The Meeting of the Board of Selectmen held on Tuesday, September 14, 2021 began at 5:30 p.m. Remote participation due to COVID-19.

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

First Order of Business: The Pledge of Allegiance

**Visitations:**

**5:30 p.m. – David Eisenthal, VP UNIBANK Fiscal Advisory Services and Elsa Barros, Town Treasurer**

The Board met with Mr. Eisenthal, VP UNIBANK Fiscal Advisory Services and Elsa Barros, Town Treasurer to discuss the Town's selling of approximately $5 million worth of bond and anticipation on the 23rd of September. Approximately $3 million are for the Radio Communication Project. Approximately $2 million are for the Harris Brook Elementary School Project. The new notes the Town is issuing now will mature September 22, 2022. The Town went out to bid last week. Elsa Barros, Town Treasurer received four full bids for the issue and two partial bids from local banks. The winning bid was 0.194% on a net interest cost basis. The all-in cost including the costs of issuance is approximately .54%. It is a one-year note. This was a non-rated issue. The Town Administrator, Treasurer and Town Accountant did not speak with the rating agencies this time but maybe will next time. Depending on the progress of the Radio Project over the next year, we might see the need for additional short-term borrowing before the end of the current fiscal year. We may be looking at a bond issue for the project when these notes come due in a year. A final bond issue for the school project is unlikely that quickly. The cash flow that we are looking at has completion next summer for Harris Brook. It could take many months or even a few years for the project audit to be completed and approved by the Massachusetts School Building Authority. I'm thinking a permanent financing for that project, the last one, could be calendar year 2024.

Mr. Goncalves asks, you said the rate for that short term loan was .194% with a final issue rate of .54%?

Mr. Eisenthal states, .54% included all of the issuance costs. That's giving you the all-in cost. The .194% is the rate going back to the amount bid on the issue by the underwriter. That interest cost is the technical term.

Mr. DeBarge asks how are we looking for paying some things off as opposed to what we have and do have a question about new debt.

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Mr. Eisenthal states, the Town is on the downside of financing for the Harris Brook Project. The Radio Communications Project has gone more slowly than anybody expected which is one reason we are looking at a renewal of short term one-year notes rather than a bond issue. I think we are going to try, as we have done in the past, to manage the debt issue so that the debt that is within the levy limit will be managed, that would be the Radio Communication Project, will be managed so that the Town can manage those impacts well and then the Harris Brook is excluded from Prop 2 ½ and we will be managing tax rate impact on those.

Mr. DeBarge states the approximate guesstimate of the demolition of Veterans Park Elementary School to be about $3 million. Mr. DeBarge states he has been in talks with our State Representative looking for help from the State and if we have to borrow or find funds to do this, he's concerned for the future of the track and field. Mr. DeBarge asks about where we are in terms of the levy limit after the school project?

Ms. Barros states we are coming under budget and looking to having some more of the funds available. Ms. Barros states she, Ms. Villano and Ms. Collins discussed if we could use some that is available for the Vets Park but does not recall the exact number.

Ms. Villano states approximately $4 million may be available but would need to ask at Town Meeting to reappropriate it.

Mr. Eisenthal states he is not sure if the Town borrowed all of the funds at this point.

Ms. Barros agreed the Town has not borrowed all of the funds.

Mr. Eisenthal states he can do a more intensive analysis and present it to the Board to give them a better sense of their options and to answer Mr. DeBarge's question.

Moved by Mr. DeBarge, seconded by Mr. Goncalves to approve the sale of $4,985,000 1.00 percent General Obligation Bond Anticipation Notes (the "Notes") of the Town dated September 22, 2021, and payable September 22, 2022, to Piper Sandler & Co. at par and accrued interest plus a premium of $40,179.10.

Further Voted: that in connection with the marketing and sale of the Notes, the preparation and distribution of a Notice of Sale and Preliminary Official Statement dated September 2, 2021, and a final Official Statement dated September 9, 2021, each in such form as may be approved by the Town Treasurer, be and hereby are ratified, confirmed, approved and adopted.

Further Voted: that the Town Treasurer and the Board of Selectmen be, and hereby are, authorized to execute and deliver a significant events disclosure undertaking in compliance with SEC Rule 15c2-12 in such form as may be approved by bond counsel to the Town, which undertaking shall be incorporated by reference in the Notes for the benefit of the holders of the Notes from time to time.

Further Voted: that we authorize and direct the Town Treasurer to establish post issuance federal tax compliance procedures and continuing disclosure procedures in such forms as the Town Treasurer and bond counsel deem sufficient, or if such procedures are currently in place, to review and update said procedures, in order to monitor and maintain the tax-exempt status of the Notes and to comply with relevant securities laws.

Further Voted: that any certificates or documents relating to the Notes (collectively, the "Documents"), may be executed in several counterparts, each of which shall be regarded as an original and all of which shall constitute one and the same document; delivery of an executed counterpart of a signature page to a Document by electronic mail in a ".pdf" file or by other electronic transmission shall be as effective as delivery of a manually executed counterpart signature page to such Document; and electronic signatures on any of the Documents shall be deemed original signatures for the purposes of the Documents and all matters relating thereto, having the same legal effect as original signatures.

Further Voted: that each member of the Board of Selectmen, the Town Clerk and the Town Treasurer be and hereby are, authorized to take any and all such actions, and execute and deliver such certificates, receipts or other documents as may be determined by them, or any of them, to be necessary or convenient to carry into effect the provisions of the foregoing votes.

The motion carries all in favor 5-0.

The Board signed the Note, the Tax Certificate, and the Disclosure Certificate.

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**6:30 p.m. – Eversource Pole Location Hearing (#142)**

Moved by Mr. Silva, seconded by Mr. DeBarge to open a hearing for a pole moving #142 for Eversource at 6:30 p.m. Motion carries 5-0.

Mr. Rosenblum: One second, you had a question Ma'am?

Ms. Dembek: Yea, it says you're talking about Eversource. Well, here it says N-Star Electric Company d/b/a doing business as Eversource Verizon New England. Who the heck is N-Star Electric?

Mr. Rosenblum: We are opening the meeting so we will let the gentleman that's sitting here with us, could you go ahead and state your name and um. . .

Mr. Peterson: Eric Peterson. I work for Eversource.

Mr. Rosenblum: Thank you and you are probably going to have to speak up a hair just so the young lady behind you can hear you as well. Go ahead.

Mr. Peterson: N-Star is. . . Western Mass Electric and N-Star merged together.

Ms. Dembek: Well, I never heard of N-Star and we never got anything saying that they merged.

Mr. Peterson: They've been merged for several years now. So, I don't know why it would still say that. I believe you. I don't know what that is.

Ms. Dembek: I don't either and neither do any of my neighbors.

Ms. Villano: It's the abutter card that was sent out by Eversource.

Mr. Peterson: That's not my department so.

Ms. Dembek: So, it seems like it's kind of sneaky.

Mr. Goncalves: Ma'am. . .Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Rosenblum: Mr. Goncalves.

Mr. Goncalves: Ma'am those are all matters between the companies and Department of Public Utilities and really have no effect on notice.

Ms. Dembek: They shouldn't put it. It makes like they're trying to slip something in.

Mr. Goncalves: I think that is probably the proper way because there's more than one company that's being represented even though Eversource is the front person.

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Ms. Dembek: Maybe we don't want them to do that.

Mr. Goncalves: Do what Ma'am?

Mr. DeBarge: Move the pole?

Ms. Dembek: They are more than poles.

Mr. Peterson: Okay, Eversource is requesting permission to move a guide wire that is over a driveway at 36 Posner Circle. So, they are proposing to put a stub pole on the other side of the yard and do a guide wire across which would be higher and safer for vehicles to go under and with a guide wire coming down for support so you wouldn't have any pole, chance of falling over.

Mr. Silva: Mr. Chairman. So actually, what you are doing is a much more safety thing.

Mr. Peterson: Correct.

Mr. Silva: Rather than having what you currently have there now. You are going to make it better and safer.

Mr. Peterson: Correct. I don't know if you guys want to see kind of what it's going to look like.

Mr. Silva: Yea, there's some stuff in here.

Mr. Gennette: I would like to see it if you don't mind.

Mr. Peterson: This is one that I kind of drew up.

Mr. Gennette: This is what is here now? Oh, I see. And that's what you are going to put in?

Mr. Peterson: Yes.

Mr. Gennette: So, you are moving that pole?

Mr. Peterson: No, that pole is staying. We are just moving the guide wire that's coming over the driveway. [Hands Mr. Gennette an illustration.]

Mr. Gennette: Oh, I see. Oh really, it's like this? [Mr. Gennette motions with his hands.] Wow.

Mr. DeBarge: So, this is more of a safety issue than it is anything else?

Mr. Peterson: Correct.

Mr. DeBarge: Ok.

Mr. Goncalves: Are you going to eliminate the guide wire to the ground or just get it off of the stub pole on the other side?

Mr. Peterson: Yes, it's coming down right over the driveway now and then it'll look like that when we are done.

Mr. DeBarge: So, Ma'am they are not moving the pole. They are moving the guide wire.

Ms. Dembek: They are moving the wires underground?

Mr. Rosenblum: No. The wire that is holding up the guide wire that is holding that pole right now that goes over the driveway, they are going to put another pole down near, farther down, towards the other driveway and then run a wire across there. There's a picture right here that you can take a look at and what it's doing is it's actually making it a little bit safer because there's a guide wire going right over a driveway.

Ms. Dembek: [Looks at the illustration.] But my guide wire is in my yard.

Mr. Peterson: Do you live at 36 Posner?

Ms. Dembek: No, 68.

Mr. Peterson: I don't have that on my list. I just have this one.

Mr. Goncalves: Maybe that's something he can look into for you. 68 Posner.

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Ms. Dembek: It says, I've got it on here.

Mr. Goncalves: Yea, that was the notice. All of the abutters within a certain distance of this property needed to be notified for this hearing.

Ms. Dembek: The reason they have a guide wire is some jerky teenager hit the original pole and moved it 2 feet. That's how fast he was going. Then they put a new one up but then they put that guide wire there. Say my property is here, and the pole is like here, then the guide wire is coming down and going down my property.

Mr. Goncalves: You're Ms. Kimble?

Ms. Dembek: Dembek.

Mr. DeBarge: Ma'am I don't understand. So, you don't want the guide wire on your property?

Ms. Dembek: I just want to know what the heck they are doing.

Mr. Goncalves: Nothing near your home. By law, all abutters within a certain distance of this property needed to be notified of this hearing. This is why you got the card.

Ms. Dembek: Right, I realize that.

Mr. Goncalves: And the only thing we are really discussing today is the particular issue that they have petitioned us for because there is a process, and we are following the process the way we need to. I can take down your address and maybe that is something they can address.

Ms. Dembek: 68 Posner further down the hill. It's just that, the names, I've never heard of so I was concerned about that.

Mr. DeBarge: Thank you.

Ms. Dembek: Do you know what I'm saying?

Mr. Goncalves: Yes, thank you.

Ms. Dembek: Sorry to interrupt your meeting.

Mr. Rosenblum: No, you are part of our meeting. Thank you for coming.

Female Posner Resident: I didn't get a card. I'm at 146 Posner.

Mr. Rosenblum: Probably too far down.

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Mr. Goncalves: What is it 300 feet?

Mr. DeBarge: Too far down.

Mr. Peterson: Yea, I believe it is.

Mr. Goncalves: Directly across the street, directly behind?
Mr. Rosenblum: Gentlemen, over here. Could you state your name please?

Mr. Dewolf: My name is Tom Dewolf and I live at 26 Posner Circle, the property next to the property. Can I take a look at the picture?

Mr. Peterson: Sure.

Mr. Dewolf: I brought my house and I have underground utilities. According to this picture, they are going to be putting a guide wire on my property.

Mr. Peterson: Not, according to that picture, it's like on the line. In front of those bushes, it's going to be.

Mr. Dewolf: This is the property line here.

Mr. Peterson: Oh, that's the property line there?

Mr. Dewolf: And this is my property. That's my row of apple trees. And, I brought my property with underground utilities. I didn't want this unsightly thing in my yard. My neighbor at 36 Posner Circle came over and he asked me would I mind putting the guide wire in my yard and I did say yes. How we got to this point, I don't know. But I don't know why they don't put the, he said, he told me he didn't want to put the pole on the other side of the driveway and have a guide wire in the middle of his yard but he wants to put the guide wire in my yard. I object to that.

Mr. Silva: Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Rosenblum: Mr. Silva.

Mr. Silva: I don't know but he might be able to answer better, but I don't think that Eversource could actually put a guide wire on your property without you giving them some kind of approval or something. They wouldn't be doing that.

Mr. Goncalves: Are things within the right of way?

Mr. Peterson: I don't know. I would have to ask too I believe.

Mr. Gennette: And then also with the utilities they wouldn't be able to nail down into underground utilities all of that would be. . .

Mr. Peterson: Right, that's all Dig Safe.

Mr. Dewolf: Yea, I have underground utilities going through my yard.

Mr. Gennette: Yeah, what I am saying is that I don't think they couldn't compromise those. Dig Safe would come out and they would make sure they wouldn't be interfering with your utilities.

Mr. Dewolf: The thing is, I just don't want the guide wire or the pole in my yard. I brought a house with underground utilities.

Mr. Gennette: Can I see that one more time? [Mr. Peterson hands the illustration to Mr. Gennette]

Mr. Dewolf: It wouldn't bother me putting a pole on the other side of the driveway and put the guide wire in his yard. He's already got the pole and the guide wire.

Mr. Gennette: So, your home is the tan property here?

Mr. Dewolf: Yes.

Mr. Gennette: So, that is to the left of your driveway and that's your apple trees there?

Mr. Dewolf: Yes.

Mr. Gennette: It looks like it's still going to be in your neighbor's property...well the guide wire though.

Mr. Silva: He's saying he's not the . . . .

Mr. DeBarge: Mr. Chairman, if I might?

Mr. Rosenblum: Mr. DeBarge.

Mr. DeBarge: Sir, from Eversource, if I could ask you. Let's say we decided to table this for two weeks until our next meeting. Would you be able to delineate between the land lines and all that and kind of clear this up a little bit?

Mr. Peterson: Yes, and see if I could move it a little to the left.

Mr. DeBarge: Ok.

Mr. Peterson: Yea, I could do that.

Mr. DeBarge: When is our next meeting?

Ms. Villano: September 28th.

Mr. Dewolf: I have one more thing to add. I would not be opposed if they dug up my yard and ran underground utilities through my neighbor's yard. I would not be opposed to that. I don't want the pole or guide wire in my yard.

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Mr. DeBarge: I don't think it's a matter of utilities Sir. It's just a guide wire.

Mr. Peterson: It's just a guide wire because the service ends at his driveway where the original pole was, that's where the circuit ends, right there.

Mr. Dewolf: So, I would like to see the pole on the other side of the driveway and guide wire on his property, not on mine. That's all I have to say.

Mr. Rosenblum: Thank you Sir.

Mr. Goncalves: Are you good with coming back in a couple of weeks?

Mr. Peterson: Sure.

Mr. DeBarge: So, September 28th or October 12th are our next two meetings.

Mr. Gennette: Thank you, Mr. Dewolf.

Mr. Goncalves: Mr. Chairman, I make a motion that we table this, continue this for two weeks pending additional information on lot lines and more clarification through the 28th of September at 6:30 p.m.

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Mr. DeBarge: Second.

Motion carried 5-0.

**6:45 p.m. – Board of Health**

1. **COVID-19 Policies, Strategies, and Mask Mandate**

Ms. Andrea Crete, Health Agent, stated the Board of Health had a meeting this evening prior to the Board of Selectmen meeting tonight to discuss the possibility of implementing a mask mandate for all individuals regardless of vaccination status entering any indoor public places. Ms. Crete stated the Board of Health voted not to implement a mask mandate but to continue having an advisory.

Ms. Lamas, Board of Health Member, stated the department will also be ramping up mitigation efforts and Ms. Crete will be exploring if there is any CARES funding left available which the Board of Health can offer to businesses in order to provide masks at their entrances, sanitizing stations, and signage to be posted in their businesses. Ms. Lamas also stated the Board is working closely with Kristen Bunten, MSN, RN, NCSN from the School Department to explore creating vaccine testimonials for public service announcements to disseminate in town as well as a community response survey for school parents.

Angela Kramer, RN, stated from September 1 through September 14, there were 114 positive cases; of the total number 50 are unvaccinated, 34 are vaccinated; ages 0-12 - 15 were unvaccinated because they cannot be vaccinated at this date; ages 13-19 - 16 are unvaccinated; ages 20-49 – 47 are unvaccinated; ages 50-80 – 36 are unvaccinated. Nurse Kramer was unable to run a variant report from July through August.

Mr. Silva asked if the number of hospitalizations was known. Ms. Lamas stated Baystate is recording 104 hospitalizations and there are pediatric cases in the region. Ms. Lamas stated Hampden County is officially in its fourth wave, has the highest COVID rates in the state, has the lowest vaccination rates, and is considered a high-risk transmission area.

Mr. Silva stated his recent discussion with Nurse Kramer was disheartening. Nurse Kramer advised him people are not staying home when they have COVID. Mr. Silva encouraged all who do not feel well to please stay home.

Ms. DeSantis stated a robocall addressing this issue is scheduled for Friday. Ms. Lamas stated there has been non-compliance of people who have tested positive and not following the guidance.

Nurse Kramer stated people are becoming more non-compliant and it is frustrating when she makes her calls and residents do not pick up the telephone or do not return her calls.

Mr. DeBarge reiterated his understanding that the biggest problem we are having is that some people who are coming down with COVID-19 asymptomatic or not, are not adhering to staying home. Mr. DeBarge stated many people who he has spoken to who are vaccinated, have it or have been exposed, believe that they are ok to go out. Mr. DeBarge stated gathering and disseminating information in different ways to the public, he thinks is best and most important. Mr. DeBarge applauds the Board of Health for not voting for a mask mandate. Mr. DeBarge stated we were told if we were vaccinated, we would be ok but understands things change. Mr. DeBarge stated for some, it's hard to get their head around that they are vaccinated and are still being told things that are different from what they were told in the first place. Mr. DeBarge stated new tactics are needed to get the information out to people. Mr. DeBarge stated he was vaccinated because he wanted to travel overseas, and traveling in the United States is not a privilege but a right. Mr. DeBarge stated he does not believe in mask mandates or any mandates.

Mr. Silva stated one idea from his meeting yesterday was that Ms. Lamas and Nurse Kramer are going to contact some of the pediatricians so they can make their recommendations for children. Ms. Lamas also stated her Board approved having a Ludlow High School student representative and/or group attend a Board of Health meeting and work towards creating a series of testimonials in order to disseminate information.

Mr. Rosenblum suggested schools could incorporate messages during their morning announcements, displaying messages on the electronic signs on the side of the road, and the Chairman's Corner are all ways to further disseminate information.

Mr. Goncalves suggested a text alert system where residents could receive information on their cellphones. Ms. Lamas stated the State Police and DPH has the capability but locally the Town may not have that capability. Ms. Lamas stated the Board also discussed exploring options with setting up a QR code to get health alerts.

Nurse Kramer stated in the State of Massachusetts, if you are vaccinated and are in contact with someone positive with COVID-19 and you remain asymptomatic, you do not have to quarantine, however, if you do become symptomatic in 14 days, you should get a PCR test.

Mr. Gennette stated he believes an advisory is the way to go but asked why the Board of Health did not make it a mandate.

Ms. DeSantis stated the Board determined they do not have the infrastructure to enforce a mask mandate and are awaiting to see what the Governor plans to do.

Ms. Lamas stated every Town has different mask wearing orders and it is contributing to the spread because there is no consistency.

Ms. DeSantis stated the Board discussed that in the next 14 days, the Board is going to be offering masks to businesses, vaccines, doing more public service announcements, and more signage.

Ms. Crete stated the Board of Health has the Johnson & Johnson vaccine available and extended the offer to municipal employees as well as Ludlow businesses for their employees. The vials expire after 30 days.

Nurse Kramer stated anyone who has vaccine hesitancy can contact the Board of Health.

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**2. Updated Travel Policy and Return to Work Policy for Town Municipal Employees**

The Board of Health provided an update regarding the revised Travel Policy and Return to Work Policy for Town municipal employees and new travel request and notification form to be used when an employee is requesting to travel.

Mr. Goncalves asked if travel approval will be discretionary and who will be making the decision of travel destinations being low or high risk.

Ms. Lamas stated some areas domestically and internationally have been deemed low and/or high-risk areas in terms of transmission by the CDC or DPH. Ms. Lamas stated the travel request form is being used as an assessment for when an employee should return to work. Ms. Crete stated the approval or denial of a vacation request is determined by the department head not the Board of Health.

Mr. DeBarge stated he does not like the 'employee must communicate' part of the travel policy but as long as the supervisor does not have the authority to say no because of the employee's destination.

Ms. Ribeiro stated the last Travel Policy and Return to Work Policy was updated in April and agreed with Mr. DeBarge that some of the departments received some push back from employees. Ms. Ribeiro stated it is an added burden to the department heads and is not sure the revised travel policy will go over well. Ms. Ribeiro stated at the Board of the Health meeting earlier, they discussed revising the language in the travel advisory. Ms. Ribeiro stated the travel policy warrants further discussions with department heads before instituting. Ms. Ribeiro stated employees have been respectful of the travel policies and inquire what is required of them when traveling and returning to work. Ms. Ribeiro stated she has advised employees to follow the recommendations of the CDC.

Ms. Crete agreed to obtain feedback from the department heads regarding the wording of travel request form.

Mr. Goncalves suggested circulating the CDC travel guidelines with employee paychecks and to advise them to consult their supervisor if they plan to travel.

Ms. Crete discussed a revised Return to Work Policy for those individuals who have COVID-19 or those who have been exposed.

Ms. Lamas explained the differences between rapid tests and PCR tests that CVS accepts insurance and is currently booking out a week in advance. AMR testing sites like the one at Eastfield Mall also accepts insurance. Ms. Lamas stated rapid tests are a little harder to come by. Ms. Lamas stated if you are symptomatic, it is recommended to take a rapid test which can detect an active infection when performed properly; however, if an individual is asymptomatic or has been exposed, a PCR is recommended. Convenient Care in Ludlow is a private business and charges $175.00 for a PCR test.

**3. Vaccinations**

Ms. Crete stated the Board did not recommend making it mandatory for all Town municipal employees to get vaccinated.

Mr. DeBarge asked if the Board of Health is in constant contact with our local pharmacies. Mr. DeBarge stated he confirmed with the Walgreen's in Ludlow that they are providing the booster shot to immune compromised people.

Nurse Kramer stated pharmacies are calling them a booster shot but really giving the immune compromised a third shot and if you are not immune compromised, you cannot get it.

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**7:00 p.m. – 23 Power Street – Dog Hearing**

Mr. Silva: I move that we open a dog hearing for the property at 23 Power Street at 7:44 p.m..

Mr. DeBarge: Second.

Mr. Rosenblum: Motion has been made and seconded. All in favor?

Mr. DeBarge: I.

Mr. Gennette: I.

Mr. Silva: I.

Mr. Rosenblum: All against? Hearing none, motion carries 4-0 and 1 abstained because he's not here.

Ms. Villano: So, if I might Mr. Chairman before you begin.

Mr. Rosenblum: Yes.

Ms. Villano: The owners of the dog for the complaint, have not appeared. They have been notified via mail, and I don't know how many times the staff has called as a reminder. At least three times plus, they've been notified by mail. This is the person who has lodged the complaint and of course the Animal Control officer. But I wanted you to know before you started.

Mr. Rosenblum: That's your dog?

Ms. Boyer: Yes, my service dog.

Mr. DeBarge: Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Rosenblum: Mr. DeBarge.

Mr. DeBarge: Reading all of this with all of the communications that were attempted, incorrect phone numbers were given all of that coupled with the complaints themselves and the sheer fact that the person isn't here, other than what the other Selectmen want to discuss I would move forward with the recommendations of our Animal Control Officer to remove the dog.

Ms. Anderson: Either we remove the dogs or have them put up a big solid fence. That will at least block the dogs from charging whenever she or any of her guests or brothers or family attempts to walk in. At this point it seems, you know, Britney hasn't contacted me at all. I've called, I've texted, I've left notices. She also hasn't licensed her dogs. When I did talk to her, my recommendation for, not even recommendations, she had to go license her dogs. They were updated on rabies shots but I think that was just a pure fluke to be perfectly honest. A bark collar and an electric fence. An electric fence, they are wireless. You plug them in. You don't even have to dig. Really easy. Fairly easy to train. She has according to her, has gotten a bark collar for one of the dogs that doesn't either seem to be up high enough or they just aren't paying attention to the dogs. I will go out there tomorrow to check. She was saying the dog just barks and kind of shakes its head like he's getting a shock and then continues to bark which is borderline animal cruelty so I will go deal with that tomorrow. Other than that, we haven't heard anything at all.

Mr. Gennette: Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Rosenblum: Mr. Gennette.

Mr. Gennette: I agree with Mr. DeBarge. I mean there's really no recourse here. We have no alternate method other than to follow the recommendations.

Mr. Silva: Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Rosenblum: Mr. Silva.

Mr. Silva: I think we need to publicize a hearing before we do anything. Publicize a hearing that we are going to be discussing removing the dogs and we have to be a little more forceful so that they do come forth and come to us. At that hearing if this happens again, then we'll just order them to be removed.

Mr. DeBarge: I'm sorry, Mr. Chairman. How much time was she given to adhere to your suggestions?

Ms. Anderson: Over a month.

Mr. DeBarge: I think we are past that.

Mr. Silva: If I'm not mistaken, Ellie, maybe I'm wrong, I think we need a public hearing, no?

Ms. Villano: I don't believe so Sir.

Mr. Silva: Ok.

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Ms. Anderson: It's not that the dogs are being a. . . I mean they are a nuisance when they get loose because they are running throughout the neighborhood, could cause car crashes, besides the health and care of the dogs but it's definitely, and I know we try to avoid neighbor things, but this is at this point, it's not really a neighbor thing, it's her peace of mind. I don't personally feel that this little thing needs to be put all over the public record. I don't know what the rules are when it comes to things like that. The last thing I want to do is take someone's dog.

Mr. Silva: Mr. Chairman. Quite honestly, we don't either. But we do want them to come forth with some explanations and at least hear some of the recommendations that now they are going to do this, that so we can. . .but to just blatantly disregard it I mean. . .

Mr. DeBarge: Well, that's kind of the point Mr. Silva. It's been blatantly disregarded from the beginning.

Mr. Silva: Right, but I thought we needed an actual hearing. Maybe not. I don't know. I think Ellie went to check.

Ms. Anderson: You know if it is not procedure, you know, I'm not quite sure, especially being new to this position that I am. I can issue citations over and over and over again. At this point the citation for nuisance dogs and the dogs being loose are $250 a ticket. They are not going to pay that. She's not going to pay that; I can guarantee that.

Mr. DeBarge: And it wouldn't be enforced in court either.

Ms. Anderson: Exactly. When I did talk to Britney, I did offer if you need help placing these dogs because I understand everybody gets in a position sometimes in their life and not everybody, but some people get in a position in their life that you're just kind of like, I can't find a job, I can't do this, I can't do that. I'm all for that but when I ask you directly, do you need help placing these dogs somewhere, I can find somewhere to help you find, because this isn't fair to the dogs which is what I care about and she just blatantly just doesn't do it at all and she's not 18, she's 30. It's not like she's a kid that just got these dogs and doesn't know how to take care of them. She just doesn't.

Mr. Goncalves: Mr. Chairman. When you speak about removing the dogs, and do what with them?

Ms. Anderson: I would find homes for them. We share a shelter, if you want to call it that, with Wilbraham. I don't want the dogs in there. I have two mastiffs. I am not taking two other dogs into my own home. But I do know a lot of rescues that will step in and do what they do which is find people looking for these dogs. The dogs I want to say are 2 and 3. They're young. They are not old dogs. One is a Pomeranian husky which is an interesting designer breed that's about this big (illustrating with her hands) and it looks like a little husky with a husky personality of non-stop movement. The other one is a mini-Eskimo, little white dog, very hyper.

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Mr. DeBarge: Is that the one?

Ms. Anderson: No, actually it's more the husky mix that kind of. . .

Mr. DeBarge: Really, Eskimo's are kind of nasty.

Ms. Anderson: They are both not friendly dogs. Trying to catch them is almost impossible. I can herd them to their house is what it kind of boils down to. They would probably bite if I grabbed. I have no doubt in my mind of that. It isn't necessarily the dogs' fault, it's the owner, not being a responsible dog owner. There's no reason for it besides whatever is going on in her head. So, if we get the ok, I will start talking to the rescues, seeing what's out there because I'm assuming she cares for the dogs somewhere. They are fed. They are not starving. There is some level of her trying to care for the dogs. I just don't think she is in the right place in her life at this point to actually do justice for these dogs. Putting bark collars on them and restricting them isn't necessarily fair to the dogs either. They're young. They can find nice good homes for them.

Mr. Rosenblum: I like the idea of a rescue. I have a dog that's a rescue.

Ms. Anderson: Yes.

Mr. Rosenblum: My wife wanted to return the dog in the first 6 months but the dog is the sweetest dog in the world now.

Ms. Anderson: Often times that happens with rescues because people tend to think dogs are like this disposable thing that they absolutely are aware of what is going on. Maybe not on a human level but all of a sudden, their world that they know is ripped away from them. You know, behavior problems are often common with rescue dogs. But they are people like yourself, that you know, want to help these dogs and when they do fit perfectly, it's great. A lot of the rescues I deal with, will take a dog back if it doesn't work out. They are also very clear on you need to give this dog time. See if this dog is actually going to work out instead of a week of nope, this isn't going to work out. So, I feel fairly comfortable on that side of it knowing that the rescue will follow up and find a decent place for them. I'm sure she got them from a pet store and I'm sure breeders are not involved. I'm a breeder of bull mastiffs. At any time of my puppies' lives, if they called me up and said, 'this isn't working', that dog would be back at my house in a minute. Unfortunately, there are a lot of people out there that are these designer breeds, as they are called, she probably paid a good $5,000 for this mixed breed dog because it is a designer breed. Will the breeder take it back? She probably doesn't even know the breeder. I would be really

surprised if she did. I could almost guarantee 99% the breeder wouldn't have anything to do with taking the dog back just from the nature of the way the dogs are too.

Mr. Rosenblum: Anyone have a motion?

Ms. Anderson: Can we put a time frame on this?

Mr. Rosenblum: What's your recommendation?

Mr. Gennette: What time frame would you like?

Ms. Anderson: I would say give me a good month to find a rescue that's (a) willing to take them. They will have to be evaluated. If the rescue and myself feel that the dogs need to be euthanized, that unfortunately does have to be an option. If these dogs are so far gone that they're nasty creatures, I don't know any rescue that would take a dog that has a bite history or has the potential to hurt someone. Rescues don't want that on them either so the dogs would have to be evaluated. I would say six weeks. That way I could get probably confiscate the dogs, get a rescue involved that will help me evaluate them and then take it from there.

Mr. DeBarge: Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Rosenblum: Mr. DeBarge.

Mr. DeBarge: I make a motion to allow Ms. Anderson, our Animal Control Officer, the time she needs to find a suitable home for these dogs in reference to 23 Power Street.

Ms. Anderson: I would say six weeks.

Ms. Villano: If I might Mr. Chairman.

Mr. DeBarge: Do you want a specific time?

Ms. Villano: Well, no I think that the Board has to deem. . .

Mr. Rosenblum: . . .the owner unfit?

Ms. Villano: You know you just can't, you have to deem that the dog is considered a nuisance or is considered dangerous. Once you deem that it is considered a nuisance, then you are going to vote. . . you can vote to tell, notify the owner that she has 30 days to get rid of the dogs and then force her to get rid of the dogs.

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Mr. Goncalves: Which I think, in my opinion that's what I probably would do.

Mr. DeBarge: I don't know if we want. . .

Ms. Villano: You've done that quite often in the past.

Mr. DeBarge: Well, I haven't done that and I don't know if that's the best, . . . this person place the dogs.

Mr. Goncalves: Outside the Town of Ludlow.

Ms. Anderson: That would be one way to do it.

Mr. DeBarge: But we have to care for the dogs as well, not the people of Ludlow as well. We have to care for the dogs. So, we have to look in the best interest of the dogs.

Ms. Anderson: So, could we possibly give her the ability to find a suitable home with my okay, that it is a suitable home?

Mr. Rosenblum: Yea, I have no . . .

Ms. Anderson: And if it is outside of Ludlow, then obviously it's outside of Ludlow and it's none of our problems. I would still like to know what's happening with the animals. I'm just, that's kind of just what I do.

Mr. DeBarge: Alright, I'm going to withdraw my motion.

Mr. Rosenblum: No one seconded it. You are good.

Mr. DeBarge: I'm not going to make the next one. Ok, so what do you want it to say? First, we have to deem the dogs a nuisance. Can it be in the same motion because this is going to be a Tony motion.

Mr. Goncalves: Oh God, and is comma plus. . .

Ms. Villano: Normally, when you hold a hearing like this, you get testimony from both sides then you make a determination. Then, your determination has to be what it is, if it were a dog bite, you would designate the dog as a vicious dog and then do the following action. I don't think we are talking about vicious dogs; we are talking about that these dogs are a nuisance. Then you can give her the ability, there are several things. You can say she has 10 days to prove that she has put a bark collar on them, you can have them build fences, you can, there's a lot of different things that you can do up to and including ordering the dogs to be removed from the Town. But you could also give her the opportunity to remove the dogs or she can surrender them to the Animal Control Officer. But again, the first step is, have you determined based on testimony, that these dogs are a nuisance.

Mr. Rosenblum: Seen that we have no testimony against this testimony we would say that we deem them a nuisance.

Ms. Villano: Well, you have police reports.

Mr. DeBarge: Well, we can take the, ok alright Mr. Chairman I make a motion that we label the dogs at 23 Power Street nuisances in light of the information given to us by our Animal Control Officer and allow Ms. Kowalski with communication with Ms. Anderson to find a more suitable place for the dogs within 45 days, 30 days.

Ms. Anderson: 30 days if she's doing it. The reason I would need six weeks is because I would need to contact all the different rescues. If she can say, you know, my second cousin who lives in Springfield will take the dogs. Great. Let the second cousin take the dogs. But, I think the longer we let this go, the more she has to deal with.

Mr. Goncalves: Second, for discussion. What if two weeks for now Ms. Anderson has tried endlessly to get a hold of her, we have to wait 45 days?

Mr. DeBarge: We changed it to 30.

Ms. Anderson: That she has 30 days to either remove them from Ludlow or I take them.

Mr. Goncalves: I understand but if she ignores everything for a couple of weeks.

Mr. Rosenblum: Mr. Silva.

Mr. Silva: Yes, just a question. Have the dogs bitten anyone?

Ms. Anderson: Not that I know of.

Mr. Silva: They have not bitten anybody.

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Ms. Anderson: They have not bitten anyone. They just run loose and bark non-stop. She has video after video, after video of these dogs and the people in the household blatantly ignoring the dogs barking or yelling at them and not doing anything like picking up the little dogs and bringing them in which is what any normal person would do if their dog is non-stop barking you would hope.

Mr. Rosenblum: Peanut butter the word peanut butter works for my dog.

Ms. Anderson: Peanut butter.

Mr. Rosenblum: Absolutely, you saying it and he comes running in.

Ms. Villano: So, if I might Mr. Chairman. You can, if this motion passes, you can also designate the Animal Control Officer to within a week or two, even within a week make contact with the owner to provide them and provide you with an update in 14 days and an update in 30 days.

Ms. Anderson: That's good. Yes.

Mr. Rosenblum: Ok.

Ms. Villano: There's nothing that precludes you from or stops you from taking steps to monitor it.

Mr. Rosenblum: There is a motion out there. Do I have a second, I had a second for discussion are you good with your discussion?

Mr. Goncalves: I am. I'm set. Thank you.

Mr. Rosenblum: Motion has been made and seconded all in favor.

Mr. DeBarge: I.

Mr. Goncalves: I.

Mr. Gennette: Mr. Chairman can you read that motion back again? Sorry, wasn't it a big one?

Ms. Villano: This is the gist of it, motion to label the dogs a nuisance in light of the information provided to the Animal Control Officer and allow Ms. Kowalski with Animal Control Officer or with communication with Ms. Anderson to find a suitable home within 30 days.

Ms. Anderson: Should we say outside of Ludlow? Can we say that? I don't know if there are other households in her family. From the sounds of it, they all live at this house but I could be wrong. I just don't want to end up going. . .

Ms. Villano: It's usually outside of. . .

Ms. Anderson: I just don't want to go to another address with another barking dog and go oh, I know these dogs if I can avoid that. If I can't avoid that then it's something I can deal with.

Mr. DeBarge: I didn't make the motion to go outside of Ludlow right? Just suitable housing for the dogs.

Mr. Rosenblum: And suitable would be outside of Ludlow in your view. Motion made and seconded. Everybody said I. Mr. Gennette, then came (inaudible) so the motion. . .

Mr. Silva: I'm not there yet. I will abstain. I need just a little more communication with them. We've had vicious dogs before that we've allowed the people to actually do something, and fence them. I realize you are trying to get her but this is the first time that I've really heard this so unfortunately, I'm not there yet. I totally agree with you that they probably should be and I agree with everybody but I'm just not there yet.

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Ms. Anderson: In the past, I'm assuming the dog owners have shown up?

Mr. Silva: Right, they have. Yes.

Ms. Anderson: With vicious dogs or nuisance dogs?

Mr. Silva: Yes, that is true.

Ms. Anderson: I think that just with her past history and I really don't like to label people like that but her past history, at least for me has been absolutely zero. She has not, besides agreeing with me when I am talking with her directly, yes absolutely I'll go get the licenses tomorrow, over and over again. Somewhere along the line I think that, it's one thing if the people were here, they would say their side.

Mr. Silva: Has she been notified that if she does not reply, she will lose the dogs? I mean the Selectmen are going to remove the dogs?

Ms. Anderson: One of our conversations at one point was you need to follow through with this because we will ask for a hearing and I will ask for the dogs to be removed. You are not showing me you are caring for these dogs. I can't go after her for an animal abuse unless this dog is being electrified and then I will absolutely have no problem doing that.

Mr. Silva: My reasoning is people get attached to dogs and some of them are horrible dogs and they are still attached to the dog like crazy. I don't know. I'm not there. That's all.

Ms. Anderson: Pets and people are funny to deal with. Whatever is going on with their life they pour it all on the person who is trying to fix a problem. She is not showing me any responsibility.

Mr. Silva: It's too bad.

Ms. Anderson: It is too bad. Her dogs could be her best friends. I do not want to be responsible for that, but you've got to step up somewhere.

Mr. Silva: Just like her (pointing to Ms. Boyer). She's got her dog. She needs her dog; she may need her dogs. Unfortunately, we do not know that.

Ms. Anderson: Because she has not made that effort.

Mr. Silva: Well anyways, we voted so.

Mr. Rosenblum: Did you abstain or say no?

Mr. Silva: I've got to say no. I'm not there.

Mr. Rosenblum: The motion passes 4-1.

Ms. Anderson: So, from what I understand, basically we are giving her 30 days, we are actually going to give her a week. I will go out there tomorrow and talk to her if I can get a hold of her. A week to, for me to be able to go ok, you need to find a home, we are letting you find a home for these dogs. If you cannot do that, or choose not to, I have the ok to rehome these dogs on my own.

Ms. Villano: That was not in the motion.

Mr. Rosenblum: We were talking about a possible second motion.

Ms. Villano: So, I think that. . .

Ms. Anderson: So, we are still on the first motion?

Ms. Villano: Well, the first motion was that she is to give her notice that she has 30 days to work with you to find a suitable home for the dogs.

Ms. Anderson: Ok.

Ms. Villano: Didn't have the authority to personally remove the dog. So that . . . you can continue this for 30 days while Ms. Anderson works with Ms. Kowalski to remove the dogs voluntarily under this order, and have her come back and make that motion that she remove the dogs.

Mr. Rosenblum: Can we make a motion now, that at the end of 30 days that the owner does not place the dogs then we leave it up to Ms. Anderson to place the dogs as she sees fit.

Ms. Villano: Yes.

Mr. DeBarge: Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Rosenblum: Mr. DeBarge.

Mr. DeBarge: I make a motion that if after 30 days Ms. Kowalski can not place the dogs in a suitable home that Ms. Anderson, our ACO do so.

Mr. Goncalves: Second.

Mr. Rosenblum: Motion has been made and seconded. All in favor?

Mr. Goncalves: I.

Mr. Gennette: I.

Mr. Silva: No.

Mr. Rosenblum: That was against, ok. Motion carries 4-1.

Mr. Goncalves: Chairman, I make a motion that we close the hearing at 8:10.

Mr. Gennette: Second.

Mr. Rosenblum: Motion has been made and seconded. All in favor?

Mr. DeBarge: I.

Mr. Goncalves: I.

Mr. Gennette: I.

Mr. Silva: I.

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Mr. Rosenblum: Those against? Hearing none, motion carries 5-0 to close the hearing.

**Correspondence:**

174. Board to approve a 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 August 22, 2021.

Moved by Mr. Gennette, seconded by Mr. DeBarge to approve a 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 August 22, 2021. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

174a. Board to approve a 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 August 22, 2021.

Moved by Mr. Gennette, seconded by Mr. Goncalves to approve a 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 August 22, 2021. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

175. Julianne Bartley, Executive Director, Hampden County Regional Retirement Board (HCRRB) – requesting the assistance of the Board of Selectmen to encourage department heads to comply with any request for attendance at a Board Meeting involving one of their employees going through the accidental disability retirement process.

Moved by Mr. Goncalves, seconded by Mr. Gennette to notify each department head immediately of their duties under the bylaws of the Hampden County Regional Retirement Board and if they cannot make it, send someone in their place because someone should be there to represent that department. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

176. Mike Kelliher, Chairman, Ludlow School Committee – inviting the Board to the ribbon cutting ceremony on Saturday, September 25th at 10:00 a.m. to officially open the new Harris Brook Elementary School.

Moved by Mr. DeBarge, seconded by Mr. Goncalves to file. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

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177. Michelle Goncalves, Chair, Ludlow Cultural Council – providing an update and seeking approval from the Board of additional highlighted requests to be received before the Ludlow Community Market on Saturday, October 2, 2021 and Sunday, October 3, 2021 at the Mack Donnelly Gazebo.

Ms. Villano will clarify with Ms. Goncalves if she will need a copy of the Town's insurance. Ms. Villano states the chalking should be sidewalk chalk and washable. Ms. Villano states the additional parking was for the food trucks and Ms. Goncalves will need to coordinate with the DPW to specifically block off certain sections.

Moved by Mr. DeBarge, seconded by Mr. Goncalves to approve new requests from the Ludlow Cultural Council for their event in October and our Town Administrator will take care of the issue with the insurance. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

178. Kim M. Batista, CMMC, Town Clerk – requesting the Board to appoint Heather Jolicoeur, Program Coordinator as the Records Access Officer for Council on Aging.

Moved by Mr. Silva, seconded by Mr. Goncalves to approve the Town Clerk's request to appoint Heather Jolicoeur, Program Coordinator as the Records Access Officer for Council on Aging. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

**Unfinished Business**:

Board to vote to approve and sign ten (10) copies of the warrant for the October 4, 2021 Special Town Meeting. (Board to discuss Article 19)

The Board discussed Article 19 – Mobile Home Park. Ms. Villano stated the article as written needs some clarification. Ms. Villano states upon Town Counsel's review, her suggestion was for the Board to approve the warrant 'as is' since the Planning Board already had their public hearing, and that at their meeting on the 23rd, they will take up the clarifying language and then make an amendment to the motion on Town Meeting floor. Ms. Villano states the Board could vote to open up the warrant and strike the article completely, but then you have to wait until May. Ms. Villano stated one of two things need to happen, amend the motion at Town Meeting to put in the clarifying language or vote to take no action if after the Planning Board meeting, they have no approval. Ms. Villano stated the warrant needs to be posted by this Friday in order to provide two-week notice. Ms. Villano stated the language is the original language that the Board approved.

Moved by Mr. Goncalves, seconded by Mr. Gennette to approve and sign ten (10) copies of the warrant for the October 4, 2021 Special Town Meeting as presented. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

Board to approve and sign the Memorandum of Agreement between the Town and the Dispatchers, NECU Local 130.

Moved by Mr. Goncalves, seconded by Mr. Silva to approve and sign the Memorandum of Agreement between the Town and the Dispatchers, NECU Local 130. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

Moved by Mr. DeBarge, seconded by Mr. Goncalves to approve and sign the Selectmen Meeting Minutes of May 4, 2021 with all members present. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

Moved by Mr. DeBarge, seconded by Mr. Goncalves to approve and sign the Selectmen Meeting Minutes of May 18, 2021 with all members present. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

Moved by Mr. DeBarge, seconded by Mr. Goncalves to approve and sign the Executive Session Meeting Minutes of July 6, 2021 with all members present. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

Moved by Mr. DeBarge, seconded by Mr. Goncalves to approve and sign Executive Session Meeting Minutes of July 20, 2021 with all members present. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

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**New Business:**

Board to continue discussion of the feasibility of moving various offices within Town Hall.

Mr. Rosenblum stated the Human Resources Department is outgrowing their office. Mr. Rosenblum recommends to move Human Resources to the Board of Health offices and combine the Board of Health office with the Nurses office. We will need to remodel in order to give the appropriate space to each department.

Mr. DeBarge stated the moves are inevitable, agrees that is the best move for efficiency and working relationships in the building, and future moves are also a possibility.

Mr. Silva stated there is also available space at the DPW but does not have an issue with moving the Human Resources Department to the Board of Health offices.

Mr. Gennette stated he agrees this is a great first move in order to work efficiently and to best accommodate the residents.

Mr. Goncalves stated he supports the move.

Ms. Villano stated the various departments have been notified that some moves will be taking place and their departments may be affected. Ms. Villano stated due to a recent flood, half of the first floor has been affected and the carpets will need to be replaced, suggested placing tile in the common areas on the first floor, and in the IT Department. Ms. Villano stated the carpet replacement and moves will occur over the next couple of months. Ms. Villano stated Building Infrastructure funds will be used for the replacement of the carpets. Ms. Villano stated the Town Accountant informed her there is also funding left in the Jail Impacted Account to take care of these repairs.

Moved by Mr. DeBarge, seconded by Mr. Gennette, to merge both Board of Health offices into what we know as the 'Nurses' office. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

Moved by Mr. DeBarge, seconded by Mr. Silva to allow our Town Administrator ascertain and accomplish carpet replacement on the first floor with whatever is recommended. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

Moved by Mr. Gennette, seconded by Mr. Silva to move Human Resources Department from their current office down to the vacated Board of Health office. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

The Board preliminarily discussed possible new full-time positions of a Grant Writer, Procurement Officer, and Facilities Manager.

Ms. Villano stated these would be new positions as of July 1, 2022. Ms. Villano stated it would be up to the Board of Selectmen to do the compensation and classification plan and the budget process would be approved at Town Meeting. Ms. Villano stated quite a few communities have a full-time Facilities Manager and a Grants/Procurement Officer and recommends the Board to consider both positions. Ms. Villano stated Human Resources would need to also be involved with developing job descriptions.

Mr. Rosenblum recommended starting the process of considering a combined position of a Grant Writer/Procurement Officer and a full-time Facilities Manager.

Mr. Gennette stated during their last conversation regarding these positions the Board did not seem resolved as a group to do this. Mr. Gennette suggested after getting information from Human Resources with a job description, how much it is going to cost, and if it will be one or two positions covering three different things, and then bounce it off of the Finance Committee in order to get everyone on board.

Mr. DeBarge stated the Board sets policy, not the Finance Committee and the Board needs to start thinking about Ludlow's future in terms of how we progress as a town. Mr. DeBarge stated our Town Administrator position wears far too many hats. Mr. DeBarge stated in order to progress, this is something we need to endorse and make it happen.

Ms. Villano stated the next steps would be for Human Resources to formalize a job description and salary range. Ms. Villano stated the budget process will be starting soon. Ms. Villano stated she and the Town Accountant will be meeting with the Chairman of the Finance Committee soon to discuss budget issues moving forward, including these two positions if the Board approves.

Mr. Silva stated he supports the Board going for one of the positions this year and then the other next year due to budgetary constraints.

Moved by Mr. Goncalves, seconded by Mr. Gennette to request the Human Resources Department to provide us with more information on the positions, a job description and a firmer salary range for our next meeting. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

Town Administrator updated the Board on the need for the carpets to be replaced on the first floor.

Board perused Selectmen Meeting Minutes of April 6, 2021.

Board perused Selectmen Meeting Minutes of June 1, 2021.

Board perused Executive Session Meeting Minutes of August 3, 2021.

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Board perused Executive Session Meeting Minutes of August 17, 2021.

**Board Updates/Miscellaneous:**

Mr. Gennette proposed the need for coming up with a deadline for department heads to submit requests for new positions to be considered by the Board. Ms. Villano stated she has met with the Town Accountant and drafted a memo to circulate to departments. The Board agreed all new position requests are due to them by November 16.

Mr. Goncalves provided an update to the Board regarding Head Start at the primary building. Mr. Goncalves assisted Ms. Santos with contacting the Portuguese American Cultural Association. Mr. Goncalves stated they were able to work something out subject to the State approval of the licensing transfer and completed inspections.

Ms. Villano stated the heat in the primary building needs to be on by October 15. Ms. Villano also stated the heating system heats three buildings that is split two thirds by the school and one third by the Town. Ms. Villano stated she does not know in their lease, if they offset some of the cost of the heat in their lease agreement because that lease is with the school which goes through the end of September. Ms. Villano stated the Town will incur the total cost of the heat when the building is vacated. Ms. Villano stated a one-to-two-month lease agreement with verbiage pertaining to the heat would need to be included. Ms. Villano is awaiting a response from the school as to when they will formally be vacating the building.

Moved by Mr. Goncalves, seconded by Mr. Gennette to extend the lease until the end of October. Mr. Gennette stated it was his understanding the Board would revisit month to month.

Mr. DeBarge stated he has an issue with the turnover of the heat from the school to the Town with tenants in the building. Mr. DeBarge asked if the school would continue with the heat until the Tenant vacates the property.

Mr. Gennette asked if it is known when the school will turn the building over to the Town.

Ms. Villano stated she is unsure of their move in date. Ms. Villano stated the deed is in the name of the Town of Ludlow and the building is under the control and jurisdiction of the school committee. The school committee has the lease until the end of September. Ms. Villano advised not to take that building over with tenants in it. Ms. Villano stated if the Board allows the tenants to stay until the end of October, and the school is turning it over, there is going to be a new lease either extended by the school or in the Board of Selectmen's name. Ms. Villano stated the decision is are you going to allow this entity to stay and with that comes the issues of the maintenance of the building and turning the heat over.

Mr. DeBarge asked how is the situation mitigated as the motion stands.

Mr. Goncalves stated based on discussions he has had with Ms. Santos, they have nowhere to go on an emergency basis in the next two weeks. Mr. Goncalves stated under the circumstances where they are certain they have somewhere to go, he's in favor of extending the lease.

Mr. Rosenblum stated they intend to turn the building over the end of September, early October.

Mr. Goncalves maintained his motion to extend the lease until the end of October and Mr. Gennette maintained his 2nd and the motion passes 5-0.

Chairman approved and signed all bills, warrants and abatements. A record of all warrants is in the Selectmen's office for perusal until provided to the Town Accountant's office.

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**Closing Comments:**

Mr. DeBarge stated he was unable to attend the 9/11 Ceremony. Mr. DeBarge was pleased with the turnout and thanked those who sent him pictures. Mr. DeBarge gave kudos to Mr. Segundo. Mr. DeBarge expressed his sympathies to the families of the recent passing of Darlene Rae and Albert

Bellorini, Jr. Mr. DeBarge stated he was disappointed with the treatment a 16-year-old student received from adults at a School Committee meeting and on social media as he expressed his views about the mask mandate.

Mr. Gennette stated he had no closing remarks.

Mr. Silva stated it is disheartening knowing there are people who have COVID and continue to disregard being around others. Mr. Silva encourage residents to stay home if they are ill, take care of yourself, and take care of others.

Mr. Goncalves reiterated his condolences to the Rae family. Mr. Goncalves stated he was unaware of the loss of Mr. Bellorini but remembers him well. Mr. Goncalves also reiterated residents in regards to COVID, to take care of yourself and others. Mr. Goncalves stated he was shocked at the number of cases being 114, 70% unvaccinated or two and a half times as many people being unvaccinated. Mr. Goncalves urged residents to be careful and be cognizant of what's going on and make smart decisions.

Mr. Rosenblum stated he was honored to give the speech at the 20th anniversary of 9/11 and encourages all to pass on the remembrance to younger generations. Mr. Rosenblum also thanked Mr. Segundo, Chief Pease, the General, and acknowledged there was a fly by. Mr. Rosenblum stated State Rep. Olivera and Senator Lesser were also in attendance. Mr. Rosenblum reiterated the website previously mentioned, mass.gov.gogettested. Mr. Rosenblum encouraged residents to isolate if you contract the virus. Mr. Rosenblum mentioned the following upcoming events - September 26th - Ludlow Cultural Council Concert Series at the Mac Donnelly Gazebo, October 2nd & 3rd - Ludlow Community Market and October 4 - Special Town Meeting.

Moved by Mr. Goncalves, seconded by Mr. DeBarge to adjourn at 8:41 p.m. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

Ludlow Board of Selectmen

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

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