



**TOWN OF BLANDFORD**  
Select Board

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

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**BLANDFORD SELECT BOARD**  
**May 09, 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. Dunne, Town Administrator.

**OPEN SESSION 6:00 pm**

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

**12. EXAMINATION OF RECORDS OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

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

***a. George Reichert – Rubbish on North Road***

Reichert joined the Board to discuss the problem with litter in town and is suggesting the Chester/Blandford Police Department get involved as well as putting up cameras to combat this issue. Letendre will make the Police Department aware of this situation. Reichert also mentioned that there is a home on Main Street with a ladder against the house that has been there for months and believes this is a hazard to children.

**4. DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

***a. Highway Department – D. Waldron***

North Blandford Road Culverts bids – Two received:

Cooper Excavating & Trucking - \$35,600 and Delaney Excavating & Trucking - \$18,750.

**MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to approve the bid for the replacement of seven culverts on North Blandford Road to Delaney Excavating & Trucking**

**T. Cousineau-Nay**

**T. Ackley-Yes**

**Motion Passes**

Cousineau voiced his concern that when a company low-balls a bid, they could come back for more. Ackley commented that the Town would be under no obligation to make additional payments to the contractor. Letendre mentioned that as long as a company bids on the scope of work presented in the bidding process, no less and no more, there should be no problem.

Playground Basketball Court & Black Top:

Waldron is reaching out to get quotes on the cost to resurface the blacktop outside of Town Hall, to install a basketball hoop and paint a basketball court.

## **5. ACTION ITEMS**

### ***a. Weston & Sampson Feasibility Study Approval***

This company did a feasibility study to provide the Town with information needed to make an informed and high-level decision on repurposing the town's Highway Department building as a new Fire Station. The Board studied the scope of work. This work will be presented at the Annual Town Meeting for approval.

### ***b. Chuck Benson – Painting of Barns at Watson Park***

The Select Board pointed out that this has been approved at a previous meeting. J. Martin will give Mr. Benson permission on this project.

### ***c. Appoint Peter Curro to the Cultural Council for the term July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2025***

**MOTION:** C. Letendre made a motion to approve Peter Curro to the Cultural Council for the term July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2025.

T. Cousineau Seconded

All in Favor

### ***d. Appoint Leon Ripley to the Agriculture Commission for the term July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2025***

**MOTION:** C. Letendre made a motion to approve Leon Ripley to the Agriculture Commission for the term July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2025.

T. Cousineau Seconded

All in Favor

### ***e. Appoint Dick Gates to the Agriculture Commission for the term July 1, 2022, to June 03, 2025***

**MOTION:** C. Letendre made a motion to approve Dick Gates to the Agricultural Commission for the term July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2025.

T. Cousineau Seconded

All in Favor

### ***f. Appoint Eileen Gates to the Agriculture Commission for the term July 1, 2022, to June 03, 2025***

**MOTION:** C. Letendre made a motion to approve Eileen Gates to the Agriculture Commission for the term July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2025.

T. Cousineau Seconded

All in Favor

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

### ***a. ARPA Funding***

Letendre asked if the additional funds have been received from the State for ARPA Funding. Dunne believes we have received this funding and the Board will review this at the next Select Board meeting.

## **7. NEW BUSINESS**

### ***a. Town Administrator Report***

Draft Budget Review with Finance:

Dunne reported that he will hold a wrap-up meeting with Finance next week and is hoping to get the draft budget to Accounting by the end of the week. The Municipal Light Board (MLB) and Water Department budget are still being reviewed by Finance and Dunne is still working with Langmore on fine-tuning MLB's budget.

Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Grant:

This grant will allow us to look at dirt roads and culverts and should be hearing from the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs soon.

Town Common Project:

Dunne has contacted GZA and he is hoping to get this project finalized early summer so the town to begin working on finding funding for some of the improvements recommended.

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

None

**9.\*EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Meeting Adjourned at 7:03 pm

**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*
- d. *PC Replacement Plan*

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

\*\*NOTE: Agenda may include items not expected 48 hours before the meeting.

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

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Cara Letendre, Chairman

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N/A  
Thomas Ackley, Member

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Theodore Cousineau, Member