



TOWN OF BLANDFORD
Board of Selectmen, Minutes
November 9, 2015

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

Open Meeting:

7:04 p.m. Mr. Dolby called meeting to order, provided notice that meeting may be recorded.

Posted Agenda Items:

1. ABCC Population Estimate:
 - a. Mr. Montanaro motion to approve the Town Clerk's population estimate of 1,100 for July 2016, Mr. Levakis second, unanimous vote.
2. Vacation Time Approvals:
 - a. Mr. Levakis: concerned about employees taking vacations during critical times. In an effort to improve communication would like to increase mandatory notice from 7 to 14 days.
 - b. Mr. Montanaro: would like to set a schedule with the financial officers that the books be closed on October 15. In that case a November vacation would not be a problem.
 - c. Mrs. Smith: the Treasurer takes this vacation with her entire family every year at this time. We don't foresee that it will be a problem next year. It is especially difficult this year to close the books as we are cleaning up past mistakes. When the Treasurer left for vacation she had everything done that was required.
 - d. Mr. Dolby: agrees with the suggestion for more notice.
 - e. Mr. Levakis motion to change the vacation policy to require 14 days notification to a supervisor, paid or unpaid, part-time or full-time, Mr. Dolby second, unanimous vote.
3. Minutes: Mr. Levakis motion to approve meeting minutes as written from November 2, 2015, Mr. Levakis second, unanimous vote.

Old Business:

1. Wired West Shared Counsel: Kopelman and Paige has agreed to review the contract at no charge for their client towns.
2. MassDot Survey: table, no news
3. GTAC Delegates: waiting on hearing from Counsel regarding Finance member being able to serve.

- a. Mr. Levakis motion to appoint Jackie Dolby to GTAC for a term of one year, Mr. Montanaro second, unanimous vote. Mr. Dolby abstained.
- 4. All Board Meeting: Schedule for Monday December 7, 2015. Cara will send a save the date and will follow-up with an agenda.
- 5. Pay Freeze: discussed releasing the wages.
 - a. Mitigation funds have come through, however we are re-voting the school budget on November 19.
 - b. Mr. Montanaro asked the Finance Committee to put together a list of all potential options/outcomes
- 6. BaNash Property: in negotiation amongst residents.
- 7. Town Administrator: Mr. Montanaro would like to move forward and put a committee together to post an ad and screen recruits.
 - a. Suggestion to wait until the pay freeze has been released.
 - b. Mrs. Smith: the pay raises and the Town Administrator have already been budgeted for. Half of the pay for the Administrator would be left over if we don't hire anyone until January. Mr. Van WerkHooven and myself are working as administrators free of charge for about 20 hrs per week.
 - c. Table discussion for next week.

New Business:

- 1. Skating Rink: rink will be 100x50 ft this year. Will be assembled on November 21 at 10:00 a.m. Looking for volunteers to help.
- 2. Mrs. Smith: please have the Fire Chief email the details of the defibrillators he is looking for.
- 3. Cemetery Commissioner: looking for bid on a small dump trailer.
- 4. Building and Wiring Inspectors: some complaints about calls not being returned. Cara will follow-up with Laurie Parent regarding job descriptions. Mr. Dolby will follow-up with inspectors.
- 5. Mr. Montanaro: regarding Highway Superintendent's request to receive any directions via a memo from the entire Selectboard.
 - a. How does the liaison job fit into this new policy?
 - i. Mr. Levakis: the memo would be for work orders not for clarification or follow-up.
 - ii. Mr. Dolby: intent of memo is so Mr. Curry isn't pulled in several directions. Purpose of the Liaison is to have someone to speak to from the Board.
 - b. Herrick Road Complaints: What is going on with Eversource? Will they be doing the repair work?
 - c. Board asked for Mr. Curry to be on the agenda for next week to discuss an action plan for Herrick Road and a plan for the next 30 days.
- 6. Blandford Fair: feedback this year was that the fair was disappointing. Do we have a plan?
 - a. Not the domain of the Selectboard. We don't have influence.

8:29 Mr. Levakis motion to adjourn, Mr. Dolby second, unanimous vote.

Submitted by:
Cara Letendre

Adam Dolby - Chair

Andrew Montanaro - Clerk

William Levakis - Member