



TOWN OF BLANDFORD  
SELECT BOARD

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

**JOINT MEETING MINUTES with  
BLANDFORD SELECT BOARD, FINANCE  
COMMITTEE and WATER COMMISSIONERS  
April 5, 2021  
6:00 pm**

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L.C. 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 order imposing strict limitation on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Blandford Select Board will be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible. Members of the public who wish to listen to the meeting may do so by visiting either of the following options:

- **Zoom Video Link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87116077710>
- **Meeting ID:** 871 1607 7710
- **Phone Dial In:** 1-929-205-6099, dial in meeting ID when prompted

No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted unless you are on the agenda ahead of time, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time, via technological means. If we are unable to do so, despite best efforts, we will post on the Town of Blandford website a transcript or other comprehensive record of proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting.

If you have any comment regarding items that are on the agenda, please forward to Joann Martin, Administrative Assistant, at [Selectboardadmin@townofblandford.com](mailto:Selectboardadmin@townofblandford.com) or 413-848-4279 x206.

**1. Open Session at 6:00 pm                      Meeting is recorded                      Meeting held virtually/Zoom**

**In attendance:** C. Letendre, Chairman; E. McVey, Member; T. Ackley, Member; J. Garcia, Town Administrator; K. Smelcer, Finance; J. Lombardo, Finance; D. Champiney, Water Commissioner; M. Keier, Water Commissioner; D. Jemiolo, Town Clerk

**MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to move to 4a. Petition for joint or identical pole locations from NSTAR Electric Company DBA Eversource Energy and Verizon New England, Inc. upon the plan marked #1A4S2HM**

**E. McVey Seconded  
All in Favor**

**2. EXAMINATION OF THE MEETING MINUTES:**

***a. Examination of the Meeting Minutes of March 22, 2021***

**MOTION:** E. McVey made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of March 22, 2021 as amended

**C. Letendre Seconded  
All in Favor**

***b. Examination of the Meeting Minutes of March 29, 2021***

**MOTION:** C. Letendre made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of March 29, 2021 as amended  
**E. McVey Seconded**  
**All in Favor**

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

***a. Steve Hart – Perc Test Update***

Mr. Hart of Chester Road joined the Board to voice his concern about the perc test done on Chester Road for the new Highway Building reiterating that it was not a good perc test. R. Senecal, Highway Superintendent, was tasked with contacting the DEP to have them review the test. The DEP explained that they do not oversee perc testing however they do know the individual that performed the test and noted that this person is highly respected in his field and they would have no reason to question the test. Senecal gave the name and phone number of the contact person at DEP so Steve Hart can contact him.

**4. ACTION ITEMS:**

***a. HEARING – Petition for joint or identical pole locations from NSTAR Electric Company DBA Eversource Energy and Verizon New England, Inc. upon the plan marked #1A4S2HM***

C. Letendre welcomed the Eversource representative via Zoom to explain the recent petition.

**MOTION:** C. Letendre made a motion to approve the petition for joint or identical pole locations from NSTAR Electric Company DBA Eversource Energy and Verizon New England, Inc. upon the plan marked #1A4S2HM  
**E. McVey Seconded**  
**All in Favor**

***b. Appoint Brad Curry Temporary Water Department Commissioner April 5, 2021 – June 26, 2021***

Water Commissioners, Brian Champiney and Mike Keier joined the Select Board to ask for the temporary appointment of Brad Curry as Water Commissioner for the period of April 5, 2021 to June 26, 2021 to fill an open position on the board.

**MOTION:** C. Letendre made a motion to approve Bradley Curry as Interim Water Commissioner for the Water Department from April 5, 2021 through June 26, 2021.  
**E. McVey Seconded**  
**All in Favor**

**MOTION:** B. Champiney, Chairman of the Water Department made a motion to approve Bradley Curry as Interim Water Commissioner for the Water Department from April 5, 2021 through June 26, 2021.

**M. Keier Seconded**  
**All in Favor**

***c. Action Item – Review and take action on contract between the Town and Pioneer Valley Planning Commission for administering CDBG program (Community Development Block Grant)***

Garcia presented this contract to the Select Board for final review and approval that has been vetted by Town Counsel.

**MOTION:** C. Letendre made a motion to approve the contact between the Town and Pioneer Valley Planning Commission for administering the CDBG Program Grant  
**E. McVey Seconded**  
**All in Favor**

*d. Review and take action on letter from Town to DCAMM Commissioner Gladstone regarding Cobble Mountain Road*  
Garcia explained there has been an update to this communication with DCAMM which he will bring to the next Select Board meeting on April 12, 2021

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

*a. COVID-19 Update*

No update

*b. Sheperd Farm Update*

No update

*c. FY22 Budget and Capital Request Review – joint meeting with Finance Committee*

The Select Board and Finance Committee reviewed the draft budget and capital project plans for FY22

**6. NEW BUSINESS:**

*a. Review All Department Expense Report*

No review

*b. Request from the Building commissioner to consider seeking appropriate authorization to accept the provisions of G.L.c.40, §58, allowing the town to impose a lien on real property for any local charge or fee that has not been paid by the due date, known as the municipal charges lien*

Garcia explained adopting this provision at the Annual Town Meeting to impose liens on those properties that are delinquent on paying fees and fines. The Board approved going forward with proposing this bylaw.

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

**8. TABLED ITEMS:**

**9. MEETING ADJOURNED:**

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm

**10.\*EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

\*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 Select Board  
and Town Administrator

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Cara Letendre, Chairman

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Eric McVey, Clerk

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Thomas Ackley, Member