



TOWN OF BLANDFORD
SELECTBOARD

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

**TOWN OF BLANDFORD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
October 29, 2018**

OPEN SESSION 7:00 p.m.

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

Open Meeting at 7:01 pm Meeting is recorded.

1. EXAMINATION OF RECORDS OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

- a. Examination of meeting minutes of Board of Selectmen meeting on 10/22/18.
- b. Examination of the Executive Session minutes of the Board of Selectmen on 10/22/18.

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to accept the Board of Selectmen meeting minutes of 10/29/18 with amendments.

**E. McVey Seconded
All in Favor**

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to accept the Executive Session minutes of the Board of Selectmen meeting of 10/22/18 as written.

**E. McVey Seconded
All in Favor**

2.*AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

None

3. ACTION ITEMS

a. Purchase Security Safe

E. McVey presented information to the BOS about the Pennsylvania Government Depot that has many combination safes which can be purchased for around \$600. E. McVey will contact the State for purchase and get the safe registered to the Town.

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to allow E. McVey to inquire and approve the purchase of government excess safes.

**B. Levakis Seconded
All in Favor**

b. FY2019 Local Cultural Council Funds Contract

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to sign the contract with the state to transfer grant funds to the Local Cultural Council.

E. McVey Seconded

All in Favor

c. Two Resignation Letters presented to the BOS

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to accept the resignation letter from Frank Lucia from the Conservation Commission effective immediately.

E. McVey Seconded

All in Favor

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to accept the resignation letter from Cindy Montenero from Register of Voters effective November 25, 2018.

E. McVey Seconded

All in Favor

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to skip to New Business, 5b. Changes in Payroll Process.

E. McVey Seconded

All in Favor

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM PRIOR MEETINGS

a. Vehicles, Fire & Highway; Fire Department Chief & Highway Superintendent

Chief Harvey:

1. *Life Fire Training:* The Chief reported to the BOS that his department just participated in Life Fire Training with his department and they are wrapping up their First Responder Classes and will be taking their test on Wednesday.
2. *Squad 2:* This vehicle has electrical issues but the Chief believes it will be corrected as they identify the issues.
3. *Engine 1:* This is a 21-year-old vehicle and it did not pass pump testing. He is collecting quotes to repair the pump. He recommends we keep this vehicle in use for the next 5 years. He would like to get the repairs done sooner than later.
4. *Brush 3:* The estimated replacement date for this vehicle is 2019, ideally. There was a discussion about the possibilities for replacement in the future. He stated the vehicle is holding up and will use it for the time being as is. The only concerning factor is its age but it's fine for the short term and should be replaced eventually with a used vehicle.
5. *Brush 93:* This vehicle has multiple mechanical issues and will be repaired as needed. The Chief states he can potentially replace Brush 3 and Brush 93 with one vehicle.
6. *Rescue 4:* The Chief is currently sending out specs for the replacement of this vehicle in 2019.
7. *Firehouse Roof:* The leak to the roof has not occurred again but he is reaching out to several roofing companies for quotes.
8. *Emergency Planning Grant:* The grant did come through and the Town will be funded for various items used for the Fire Department and Animal Control including flash lights, sled-type stretchers and they are working on creating temporary housing for animals picked up by Animal Control.

Superintendent Curry:

Mack 1: This dump truck is brand new and has to go back to correct several minor glitches before putting this vehicle into service. It will be repaired at no charge to the Town.

Mack 2: This Mack truck is out of service at this time because it didn't pass inspection. It will be stripped and auctioned.

Truck 3: The Freightliner is a 2012 and is sitting at the shop out of service. It will cost \$16,000 to repair the corrosion and rust. There was a discussion about replace versus repair. The BOS recommended he repair the vehicle to get us through the winter and a replacement possibility will be discussed in the future.

Truck 4: The Ford 550 Flat needs to be put on the Capital Replacement plan to be replaced as soon as possible. The vehicle has a lot of rust and did pass inspection in September but will need to be replaced in 2019.

Truck 5: This Ford 550 Flat is 6 years old and is used for plowing and sanding. The repair costs are low at this time.

Truck 6: This AM general dump truck is 28 years old and in good operation. This vehicle is used for back-up plowing and hauling. The repair costs are low at this time.

Truck 7: This AM general dump truck is a 34-year old truck and is in good operating condition. This vehicle is a back-up truck for plowing, sanding and hauling. The repair costs are low at this time.

Wrecker: This AM general wrecker is currently out of service. The truck is 34 years old and has been used for pulling and is in need of repairs to the hydraulic hose and battery. The repairs are in process.

Truck A1: This Ford 450 bucket, which came from Government surplus, is working very well. The cost of repairs is low at this time.

b. ID Badge Update

The Interim Administrative Assistant gave an update on the ID Badge machine, which is now functional, and ID cards will start to be distributed with the intention of using them as key card in the near future.

4c. Early Voting Update

The Town Clerk presented the early voting results to the BOS noting that it went well and there has been an increase in interest over last year.

4d. Shared Policing Study

E. McVey, Chief Ilnicky, B. Levakis and J. Garcia joined the Chester BOS to discuss the first steps in exploring shared policing for the two towns. The Novack Consulting Group have done this before for other towns and they have collected information and questions and will get their presentation together and report back in 3 weeks with their recommendations.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

a. Warrant for State Election

The Board of Selectmen signed the Warrant for State Election. It will be posted on the website and the Constable will sign and post in his designated areas.

b. Changes in Payroll Process

S. Hunter, Treasurer joined the BOS meeting to discuss and recommend changes in the payroll processing date to allow more efficiency.

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to change the pay period to Friday through Thursday with employees receiving a paycheck every other Thursday.

E. McVey Seconded

All in Favor

c. Dehumidifier Replacement – B. Levakis

B. Levakis presented several quotes to the BOS for replacement of the dehumidifiers in the basement which are no longer working correctly. He will make recommendation to the BOS for purchase.

6. OTHER BUSINESS, IF ANY:

6a. Pre-Sale Conditioning of Unit 30/60 Police Vehicle

There was a discussion about our police cruiser that will be stripped down and sold. Our new cruiser came fully equipped.

b. MMA Meeting

J. Garcia presented a letter from MA DOT approving the supplemental budget which filed for an additional \$40 million in Chapter 90 local transportation aid funding for Fiscal Year 2019 which represents a 20% increase of the usual funding amount.

c. Alcohol Process Approvals

The Town Administrator reviewed the process necessary to renew alcohol licenses in town and will be taking care of this in the future.

d. Gym Assignments

The Town Administrator will now be the key person to keep track of the use of the Gymnasium.

e. Western Ma News Donates \$500 to Fire Department

Western MA News has visited Blandford and interviewed multiple people in the community about the culture and the exciting changes that are going on. They interviewed Deputy Chief Tom Ackly and presented the Fire Department with a \$500 donation.

f. Reorganize Regional Contract-MARS-C. Letendre

C. Letendre spoke of the recent School Committee meeting and reorganizing the regional contract that must be signed and approved with the approval of all towns involved.

g. Municipal Light Board Meeting November 13, 2018

The MLB Meeting will be in the BOS room from 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm on November 13. Talking points will be the funding process so towns can afford to bring fiber to their area.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:04 pm

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

None

*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 session if Selectboard finds it warranted.

Submitted by: Joann Martin
Administrative Assistant to the Board

Cara Letendre, Chairman

Eric McVey, Clerk

William Levakis, Member