



TOWN OF BLANDFORD
Select Board

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

**SELECT BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
September 16, 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

a) *Examination of Select Board Meeting Minutes of June 03, 2024*

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of June 03, 2024, as written.

**T. Cousineau Seconded
All in Favor**

b) *Examination of the Executive Session Select Board Meeting Minutes of June 03, 2024*

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to approve the Executive Session Meeting Minutes of June 03, 2024, as written.

**T. Cousineau Seconded
All in Favor**

c) *Examination of the Select Board Meeting Minutes of June 10, 2024*

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of June 10, 2024, as written.

**T. Cousineau Seconded
All in Favor**

d) *Examination of the Executive Session Meeting Minutes of June 10, 2024*

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to approve the Executive Session Meeting Minutes of June 10, 2024, as written.

**T. Cousineau Seconded
All in Favor**

e) *Examination of the Select Board Meeting Minutes of June 11, 2024*

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of June 11, 2024, as written.

T. Cousineau Seconded

All in Favor

f) Examination of the Select Board Meeting Minutes of June 17, 2024

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of June 17, 2024, as written.

T. Cousineau Seconded

All in Favor

2. *AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION / PUBLIC COMMENT

George Reichert: Update on the progress of painting the Post Office on September 27, 2024. Reichert announced that Home Depot is sending a group of volunteers by 8:00 am on the day to complete the work. The rain date will be two weeks after.

3. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

a) Highway – R. Senecal

Mack Truck Accident: Senecal reported to the Board that the bill for this accident is still not paid. Ferrera will find out what account to use and Martin will get this paid.

John Deere: All the old John Deer bills have been straightened out and paid.

Tighe & Bond: The diesel spill bill has not been paid but is not previous year so Senecal will get this moving.

Old Chester Road: Senecal is advising the use of Chapter 90 Emergency funds for the pre-qualified construction.

Nye Brook Road: Senecal is asking for approval for emergency repair. The cost of the repair is approximately \$10,000. Ferrera will look at using Fair Share funding instead of Chapter 90.

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to declare an emergency for Rene Senecal, Highway Superintendent for Nye Brook Road repairs.

T. Cousineau Seconded

All in Favor

Line Painting: Senecal will look into pricing to line-paint major paved roads.

Highway Crew: Shout out to the guys who did an excellent job cleaning out Herrick, Russell Stage and Chester Roads.

Mower: Senecal indicated the current mower Highway is using is dangerous and does not recommend using it. The Board is in agreement. Rene will try to fix the situation by trading with the original vendor.

F350 Truck: This vehicle needs work; brakes, shocks, driver's seat is broken, passenger door handle is broken, tailgate is broken. Senecal will trade in the truck bed for a flatbed which is much more usable for the Highway team.

Old Chester Road: Senecal reported a resident cutting in a driveway without a permit. Senecal will investigate.

b) Administrator – Cristina Ferrera

ADA Committee: Margit Mikuski will be the ADA Committee Chair and coordinate the meetings.

Permit Eyes: Access to Permit Eyes will be given to Dick Gates, Conservation and Rene Senecal, Highway Superintendent.

Nye Brook Road: The residence placing junk on the curb will be spoken to by the Board of Health and Chester/Blandford Police.

Dog Barking Complaint: Ferrera has set up a schedule of fines for offenses and has presented this to be used by the Animal Control Officer.

MOTION: C. Letendre made a motion to approve the schedule of fines that will be imposed for excessive barking

T. Cousineau Seconded

All in Favor

Social Media Policy: Ferrera has forwarded Blandford's Social Media Policy to Town Counsel for review.

Eric Kinsherf, CPA Contract: Ferrera brought to the attention of the Select Board the lack of support we are currently receiving from Eric Kinsherf's contract. Reports that are absolutely necessary for the day-to-day flow of the work are not being received; this is just one example of the work they are not doing in the current contract. Ferrera is recommending a meeting with Kinsherf.

4. ACTION ITEMS

a) Approve Warrant #05 Payroll for payment - Table

b) Approve Warrant #06 Select Board AP - Table

c) Approve Warrant #06 Water Department AP - Table

5. NEW BUSINESS

a) Transfer Mario Godbout from Water to Highway

Mario Godbout, current Water Department employee, will work the winter months for the Highway Department. Senecal is reporting Highway needs him full-time and permanent. Godbout is working on his licenses. He does not need to join the union.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

Submitted by Joann Martin

Administrative Assistant to the Select Board

Cara Letendre, Chair

T. Cousineau, Member

J. Allen, Member