The Meeting of the Board of Selectmen held on Tuesday, April 19, 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:

5:30 p.m. – Kelly Lamas, Chairperson, Board of Health – Health Inspector Job Description Change

Ms. Lamas explained that Carrie and Katie put together a salary survey of local health inspectors. Ms. Lamas spoke to local health inspectors to confirm what types of certifications they need. Carrie and Ms. Lamas put together a job description after that. The Board of Health approved this position. They renamed the health agent position to health inspector. The salary grade is brand new.

Mr. DeBarge agrees that this position is needed and that our salary needs to be competitive. He is in favor of the position.

Mr. Gennette supports the Board of Health's recommendation.

Ms. Lamas did say there were a few things that were added to the job description in order to have a better communication between the health inspector and the Board.

Mr. Rosenblum asked if this was a funded position currently?

Ms. Lamas stated that it is.

Mr. Silva asked what is going on in the Board of Health as far as positions go?

Ms. Lamas stated that they are hoping that the Health Inspector position will be approved and then Angela's contract will be renewed and they can start looking for another public health nurse. Last year there was an opening for a nurse and there weren't any applications submitted. So, Carrie and Ms. Lamas have been taking a closer look at the Board of Health's budget and what we can offer moving forward. We are also looking to see what a director would look like while staying within our budget.

Mr. Silva agrees with this position.

Mr. Goncalves stated that this job description should state that it is a 35 hour per week position. Other than that, he is on board with this as well.

Moved by Mr. Silva to approve the Board of Health's request for the job description changes to the Health Inspector, seconded by Mr. Gennette. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

6:00 p.m. – Laura Smith – Celebrate Ludlow Update

Ms. Smith explained that the last Celebrate Ludlow was in 2019 and the committee is trying to bring it back this year. They would like to make a few changes and move it to October at Memorial Park. There will be no fireworks and they are trying to make it more of a town-wide event. One of the issues with having it in July is the athletic groups do not get together in the summer. Therefore, it is difficult to get volunteers to work the booths. We are looking at having this October 15th at 12 or 1:00 – 6 or 7 p.m. They would like to use the gazebo as the stage and have a contained beer garden. Also, an area for bounce houses and kids' activities. She spoke to Chief Pease and Chief Valadas and they do not seem to have any concerns. They are looking for approval to move it to the public park and any feedback the Board may have.

Mr. DeBarge stated that he worked Celebrate Ludlow when he was a Police Officer and at first, he was not on board with the changes. However, it has changed over the years and maybe a change of venue would be good.

Mr. Silva is concerned about parking. He also asked if there will be a tent set up at Memorial Park?

Ms. Smith stated that they are looking into that. One of the concerns with having it at the Fish and Game Club is they are spending more money on fireworks then they are actually making in return. They are working in conjunction with the 250th semi-quincentennial committee as well. This event will take place just before that celebration.

Mr. Rosenblum agrees that this would be a good change for the venue and the community. There won't be an influx of people going in and out all at once like at the Fish and Game.

Ms. Smith stated they want to at least try this venue and if it doesn't work, they can go back to the Fish and Game in 2023.

Mr. Rosenblum would like to see a site plan before they approve this.

Mr. Silva asked if the Celebrate Ludlow Committee was in agreement with this?

Ms. Smith stated they are in agreement with this.

Mr. Gennette asked what the plans were for the beer tent?

Ms. Smith stated they would speak with Iron Duke and/or Vanished Valley to run it.

Mr. Gennette asked how the committee generates revenue?

Ms. Smith explained that everyone on the committee represents a non-profit organization in town. Like the First Church, Scout groups, PTO, etc. The expenses are paid for by donations from the Town which pays for the staging and the porta-potties. Donations from businesses in town also help out. Fireworks and stage rental will be eliminated this year by moving the venue and this will free up some money.

Mr. Gennette asked if the businesses on Chestnut will be able to be open and benefit from the event?

Ms. Smith stated they will be able to be open but only the non-profits in town are able to participate at the event.

Mr. Silva asked if Iron Duke or Vanished Valley is going to participate that they should set up a tent.

Ms. Smith explained that the tent will likely be an event cost but she can ask them about it.

Moved by Mr. Silva to approve October 15, 2022 for Celebrate Ludlow event and to move the site to the Memorial Park gazebo area, seconded by Mr. Rosenblum. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE:

74. Eversource – requesting to install a pole and anchors on Cherry Street to provide an interconnection for an electric vehicle charging station – Board to schedule a public hearing.

    Moved by Mr. Silva to schedule a public hearing per Eversource request to place a pole on Cherry Street, seconded by Mr. Rosenblum. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

75. Kim M. Batista, CMMC – Town Clerk – informing the Board that Joshua Carpenter will be resigning from the Ludlow Housing Authority effective March 29, 2022

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

76. Susan Stanek, Board of Commissioners Chairperson – informing the Board of a vacancy on the Ludlow Housing Authority and asking the Board to appoint a candidate.

    Moved by Mr. Silva to put a notice out in search of a candidate for the Ludlow Housing Authority, seconded by Mr. Gennette. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

77. Arlene Desforges – requesting the Board's permission that a banner advertising this year's Sgt. Joshua D. Desforges Challenge Walk/Run Race be hung at the East Street bridge to advertise the event.

Moved by Mr. DeBarge to approve the request for a banner to be hung for the Sgt. Joshua D. Desforges Challenge Walk/Run Race at the East Street bridge to advertise the event, seconded by Mr. Gennette. Vote 4-0-1. One Abstention.

78. Ryan M. Pease – Fire Chief – requesting the Board that the Town of Ludlow call for a Firefighter/Paramedic Civil Service list to fill (1) vacant position at the Ludlow Fire Department.

Moved by Mr. DeBarge that the Town of Ludlow call for a Firefighter/Paramedic Civil Service list to fill (1) vacant position at the Ludlow Fire Department, seconded by Mr. Silva. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

79. Janice Dusza – requesting to be appointed as an Independent Poll Worker. Town Clerk recommends approval.

Moved by Mr. Gennette to appoint Janice Dusza as an Independent Poll Worker as recommended by the Town Clerk, seconded by Mr. DeBarge. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

80. Lori Hanson – informing the Board of her resignation from the 250th Semi-Quincentennial Committee.

Moved by Mr. DeBarge to accept Lori Hanson's resignation from the 250th Semi-Quincentennial Committee, seconded by Mr. Silva. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

81. Robert L. Burek – informing the Board of his resignation from the 250th Semi-Quincentennial Committee.

Moved by Mr. DeBarge to accept Robert L. Burek's resignation from the 250th Semi-Quincentennial Committee, seconded by Mr. Silva. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

82. Board to approve a request to charge off medical expenses and lost wages to Chapter 41, Section 111F for an injury sustained by a Firefighter as a result of an incident that occurred on April 1, 2022.

Moved by Mr. Rosenblum to approve a request to charge off medical expenses and lost wages to Chapter 41, Section 111F for an injury sustained by a Firefighter as a result of an incident that occurred on April 1, 2022, seconded by Mr. DeBarge. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

83. Board to approve a request to charge off medical expenses and lost wages to Chapter 41, Section 111F for an injury sustained by a Firefighter as a result of an incident that occurred on April 1, 2022.

Moved by Mr. Rosenblum to approve a request to charge off medical expenses and lost wages to Chapter 41, Section 111F for an injury sustained by a Firefighter as a result of an incident that occurred on April 1, 2022, seconded by Mr. Gennette. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

84. Application for a Common Victualler License for McBee Enterprises dba/McDonald's, 862 East Street, Ludlow.

Moved by Mr. Gennette to accept the application for a Common Victualler License for McBee Enterprises dba/McDonald's, 862 East Street, Ludlow, seconded by Mr. DeBarge. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

85. Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission (ABCC) – informing the Board of liquor licensing certification approval for Ludlow Tennis Club, 40 Carmelinas Circle, Carolyn Slifkin, Mgr.

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

86. Capital Improvement Planning Committee – recommendations for FY23 Capital Planning Board

Moved by Mr. DeBarge to approve the Capital Improvement expenditure list as explained by Mr. Gennette, seconded by Mr. Silva. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

87. Board Reorganizations – Board of Health, Ludlow School Committee.

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

88. William A. Koss – informing the Board of his resignation from the 250th Semi-Quincentennial Committee.

Moved by Mr. DeBarge to accept William A. Koss' resignation from the 250th Semi-Quincentennial Committee, seconded by Mr. Gennette. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

89. St. Elizabeth's Parish – request for a One Day Wine and Malt Beverage Permit for a Trivia Night to be held on May 20, 2022. Board to waive fee if approved.

Moved by Mr. Gennette to approve the One Day Wine and Malt Beverage Permit for a Trivia Night to be held on May 20, 2022 for St. Elizabeth's Parish and to waive fee, seconded by Mr. DeBarge. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

UNFINISHED BUINESS

Moved by Mr. DeBarge to sign the Common Victualler's License for McBee Enterprises dba/McDonald's, seconded by Mr. Gennette. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

Moved by Mr. Gennette to sign the Liquor License for Ludlow Tennis Club for the Change of Manager, seconded by Mr. Silva. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

Moved by Mr. DeBarge to approve and sign the One Day Wine and Malt Permit for St. Elizabeth's Parish Trivia Night, seconded by Mr. Silva. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

Board to discuss the Selectmen liaison positions.

Moved by Mr. Silva to approve and sign the ABCC 2022 Seasonal Renewal Certification Form, seconded by Mr. DeBarge. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

Board perused Selectmen Meeting Minutes of January 11, 2022.

Moved by Mr. Rosenblum to open the warrant for the May 9, 2022 Annual Town Meeting, seconded by Mr. Silva. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

Moved by Mr. Rosenblum to insert the following article into the warrant: Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money, not to exceed $3,500.00 to be expended by the Commission on Disability, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, for trainings, marketing materials, supplies, and other expenses related to the Commission on Disability; pass any vote or take any action relative thereto submitted by the Board of Selectmen, seconded by Mr. Gennette. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

Moved by Mr. Rosenblum to close the warrant, seconded by Mr. Gennette. Vote 5-0. All in favor.

BOARD UPDATES/MISC.

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds Updates.

Mr. Gennette stated that the Capital Planning Committee did have a lot of requests that were ARPA related and they voted to send those back to the Board of Selectmen, as those should not be decided by Capital Planning. There will be a list given to the Board of Selectmen.

Mr. Rosenblum stated once the budgeting season and Town Meeting is done, we can start focusing on the ARPA funds and what the largest impacts for the community will be.

Mr. Silva asked Mr. Strange if there were any bids for the demolition of Vets Park yet?

Mr. Strange stated that OTO went out and will send a quote for an asbestos survey as the first step. They will also do bid documents for them and then it will go out to bid.

Mr. Silva asked if there were any updated quotes for the track and field?

Mr. DeBarge will reach out to Mr. Brillo for the track and field quotes.

Mr. Gennette stated that Mr. Brillo brought in the original $2.5 million quote to Capital Planning and that needs to be updated. They also brought in an estimate of $700,000 to update the tennis courts. Mr. Gennette believes the quote for the tennis courts should be substantially less then that quote after speaking with surrounding communities that recently had updates done.

Mr. Goncalves is going to reach out to Mott MacDonald regarding the updated quote for the track and field.

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:

April 30	Sgt. Joshua D. Desforges Challenge
May 7	Town of Ludlow Clean Up Day
May 9	Annual Town Meeting
May 30	Memorial Day – Veteran's Day Activities and Parade.



CLOSING COMMENTS

Mr. Gennette stated he enjoys the Capital Improvement Committee and would like to thank all of them for doing an amazing job.

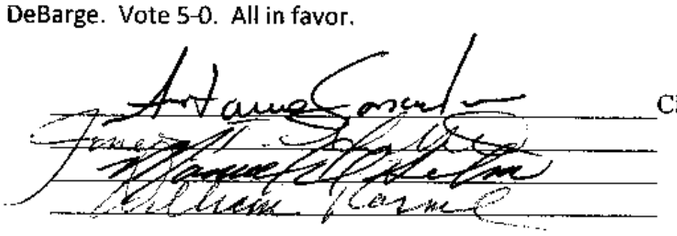
Mr. DeBarge wanted to remind everyone about the town wide clean up day being held on May 7th at 9:00 a.m. beginning at the Veteran's memorial. He would like to do a robo-call for this as well. He also thanked all of the residents that were on the 250th semi-quincentennial committee that had to resign recently.

Mr. Goncalves reminds everyone of the upcoming events in town and read the event calendar above. Mr. Goncalves is happy to see that residents are interested in the town politics and encourages them to reach out to him with any questions. Also, reminded residents to stay vigilant with COVID and is concerned that there may be a surge this summer.

Mr. Rosenblum reminded residents that the Memorial Day parade is going to be starting at 10 a.m. this year.

Mr. Silva reminded residents that COVID is still here and to stay vigilant.

Moved by Mr. Rosenblum, to adjourn this meeting at 6:54 p.m., not return to open session, and to enter into Executive Session for the purposes of discussing the reputation, character, physical condition or mental health, rather that professional competence of an individual, or to discuss the discipline or dismissal of, or complaints or charges brought against a public officer, employee, staff member or individual, seconded by Mr. DeBarge. 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.