



**TOWN OF BLANDFORD**  
Select Board

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

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**BLANDFORD SELECT BOARD**  
**Monday, April 29, 2024**  
**6:00 pm**

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

**In attendance:** C. Letendre, Chair; J. Allen, Member; T. Cousineau, Member; M. Szlosek, Town Administrator

**MOTION:** C. Letendre made a motion to move to 5b. FRTA Update  
**J. Allen Seconded**  
**All in Favor**

**1) EXAMINATION OF RECORDS OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**  
**a) *Examination of the Meeting Minutes of April 01, 2024***

**MOTION:** C. Letendre made a motion to approve the Select Board Meeting Minutes of April 01, 2024, as written  
**J. Allen Seconded**  
**All in Favor**

**2) AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION / PUBLIC COMMENT**  
None

**3) DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**Highway Department – Dave Waldron, Superintendent:**

Waldron is requesting the Select Board appropriate \$25,000 with a match the Grant for Beech Hill Road in FY25. Gore Road would be \$50,000. Gore Road would be a full-depth reconstruction. Beech Hill will be full-depth reconstruction from the town line to Julius Hall Road then a 2” top all the way down to Route 23. The Tree Canopy on Beech Hill on both sides all the way down is included in this project. Waldron noted that if the Town does not receive the grants for these projects, these appropriated monies will be returned.

**MOTION:** C. Letendre made a motion to approve the appropriation of \$25,000 towards the Beech Hill Road project on the Town Warrant  
**J. Allen Seconded**  
**All in Favor**

**MOTION:** C. Letendre made a motion to approve the appropriation of \$50,000 towards the Gore Road project on the Town Warrant

**J. Allen Seconded**  
**All in Favor**

**-Beech Hill Bridge Design:** The grant for this was \$100,000 and the quote from Gill was \$130,759 so I don't think the previous Town Administrator had time to contact Springfield Water to see if they will be helping with this project. Waldron will be in contact with Springfield Water.

**Bierman Service:** Bierman will fix the fuel tanks for \$6,970.

**Town Administrator – Mike Szlosek:**

a) **Town Hall Generator:** Szlosek spoke to the electricians about the Town Hall generator and found that the battery is not in good condition and is too old. The block heater needs to be replaced as well. If you are interested in going forward the amount would be \$3,273.16.

**MOTION:** C. Letendre made a motion to approve the Kinsley Generator quote of \$3,273.16 for work on the Town Hall Generator  
**T. Cousineau Seconded**  
**All in Favor**

b) **Line Transfers already approved by the Finance Committee**

**MOTION:** C. Letendre made a motion to move \$800 from Assessors Education and Training account to the Assessor's Expense Account  
**T. Cousineau Seconded**  
**All in Favor**

**MOTION:** C. Letendre made a motion to move \$442.54 from the Assessor's Miscellaneous Expense to the Assessor's Expense  
**T. Cousineau Seconded**  
**All in Favor**

**4) ACTION ITEMS**

a. *Appoint Janet Strausberg to the Cultural Council for the term April 1, 2024, to June 30, 2027*

**MOTION:** C. Letendre made a motion to approve Janet Strausberg to the cultural Council for the term April 01, 2024, through June 30, 2025  
**T. Cousineau Seconded**  
**All in Favor**

b. *Appoint Lisa Bruno to the Cultural Council for the term April 1, 2024, to June 30, 2027*

**MOTION:** C. Letendre made a motion to appoint Lisa Bruno to the Cultural Council for the term April 01, 2024, through June 30, 2025  
**T. Cousineau Seconded**  
**All in Favor**

**5) NEW BUSINESS**

a) *All Departmental Expenditure Report*

Tabled – New report not available.

**b) FRTA (Franklin Regional Transit Authority) Update – Margit Mikuski, Director COA** – Margit Mikuski, Director of Council on Aging met with the Board to discuss not signing up for FRTA going forward as the COA no longer uses them. Mikuski would like to use the cherry sheet monies received for FRTA for other purposes.

**6) UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**a) One Room School House-Linda & Rick Barnard:** Linda & Rick Barnard joined the Board to discuss the One Room School House that is located on their property on Nye Brook Road. Linda explained they found a contract with her great-grandfather. Linda explained that according to the contract the schoolhouse does belong to the Town of Blandford. The Barnard’s are asking the Town to remove the schoolhouse from their property since it is beyond repair. Letendre asked if the blackboard, or anything else of historical significance, should be moved to the Historical Society. Cousineau suggested the Fire Department do one of their practice sessions and burn the schoolhouse instead of the cost to tear it down. Letendre will ask for Town Counsel to research the contract to be sure it’s owned by the town. Barnard will reach out to the historian, Shannon Walsh, at PVPC.

**7) EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None

Meeting adjourned at 6:42 pm

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

---

Cara Letendre, Chair

---

---

T. Cousineau, Member

---

---

J. Allen, Member