



**TOWN OF BLANDFORD**  
Select Board

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

**JOINT SELECT BOARD  
and  
WATER DEPARTMENT  
MEETING MINUTES  
August 12, 2024  
6:00 pm**

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

**In attendance:** C. Letendre, Chair; T. Cousineau, Member-Absent; J. Allen - Member

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

***a) Examination of the Select Board Meeting Minutes of April 08, 2024***

**MOTION:** C. Letendre made a motion to approve the Select Board Meeting Minutes of April 08, 2024, as written.

**T. Cousineau Seconded  
All in Favor**

***b) Examination of the Select Board Meeting Minutes of April 22, 2024***

**MOTION:** C. Letendre made a motion to approve the Select Board Meeting Minutes of April 22, 2024, as written.

**T. Cousineau Seconded  
All in Favor**

***c) Examination of the Select Board Meeting Minutes of April 29, 2024***

**MOTION:** C. Letendre made a motion to approve the Select Board Meeting Minutes of April 29, 2024, as written.

**T. Cousineau Seconded  
All in Favor**

***d) Examination of the Select Board Meeting Minutes of May 06, 2024***

**MOTION:** C. Letendre made a motion to approve the Select Board Meeting Minutes of May 06, 2024, as written.

**T. Cousineau Seconded  
All in Favor**

## 2. \*AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION / PUBLIC COMMENT

None

## 3. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

### a) *Highway – Dave Waldron* Tabled

### b) *Administrator – Cristina Ferrera*

Cyber Security: Novus' cyber security work has been completed and they will collaborate with a third-party vendor.

Condition of Grant: Ferrera has had several meetings regarding grants that we applied for before her time only to find Blandford has not been sending in the proper reports which will affect these grants negatively.

Encore Fire Protection: Ferrera found that Encore Fire Protection has not completed the job on the sprinkler system. She is collaborating with them.

Veteran's Park Fence: Mike Wojek is requesting funds to replace the fence in Veteran's Park. The Select Board replied that he may not do that project at this time and should wait for this to be budgeted.

COA Vehicle: There was a discussion about the Council on Aging vehicle which has been taken off the road as it has been determined to be unsafe. Ferrera inquired about using the town pick-up truck in the meantime while grants are investigated.

### c) *Water Department – Gordon Avery*

#### *i. Proposed Job Reclassification*

Karen Shaw: The Water Superintendent and Commissioners are recommending that Shaw be reclassified as Administrative Assistant

**MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to change the job classification for the Water Department Secretary to Administrative Assistant  
T. Cousineau Seconded  
All in Favor**

#### *ii. Enterprise Fund Rules & Regulations*

Ferrera reviewed the MGL rules that pertain to Enterprise Funds.

### d) *Historical Society – Chips Norcross*

#### *i. Solar Installation at Historical Society*

Solar: Pliney Norcross, President of the Historical Society, joined the Board to ask permission to consider allowing him to investigate installing Solar on the Historical Society building which the Town of Blandford owns. He will be looking for grant funding. The Board agrees.

Roof Grant: Norcross reported that the grant process for the new roof on The White Church has been completed.

### e) *Planning Board – Paul Martin*

#### *i. Belle Fleur Permit Waiver*

Paul Martin, Chair of the Planning Board joined the Board to get permission to waive the permit fee for Belle Fleur as they paid a \$39,225 permit fee initially and the project was held up by COVID, so these permits were not used to date. Paul Martin is keeping track of the balance of the permit fee to be used.

**MOTION:** C. Letendre made a motion to deduct \$13,000 from the already paid permit fee made by Belle Fleur in 2021 of \$39, 225 and never used in 2022. The Planning Board will monitor until the funds are depleted.

**T. Cousineau Seconded**

**All in Favor**

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

##### ***a) Approve Select Board AP Warrant #04***

**MOTION:** C. Letendre made a motion to approve Select Board AP Warrant #04 for payment

**T. Cousineau Seconded**

**All in Favor**

##### ***b) Approve Water AP Warrant #04***

**MOTION:** C. Letendre made a motion to approve Water Department AP #04 for payment

**T. Cousineau Seconded**

**All in Favor**

##### ***c) Approve Payroll Warrant #03***

**MOTION:** C. Letendre made a motion to approve Payroll Warrant #03 for payment

**T. Cousineau Seconded**

**All in Favor**

#### **5. NEW BUSINESS**

##### ***a) Nye Brook Drainage Problems – Mark Boomsma***

Mark Boomsma joined the Board to discuss the drainage problems on Nye Brook. Boomsma will offer a quote to repair.

##### ***b) Bay State Roads Scholar Award Letter from The Baystate Roads Team***

The UMass Transportation Center, Baystate Roads Team honored Blandford with a Bay State Roads Scholar Award Letter for work done in Town.

##### ***c) Dumpster Restrictions – Jennifer Girard, BOH***

**Dumpsters on Kaolin Road:** There are several dumpsters on Kaolin Road which attract bears, and this is creating a dangerous, unsafe area for residents. The Board of Health is working on a system where residents will need to apply for permits for dumpsters. Residents will be required to keep them locked at all times.

A resident added to the comments on the bear problem and stated it is frequent and they are making a mess.

#### **6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

##### ***a) Dangerous Dog Hearing-Thomas/Frappier & Chief Dubiel's Certified Letter***

**Letter:** Chief Dubiel sent a certified letter inviting Mr. Frappier & Ms. Thomas to this Select Board Meeting 8/12. They were not able to join this evening. Ferrera reported the steps put in place at the Dangerous Dog Hearing in their absence.

**Appeal:** Mr. Frappier and Ms. Thomas had 48 hours to appeal, however, they did not.

Fence Progress: Ferrera was in touch with Thomas/Frappier who reported they are making progress on the fence and have several quotes.

Dog Registration: Mr. Frappier was under the impression that his dogs were licensed. It was found that it lapsed last year. They are both registered currently, and the couple has promised to register each May.

Payment Plan: Mr. Frappier and Ms. Thomas have set up a payment plan with the Gates to take responsibility for the vet bills for their wounded dog, Rose.

***b) Liquor License – Skyline Beer Company for Blandford Fair 2024***

**MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to approve the liquor license for Skyline Brewing Company who will be supplying beer and wine at the Blandford Fair September 27, through September 30.**

**J. Allen Seconded**

**All in Favor**

**7. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None

Meeting Adjourned at 7:35 pm

Submitted by Joann Martin  
Administrative Assistant to the Select Board

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Cara Letendre, Chair

Absent

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T. Cousineau, Member

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J. Allen, Member