



**TOWN OF BLANDFORD  
SELECTBOARD**

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

**TOWN OF BLANDFORD  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
October 9, 2018**

**OPEN SESSION 7:04 p.m.**

**E. McVey**, Clerk; **W. Levakis**, Member; **J. Garcia**, Interim Town Administrator in attendance.

In the absence of the Chairman, the Clerk will take on the position of Chairman for the October 9, 2018 meeting.

Meeting opens at 7:03 pm. Meeting is recorded.

**1. EXAMINATION OF RECORDS OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:**

- a. Examination of meeting minutes of Board of Selectmen Meeting of 10/9/18**
- b. Examination of meeting minutes of Board of Selectmen Meeting of 9/24/18**
- c. Examination of meeting minutes of Board of Selectmen Meeting of 6/25/18**

**MOTION:** **E. McVey** made a motion to table the meeting minutes until the October 15, 2018 meeting and the return of the BOS Chairman.

**2. \*AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:**

**None**

**3. ACTION ITEMS**

**a. Committee Membership Removal Procedure**

The Conservation Commission requested that the Board of Selectmen assist the Commission in reaching out to a member of the commission that is not attending meetings making it extremely difficult to achieve a quorum. The BOS will discuss the situation with Town Counsel and schedule a hearing at the next BOS meeting on October 15, 2018.

**b. Home Depot Cards**

The Interim Selectboard Administrative Assistant discussed the ongoing process of organizing and tracking the use of the Home Depot Cards distributed to the departments. There was a discussion about keeping the card safe and carefully monitored.

**c. Time Clocks**

**B. Levakis** voiced his concern about the need for a more efficient way to track the work time of employees. There was a discussion about the best way to maintain a time system for accountability. **E. McVey** made a suggestion to look into purchasing a software program rather than hardware which will just require a log-in to accept in and out times. **B. Levakis** will look into this.

**d. Resignation Letter from Paul Martin**

The BOS accepted the resignation letter from Paul Martin from the Finance Committee effective October 2, 2018.

**e. New Library Director**

Mary Kronholm introduced Nicole Davio to the Board as the new Library Director. Nicole is a lifelong resident of Blandford and is a long-time library employee including Forbes Library and the Gateway School Libraries.

**4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM PRIOR MEETINGS**

**a. Conservation Commission Update**

The Conservation Commission talked about the progress on North Blandford Road stating that there has been some progress by the solar company to respect the Town's building codes. The Commission met with the company to request their plans for moving forward and protocol to give access to the site. This information will be shared with the Highway and Building Departments.

**b. Social Media Policy**

A letter will be sent to all department heads that the Town did adopt a Social Media Policy for elected officials, employees and committee members. It was noted that while using social media, all of the Town's employees, elected officials and committee members should remember they are speaking as an appointed official in an official capacity which carries responsibilities in that individuals are accountable for what they say as they are representatives of the Town of Blandford. The Social Media Policy will be posted on the Town Website.

**c. Town-Wide Appointed Position Update**

The Town Clerk and the Town Administrator are continuing to work on an updated list of contacts including employees, elected officials and committee members. E. McVey mentioned the importance of creating a post on the Town website noting the Town's need for committee members.

**5. NEW BUSINESS:**

**a. Tom & Rayette McMann – Zoning**

The McMann's requested a meeting with the BOS to discuss the problem with the property adjacent to their home that has constructed a motocross track on their property at 113 Otis Stage Road. This property is currently under contract to be sold. The McMann's voiced their concern about the fact that the Town has no established zoning law permitting the construction of a motocross track and that the property has been advertised to promote selling as having a motocross track. There was discussion about the Clean Air Act requiring decibel level limits and this motocross track is clearly above these restricted levels. The McMann's are mostly concerned that new property owners will purchase the property believing it is a legal motocross track and begin using the track as a public business. The BOS will <sup>research</sup> issue a letter with these concerns to the present homeowners addressing these issues and that this property should not be placed for sale as a legitimate motocross track without the required zoning permits.

**b. Stefanie & Matt McGinty; Concern Re: Solar project on Otis Stage Road**

The McGinty's requested a meeting with the BOS to discuss the SunPin Solar property that abuts their

property on Otis Stage Road. The McGinty's gave a breakdown of all the issues they complied with willingly because they have a good deal of wetlands on their property noting that they have made costly adjustments to their property in order to abide by the wetland regulations in good faith. Their concern is that SunPin has now put a driveway in on their property that the McGinty's believe is crossing through wetlands which will divert the water flow directly onto their property. The BOS will work with the Planning Commission, the Conservation Commission and Town Council on this matter requesting that SunPin respect and recognize the wetland regulations and buffer zones.

**c. Water Department Update**

The BOS will write a letter to the Water Department requesting an update on the progress of the water pipe replacements on North Street.

**d. Notification for Vegetation Management/Lewis Tree Service**

The Town has received notification from Eversource and Lewis Tree Service about clearing trees and vegetation on Herrick Road. The Town Administrator will notify residents of Herrick Road.

**e. John Piper Reappointment to Conservation Commission**

**MOTION: B. Levakis made a motion to reappoint John Piper to the Conservation Commission for a 3-year term commencing July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2021.**

**E. McVey Seconded**

**All in Favor.**

**f. Shared Municipal Agreement**

The BOS reviewed and signed a determination and consent letter from KP Law concerning an inter-municipal agreement for shared economical development director services.

**g. Tear-down of Old Chlorinator**

The Town administrator presented the contract from the Cooper Excavating regarding the demolition of the old town chlorinator. There was a discussion about the process and minor changes to the contract.

**MOTION: E. McVey made a motion to accept the contract from Cooper Excavating & Trucking with the noted amendments added: 'Machine grading and seeding the lot is required upon completion'.**

**B. Levakis Seconded**

**All in Favor**

**h. ID Card Machine Update**

The Interim Administrative Assist and the Town Administrator will begin work with Higgins Corporation to train and install the Swipe/ID Card Machine to be used as security and ID for the building and its employees.

Meeting is adjourned at 8:56 pm

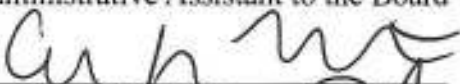
**6. \*\*EXECUTIVE SESSION: Pursuant to MGL C30A, S21. To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining.**

Pursuant to MGL C30A, S21 5h343 is no executive session discussion for 10/9/18

\*NOTE: Audience participation / public comment is welcome only when acknowledged by the Chair and limited to two minutes. Participation / public comment is only limited to Blandford residents and can only comment on agenda items only

\*\*NOTE: Agenda may include items not reasonably expected 48 hours before the meeting. At any point this meeting may go into executive section if Selectboard finds it warranted.

Submitted by: Joann Martin  
Administrative Assistant to the Board

  
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Cara Letendre, Chairman

  
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Eric McVey, Clerk

  
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William Levakis, Member