



TOWN OF BLANDFORD
SELECTBOARD

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

**TOWN OF BLANDFORD
JOINT MEETING WITH
BOARD OF SELECTMEN AND
FINANCE COMMITTEE
May 13, 2019**

OPEN SESSION 7:00 pm

C. Letendre, Chairman; ~~**E. McVey**, Clerk absent~~; **T. Ackley**, Member; **J. Garcia**, Town Administrator; **J. Lombardo**, Chairman Finance; **A. Quinn**, Member Finance; **J. Ball**, Member Finance in attendance.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm Meeting is recorded.

C. Letendre welcomed new member, Thomas Ackley to the Board of Selectmen.

1. EXAMINATION OF RECORDS OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

a. Examination of the meeting minutes of the Board of Selectmen meeting of April 29, 2019

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to table the examination of the meeting minutes of the Selectboard meeting of April 29, 2019 until the June 3, 2019 when E. McVey returns.

T. Ackley Seconded

All in Favor

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to invoke the order of necessity to approve the meeting minutes of May 6, 2019 as written

T. Ackley Seconded

All in Favor

2.*AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:

None

3. ACTION ITEMS

a. Request from Library Department to use funds from capital projects to install carpeting at the Porter Memorial Library

M. Kronholm, Library Trustee, requested the Board of Selectmen approve using Capital Project funds to install carpeting in Porter Memorial Library. C. Letendre requested Mary gather more information as one of the quotes was quite old and one quote seemed to be incomplete. The item will be on the agenda at the June 3, 2019 BOS meeting for review.

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to table the request for carpeting at the Porter Memorial Library so more research can be done.

T. Ackley Seconded

All in Favor

b. Year-End Line Item Transfer Request – Finance Committee

Garcia welcomed the Finance Committee and submitted several requests for transferring funds:

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to transfer \$64.89 from Line Item #015429.001 Municipal Light Board to #015162.000 Elections & Registrations

T. Ackley Seconded

All in Favor

MOTION: T. Ackley made a motion to rescind the motion for \$64.89

C. Letendre Seconded

All in Favor

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to transfer \$105.60 from Line Item #015429.001 Municipal Light Board to #015422.006 Highway Vehicle Maintenance

T. Ackley Seconded

All in Favor

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to transfer \$2,282.49 from Line Item #015429.001 Municipal Light Board to #015422.009 Highway Plow Blades/Nuts

T. Ackley Seconded

All in Favor

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to transfer \$708.00 from Line Item #015429.001 Municipal Light Board to #015422.002 Highway Expenses

T. Ackley Seconded

All in Favor

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to transfer \$2,400.00 from Line Item #015429.001 Municipal Light Board to #015192.005 Town Hall Labor

T. Ackley Seconded

All in Favor

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to transfer \$5,835.15 from Line Item #015429.001 Municipal Light Board to #015192.004 External IT Support

T. Ackley Seconded

All in Favor

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to transfer \$626.67 from Line Item #015151.000 Town Counsel to #015192.001 Town Hall Utilities

T. Ackley Seconded

All in Favor

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM PRIOR MEETINGS

a. Solar Project Update – R. Barnard

Rick Barnard joined the Board of Selectmen to update them on the solar progress in town.

-He requested that J. Mueller be appointed on the Planning Board to complete the solar projects she was involved with during her appointment on the Planning Board.

-Barnard voiced his concern about the lack of availability of a building inspector in town as our present inspector works during the day and the solar projects are being held up as a result. The Board had a discussion about how to resolve this issue going forward with the possibility of sharing services with other towns.

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to appoint Julie Mueller as member of the Planning Board for a 5-year term.

T. Ackley Seconded

All in Favor

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to move to 5c. Update on Road Improvement Projects

T. Ackley Seconded

All in Favor

b. Vehicle Policy – B. Levakis

The Board had a discussion about the need to revise the vehicle policy. It was agreed upon that this item not be revised and will be removed from the agenda.

c. Review Agreement for Shared Vocational Transportation Services

This item was previously approved. Remove from the agenda.

d. Review Renewal Agreement for Shared Economic Development Director Services

Garcia reviewed the 2nd-year agreement with Jeanne LeClair, Economic Director. Town counsel has reviewed the changes.

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to approve the Inter-Municipal Agreement for shared Economic Development Director as written.

T. Ackley Seconded

All in Favor

e. Review Agreement with Hilltown Community Ambulance for Ambulance Response Services

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to table the review of the Hilltown Community Ambulance until we hear from Town Counsel.

T. Ackley Seconded

All in Favor

f. Review Town Counsel recommendations for revised regional agreement of the Gateway Regional School District Services

J. Garcia recommends the BOS accept the revisions of town counsel. Once each of the participating 6 towns accept the revisions, the final version will be presented at a town meeting for approval.

MOTION: T. Ackley made a motion to accept Town Counsel’s revisions of the regional agreement of the Gateway Regional School District Services.

C. Letendre Seconded for Discussion

MOTION: C. Letendre amended the motion to table this discussion until the Board has a copy of the original digital agreement.

T. Ackley Seconded

All in Favor

g. Remove the skating rink

C. Letendre will contact Doug Emo about dismantling the skating rink in preparation for the Memorial Day picnic.

h. Memorial Day Picnic

The Board had a discussion about the final details of the Memorial Day parade and picnic on May 27, 2019. The parade line up is 11:00 am; parade starts at 11:30 am with a memorial ceremony following. The picnic will launch at 12:00 pm following the parade.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

a. Review Price Proposals for Animal Control/General Use Vehicle

This item is tabled indefinitely.

b. First Round of Overpayment Reimbursements

Sixty-nine reimbursements to residents from the Lee Ann Thompson case are ready to be processed. It is now in the hands of Softrite so they can do the necessary adjustments that need to take place in the system. Once that takes place it can take 4 weeks before the reimbursement can be mailed out. These residents will be notified at this time. The next round of reimbursements is in process.

c. Update on Road Improvement Project and Equipment Purchase – Highway Superintendent

-Rene Senecal joined the BOS to discuss the ongoing progress of road repairs in town. Senecal states that there is a tremendous amount going on in town right now. He noted that county bids will come out this week. He also stated that County Bids are coming in low and looking favorable. He talked about grouping various roads together to get better pricing from the paving company quotes.

-He updated the board on Chapter 90 availability.

- Senecal updated the board on vehicle repairs and replacement needs.

-He spoke to the Board about saving money on sand, salt and de-icing going forward.

-C. Letendre mentioned the condition of Chester Road toward the Chester Town line and the importance of keeping the school bus routes in good shape.

-Senecal noted that he met with conservation about the Sperry Road culvert problems and need to have the conservation commission review the situation before replacing this culvert.

-Rene asked for clarification about the proper channels that are to be followed when purchasing major items.

d. Municipal Light Board – Hosting a Broadband Update Meeting

Garcia mentioned that on Tuesday, May 21 there will be a meeting at 7:00 pm in the BOS room to update the public on the Broadband progress.

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to move to 4b. Vehicle Policy.

T. Ackley Seconded

All in Favor

6. OTHER BUSINESS, IF ANY:

None

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to MGL C30A, § S21 to consider the discipline or dismissal of or to hear complaints or changes brought against a public employee, not to reconvene.

T. Ackley Seconded

Roll Call Vote: C. Letendre – Yes T. Ackley - Yes

Meeting Adjourned at 8:35 pm

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Pursuant to MGL C30A, § S21 to consider the discipline or dismissal of or to hear complaints or charges brought against a public employee

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

**NOTE: Agenda may include items not reasonably expected 48 hours before the meeting. At any point, this meeting may go into executive section if the Board of Selectmen find it warranted.

Submitted by: Joann Martin

Administrative Assistant to the Board of Selectmen

Cara Letendre, Chairman

Eric McVey, Clerk

Thomas Ackley, Member