



**TOWN OF BLANDFORD**  
Select Board

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

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**BLANDFORD SELECT BOARD**  
**February 07, 2022**  
**6:00 pm**

**OPEN SESSION 6:00 pm**

**Meeting held in the Select Board Chamber, Town Hall**

**In attendance:** C. Letendre, Chairman; T. Ackley, Member; T. Cousineau, Member; C. Mitchell, Interim Town Administrator.

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

*a. Examination of the Executive Session Meeting Minutes of January 27, 2022*

**MOTION:** C. Letendre made a motion to approve the Executive Session Meeting Minutes of January 27, 2022 as amended

**T. Ackley Seconded**

**All in Favor**

*b. Examination of the Meeting Minutes of January 31, 2022*

**MOTION:** C. Letendre made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of January 31, 2022 as written

**T. Cousineau Seconded**

**All in Favor**

**MOTION:** C. Letendre made a motion to move to 6a. Town Administrator's Report

**T. Ackley Seconded**

**All in Favor**

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

None

**3. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

*a. Highway Department Update – Waldron*

**-Blair Road – Beaver Dam Situation:** Waldron presented pictures to the Board of Blair Road and the beaver dam damage. Letendre requested Waldron contact Town Counsel about this situation as she does not believe it is the Town's responsibility to pay for the beaver trapping as the road belongs to Springfield Sewer & Water. Waldron found a company that could do the work. Springfield Water requested more restrictions on who we may hire to do the job and they expect us to pay even though they are adding

additional restrictions and the property belongs to them. Waldron explained the damage that will be done to the area if the dam breaks. Waldron will work with Town Counsel.

-**Truck #1:** This vehicle is in for repair. This work is still under warranty.

-**Freezing Roads:** Waldron reported that his crew will be out February 7 by 7:00 pm and work into the early hours to get the roads salted in anticipation of the storm.

-**N. Blandford Road:** Waldron reported that Garcia had initiated a grant for the design aspect at the end of North Blandford Road. Letendre will look into where we are with this grant.

#### 4. **ACTION ITEMS**

##### *a. COVID19 Update*

-**COVID19.** The numbers are receding. The Board of Health is recommending the building re-open and if an individual is nervous about COVID, then it should be their choice to stay home or wear a mask and keep their distance. Letendre suggested we can continue to offer meetings on Zoom as much as possible and if folks would prefer to meet the Tax Collector's outside, this can be arranged as well. TJ mentioned that Blandford folks want their exercise class to continue and would also like to see Council on Aging begin their breakfast and lunch regimen. Ackley agreed. The Town Hall will reopen its door to the public on February 8, 2022. J. Martin will take care on contacting employees.

**MOTION: T. Ackley made a motion to open the Town Hall doors to the public under COVID guidelines effective immediately**

**C. Letendre Seconded**

**All in Favor**

**MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to move to 6b. Canna Holding LLC**

**T. Cousineau Seconded**

**All in Favor**

##### *b. PVPC Invoice #7 for Signature*

The Select Board signed Invoice #7 for PVPC, and Martin will forward in the morning.

##### *c. ARPA Funds*

Letendre reported we have received \$187,115.68 to date and Blandford has distributed \$116,558.00 with 71,000.000 left. Blandford is waiting to for the other half of the funds to be received. The Board reviewed other requests. Ackley mentioned that the Town Hall building needs a back up generator warning that if we ever have a major power failure for 4 or 5 days, the Town will shut down. Letendre asked him to reach out to Chief Mottor for a quote. The Board reviewed the request from Iron Blender for \$11,000 to update the Town's Website. J. Martin will reach out to the company to produce a detailed invoice of what is needed to accomplish this upgrade. There is also one from the Municipal Light Board for \$13,166.34. The Blandford Country Store for \$15,000 was processed, previously approved and it disappeared. J. Martin, will re-process the Blandford Country Store. This will be a continuing conversation weekly at the Select Board meeting until the funds are distributed. The State is allowing towns three years to distribute.

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

##### *a. DG Solar – Planning Board Extension FYI*

The Board reviewed the final decision on the DG Solar project which the Planning Board approved.

##### *b. Springfield Water Beaver Trapping – Waldron*

This was discussed under Highway Update above.

*c. Library Stair Estimate from Aarons Carpentry*

Letendre summarized that this has been approved to come out of the Reserve Account.

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

*a. Town Administrator's Report*

**-Rapid Recovery Plan:** Still waiting to hear something from PVPC. Looked into a grant for transportation and tourism and learned this grant has already expired January 19, 2022. Mitchell will look into why many towns were denied.

**-Collins Center:** Mitchell is looking for information on the classification & compensation study that was done last year by UMass Boston Collins Center. Martin explained the history of this grant. Letendre asked to hold off on payment until we can gather more information.

**-Annual Report:** PVPC is working on and has several question about the Town's annual report. Mitchell will follow through.

**-Green Community:** Letendre directed Mitchell to stay on point with this project otherwise we will lose our Green Community rating. Mitchell will work on this.

**-Town Administrator Contract:** Mitchell reviewed the contract for the new Town Administrator. Letendre requested a digital copy of the contract be presented to the Board and directed Mitchell to send the draft contract to Town Counsel.

*b. Canna Holdings, LLC – Host Community Agreement Request*

Attorney Blake Mensing, Counsel for Canna Holdings joined the Select Board. Letendre requested a summary of what is going on with this amended host community agreement. Mensing mentioned that this would be a new host community agreement under the name of Canna Holding LLC rather than Belle Fleur with the same people, the same address, and the same building. Mensing explained that the amendment would now add a new entity, a new license type and an amendment to now include a retail delivery function added to the overall function of the company. Paul Martin, Planning Board member, was available to ask questions of Attorney Mensing. Martin asked about the possibility of delivering to homes. Mensing mentioned that this would be managed by a courier who is of age and highly trained delivering to those who are also over 21 years old. P. Martin asked if there will be a legal transfer of property from Belle Fleur to Canna. Belle Fleur would be the manufacturing company and Canna Holdings would be the distribution end, all working out of the same building. Martin asked about the commission to the Town as it was set up to receive 3% of manufacturing. Mensing stated that we would not only get the 3% for manufacturing, but Blandford would also get a community impact fee of 3% of whatever items are delivered. This delivery option will be run on a previous order-basis only. P. Martin inquired about how many trucks they think will be making deliveries. Mensing stated 2 or 3 only. Mensing detailed the State laws and security measures these vehicles are required to abide by. Canna will submit a host community agreement to Blandford's Town Counsel for review.

**MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to allow Canna Holdings LLC to create a Host Community Agreement to be vetted by Town Counsel**

**T. Cousineau Seconded**

**All in Favor**

*c. All Department Expense Report – new 2-7-22*

The Board reviewed the recent expense report and found no problems.

**7. TABLED ITEMS:**

- a. *Request from the Building Commissioner to consider seeking appropriate authorization to amend existing unregistered vehicle bylaw*
- b. *Shepard Farm Update*
- c. *Police Office Safe*

**8. \*EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

*None*

**Meeting Adjourned at 7:33 pm**

Submitted by Joann Martin  
Administrative Assistant to the Select Board  
and Town Administrator

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Cara Letendre, Chairman

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Thomas Ackley, Member

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Theodore Cousineau, Member