



TOWN OF BLANDFORD
Board of Selectmen, Minutes
October 5, 2015

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

Open Meeting:

7:00 p.m. Mr. Dolby called meeting to order, provided notice that meeting may be recorded.

Posted Agenda Items:

1. Ann Fisk, Blandford Ski Area: Liquor Licenses, Mrs. Fisk presented the Board with request for liquor licenses for two events to be held in November at the Blandford Ski Area. At both events less than 100 people are expected so an event license is not required. Mrs. Fisk already spoke with Chief Hennessy and no police presence will be needed.
 - a. Mr. Montanaro motion to approve a liquor license for the wine tasting event on November 7, 2015 and the beer garden event on October 24, 2015 at the Blandford Ski Area, Mr. Dolby second, unanimous vote.
2. Jane Pinsley Regarding Nye Brook Road.
 - a. Mrs. Pinsley expressed her concern regarding the state of Nye Brook Road from the Ski Area to Huntington Road. She feels it is “dangerous and impassable”. She requested that the Selectboard bring the road up to a safe standard so that is passable.
 - b. Mrs. Smith: the bridge on the road is posted as impassable; the road has been posted as closed for a while now.
 - c. Town Clerk: The road is still listed as a Town Road.
 - d. Mrs. Pinsley: concerned about her property value as it abuts that part of Nye Brook Road and if she were to develop the lots she would need the road to be passable.
 - e. Mr. Montanaro: will follow up with the Highway Superintendent, however funds are low. Roads are prioritized by amount of travel and number of residents; this part of the road doesn't have any houses on it and is not traveled.
3. Gazebo: Request from Dave Neill to perform an acoustic concert at the Gazebo in Watson Park on June 23, 2016. Concert will be grant funded and free to the public. Board agreed and asked that Mr. Neill advertise and clean-up afterwards.

4. Minutes: Mr. Montanaro motion to approve the minutes of September 28, 2015 as amended, Mr. Dolby second, unanimous vote.

Old Business:

1. Fixed Asset Module: SoftRight quote reviewed, \$3,500 initial cost, \$1,000 yearly maintenance. Finance Committee: have to have this module for upcoming audit. The Treasurer will be in charge of collecting the data. Mr. Dolby will follow-up with SoftRight to try to reduce price.
2. GTAC Letter of Endorsement: Revisit
3. Discuss Shared Counsel: Town Clerk has concerns about giving the Selectboard the authority to hire additional counsel without Town approval.
 - a. Mr. Montanaro: the reason that it was endorsed is to enter into a joint suit with other towns regarding Worthington. With this commitment we will receive a bill at 1/6 of the total cost and the contract for this particular case is renewed yearly.
 - b. Mrs. Kronholm: the Selectboard should have to go to the Town every time they need to use joint counsel.
 - c. Mr. Montanaro: Our Counsel wrote and supported the article approved at the special town meeting. He had been concerned with the article when it was presented back in May but after discussing it with the attorney doing the litigation, he agreed with the article and recommended it. The Selectboard often enters into discussions and contracts various attorneys within the Kopelman and Paige firm according to areas of expertise.
 - d. Mr. Van Werkhoven: the article was well explained at the special town meeting and overwhelmingly approved.
 - e. The other 6 Towns in the district passed the same article.
4. School Committee Job Description: No amendments were received from the School Committee members so the job description is now in effect.
5. Nye Brook Road Work: Resident complimented the Highway Department for the excellent work grading and milling Nye Brook Road.
6. Watson Park Gate: Discussed having the park Superintendent close the gate at sundown and open it at sunrise.
 - a. Mrs. Kronholm noted that some rocks needed to be replaced on the rock wall. Cara will contact Mr. Allen for a price. If the price is less than \$300, the Selectboard approved that work can begin immediately.
7. Town Clerk: Lights in her office are on motion sensor and don't remain on while she is working. She will follow-up with DAS.
8. Chief Harvey: Fire Department Roof Quote
 - a. Chief Harvey had put out several requests for quotes and only received one response.
 - b. Price of \$1,783.00 seems reasonable for small repair. Includes materials, disposal and permit fees.
 - c. Mr. Montanaro: asked that Chief Harvey check references for the company and have someone present during the work. Suggestion to have Building Inspector present.
 - d. Funded from Capitol Expenses.

- e. Mr. Montanaro motion to approve Vista Home Improvement's quote of \$1,783.00 to complete the roof repair at the Fire Department, Mr. Dolby Second, unanimous vote.
- 9. COA Wireless: Letter from COA offering to cover \$250 of wireless router fee as the price was higher than expected and they had not approved the purchase before it was finalized. Selectboard agreed to allow the COA to cover this portion of the cost.
 - a. Discussion regarding all COA members having access to the wireless.
- 10. Highway Mitigation: Release form has been submitted to DEP, waiting on a site number. Then Cold Spring will submit their report to DEP.
 - a. Cold Spring recommended hiring a risk assessor as the levels of contamination are above the standard allowed by DEP. However as there is not any ground water within 500 feet and the building is not a dwelling, a risk assessor will assess the site and write a report for DEP explaining our low-risk status. Alan Weiss recommended Jim Okun of Springfield.
 - b. Mr. Montanaro motion to approve bid from Talbot, O'Reilly and Okun for \$5,300 to complete a risk assessment at the Blandford Highway Garage, Mr. Dolby second, unanimous vote.
- 11. Solar Panels: panels are covered by our insurance company, but this type of coverage is new to the industry.
 - a. Discussed possibility of leasing the panels.
 - b. Mr. Dolby will follow-up with another company as well.
 - c. Selectboard will wait to see if it is something the Water Commissioners wish to pursue.
- 12. Eversource Meeting: scheduling mishap
- 13. HCOG Electric Aggregation Program: denied by the Department of Public Utilities, won't be appealing.

New Business:

- 1. Town Clerk: asked that all boards/departments send agendas and mm for her records dating back to July, 2014.

9:00 p.m. Mr. Montanaro motion to adjourn, Mr. Dolby second, unanimous vote.

Submitted by:
Cara Letendre

Adam Dolby - Chair

Andrew Montanaro - Clerk