priority Roads:
 - i. Russell Stage Road: ½ mile (with overlay) about \$108,416.00 additional \$19,360 plus trucking if do grinding.
 1. Will have contractors up to price drainage under bridge
 - ii. Sperry Road & Shepard Road: double seal to follow-up and maintain. About \$44,000.00 and \$39,114.00
 - iii. South Street: Discussed two possible options
 1. Renting small paver, buying materials and do ourselves using town funds.

2. Turning South Street back into a gravel road. Could use Chapter 90 money.
- iv. Chester Road: Completion, Mr. Curry will follow-up with process and price.
- v. Birch Hill
- c. Mr. Curry will follow-up with costs.
- d. Mr. Montanaro: spoke with Kathy Stevens, said we can bid out what we have now in Chapter 90 and if we want to front the money, we can bid out the expected amount as well.

Old Business:

1. Payroll Process:
 - a. Treasurer distributed suggested guidelines for all departments. Board reviewed will convert procedure using calendar dates.
 - b. Discussed issues from last payroll period. Treasurer received time cards late, warrant was signed late and ADP had software issues.
 - c. New Time Cards: Mr. Montanaro submitted a new timecard for review. Would like to begin using it now. He will send an electronic copy to the Treasurer. Will revisit to review and make amendments.
2. BOH Hiring Authority:
 - a. Mr. Dolby final ruling from Attorney Tim Zessin – BOH has the ability to hire employees as they relate to the enforcement of public health. As the Transfer station does not directly affect public health, transfer station employees should be appointed by Selectboard. Unless there is a bylaw that states otherwise.
 - i. Discussion: Does the selectboard want the responsibility of appointing Transfer Station Employees? Would rather have the BOH do the interviewing and come to the Selectboard with recommendations.
 - ii. Rate setting should be done by the Selectboard.
 - iii. Issue brought up because of concerns that BOH didn't follow town policy to fill position recently.

New Business:

1. February 5, 2015 Minutes: Mr. Montanaro asked that the minutes of February 5, 2015 be amended to include the notation that the Board signed documents requesting that the Highway Superintendent and Police Chief attend a mandatory Finance Committee Meeting on February 10, 2015.
2. Town Reports: Town Clerk needs all town reports submitted.

Executive Session:

Mr. Levakis: there is no need to go into executive session. Dropping the issue.

8:46 p.m. Mr. Levakis motion to adjourn, Mr. Dolby second, unanimous vote.

Submitted by: Cara Letendre

William Levakis

Andy Montanaro

Adam Dolby