The Meeting of the Board of Selectmen held on Tuesday, October 12, 2021 began at 5:30 p.m. Remote participation due to COVID-19.

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2022 FEB -2 P 12: 50
TOWN OF LUDLOW

Members Present: Derek DeBarge, Antonio Goncalves, and Manuel Silva.

Members Absent: William Rosenblum and James Gennette.

First Order of Business: The Pledge of Allegiance

Visitations:

6:00 p.m. – Joint meeting with the Planning Board to discuss Joshua Carpenter's interest as the Associate Member to fill the open position on the Planning Board until the next election. (See Correspondence 198 & 198a).

Moved by Mr. Coehlo, seconded by Ms. Houle to open the joint meeting between the Planning Board and the Board of Selectmen at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Coehlo introduced the Planning Board as himself, Ms. Houle, Mr. Phoenix present.

Mr. Coehlo thanked Mr. Quiterio for his service on the Planning Board and explained to the Board of Selectmen that Mr. Carpenter would be a great asset to the Planning Board as an Associate Member.

Mr. Goncalves asked why Mr. Carpenter wants to be a part of the Planning Board?

Mr. Carpenter stated that he wants to give back to the community. He was on the Senior Center Committee. He is also currently on the Housing Committee as Vice Chairman.

Mr. Goncalves asked if is cleared by ethics regarding the Housing Committee?

Mr. Carpenter stated that he has been cleared by ethics.

Mr. Goncalves thanked Mr. Carpenter for being involved and stated that we need more volunteers like him.

Mr. DeBarge is all for Mr. Carpenter becoming the Associate Member of the Planning Board.

Mr. Silva asked how long the term will be?

Ms. Villano stated that it will be until the next election in 2025.

Mr. Silva asked if Mr. Carpenter will run for this position next term?

Mr. Carpenter stated that he is interested in running and understands that he will need to step down from the Housing Authority if he gets elected to the Planning Board.

Moved by Mr. Silva, seconded by Mr. DeBarge to appoint Joshua Carpenter as the Associate Member on the Planning Board until the next election. Vote 6-0. All in favor.

Moved by Mr. Phoenix, seconded by Ms. Houle to close the Planning Board meeting at 6:08 p.m. Vote 4-0. All in favor.

Moved by Mr. DeBarge, seconded by Mr. Silva to approve and accept the Disclosure by Special Municipal Employee of Financial Interest in a Municipal Contract as required by G.L. c. 268A, section 20(d) and for the Chairman to sign for Joshua Carpenter. Vote 3-0. All in favor.

Moved by Mr. DeBarge, seconded by Mr. Silva to place the Planning Board open position, which expires in 2025 on the ballot for the next election in March of 2022. Vote 3-0. All in favor.

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6:30 p.m. – Laura Rooney, Ludlow CARES Coalition – to discuss updates, Red Ribbon Week October 23rd – 30th and general information.

Ms. Rooney introduced herself and stated that she has been on the Ludlow CARES Coalition for over 10 years now. This will be the 10th year of Red Ribbon Week. They are still an all-volunteer coalition and meets the last Wednesday of every month. She asked the other members to introduce themselves.

Ms. Roy introduced herself as a former educator in town and she has been with Ludlow CARES since the beginning.

Mr. Bovee introduced himself as the Vice President of CARES, he is also a resident with two children currently in the school system and is a recovering alcoholic.

Chief Valadas introduced himself and is very happy to support the Ludlow CARES.

Ms. Rooney stated that Red Ribbon Week is October 23rd – 30th and stated that there has been an increase in Red Ribbon Week in surrounding communities. The posters will be out in the schools and community. The theme this year is 'Drug Free Looks Like Me'. The Ludlow CARES Coalition fundraises once a year and this year they raised over $20,000. There was no fundraising in 2020 so this was a great fundraising year. Lollipops and bracelets will be available for the community from Ludlow CARES. These gadgets help start the conversation with younger children as well. Ms. Rooney also reminded everyone that they will be having their annual walk to remember in conjunction with the Michael J. Dias Foundation and that will take place on Sunday, October 24th. It will be held at the Boys and Girls Club. You can request a luminary to remember someone that has passed or is currently struggling with addiction and these will line the walk to remember event. On Thursday, October 28th the Board of Health, CARES and Tapestry Health will have Narcan training at Our Lady of Fatima Parish at 7 p.m. Ribbons will be hung around time on the 23rd. The soccer team helps get this done. This helps families begin the conversation regarding drug abuse.

Ms. Roy stated that a lot of different members of the community are involved in Ludlow CARES, such as the soccer team, the Police Department, the Board of Selectmen, the schools, etc. Literature is passed out to the schools to distribute to the kids. This year they are focusing on social media as well. Ludlow CARES now asks the schools and the boys and girls club for different ideas and what to focus on each year. The Red Ribbons can be a great conversation starter with young children.

Mr. Bovee explained that CARES helps parents discuss addiction with their children and lets addicts know that they are not alone in their struggle with addiction. You don't want people to suffer in silence. He appreciates the support the town lends to CARES also.

Chief Valadas explained that the drug take back will be October 23rd with Officer Dobek and Officer Mayou. There will be a tent in front of the main garage bay. The Police will partner up with the DA. However, they cannot take needles or large amounts of liquids. There will be officers at the walk as well.

Ms. Rooney stated that there has been a rise in drug overdoses since the pandemic began. Keeping the line of communication with your family is the key. She reminded everyone that the Michael J. Dias has a support group on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month at 6 p.m. at the Lusitano Stadium in the offices on the left as you go in. CARES is also to improve the mental health of the community.

Mr. Goncalves extends his gratitude to CARES for helping people in need and for educating our children about drug addiction.

Mr. DeBarge stated that he loves the Ludlow community and feels that community involvement is key to keep this going.

Mr. Silva supports all efforts of the CARES program.

Ms. Rooney thanks the Board of Selectmen for being involved and explained that the community needs to keep pushing ahead and having these discussions.

Mr. Goncalves read the proclamation from the CARES program regarding the Red Ribbon Week for 2021.

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Moved by Mr. DeBarge, seconded by Mr. Silva to accept the Red Ribbon Week proclamation for 2021 as written. Vote 3-0. All in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE

189. Mary Pichetti, Director of Capital Planning, Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) – informing the Board that the MSBA has reviewed Construction Change Orders 26-29 for the Harris Brook Elementary School.

Moved by Mr. Silva, seconded by Mr. DeBarge to file. Vote 3-0. All in favor.

190. Springfield Water and Sewer Commission – HAA5 Water Quality Violation and Public Notification of Drinking Water Haloacetic Acid 5 MCL Violation.

Moved by Mr. Silva, seconded by Mr. DeBarge to file. Vote 3-0. All in favor.

191. Richard R. Bates, Division Administrator, U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration – providing notification that the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration has promulgated an Entry-Level Drivers Training rule, effective February 7, 2022, for those drivers obtaining a Commercial Driver's License (CDL) or certain endorsements for the first time.

Moved by Mr. DeBarge, seconded by Mr. Silva to file. Vote 3-0. All in favor.

192. Shawn Giroux, Transmission Arborist, Vegetation Management – informing the Board that Eversource Energy will be performing helicopter tree trimming in Transmission Right of Way October 4th through October 22nd between 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM, weather permitting.

Moved by Mr. Silva, seconded by Mr. DeBarge to file. Vote 3-0. All in favor.

193. Robert L. Burek, Resident – letter of interest to serve on the Ludlow 250th Semi-Quincentennial Celebration Committee.

Moved by Mr. Silva, seconded by Mr. DeBarge to appoint Robert L. Burek to the Ludlow 250th Semi-Quincentennial Celebration Committee. Vote 3-0. All in favor.

194. Lisa Nemeth, C.A.G.S., Interim Superintendent – inviting the Board to attend a presentation by Motivational Speaker, Dr. Adolph Brown for Ludlow educators on their Professional Development Day being held in the auditorium of Ludlow High School on November 3rd from 8:00 AM – 9:30 AM. Dr. Adolph Brown will be speaking about diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Moved by Mr. DeBarge, seconded by Mr. Silva to file. Vote 3-0. All in favor.

195. Kurt E. Klages, LSP Project Manager, Jewel Environmental Corporation – informing the Board that Jewel Environmental Corp. will be filing the Permanent Solution report with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection for the area across from 1088 East Street, Ludlow, MA. The report was filed in response to a release/threat of release of oil and/or hazardous material and outlined that a level of No Significant Risk and Permanent Solution was ultimately achieved at the disposal site.

Moved by Mr. Silva, seconded by Mr. DeBarge to file. Vote 3-0. All in favor.

196. Susan Stanek – notifying the Board of her resignation as an Election Officer effective September 23, 2021.

Moved by Mr. Silva, seconded by Mr. DeBarge to accept the letter of resignation from Susan Stanek as Election Officer and thanked her. Vote 3-0. All in favor.

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197. Brittany Kowalski – requesting to schedule a meeting with the Board to discuss the corrective measures taken since the Dog Hearing held on September 14, 2021 and a request to stay the 30-day directive.

Moved by Mr. Silva, seconded by Mr. DeBarge to extend the dog hearing held on September 14, 2021 for another 30 days until all parties are before the Board for a discussion. Vote 3-0. All in favor.

198. Joshua Carpenter, Planning Board Associate Member – letter of interest to fill Mr. Quiterio's seat until the next election.

Moved by Mr. DeBarge, seconded by Mr. Silva to table until visitation with Mr. Carpenter. Vote 3-0. All in favor.

198a. Joshua Carpenter, Disclosure by Special Municipal Employee of Financial Interest in a Municipal Contract as required by G.L. c. 268A, section 20(d)) for Chairman to sign.

Moved by Mr. DeBarge, seconded by Mr. Silva to table until visitation with Mr. Carpenter. Vote 3-0. All in favor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Board to discuss the Gravel Bank Permit renewal application for Ray Haluch, Inc. Board to schedule an appointment with Ray Haluch due to discrepancy between the deed and the survey.

Moved by Mr. DeBarge, seconded by Mr. Silva to approve and sign the Selectmen Meeting Minutes of June 8, 2021 with Mr. Rosenblum, Mr. DeBarge, Mr. Goncalves and Mr. Gennette present. Vote 3-0. All in favor.

Moved by Mr. DeBarge, seconded by Mr. Silva to approve and sign the Selectmen Meeting Minutes of July 6, 2021 with all members present. Vote 3-0. All in favor.

Moved by Mr. DeBarge, seconded by Mr. Silva to approve and sign the Executive Session Meeting Minutes of August 31, 2021 with all members present. Vote 3-0. All in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

Moved by Mr. DeBarge, seconded by Mr. Silva to award the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Grant Work to Pioneer Valley Planning Commission. Vote 3-0. All in favor.

Moved by Mr. DeBarge, seconded by Mr. Silva to approve and sign the Agreement between the Town through its Fire Department and Fire Tech and Safety of New England, Inc. Vote 3-0. All in favor.

Moved by Mr. DeBarge, seconded by Mr. Silva to approve and sign the Agreement between the Town through its Fire Department and Firematic Supply Co., Inc. Vote 3-0. All in favor.

Moved by Mr. DeBarge, seconded by Mr. Silva to approve the Citation for Firefighter, Michael Gallagher. Vote 3-0. All in favor.

Moved by Mr. DeBarge, seconded by Mr. Silva to approve and sign the Citation for the 100th Anniversary of the Ludlow Country Club. Vote 3-0. All in favor.

Board perused the Selectmen Meeting Minutes of October 4, 2021.

Board perused the Executive Session Meeting Minutes of December 3, 2020.

BOARD UPDATES/MISCELLANEOUS

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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.

Mr. Silva had spoken with Eric Segundo regarding the memorial at the Gremio Lusitano club because it was overgrown and messy. Eric contacted Home Depot and they are going to beautify that memorial and he would like to thank Eric and the Home Depot.

CLOSING COMMENTS

Mr. Silva spoke to the Board of Health and the COVID numbers have come down considerably but does not want the residents to get laxed. Try to isolate if you have symptoms and try to keep the numbers down in order to avoid a mask mandate or shut down. Stay vigilant. Keep safe.

Mr. DeBarge stated that the Civil War Monument repairs are progressing well. If residents would like to stop by to see the work being done, please be cognizant of where your stop and let the workers continue their work. Mr. DeBarge commented that he feels that residents should be able to make comments at any meetings within the town. After going to a school committee meeting recently, he noticed that comment section was moved to the beginning of the meeting and then the committee does not comment on any of the questions or allow for further questions. In order to comment on it, you would have to write everything down from that particular meeting and then attend the next meeting to ask your questions. He thinks that this is despicable and parents should be allowed to ask questions regardless of the content.

Mr. Goncalves wanted remind residents to be cautious being around others who are sick and to be safe. He also stated that there are now scams with College Scholarships. Do not give out personal information to these scholarships unless you have researched everything beforehand.

Moved by Mr. DeBarge, seconded by Mr. Silva to adjourn this meeting at 6:54 p.m., not return to open session, and to enter Executive Session for the purposes of discussing strategy for negotiations for a non-union contract for the Ludlow Firefighters Local 1840 and to discuss a pending opioid litigation. Vote 3-0 all in favor.

Vice Chairman

Ludlow Board of Selectmen

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