



TOWN OF BLANDFORD
Select Board

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

**SELECT BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
August 26, 2024
6:00 pm**

Meeting held in the Select Board Chamber, Town Hall

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

1. EXAMINATION OF RECORDS OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

b) Examination of Select Board Meeting Minutes of May 13, 2024

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of August 26, 2024, as written

T. Cousineau Seconded

All in Favor

c) Examination of the Executive Session Select Board Meeting Minutes of May 13, 2024

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to approve the Select Board Executive Session Meeting Minutes of May 13, 2024, as written

T. Cousineau Seconded

All in Favor

d) Examination of the Select Board Meeting Minutes of May 20, 2024

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of May 20, 2024, as written

T. Cousineau Seconded

All in Favor

2. *AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION / PUBLIC COMMENT

None

3. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

None

4. ACTION ITEMS

a) Approve Warrant #04 Payroll for payment

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to table Warrant #04 Payroll for review
T. Cousineau Seconded
All in Favor

b) Approve State Primary Warrant – Town Clerk

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to approve the State Primary Warrant.
T. Cousineau Seconded
All in Favor

c) Appoint Matt Ripley as Assistant Electrical Inspector for the term August 26, 2024, through June 30, 2025

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to appoint Matthew Ripley as Assistant Electrical Inspector for the Town of Blandford for the term August 26, 2024, through June 30, 2025
T. Cousineau Seconded
All in Favor

e) Approve Notice of Award to PVPC for Hazard Mitigation Plan

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to approve the Notice of Award to Pioneer Valley Planning Commission for the Hazard Mitigation Plan
J. Allen Seconded
All in Favor

5. NEW BUSINESS

a) Appoint a FRTA Advisory Board Member – Tabled

b) Blandford Fair 2024 – Matt Ripley

Matt Ripley joined the Select Board to discuss this year's plans for the 155th Blandford Fair. Their plans include:

- Skyline Beer Company** will be serving beer & wine in a secure area on the property
- Unfortunately, there will be no **fiddlers** this year, but the Association is still working on the return of this
- The Fair Association is still working on their plan to move the **Shepard Farm barn** to the Fairgrounds to restore part of the legacy of the Shepard family.
- Ripley explained the rides have been dwindling in past years but they are working on the return of **rides** as well.
- The Blandford Fair this year will be August 30 through September 2, 2024.

c) Building Committee Update

The Select Board Chair has determined that the Building Committee has not made any progress since 2020. The Committee will be dissolved, and 2 locations will be offered at a future Town Meeting for this much-needed fire station.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a) Dangerous Dog Hearing Update

Ferrera reported a Letter of Condition has been sent to the dog's keepers, Mr. Frappier and Ms. Thomas as the dog's owners have not been keeping up with the agreement made at the July 29 Dangerous Dog Hearing. This is

a letter of non-compliance that has been sent to Town of Blandford legal counsel advising the Gates to file a motion in the courts if they do not comply with this order.

Select Board Meeting Adjourned at 7:00 pm to Executive Session

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to go into executive session in accordance with G.L.c.30A, §21(a)(2) in preparation for negotiations to conduct collective bargaining session or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel not to reconvene

And

Executive Session in accordance with G.L. c. 30A, §21(a)(2) to discuss strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with union personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with union personnel

Roll Call in: C. Letendre – Yes; T. Cousineau – Yes; J. Allen - Yes

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION

a) Executive Session in accordance with G.L.c.30A, §21(a)(2) in preparation for negotiations to conduct collective bargaining session or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel

b) Executive Session in accordance with G.L. c. 30A, §21(a)(2) to discuss strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with union personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with union personnel

Submitted by Joann Martin
Administrative Assistant to the Select Board

Cara Letendre, Chair

T. Cousineau, Member

J. Allen, Member