



TOWN OF BLANDFORD
SELECT BOARD

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

MEETING MINUTES
BLANDFORD SELECT BOARD

May 24, 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 or 413-848-4279 x206.

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

In attendance: C. Letendre, Chairman; C. Letendre, Member; T. Ackley, Member; J. Garcia, Town Administrator

2. EXAMINATION OF THE MEETING MINUTES:

a. Examination of the Meeting Minutes of May 17, 2021

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of May 17, 2021 as written.
T. Ackley Seconded
All in Favor

b. Examination of the Executive Session Meeting Minutes of May 17, 2021

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to table the Executive Session Meeting Minutes of May 17, 2021 until the June 7, 2021 Select Board meeting
T. Ackley Seconded
All in Favor

3. *AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION/PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

4. ACTION ITEMS:

a. Appoint Don Brainerd to Zoning Board of Appeal for the term July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024

MOTION: T. Ackley made a motion to appoint Don Brainerd to Zoning Board of Appeals for the term July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024

C. Letendre Seconded

All in Favor

b. Appoint Peter Milford to Historical Commission for the term July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024

MOTION: T. Ackley made a motion to appoint Peter Milford to Historical Commission for the term July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024

C. Letendre Seconded

All in Favor

c. Appoint Jim Kronholm to Zoning Board of Appeals for the term July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024

MOTION: T. Ackley made a motion to appoint Jim Kronholm to Zoning Board of Appeals for the term July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024

C. Letendre Seconded

All in Favor

d. Appoint Maggie Zajko to Recreation Committee for the term July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024

MOTION: T. Ackley made a motion to appoint Maggie Zajko to Recreation Committee for the term July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024

C. Letendre Seconded

All in Favor

e. Appoint David Waldron as Highway Superintendent for the term July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022

MOTION: T. Ackley made a motion to appoint David Waldron as Highway Superintendent for the term July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022

C. Letendre Seconded

All in Favor

f. Appoint David Waldron as Emergency Management for the term July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022

MOTION: T. Ackley made a motion to appoint David Waldron as Emergency Management for the term July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022

C. Letendre Seconded

All in Favor

**g. Appoint Nicholas Chiusano as Plumbing & Gas Inspector for the term July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022*

MOTION: T. Ackley made a motion to appoint Nicholas Chiusano to Plumbing & Gas Inspector for the term July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022

**C. Letendre Seconded
All in Favor**

*This motion will be amended at the June 7, 2021 meeting to include Nicholas Chiusano as Plumbing & Gas Inspector **Assistant** for the term July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.

h. Appoint Theodore Cousineau as Pioneer Valley Planning Commission Alternate for the term July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022

MOTION: T. Ackley made a motion to appoint Theodore Cousineau to Pioneer Valley Planning Commission Alternate for the term July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022

**C. Letendre Seconded
All in Favor**

i. Appoint Joshua Garcia as Town Administrator for the term July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022

MOTION: T. Ackley made a motion to appoint Joshua Garcia as Town Administrator for the term July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022

**C. Letendre Seconded
All in Favor**

j. Appoint Joshua Garcia as Emergency Management for the term July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022

MOTION: T. Ackley made a motion to appoint Joshua Garcia to Emergency Management for the term July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022

**C. Letendre Seconded
All in Favor**

k. Review and Take Action on Contract between the Town and City Point Partners for OPM Service
Garcia presented the revised version from Town Counsel. The Board reviewed the changes.

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to approve the contract between the Town and City Point Partners for OPM Services

**E. McVey Seconded
All in Favor**

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM PRIOR MEETINGS:

a. COVID-19 Update – Plan for Opening Town Hall to the Public

Jennifer Girard, Board of Health joined the Board to update recent COVID-19 developments. The Board will open the Town Hall on May 29, 2021 recommending social distancing still be observed going forward. The Board of Health is recommending maintaining the same cleaning protocols in Town Hall that have been followed in the past. Girard announced that as of June 15, 2021 the State of Emergency in Massachusetts ends.

b. Shepard Farm Update

Garcia presented a letter of support signed by the Board he will be forwarding requesting a grant for a feasibility study regarding Shepard Farm to help determine the Town’s best options

6. NEW BUSINESS:

a. Review All Department Expense Report

No review

b. Treasure/Collector Services Procurement

Garcia reported that the procurement document was posted on COMM Buys, Westfield Newspaper, and the State’s Goods and Services website. Only one bid was received and that was from Mass Munifin who is our existing contractor. Garcia explained that was expected since what is offered from Mass Munifin is specialized. No one in the Commonwealth provides the kind of services Sara Hunter provides out of Mass Munifin. Sara joined the board via teleconference. She presented an overview of her strategies going forward. Year 1 would be business as usual. Year 2 the town looks forward to transition out by hiring a permeant Treasurer/Collector. Year 3 will be scheduling mini audits periodically among other ‘as-needed’ services during the third year to maintain the progress the Town has made in the past 3 years. Garcia will present a final contract for signing at an upcoming Select Board meeting.

7. OTHER BUSINESS, IF ANY:

8. TABLED ITEMS:

c. Request from the Building Commissioner to consider seeking appropriate authorization to amend existing unregistered vehicle bylaw

9. MEETING ADJOURNED:

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm

10.*EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Pursuant to MGL C30A, §21(a)(1) to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the government’s bargaining or litigating position.

MOTION: C1 Letendre made a motion to move to Executive Session in accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A, §21(a)(2) to conduct contract negotiations with non-union personnel not to reconvene

E. McVey Seconded

All in Favor

Roll Call Vote In: C. Letendre, Yes T. Ackley, Yes E. McVey, Yes

*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 Select Board
and Town Administrator

Cara Letendre, Chairman

Eric McVey, Clerk

Thomas Ackley, Member