



TOWN OF BLANDFORD  
SELECTBOARD

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

**MEETING MINUTES  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
September 30, 2019**

**1. Open Session at 7:01 pm**

**Meeting is recorded**

**Meeting held at Town Hall**

**C. Letendre, Chairman; ~~E. MeVey, Clerk Absent~~; T. Ackley, Member; J. Garcia, Town Administrator**

**MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to move to Action Item 4b. Approve Water Department Secretary Sarah Desilets  
T. Ackley Seconded  
All in Favor**

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

**a. Examination of the Meeting Minutes of the Board of Selectmen meeting**

Notes for September 23, 2019 will be presented at the October 7, 2019 meeting.

**3. \*AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION / PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None

**4. ACTION ITEMS:**

**a. Municipal Light Board – P. Langmore – Update on Broadband**

Peter Langmore, June Masee and Kim Bergland joined the BOS to update the on-going broadband installation process. Peter updated the Board on the pole replacement project by Eversource. He shared Governor Baker's visit stating that he is not sure the time but it will be October 10, 2019 and he will keep us updated. Langmore noted that he wants to thank J. Girard and the Blandford Fair Grounds for allowing Eversource to use their property as a staging ground for their equipment. Cara inquired about the broadband Hut. Peter said the Broadband Hut will be delivered soon and we are in need of a crane as the Hut is 40,000 pounds. He is estimating that Broadband will be ready to go in the fall of 2020.

**b. Approve Water Department Secretary, Sarah Desilets**

**MOTION: T. Ackley made a motion to approve the hiring of Sarah Desilets as Water Department Secretary  
C. Letendre Seconded  
All in Favor**

**5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM PRIOR MEETINGS:**

**a. Review and Approve Photovoltaic Solar PILOT Agreement with DG MA Solar, LLC**

The review of this agenda item is on-going and will be reviewed at the October 7, 2019 Board of Selectmen meeting.

**b. Review and Approve Photovoltaic Solar PILOT Agreement with Syncarpha Blandford, LLC**

The review of this agenda item is on-going and will be reviewed at the October 7, 2019 Board of Selectmen meeting.

**c. Request for Quotation for Landscape Architects ideas for Watson Park and Bicentennial Park – On-going.**

Garcia presented the RFQ for landscape work in the parks. The Board decided to work on the priorities in these parks at this time. This information will be shared with the Historical Commission.

-Bicentennial Park:

**MOTION:** C. Letendre made a motion to approve the quote for landscaping work at Bicentennial Park totaling \$6,450.

**T. Ackley Seconded for Discussion**

**All in Favor**

-Watson Park

**MOTION:** C. Letendre made a motion to approve the repair of the entryway stone wall-\$7,900, the landscaping quote- \$34,975 as well as the yearly maintenance - \$4,000.

**T. Ackley Seconded**

**All in Favor**

**6. NEW BUSINESS:**

**a. The Treasurer/Tax Collector is requesting the fee be raised from \$25 to \$50 for Municipal Lien Certificates.**

**MOTION:** C. Letendre made a motion to table the Treasurer/Tax Collector's request to raise Municipal Lien fees from \$25 to \$50.

**T. Ackley Seconded**

**All in Favor**

**b. Painting of the Shed on the side of Town Hall as well as repairing the cement slab at the rear exit of the building.**

Letendre voiced her concerns about the condition of the shed on the side of the building that is used for storage stating the condition is bad; paint peeling, wood rotting and roof needs replacement. Garcia will look into the possible replacement of the shed and the possibility of repairing the stone slab.

**c. Assessor's Office: Assessor who has not yet completed the Assessor's training course.**

Garcia will have a conversation about this with the individual.

**d. Condition of Town Fire Hydrants – Garcia**

Garcia asked for an audit of the condition of the Town fire hydrants. Ackley mentioned that there are hydrants in town that need some work. Gordon Avery, Commissioner of the Water Department will supply a list of hydrants and their location and the condition of each of these hydrants so we can budget for repair of those hydrants in need.

**e. Update on Blandford/Springfield Water Meeting**

Garcia informed the Board about his meeting with Springfield Water. He was joined by our Assessors, RRG and in attendance for Springfield Water was their Executive Director Joshua Schimmel, their comptroller and their legal counsel. Garcia felt the meeting was constructive. We shared notes and reconciled ownership of property in Town in which Springfield owns 48 parcels. Through RRG;s research from reviewing each of the parcels, RRG discovered a variance of roughly 1,000 acres not properly recorded due to insufficient technology during the early 1900’s when these specific parcels were acquired. Going forward, RRG will verify major acreage difference with CAI-Tech, update the Patriot acreage to agree with the GIS/maps, re-value each account based on DOR’s state owned valuation guidelines, update Springfield’s pilot payments and allow an opportunity for them to appeal and then bill the City of Springfield for the difference.

**7. OTHER BUSINESS, IF ANY:**

None

**8. MEETING ADJOURNED:**

Adjourn at 8:34 pm

**9\*\*EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

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 section if Selectboard finds it warranted.

Submitted by: Joann Martin  
Administrative Assistant to the Board of Selectmen

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Cara Letendre, Chairman

Absent  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Eric McVey, Clerk

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Thomas Akley, Member