Meeting of the Board of Selectmen held on July 12, 2022 beginning at 5:30 pm in the Selectmen's Conference Room, Town Hall.

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

Members Absent: James Gennette

First order of business: Pledge of Allegiance.

The Board entered into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigation position of the public body and the chair so declares. Mr. Rosenblum moved to enter into executive session at 5:32 pm, seconded by Mr. DeBarge Vote 4-0.

Visitations

Colin E. Galindo Firefighter/Paramedic Interview

Mr. Galindo introduced himself.

Mr. DeBarge: What would your former chiefs/captains tell you your best quality is or what you need to work on?

Mr. Galindo: My best attribute is being dedicated to the job, hardworking, learns something new every day. My worst attribute is the medical side of the field. I dwell, on not having the answer in the moment.

Mr. Rosenblum: What do you see as your own personal weakness?

Mr. Galindo: My personal weakness is borderline obsession of wanting to be perfect, always looking back at what I did wrong and what I could have done better.

Mr. Silva: Can you describe a traumatic experience whether in your field of work or personally and how did you handle it?

Mr. Galindo: Working in Springfield there's calls that you get that will either make you or break you as a person. You need to do the job well because things you are exposed to in the city, multi car accidents with deceased victims, having to transport them. That day you may ask why, but you go in the next day because of the desire to have great outcomes for the patients.

Mr. Goncalves: I love your ambition of having two jobs; is the idea of getting this one and leaving the other two?

Mr. Galindo: The idea is having some idea of the fire schedule. Being a new paramedic in this field, I just would like to keep that scale because it really is something you don't get to do often working in AMR. Even though not every single call is acute, but the chance for OT is there every single day; the chance to do something good. It's really just keeping the class up to a standard that I would want my mother to be treated with.

Mr. Goncalves: Before 2019 what did you do before you got into ambulances?

Mr. Galindo: Before working in EMS, I was working at Westover Airforce Base as a telecommunications technician for two years and before then also at Westover Airforce Base as roads and ground keeping for a year.

Chief Pease: Mr. Galindo was a student of AMR. It finally opened up after Covid when he was able to ride various shifts with the Ludlow paramedics. All feedback from different paramedics was very positive. With his experience at AMR and South Hadley, I believe we are getting a good one, a good decision here.

Mr. Galindo: I'm happy for the opportunity and overjoyed to have the potential to work in the town that I live in and grew up in.

Moved by Mr. DeBarge to appoint Colin E. Galindo to the Ludlow Fire Department effective immediately, seconded by Mr. Silva. Vote 4-0

Exit 7 Players – Discuss Lease Agreement

Christina Donnoly from Agawam and Vice President of Exit 7, along with Adam Malmborg from East Longmeadow and President of Exit 7 introduced themselves to the Board. They had concerns with what the Board's intentions were with the space located at 37 Chestnut Street. They understand the Housing Authority owns the building and the lease is with them. Adam has been in touch with Robin of the Housing Authority and our current lease expired in June. They wanted to know what the next step is.

Mr. Rosenblum: The Board of Selectmen spoke to Robin a few weeks ago and mentioned that we wanted them to meet with you and figure out what work's best for both of you. Exit 7 is a great asset to the community.

Mr. Goncalves suggested to go ahead and discuss it with Robin and see where you end up.

Mr. Rosenblum: Mr. Strange do we want to put a motion first of all to extend the lease probably about three months, usually we retroactive to July 1st because we will have to do something with that.

Mr. Strange: Our year lease with Ludlow Housing Authority is contingent upon sealing off the boiler that's in the Ludlow Housing Authority building from heating the other two buildings. We met with corporate out there and it sounds like it's not that big of a deal so I think we'll be able to do that soon. Once that is effectuated, then we can get out of the nine-year lease. We really have no rights or obligations in the building. I think it will be less than three months but three months just to be safe.
Moved by Mr. Rosenblum to extend the Exit 7 Players Lease Agreement to 9/30/2022 under the same terms and conditions, seconded by Mr. DeBarge. Vote 4-0

Correspondence:

121. Albert E. Bessette, Jr., Right of Way Manager, Verizon – Petition for Verizon Job No. 4A0PF8G, Fuller Street. Board to schedule a public hearing.

Moved by Mr. DeBarge to schedule a public hearing, seconded by Mr. Rosenblum. Vote 4-0

122. John Delaney, Ride-to-Remember to be held Saturday, September 3, 2022.

Moved by Mr. DeBarge to file, seconded by Mr. Rosenblum. Vote 4-0

123. Our Lady of Fatima Parish – Letter of Gratitude for Festa 2022.

Moved by Mr. DeBarge to file, seconded by Mr. Rosenblum. Vote 4-0

124. Joseph Young - Letter of Interest for Mobile Home Rent Control Board.

Moved by Mr. Rosenblum to schedule an interview for the July 26, 2022 Board meeting, seconded by Mr. Silva. Vote 4-0

125. Denise Zrakas – Letter of Interest to be a member of the 250th Semi-Quincentennial Celebration Committee.

Moved by Mr. Silva to appoint Denise Zrakas as member of the 250th Semi-Quincentennial Celebration Committee, seconded by Mr. Rosenblum. Vote 4-0

126. Shawn Paxton – Letter of Interest for the open position on the Town of Ludlow Conservation Commission

Moved by Mr. Rosenblum to schedule an interview for Mr. Shawn Paxton for the position on the Conservation Commission, seconded by Mr. DeBarge. Vote 4-0

127. Application for a Common Victualler License for Cha's Ice-Cream & Grill, 329 West Street, Ludlow

Moved by Mr. Silva to grant the Victualler License for Cha's Ice-Cream & Grill, 329 West Street, Ludlow, seconded by Mr. DeBarge. Vote 4-0

128. Application for Entertainment License for Cha's Ice-Cream & Grill, 329 West Street, Ludlow

Moved by Mr. Rosenblum to approve the application for the Entertainment License for Cha's Ice-Cream & Grill, 329 West Street, Ludlow, seconded by Mr. Silva. Vote 4-0

Unfinished Business

Moved by Mr. DeBarge to declare the Fire Radio Communications system life useful for 20 years, seconded by Mr. Rosenblum. Vote 4-0

Moved by Mr. DeBarge to sign Executive Session minutes of March 1, 2022, seconded by Mr. Silva. Vote 4-0

Moved by Mr. DeBarge to approve and sign the Common Victualler License for Cha's Ice-Cream & Grill, 329 West Street, Ludlow, seconded by Mr. Rosenblum. Vote 4-0

Moved by Mr. DeBarge to approve and sign the Entertainment License for Cha's Ice-Cream & Grill, 329 West Street, Ludlow, seconded by Mr. Rosenblum. Vote 4-0

New Business

Moved by Mr. Rosenblum to approve the Fiscal Year End Requests for Appropriation Transfers, seconded by Mr. DeBarge. Vote 4-0

Moved by Mr. Rosenblum to give the Town Administrator the authority to speak to the attorneys and move forward with the advertising for the Chief Procurement Officer instead of CPO/Grant Writer; classification study, seconded by Mr. Silva. Vote 4-0

Moved by Mr. Silva to appoint the Election Officers, seconded by Mr. DeBarge. Vote 4-0

Mr. Goncalves suggested to take no action at this point in Mr. Rodas' contract. When new building inspector comes in, if anything comes up again, go from there.

Board perused Executive Session Minutes of April 19, 2022.

Board perused Selectmen's Minutes of May 24, 2022.

Board perused Selectmen's Minutes of January 10, 2022.

Moved by Mr. Rosenblum to approve and sign the contract with Colliers International to conduct a facilities condition assessment, seconded by Mr. DeBarge. Vote 4-0

Moved by Mr. DeBarge to tabled Point Software contract to the Board of Selectman meeting of 7/26/2022, seconded by Mr. Rosenblum. Vote 4-0

Moved by Mr. Rosenblum to approve and sign the contract with Baystate Contracting to abate/ replace Town Hall asbestos-containing ceiling tiles, seconded by Mr. Silva. Vote 4-0

Moved by Mr. DeBarge to approve and sign the contract with Tighe & Bond for the public safety complex feasibility study, seconded by Mr. Rosenblum Vote 4-0

Moved by Mr. DeBarge to approve and sign the contract with Civic Plus to build the town's new website, seconded by Mr. Silva. Vote 4-0

Moved by Mr. DeBarge to approve and sign the contract with Architecture EL to design the Town Hall roof replacement, seconded by Mr. Silva. Vote 4-0

Moved by Mr. Rosenblum to table signing the contract with Munis to upgrade services to 7/26/2022, seconded by Mr. Silva. Vote 4-0

Moved by Mr. Rosenblum to approve and sign the nurses' union contract for 2022-2025, seconded by Mr. Silva. Vote 4-0

Mr. Rosenblum suggested to negotiate with the union to possibly change the Town Hall hours.

Tabled for 7/26/2022 for executive session to vote on FY23 cost of living adjustments for non-union management employees.

Board Updates/Misc.:

Mr. Goncalves said the track and field project is very much under way. Engineers are working there and putting stuff together. At the next meeting, we'll have a little better snapshot or timeline of what we're thinking.

Mr. Rosenblum is hoping that someone is doing a study on the turf because there are two kinds and they have their disadvantages.

Closing Comments:

Mr. Silva: There is a new Covid strain spreading significantly so keep your eyes and ears open and stay safe.

Mr. DeBarge: It's mid-July and being involved in town as a baseball coach and resident, town government is slow moving. We are making good progress in the last few months, but still slow moving so in order to change this we need to get a charter commission question on the ballot and in order to do that we need to get signatures. Those who want to be involved or make a difference need to get more involved with this. We need to be able to move faster. We need to be able to have a town administrator, a town manager who can make decisions without waiting for the Board. In order to do that, we need to change the charter and have a different form of government.

Moved by Mr. DeBarge meeting to adjourn at 7:31pm, seconded by Mr. Rosenblum. Vote 4-0

Chairman

Ludlow Board of Selectmen