The Meeting of the Board of Selectmen held on Tuesday, November 19, 2024, began at 5:30 p.m. in the Board of Selectmen's Conference Room at the Town Hall.

Members Present: Derek DeBarge, Manuel Silva, James Gennette, Antonio Goncalves and William Rosenblum

Members Absent:

First Order of Business: The Pledge of Allegiance

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CORRESPONDENCE

333. Chief Valadas – Request to charge off medical expenses and lost wages to Chapter 41, Section 111F for an injury sustained by a police officer as a result of an incident that occurred on November 8, 2024.

Motion made by Mr. Rosenblum to approve charging off medical expenses and lost wages to Chapter 41, Section 111F for an injury sustained by a police officer as a result of an incident that occurred on November 8, 2024. **Mr. Gennette second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

334. Chief Pease – Request to charge off medical expenses and lost wages to Chapter 41, Section 111F for an injury sustained by a firefighter/paramedic as a result of an incident that occurred on November 13, 2024.

Motion made by Mr. Rosenblum to approve charging off medical expenses and lost wages to Chapter 41, Section 111F for an injury sustained by a firefighter/paramedic as a result of an incident that occurred on November 13, 2024. **Mr. Gennette second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Board to sign the Licensing Authority Certification for Keshavah Corporation dba Pop-N-Kork.

Motion made by Mr. Goncalves to sign the Licensing Authority Certification for Keshavah Corporation dba Pop-N-Kork. **Mr. Gennette second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

Board to sign the KB & Sons Venture, LLC dba Pizza Corner & Curry House Liquor License.

Motion made by Mr. Goncalves to sign the KB & Sons Venture, LLC dba Pizza Corner & Curry House Liquor License. **Mr. Rosenblum second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0**

Board to sign the CMD Café, LLC Liquor License.

Motion made by Mr. Goncalves to sign the CMD Café, LLC Liquor License. **Mr. Silva second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

Board to sign the USAVE Food Store, LLC dba USAVE Food Store Liquor License.

Motion made by Mr. Goncalves to sign the USAVE Food Store, LLC dba USAVE Food Store Liquor License. **Mr. Gennette second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

NEW BUSINESS

Board to discuss and possibly vote to appropriate $6,356 in Building Infrastructure funds for the Hubbard Memorial Library sprinkler system.

Mr. Strange: We got this information from Dave Ritchie, our Facilities Director, and apparently the sprinkler system is out of code so they need to make repairs.

Mr. Goncalves: Has the Fire Chief talked to them to make sure all we need to do is our recommendation right now?

Mr. Strange: I'm not sure if they've spoken to him. We could if you want to vote to appropriate we could make sure. Check with the Fire Department.

Mr. Gennette: Do we want to round it up to $10,000.

Mr. Goncalves: No, we'll have them come back if it's more than $7,000.

Motion made by Mr. Gennette to approve and appropriate up to $7,000 in Building Infrastructure funds for the Hubbard Memorial Library sprinkler system repairs. **Mr. Goncalves second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

VISITATIONS

5:35 p.m. – Eversource Pole Hearing – Rood Street – PUBLIC HEARING

Motion made by Mr. Goncalves to open the Eversource pole hearing on Rood Street at 5:36 p.m. **Mr. Gennette second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

Ms. Dodge: I'm Desiree Dodge from Eversource. I'm one of the engineers there. I'm here because we're petitioning for a pole on Rood Street that will be used to support service to a new house.

Mr. Gennette: Is the pole on the opposite side? Are the wires going across the street?

Ms. Dodge: There is an existing pole line and we're planning to do a stump pole across from that one. Looks like lot 82. It will be directly across from the existing pole.

Mr. Goncalves: It will be across the street from the pole that is there now?

Ms. Dodge: Pretty much straight across. The location is staked out there for any of the abutters.

Mr. Gennette: The red marker on this is where the pole is going?

Ms. Dodge: Yes, that is the new one.

Motion made by Mr. Goncalves to approve the pole on Rood Street, directly across the street from the existing pole at 82 Rood Street, pole number 194/B15M/1. **Mr. Silva second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

Motion made by Mr. Goncalves to close the public hearing at 5:39 p.m. **Mr. Silva second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

5:45 p.m. – Liz Whynott, Tapestry – Requesting opioid settlement funds.

Mr. DeBarge: We have Liz Whynott and Pedro Alvarez from Tapestry and this is for request of opioid settlement funds. My only question before I get started is do you have documentation for us? I thought you'd be here with one of our Board of Health members with documentation. I'm a little surprised to see you by yourself.

Ms. Whynott: I do have the very rough drafted budget I submitted along with a very basic proposal. Tapestry has already been providing services in Ludlow. We run a harm reduction program across Western Mass. We work with people using drugs. A lot of them aren't ready for treatment but we also do a lot of work with people in treatment. In Ludlow we've been doing a lot of activities, mainly in partnership with the Board of Health, including working with the Hampden County House of Corrections, Section 35, Everest Recovery Center doing Pathway to Recovery Groups, we train city employees and do post overdose outreach. The Board of Health also approved syringe access to happen in Ludlow. Somebody can call us, we don't have a site in Ludlow, but we have a van and we can drive the van to meet the person and we can provide them with whatever they need. We do a lot of overdose education. We do a lot of referrals to treatment, including substance use treatment, medical treatment and we give them supplies that will keep them safe to decrease the risk of HIV, Hepatitis C and overdose. We were approved by the Board of Health. Historically that's always came with State funding but the State budget was reduced recently and has been going through a hard time so they froze all funding for programs such as this. We've still been

offering the services but with the opioid funding it was suggested and I asked if it would be possible to apply for some to offset the cost of our services. I submitted a brief application description of what I just described and a draft budget.

Mr. Goncalves: To Marc Strange?

Ms. Whynott: Yes.

Mr. Silva: What kind of dollars are you looking for or requesting?

Mr. Gennette: Looks like $19,409.

Ms. Whynott: It's about 4 hours a week of staff time. Some money for van maintenance, money for program supplies we give out. The agency typically charges a 16% admin rate so I also included that.

Mr. Rosenblum: That's annual?

Ms. Whynott: That's for a year.

Mr. Goncalves: What does the staff do in 4 hours?

Mr. Alvarez: We come in and provide mobile service. Individuals can call us. We don't have a brick-and-mortar site and we're not looking to have a brick-and-mortar site in Ludlow. I don't think it's needed in Ludlow because of the population and the way the Town is set up. We can come in and provide services through a mobile delivery service. Individuals call us for a variety of services. Sometimes it's Narcan, sometimes it's harm reduction supplies. We also provide screening and counseling mobile services as well. We come into Ludlow periodically for Section 35, the Hampden County House of Corrections, Everest Recovery, which is a methadone clinic in Ludlow. They have a private detox here that takes private insurance. It's in the same building. We come in and provide screening and counseling sessions, Narcan education.

Ms. Whynott: Screening counseling is HIV, STI's and things like that.

Mr. Alvarez: We provide Narcan education and distributions.

Mr. DeBarge: Where is your office located?

Mr. Alvarez: We have six brick-and-mortar sites throughout Western Massachusetts, we're in 3 counties. Franklin County, Greenfield, Hampshire County, Northampton, Hampden County, Holyoke, Chicopee, Springfield and Westfield.

Mr. DeBarge: Where does your funding come from?

Ms. Whynott: It's mainly State funding.

Mr. DeBarge: And then when the opioid settlement funds started coming out I would assume you're going to communities all over the place.

Ms. Whynott: We have a contract with Easthampton. Hadley is looking very positive that they're going to grant us some funding. We're applying for further grants as well.

Mr. Gennette: Are those the only towns you've approached so far?

Mr. Alvarez: No. A lot of the time where we have brick-and-mortar sites we're having conversations with city officials there. Where we don't have these brick-and-mortar sites we're being sought after by the city officials as well to see if we can provide services in their communities. That's a conversation we're having about supporting some of the work that we can financially do some of these abatement funds to increase some of the capacity in those communities as well.

Mr. Gennette: The Board of Health in Ludlow reached out to you for help and that's part of the reason?

Mr. Alvarez: We've been working with Paulina for quite some time now.

Mr. Goncalves: How about CARES?

Mr. DeBarge: No. So, when you go out with our Board of Health Director, Ms. Matusik, what do you do?

Mr. Alvarez: Usually when we do post overdose work we're following up with individuals where a 9-1-1 call was made because they experienced an overdose. Usually, we're doing some follow-up. We've been doing that for quite some time. In every community it looks a little different. We were going out with a police officer and that shifted to more of a crisis team going out with our post overdose engagement. We do some door knocking and try to connect with the individual and see if they're ready for any services. Usually, we have a recovery coach to see if they want to get into treatment as well or if they're going to continue their use then it's a conversation with our post overdose engagement about Narcan and minimizing the risk for having another overdose.

Ms. Whynott: We have collaborated with the CARES Coalition. I've participated in their overdose awareness events during red ribbon week and Cindy Miller was the Director of Clinical Services at Tapestry and she's very involved with that still so we have collaborated with them in a lot of different ways.

Mr. DeBarge: I want to be able to explain this to people that ask me about it so I'm going to keep asking you questions. If you do the post overdose follow up in our community, what does the group look like that shows up at the door? Who is it?

Mr. Alvarez: It wasn't Paulina. They have a crisis person from CHD. Our post overdose engagement coordinator and usually our recovery coach. We've shifted from the Police Department going out to the Sheriff's Department with a Deputy, recovery coach and post overdose engagement coordinator and do some door knocking follow up to see if they want to be connected to services.

Mr. DeBarge: If they do, you're able to connect them.

Mr. Alvarez: We have a recovery coach right here. We can start working on recovery, treatment plan. If they want to take the steps and need to get into a detox they can secure a bed, provide transportation. If they're looking for an IOP, to get connected into MOUD, Suboxone or Methadone treatment they can make those connections as well.

Mr. DeBarge: If Tapestry wasn't here working along with our Board of Health what is the alternative for post overdose counseling or any type of follow-up?

Mr. Alvarez: They would have to seek it out. Most individuals when they do get called for 9-1-1 a first responder shows up they go into the emergency room. If they have an emergency department they would get connected to a recovery coach there. Most major hospitals have recovery coaches right now to make that connection as well.

Mr. DeBarge: Our CARES Coalition has been in town for 14 years. They're very proactive. Most of CARES message, and they cover all forms of prevention, knowledge and treatment, but they began based on prevention. Get into the schools. It seems like Tapestry is more based on after the fact and moving forward. I don't know if we have another entity around us that does that. That's why I asked if you weren't here who would do this.

Mr. Gennette: Michael J. Dias.

Mr. DeBarge: Those are the houses but you have to be proactive yourself to get in there.

Ms. Whynott: I think our specialty and our niche are people that are actively using and we work to seek them out and try to build that trust and support with whatever they need. We have a special ability as an organization to build trust and access that group. We help a lot of people get into

recovery and we'll also work and support even if they're not ready. We're very well known for our overdose prevention efforts. We've been doing Naloxone Narcan distribution for 20-30 years and a lot of work related to that.

Mr. Alvarez: You have a Naloxbox here. We help communities put those up. In Westfield we have about 15 Naloxboxes throughout the City of Westfield and Westfield State University has 6. That's something we do in different communities. Springfield, Easthampton, Northampton. We want to make it accessible for folks that way if stuff does happen we can get them some Narcan. We do a good job when we're open Monday – Friday during our office hours, but this stuff continues. It's great to have these Naloxboxes up and accessible for folks.

Mr. Gennette: You said you knock on doors and help with some communities teaching and training but what is the largest percentage of what you do? What is the busiest that you are? What is the most important? I know it's all important.

Mr. Alvarez: For us it's the relationship building. Most individuals are going to say syringe access and disposal. That's what gets people in the door but definitely it's the relationship building and connect with folks.

Mr. Gennette: You see a good measure of success when you get somebody you can build a relationship with?

Mr. Alvarez: We celebrate any positive change. The fact that they're reaching out to us and trying to make these changes. All we try to do is empower people to make safer practices and minimize the risk of having a fatal overdose. In Ludlow you had 2 fatal overdoses last year and 2 the prior year. I think you hit a peak of 8 about 3 years ago. Two is too many already. It's about providing the education and minimizing the risks for fatal overdoses to occur.

Mr. Gennette: Marc, what does the funds look like right now? What kind of position are we in?

Mr. Strange: We're ok.

Mr. Goncalves: Every community got money. Who have you gotten money from?

Mr. Alvarez: We help communities with their abatement funds. Doing some of this work in Westfield recently I've been working with the Hilltown's. Most of those communities didn't get much. I think one town got $50.

Ms. Whynott: A lot of cities are still organizing what they're going to do with their funds so this is all starting to roll out. We're about to apply for a grant in Springfield. They just released their RFR. We received money from Easthampton. It looks very much like we're going to receive money from Hadley. $30,000 from Easthampton for the year. The State holds 60% of the opioid abatement funds so we just submitted a grant to help with what we're doing in Hampshire County.

Mr. DeBarge: Does the dollar amount for each community you go to request have to do with the average work you do in the community?

Mr. Alvarez: Yes. Within the communities the State figured out which community was more impacted by the situation so they look at it that way. Like I said, some communities got $50. You can't buy Narcan over the counter for that. Six communities in the Hilltown's pulled their money together and they reached out to us to figure out what they can do with that money. We're not necessarily asking for this money but what support we can provide for them. It's not a matter of us seeking out these funds from these communities but assisting them in what they can use this money for. It's kind of restricted on what you can use some of these funds for. There's a lot of communities that still haven't even used any of that money because they don't know what to do with it either.

Mr. Goncalves: About how much time do you think you've spent in Ludlow over the last year?

Mr. Alvarez: I think it's increased over the last few months because of the services offered. Everest Recovery, the detox right next to it.

Ms. Whynott: That's why I put an average of 4 hours a week because it varies but the combination of our staff doing post overdose work and deliveries. Alexi also takes part in regular meetings with the local officers. We also have a medical van and we will have a clinician that will be able to prescribe medication on the spot.

Mr. Alvarez: We collect data and demographics. In any one of our brick-and-mortar sites when an individual comes in we set it up on an anonymous system but we do collect the zip code. Usually, I pull some of that information just to give you some kind of…

Ms. Whynott: We have about 136 individuals and have had 532 encounters in the past year from Ludlow.

Mr. DeBarge: What's the will of the Board? Do you want to take it under advisement? Are there any other questions?

Mr. Gennette: Did the Board of Health make an official vote to approve this or did they just kick it up to us?

Mr. DeBarge: They don't.

Mr. Goncalves: Just some support to say we work great together.

Mr. Gennette: I agree with you Tony. That's not what I'm saying. The Board of Health to kick it up to us they must have had some kind of conversation.

Ms. Whynott: They asked us to submit it to you.

Mr. Goncalves: It's not their place to take action. It's ours.

Mr. DeBarge: I think we have a great opportunity with the opioid settlement funds to be able to do what we've done so far. I think this is unique and all the questions being answered in that we don't really have too much outreach for those that have been immediately affected. I'm in favor of this but I totally understand if the Board wants to take it under advisement. I know the CARES Coalition asked about the possibility of a committee to do this rather than us but I'll go with the will of the Board.

Mr. Silva: When we initially started talking about this we had several organizations, including our own Police Department, saying we should be giving money to these different departments as well. If we were to do that and give the Board of Health funds then the Board of Health could in turn if they say that's a great organization, I think the Board of Health should be part of it.

Mr. DeBarge: Marc, can we allocate a certain amount of money to a department to use as they see fit? Can we allocate a certain amount of money to the Board of Health and then have groups like Tapestry that they work along with request money from them?

Mr. Strange: I don't see why not. If the Board wanted to appropriate $20,000 to the Board of Health we would communicate that to the Board and say you have $20,000 and you have to give us the receipts and invoices for how you spent the money.

Mr. Goncalves: On the condition there should be a majority vote of their Board.

Mr. Gennette: I think it's unfair for you guys to have to come in here, we want to know obviously what you're doing, but if you're working along with a department that actually might be a good idea if we can do it.

Mr. Rosenblum: I do like the idea because I think it adds another layer we don't currently do but you have been doing it. To the point, if we're going to allocate money to the Board of Health I would want something from Paulina and their Board saying if we gave $20 for this then down the road we have to give this. I'd rather say it's just one sum, $50,000 or whatever it was to be able to say they can then use towards it so we know. I wouldn't mind Paulina coming in and saying Tapestry $20,000, another one here. Kind of what we're doing with CARES they want to do an annual it would be the same thing with Paulina and the Health Department.

Mr. DeBarge: Are you saying not give them the exact money requested by Tapestry but give them a number and let them distribute it.

Mr. Rosenblum: They would be able to show with receipts and maybe a spreadsheet. It's cleaner that way.

Mr. DeBarge: Hypothetical, if the Board was to vote to allocate the monies requested on your form, do you have a plan knowing that the opioid settlement funds are going to be spread out over 12-15 years? Do you have a plan to return to those communities each year or do you think it will be more of a user-friendly basis.

Ms. Whynott: I think it depends on what each town decides.

Mr. DeBarge: I know it's a tough question to answer.

Mr. Alvarez: I think it all depends on what's happening 6 months from now. As time progresses we've seen certain situations get worse. We're at the rate we're at now because of everything that's happened. We can't gauge it yet until we see what's going on in each community.

Ms. Whynott: Easthampton and Hadley we did a 1-year MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) and the technical plan is to check back in and reapply.

Mr. Rosenblum: Also, my concern is that if all of a sudden you become dependent upon it and when the funds dry up, I want to be safe in the fact of not building something up so great and all of a sudden our opioid money is gone and sorry we can't help you.

Mr. Alvarez: I understand. I don't think that would be the case. We've been coming into Ludlow without the abatement funds.

Mr. Strange: I just finished up the annual reporting for the opioids, the first time reporting, and it's interesting how detailed, they ask you really detailed questions about how you're spending the money. The fact that we're supporting CARES is great because they do a lot of education prevention. MJD does a lot on the recovery side of it and I think Tapestry fits well into that mix.

Mr. Alvarez: There's similar programs throughout the State. In the Western part it's Tapestry.

Mr. Goncalves: How many of you are there? If you had a Christmas party how many would come?

Mr. Alvarez: For harm reduction about 50. Tapestry as an agency is pretty big. We have different programs. We have a hard reduction program where Liz and I work out of, our sexual reproductive health clinic and our WIC offices.

Mr. Gennette: I wouldn't want to hang up Tapestry for this money now under the impression that we're going to work with the Board of Health to try to figure it out. I would approve that money right now for this year and we can send a message to the Board of Health and say what would you guys like to do. Let's try to come to some common ground for the future. I don't want to hold up Tapestry for us to work with the Board of Health.

Mr. DeBarge: I agree.

Mr. Silva: I agree with not holding them up but I would like to have input from Board of Health whether we send them a letter and say we're looking at sending you this money to disperse it.

Mr. Gennette: That's part of the reason I was asking have they made any kind of decision.

Mr. Goncalves: Maybe there's something there that we give them money and now Paulina says if we had another $5,000 we could use their services and go to the next level.

Mr. DeBarge: I will remind the Board we asked for this meeting with Tapestry because we got paperwork with a request from the Board of Health for this. If we wait another 2 weeks to send them a letter saying would you disperse this money to them if we gave it to you their answer would be yes. That's why I'm agreeing with James about giving them the $19,000 now and then talking

with the Board of Health about some number to give them so they can disperse in the foreseeable future.

Motion made by Mr. Gennette to approve the distribution of $19,409 to Tapestry Health from the opioid settlement funds pending notification from the Board of Health for approval. **Mr. Silva second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

Mr. DeBarge: Melissa, we've already voted on the sprinkler system. We voted to approve up to $7,000.

NEW BUSINESS

Board to approve the use of ARPA funds for the paving of the library parking lot.

Ms. Rickson: It was $27,000 to pave it and Jamie thinks it will be about $500-$750 to paint the lines. It was already part of the $30,000 that was allocated but it wasn't officially voted for the library to be part of it. It's part of the library and Town Hall paving is my understanding.

Mr. Silva: Several times I've discussed that open, vacant lot over there that should be paved as well because there's times there isn't enough parking there.

Mr. Strange: We had a meeting, Melissa, Linda, Jamie and I, to talk about whether or not to pave that grassy area to extend the parking lot. I can't remember the details of it but the consensus was to hold off on it. I want to say there wasn't a consensus on it whether or not they wanted to make that because people can still park there right now because there's grass but they can also have events there but I thought there was a unanimous opinion that we should pave it.

Ms. Rickson: The side that goes along the existing parking lot we're thinking we could expand that but leave some along the back neighbor's fence for our programs. There's not a definitive plan in place. We have our strategic plan, a big word bubble that says parking, so it is important and we do want to do it in the coming year.

Mr. Rosenblum: We're at about $87,000 and this would be subtracted from that to put us at about $60,000?

Mr. Strange: Yes.

Motion made by Mr. Rosenblum to approve the use of ARPA funds for paving of the library parking lot up to $28,000. **Mr. Silva second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

Mr. Gennette: How's the water cleanup and restoration, windows, the whole project?

Ms. Rickson: The flood cleanup is complete. Everything looks beautiful. We're really happy with the work we've had done. The window restoration project we're getting bids. We had sub bids last week and this Thursday we're having general contractor bids so we'll hopefully be able to get that rolling along.

Mr. Rosenblum: Drainage finally gets tested Thursday. It's going to rain finally.

Mr. DeBarge: I want to stay on ARPA for a second. I told you last week about working on the area right over here between this building and the next. With electrical for the lights necessary and the pad it looks like the whole project can be done for about $8,000. Once the invoices are written up for electrical and the pad I'll be coming to the 4 of you for that. Also, I have an email from our DPW Director, Jamie Tomas, about the proposed engineering for the Harris Brook bridge under Center Street is about $12,800 requesting that be paid through ARPA so we'll have that written up.

Mr. Gennette: On that bridge, I know the Pond Committee talked about that dam let go and needed to be repaired as well. I'm talking about Harris Brook on Holyoke.

Mr. Goncalves: We're talking about by the Fire Department.

Mr. DeBarge: $12,800 is for a traffic mitigation plan. Once that work gets done the traffic has to be rerouted. It's going to be a nightmare. That's why we have to have this work. With both projects we're looking at about $20,000.

Mr. Rosenblum: We took $28,000 off of $87,000. We're at $59,000 minus $8,000 minus $12,000 that leaves us with about $3,800 in ARPA.

Mr. Strange: We have a spreadsheet. There's some projects that have been encumbered that may not spend the whole encumbrance. We're trying to wrap up the projects as quickly as we can so we know. Right now, I think that calculation is correct but it's fluid.

Mr. DeBarge: To all departments, if you need $35,000 let us know.

Mr. Gennette: Pond Committee especially. I know they needed some stuff so they should reach out and figure out whatever they need now.

Mr. Rosenblum: I haven't seen it in a while but those bleachers at Whitney Park. Not 12 rows but maybe 3-4 rows and if we can get a quote. We can get Tim Brillo or Rec Department on it to get a quote.

Mr. Strange: That's on my list.

Mr. DeBarge: For new, portable ones?

Mr. Rosenblum: The aluminum ones. Maybe 2 sets of them so you have visiting parents over here.

Mr. DeBarge: I would love to take that big one down.

Mr. Silva: If we do take that down we should get a good chunk of change. That's a lot of aluminum and aluminum is not cheap anymore.

Board of Selectmen – in its capacity as the Board of Public Works – to set the 2025 sewer rate.

Mr. Strange: I realize the email from the DPW didn't make it to you guys. The new rate will be $5 per 100 cubic feet and $100 per well account. That's close to a 20% increase. That's because the usage is way down for some reason. We're down 70,000 so when the usage goes down the cost goes up. Springfield Water & Sewer is also doing some capital projects.

Mr. DeBarge: People are cutting back at using water because of its expense and because we're cutting back they're charging us more? So, the message to everybody is to use as much as you want and the price will go down? That's ludacris.

Mr. Goncalves: The idea is you've got fixed costs on our side for sewer and because our sewer is based on water usage rather than how many people per household.

Mr. Gennette: The existing rate is $3?

Mr. Strange: I'm not sure.

Mr. DeBarge: Do we need to vote on this?

Mr. Strange: Yes.

Mr. Gennette: What if we decline it and tell them to come back with a better number?

Mr. Strange: The sewer is an enterprise fund so if we set it lower we'll be in a deficit. At this amount we may still be slightly in a deficit.

Motion made by Mr. Silva to adopt the new 2025 sewer rate as suggested by the DPW for $5 per cubic feet and $100 per well. **Mr. Rosenblum second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

Mr. Strange: We got a message from our attorney about the executive session issue and we need to go back into executive session for a minute.

EVENT CALENDAR

Saturday, November 23rd 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Pet Photos with Santa, Town Hall to benefit Friends of the Ludlow Animal Control.

Thursday and Friday November 28th and 29th – Town Hall Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday.

Sunday, December 1st 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Pancake Breakfast with Santa @ Harris Brook Elementary School. Tickets available at PlayNow, Big Y plaza, 433 Center Street.

Sunday, December 1st 4:30 p.m. Christmas Tree Lighting, Town Hall.

Visitations for the next meeting on December 3rd:

5:35 p.m. – Joe Alves, Assistant Assessor – Tax Classification Hearing for FY2025

6:10 p.m. - Liquor License – New Beer & Wine License for TCO Party Occasions, LLC, Selenia Cruz PUBLIC HEARING

6:25 p.m. – Class I, II, III Motor Vehicle License Transfer – Matt's Auto Mall, LLC PUBLIC HEARING

CLOSING COMMENTS

Mr. Gennette: We went to the ribbon cutting for Mill 8 yesterday. A beautiful building. It's been opened back up and it's sold out. Anybody that wants something at the mills there's already a waiting list. It was a good turnout. I was happy to be there. Have a good Thanksgiving. Travel safe if you're going to visit family.

Mr. Silva: I hope everybody has a very nice Thanksgiving with their friends and family. Enjoy, stay safe and we'll see you on the 3rd.

Mr. Rosenblum: Happy Thanksgiving to everybody. Enjoy your time with your family. This year Ludlow football is at home on Thanksgiving at 10:00.

Mr. Goncalves: There's a big pancake breakfast before that. They're going to have a tailgate party. A fundraiser in the parking lot behind the high school. Happy Thanksgiving. Don't forget Sunday December 1st the Christmas Tree lighting at the Town Hall and Toys for Tots are here. Bring something over here that day. They're also at the Safety Complex hallway. Remember those less fortunate than us. Enjoy your families on Thanksgiving and we'll be back in a couple of weeks.

Mr. DeBarge: The Veteran's Center, as we've been doing since I can remember, we're doing Thanksgiving bags for veterans that need it. We'll be packing 350 bags that will have turkey's, sides and deserts. We'll be packing that Friday and handing it out Saturday in the parking lot where the Veteran's Center is. You would have had to already sign up for this so if you did we'll see you there. Enjoy the time with your family during the Thanksgiving holiday.

Motion made by Mr. Rosenblum to enter into executive session at 6:22 p.m. and not to return to discuss the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health, rather than professional competence, of an individual or to discuss the discipline or dismissal or complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member of individual. **Mr. Gennette second. Mr. Goncalves yes, Mr. Silva yes, Mr. Gennette yes, Mr. Rosenblum yes, Mr. DeBarge yes. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

_____ Chairperson