



TOWN OF BLANDFORD
Select Board

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

MEETING MINUTES
BLANDFORD SELECT BOARD
March 20, 2023
6:00 pm

Meeting held in the Select Board Chamber, Town Hall

In attendance: C. Letendre, Chair; T. Cousineau, Member-Absent; Chair; J. Allen, Member C. Dunne, Town Administrator; D. Hopson, Moderator; Attorney M. Reich, KP Law; D. Jemiolo, Town Clerk

Meeting Open at 6:03 pm
Meeting is recorded

1. EXAMINATION OF RECORDS OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

a. Examination of the Meeting Minutes of March 6, 2023

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of March 06, 2023, as written

T. Cousineau Seconded

All in Favor

2. *AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION / PUBLIC COMMENT

None

3. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

a. Highway Department

None

b. Town Administrator

-Kinsherf FY24 Contract: Initially Kinsherf proposed an increase to \$36,000/year. After discussions, they have agreed to \$33,000/year. Our support will be shifted to a senior member of his staff going forward. Kinsherf noted that any training associated with a software transition would have to be an additional cost of around \$5,000. A contract amendment will be presented to the Board on March 27.

-Digital Sign: Soofa is the company that we would lease this sign from and purchase an app to update it. Between the funding we received from the REDO Grant and grant funding we still have from the Bay State Better Together Grant we would be good for covering this expense of this for five years. This sign is solar-powered.

-Snow & Ice: Dunne is recommending that the Town put in place a formal snow and ice management plan. The Board reviewed a copy of a management plan from another town just to

give them an idea. Allen believes what would help is to have the same highway laborer plow the same routes in order to become more familiar with these roads and their individual problems. Dunne agreed that this could be an element of the plan and committed to working with the Highway Superintendent to draft this.

-George Millars Solar Pilot: Dunne updated the Board that the Town has submitted a draft amendment to their Payment-In-Lieu-of-Taxes (PILOT) agreement which is contingent on them paying what they owe us to date. He will provide further updates in the coming weeks.

-DLTA Grant from PVPC: Dunne reported we received a DLTA grant from PVPC to cover the process of making enhancements to our permitting process. He will provide further updates at touching base with the project lead at PVPC.

c. Town Clerk

-Conflict of Interest Test: Town Clerk, Doris Jemiolo, mentioned to the Board that there are some employees who have not completed the Conflict of Interest and Ethics tests. Jemiolo will distribute a list to the employees, Town Administrator and Select Board with the list of those who have not yet completed the mandatory training, including some who have been with the Town since last June. Letendre noted this is not acceptable and asked Town Counsel about the legalities. Town Counsel stated it is best if they complete the training so Jemiolo will work on correcting this.

4. ACTION ITEMS

- a.* Review **Special Town Meeting warrant** for Monday, March 13: The Select Board, Town Counsel, Town Administrator and Town Moderator reviewed the Warrant for March 13 line by line and received recommendations from Town Counsel and the Moderator.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6. NEW BUSINESS

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Meeting adjourned at 6:22 pm

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

Cara Letendre, Chair

Absent
Theodore Cousineau, Member

Jeffery Allen, Member