



**Town of Ludlow
Office of the Select Board**

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TOWN OF LUDLOW

The Meeting of the Select Board held on Tuesday, September 29, 2026, began at 6:00 p.m. in the Select Board's Conference Room.

Members Present: Anthony Alves, James Gennette, William Rosenblum, Antonio Sanches, and Manuel Silva.

First order of business: Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Rosenblum: Pursuant to MGL Chapter 30A, section 20(f), after notifying the Select Board chair, any person may record the open session of this Select Board meeting, subject to reasonable requirements of the chair. This meeting is being recorded by Ludlow Community Television. If anyone else is recording, please identify yourself now. There is no one.

NEW BUSINESS

Board to sign contract between The Town of Ludlow and Campora Construction, Inc. for Installation of Whitney Park Playground Equipment in the amount of \$152,300 to be paid from Free Cash previously approved at May Town Meeting. **Motion made by Mr. Silva** to sign the contract between The Town of Ludlow and Campora Construction, Inc. for Installation of Whitney Park Playground Equipment in the amount of \$152,300 to be paid from Free Cash previously approved at May Town Meeting. **Mr. Alves second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

Board to sign contract between the Town of Ludlow and Alves Fuels, Inc. for the Ludlow Safety Complex Supplemental Heating Installation in the amount of \$38,200 to be paid from Building Infrastructure Fund. **Motion made by Mr. Silva** to approve and sign the contract between the Town of Ludlow and Alves Fuels, Inc. for the Ludlow Safety Complex Supplemental Heating Installation in the amount of \$38,200 to be paid from Building Infrastructure Fund. **Mr. Alves second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

Board to approve COPS Office Anti-Heroin Task Force Program Grant extension in the amount of \$5,987 and authorize Chief Brennan to sign. **Motion made by Mr. Alves** to approve COPS Office Anti-Heroin Task Force Program Grant extension in the amount of \$5,987 and authorize Chief Brennan to sign. **Mr. Gennette second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

Board to appoint Rhonda Burelle, DPW Business Administrator, as Chief Procurement Officer. **Motion made by Mr. Silva** to appoint Rhonda Burelle, DPW Business Administrator, as Chief Procurement Officer. **Mr. Gennette second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

Letter from Jamie Tomas, Director of Public Works – Requesting to increase snowplow rates for hired contractors.

Mr. Rosenblum noted that the proposed rate increase for snowplow contractors is approximately \$35 and observed that Ludlow's rates have historically been among the lowest in the area, with some local drivers choosing to plow for Springfield instead. Mr. Gennette said he supported the increase but reminded the Board that each disaster declaration requires additional budgetary capacity for snow removal, and avoiding such declarations in the future would give the town more flexibility in its snow budget. Mr. Rosenblum added that competitive rates are necessary to maintain adequate contractor availability, especially during heavy winter storms. Mr. Gennette praised DPW for its

performance during the most recent major storm. Mr. Silva emphasized that the DPW has struggled to recruit plow drivers and that failing to raise rates could exacerbate shortages. He urged residents to be patient during winter weather events, particularly if contractor staffing remains limited. **Motion made by Mr. Gennette** to approve the request from Jamie Tomas, Director of Public Works, to increase snowplow rates for hired contractors. **Mr. Silva second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

Board to approve temporary Treasurer/Collector office hours from 9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M. Monday through Thursday and closed on Friday beginning October 5, 2026.

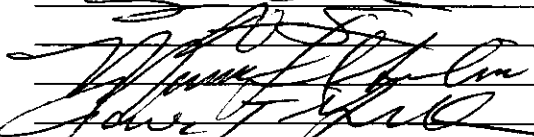
Mr. Rosenblum noted that staffing changes within Town Hall were affecting office operations. Ms. Ribeiro confirmed that a Treasurer/Collector's Office employee is transferring to the Assessors Office to fill the vacancy created by Maria Fernandes' departure. Mr. Gennette emphasized that, due to significant backlogs in the Collector's Office, modified hours are necessary to allow staff time to catch up on essential work and are not intended to inconvenience residents. Mr. Rosenblum explained that the adjusted hours are temporary and will remain in place until vacancies are filled and new staff are trained. Ms. Ribeiro stated that the office currently has three open positions: one due to a leave that will not return, one newly created under the LATOSS agreement, and one from the internal transfer. She said postings are active for all three. Mr. Alves questioned whether Board approval of temporary hours was required, suggesting such decisions could fall under day-to-day management. Ms. Ribeiro said the request was brought forward primarily for transparency. Mr. Rosenblum added that public notice is important to reduce confusion and avoid residents encountering unexpected closures. Mr. Silva stated his view that the Select Board should approve temporary hour changes. Board members discussed ensuring that at least one day each week includes extended hours to accommodate residents who can only visit after work. Ms. Ribeiro agreed to coordinate with the Treasurer/Collector on possible adjustments. **Motion made by Mr. Gennette** to approve temporary Treasurer/Collector office hours from 9:00 A.M. – 3:00 P.M. Monday through Thursday and closed on Friday beginning October 5, 2026. **Mr. Silva second. Both motions were withdrawn.** Board decided to leave days/times up to the Town Administrator and Treasurer/Collector. Also to be sure it's posted to make sure residents are aware.

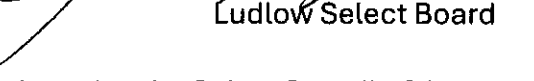
CLOSING COMMENTS

The Board requested the DPW to come in for an update at the next meeting.

Motion made by Mr. Alves to adjourn the meeting at 6:56 P.M. **Mr. Silva second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**







Ludlow Select Board

Chairman

All related documents can be viewed at the Select Board's Office during regular business hours.