The Meeting of the Board of Selectmen held on Tuesday, February 15, 2022 began at 5:30 p.m. Remote participation due to COVID-19.

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

First Order of Business: The Pledge of Allegiance

VISITATIONS:

5:45 p.m. – Public Hearing for a Liquor License transfer of an All-Alcohol Beverage Liquor License from Bocage, Inc. dba Open Door Café to Open Door Café LLC dba Open Door Café.

Moved by Mr. Goncalves to open the public hearing for at 5:46 p.m. for transfer of an All-Alcohol Beverage Liquor License for Bocage, Inc. dba Open Door Café to Open Door Café LLC dba Open Door Café, seconded by Mr. Gennette. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

Mr. Almeida introduced himself and stated that he has been the Manager of Open-Door Café for the last 8 years. He is now trying to buy his partner out of the business. He will have a new partner, Jasmine.

Mr. Silva asked if there are any changes other than the name change?

Mr. Almeida explained that obviously there will be a corporate change, however he will still be the Manager on the license. They spend more time there now. There will be an increase in the kitchen aspect of it as well as the day business and closing earlier. The night hours will be less and he thinks that will be best for everyone.

Mr. Silva agrees with that. If all the abutters are in agreement with it, he has no problem with it.

Mr. DeBarge agreed with Mr. Silva.

Mr. Goncalves agreed with Mr. Silva also.

Moved by Mr. Goncalves to approve the transfer of All Alcohol Beverage Liquor License for Bocage, Inc. dba Open Door Café to Open Door Café LLC dba Open Door Café, seconded by Mr. DeBarge. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

Moved by Mr. Goncalves to close the public hearing at 5:50 p.m., seconded by Mr. Silva. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE:

42. John R. Maher, Charter Communications – advising the Board of the results of the Charter Communications Annual Complaint Form 500 for 2021.

    Moved by Mr. Silva to file, seconded by Mr. Gennette. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

43. VDS Properties c/o Mr. Joe Alves – Petition for a Zone Change from Split Zone Residential A & Agricultural to Residential A located at 0 & 694 Chapin Street.

    Moved by Mr. Silva to put on Town Meeting floor & have the Planning Board review, seconded by Mr. Gennette. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

44. Joe Alves – Petition for a Zone Change from Agricultural with a portion of Agriculture Moderate Density (AMD) to extend the Agriculture Moderate Density (AMD) overly located at 279 Cady Street.

    Moved by Mr. DeBarge to accept the petition for a zone change and put it on Town Meeting, as well as, have the Planning Board review, seconded by Mr. Goncalves. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

45. Massachusetts Department of Revenue Division of Local Services – Central Valuation of Verizon New England Inc. – FY 2023 through FY 2027.

Moved by Mr. Silva to table, seconded by Mr. Goncalves. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

46. Massachusetts Department of Revenue Division of Local Services – Alert: A Message from Secretary Heffernan Regarding ARPA Bill Municipal Earmarks.

Moved by Mr. Goncalves to forward to ARPA Consultant & file, seconded by Mr. Gennette. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

47. Octavia Anderson, Animal Control Officer – requesting a meeting with the Board to discuss her position and salary compensation.

Moved by Mr. Silva to submit this request to HR & the Police Department for further review and then schedule a visitation with the Animal Control Officer, seconded by Mr. Goncalves. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

UNFINISHED BUINESS

Moved by Mr. Goncalves to appoint the following members to the Internal Safety Committee: Dave Ritchie, Pat McGowan, Brian Shameklis, Mike Bertini, Jeff Lavoie, Heather Jolicoeur, and Ann Converse, seconded by Mr. DeBarge. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

Moved by Mr. Silva to schedule interviews for the Ludlow Housing Authority Tenant Board Member position to expire 2027, seconded by Mr. Gennette. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

Moved by Mr. Gennette to use the remainder of the Jail Impact Money for the replacement of carpets at the Town Hall, seconded by Mr. Silva. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

Moved by Mr. DeBarge to approve and sign the letter to the Animal Control Officer authorizing her to perform her duties, seconded by Mr. Goncalves. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

Moved by Mr. DeBarge to approve and sign Selectmen Meeting Minutes of November 9, 2021 with Mr. Goncalves absent, seconded by Mr. Silva. Vote 4-0-1. One Abstention.

NEW BUSINESS

Moved by Mr. Silva to put the warrant articles for insertion into the May 9, 2022 Annual Town Meeting, seconded by Mr. Gennette. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

Moved by Mr. DeBarge to open the Special Town Meeting to be held within the Annual Town Meeting on May 9, 2022, seconded by Mr. Goncalves. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

Moved by Mr. Goncalves to designate Derek DeBarge to approve and sign all bills, payroll and further discuss the office day to day operations effective after February 25, 2022, seconded by Mr. Gennette. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

Moved by Mr. Gennette to approve and authorize Town Counsel to enter into agreement for judgment in the Rent Control Board litigation to set aside rent increase requiring new petition for any increase. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

Moved by Mr. Silva to acknowledge and approve the Citation for the upcoming 100th birthday for the month of February for Clare M. Edgar, seconded by Mr. DeBarge. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

Board perused the Selectmen Meeting Minutes of November 16, 2021.

BOARD UPDATES/MISC.

NONE

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds Updates.

NONE

Chairman to approve and sign 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.

Event Calendar:

February 21 – President's Day – Town Offices Closed

CLOSING COMMENTS

Mr. Goncalves stated that most scams are coming across on texts and reminds residents to be aware. He wished Mrs. Edgar a very happy birthday!

Mr. Gennette reminded residents that the elections are coming up and encouraged people to come out, the town needs a better turn out!

Mr. Silva reminded residents to stay vigilant with the COVID and even though the numbers are coming down, don't get laxed.

Mr. Rosenblum said happy birthday to Mrs. Edgar also!

Mr. Rooney, former Selectmen, came in to wish Ms. Villano well in her retirement. He stated that in 2008 when he was a new selectman and one of the first jobs he had was to hire a new Town Administrator. He made a mistake by not voting yes for Ellie but he is glad he was wrong. He served with Ellie for 11 years and was very impressed with the way she handled herself and she will be missed. He also stated that she was very professional and kind. When he went for his confirmation hearing to be a judge he was allowed three speakers and Ellie was one of them and she did a fantastic job! Thanks Ellie and wishes her well!

Mr. DeBarge agreed with Mr. Rooney and stated that Ellie always did say she missed Mr. Rooney's Monday morning talks. He also wished Mrs. Edgar a happy birthday.

Mr. Rosenblum thanked Mr. Rooney for coming in and agreed with the way Ellie handled her position all of these years. He also wished Mrs. Edgar a happy birthday.

Moved by Mr. Goncalves to adjourn this meeting at 6:20 p.m., not return to open session, seconded by Mr. Gennette. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

Chairman

Ludlow Board of Selectmen

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