

TOWN OF BLACKSTONE  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING – 7:00 p.m.

January 26, 2016

PRESENT: Robert Dubois, Chairman  
Daniel Keefe  
Michael Catalano  
Margo Bik, Vice Chairman  
Paul Haughey

OTHERS PRESENTS: Daniel Keyes, Town Administrator

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dubois at 7:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL – ATTENDANCE:

As noted above.

3. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS:

- FY 16 & FY 17 Budgets: The Finance Committee's schedule of FY 17 budget reviews was distributed to members. The Recycling budget will be reconfigured as the events on Wall Street have adversely affected this budget.
- Application for Employment: A new employment application will be put into use for the Town. The model is based on the one currently used by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
- Bridge Lights: DCR reports that the planned flashing "low bridge signs" at St. Paul Street will be installed sometime in April of this year. They are solar powered, will be paid for by DCR and are expected to last at least 5 years.
- Town Improvements: The Secretary of Community Development, Jay Ashe, has expressed an interest in the project we are putting together regarding veterans and he would like to see this project in other areas of the Commonwealth. He also spoke about Blackstone's bike path and re-doing the 2 ½ miles of road on Main Street.

4. ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Bik, seconded by Mr. Catalano. There was no discussion and the meeting was adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Boucher  
Recording Secretary

TOWN OF BLACKSTONE  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING – 7:30 p.m.

January 26, 2016

PRESENT: Robert Dubois, Chairman  
Michael Catalano  
Paul Haughey

Margo Bik, Vice Chairman  
Daniel Keefe

OTHERS PRESENT: Daniel Keyes, Town Administrator  
Lisa Cheever, Librarian

Marilou Branchaud, Library Trustee

1: CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dubois at 7:30 p.m. All members of the Board of Selectmen stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

2: ROLL CALL – ATTENDANCE:

As noted under the heading “Present”.

3: ACCEPT MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF JANUARY 9, 2016 AND JANUARY 12, 2016:

A motion was made by Mr. Haughey, seconded by Mrs. Bik, to accept the minutes as noted above. There was no discussion and the vote was unanimous.

4. GOOD AND WELFARE – PUBLIC (7:30-8:00 P.M. (5 min. time limit per participant):

None.

5. CORRESPONDENCE:

None.

6. HEARINGS AND MEETINGS:

None.

7. OLD BUSINESS:

- Special Town Meeting – February 2, 2016: Mr. Keyes feels it is important for residents to show up for this meeting and pass the land use change. He had spent time with Secretary Ashe on Friday regarding the Soldier On Project and also wanted to discuss the Main Street corridor with him. Secretary Ashe felt that our anticipated projects are worthwhile as it involves initiative, housing, recreation, etc. He will also speak to DOT regarding the Main Street corridor. The state is watching how the people of Blackstone vote on the land use change issue at the STM on Tuesday night. In addition, the state is willing to upgrade the roadway and sidewalks. Once the work is done, the state plans to turn that section of state road over to the town.
- FY 16 & FY 17 Budgets: The Finance Committee’s budget review schedule was distributed to members. It will be noted on the Town’s web site. Warrant articles will be ready in the next few weeks. Currently there are 22 article3s

8. NEW BUSINESS:

- Revoke Class II License for Lucky 7 LLC, 157 Main Street: A motion was made by Mr. Haughey, seconded by Mrs. Bik, to revoke the above-noted license. There was no discussion and the vote was unanimous.

- Revoke Class II License for Lucky 7 LLC, 63 Main Street: A motion was made by Mr. Haughey, seconded by Mrs. Bik, to revoke the above-noted license. There was no discussion and the vote was unanimous.
- DCR "Low Bridge" illuminated signs: DCR reports that the planned flashing "low bridge signs" at St. Paul Street will be installed sometime in April of this year. They are solar powered, will be paid for by DCR and are expected to last at least 5 years.
- Library Budget/Warrant Articles: Ms. Cheever reviewed the Library's budget for the Board. The Department total was \$426,066. The increase in part-time wages is due in part to the projected minimum wage increase. There was also an increase of 46% in the overtime budget. It should be noted that this increase is only \$470 for the year. There are 3 warrant articles presented for consideration. The first is for \$2,500 for maintaining copiers, printers, fax machine and their supplies. The second is for \$14,000 to purchase and install replacement color copiers, print management equipment and software and a coin box. The third is for \$45,500 to replace a server and thirty-one computers with related costs, as the computers are at least 10 years old and have been in constant use.
- Special and Annual Town Meeting Warrant Articles due February 11, 2016: A reminder was issued to all department heads of the deadline for submitting warrant articles.
- Approve application for a one-day liquor license for St. Theresa's Parish, 630 Rathbun Street on February 6, 2016 from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. A motion was made by Mr. Keefe, seconded by Mrs. Bik, to approve the above application. There was no discussion and the vote was unanimous.
- Approval of Payroll Warrant #16EWA16 and, #16PW16 : A motion was made by Mr. Haughey, seconded by Mrs. Bik, to approve the above payroll warrants. There was no discussion and the vote was unanimous.
- Approval of Vendor Warrant #16EW16: A motion was made by Mr. Haughey, seconded by Mrs. Bik, to approve the above vendor warrant. There was no discussion and the vote was unanimous.
- Matters that the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen reasonable anticipates to discuss: Mr. Dubois discussed a few articles that appeared in the Woonsocket Call regarding the wastewater treatment plant and surrounding communities. The property known as Veteran's Park has been dormant since 2000. Soldier On addresses the issue of homeless veterans, we get to keep well #6 as a spare if needed, our recreation fields will finally be addressed at no cost to the town and no maintenance of the fields, the issue of affordable housing will be addressed and we get a tax base. This will be the best proposal we will ever get. It is a win-win situation.

#### 9. GOOD AND WELFARE – SELECTMEN:

Mr. Haughey – Encouraged everyone to attend the Special Town Meeting on Tuesday, February 2, 2016 and vote for the change in land use. Dr. Boisvert, a teacher for special needs children in Blackstone and Millville, was honored recently for the Clarissa Hugg National Teacher of the Year Award by the Council of Exceptional Children. This is an international body. She is an outstanding educator.

Mr. Catalano – We are looking to put veterans in Veteran's Park. It is a good project and will be good for the Town. He encouraged people to come to the Special Town Meeting on February 2, 2016.

Mr. Keefe – Encouraged everyone to keep the focus on Soldier On which will benefit the town.

Mrs. Bik – Thanked the Finance Committee, boards and commissions, Town Administrator and Finance Team in getting the budgets submitted in a timely manner. She encouraged everyone to attend the Historical Commission and view their ever-

changing displays. The Library held an interesting Ancestry demonstration several weeks ago. Check the marquis for upcoming items of interest. Please read "A River Runs Through It" for activities in the Senior Center each month.

10. ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Mr. Haughey, seconded by Mrs. Bik, to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 p.m. There was no discussion and the vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Boucher  
Recording Secretary

T-01-27-16

cc: Board of Selectmen  
Town Administrator  
Town Clerk