Meeting of the Board of Selectmen held on January 9, 2023 beginning at 6:34 pm in the Ludlow High School Cafeteria, 500 Chapin Street, Ludlow

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

Also present: Brian Winner, Town Counsel

Board of Selectmen met before the Special Town Meeting to discuss the Selectmen's Articles.

First Order of Business: Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Strange: Article 1 is the BPW stuff. I have this. I don't know if you want to sign this one Derek, or do you have your own? Basically, what the motion is it's the background I have included with the article. That's mostly for consumption by the town meeting members and this goes for all of them. If you don't want to read all this stuff, it's a lot of language, feel free to skip around or do whatever you want to do.

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Mr. DeBarge: I'm reading the entire background on this.

Mr. Strange: That's up to you. I know it's a lot. Do you have any questions on that?

Mr. Goncalves: No, it's the time for us. If anybody wants to say anything, it's going to be the time because we tried last time around.

Mr. DeBarge: I think everybody should say at least something.

Mr. Gennette: I've got stuff that I'm planning on saying. We'll see how receptive everybody is.

Mr. Rosenblum: This passed last time?

Mr. Goncalves: It did.

Mr. Rosenblum: It's at the ballot. It will pass again.

Mr. Gennette: That's what I mean.

Mr. DeBarge: I like that optimism.

Mr. Goncalves: I have Article 2?

Mr. Strange: Yes, Tony has Article 2 which is combining the Treasurer/Collector.

Mr. DeBarge: Nothing unusual about that one.

Mr. Strange: It's pretty straight forward. Article 3 is James'; that's the municipal aggregation and the CEO from Peregrine Energy is going to be here to speak in support of it.

Mr. Gennette: If people have questions.

Mr. Strange: The last one is allowing contractors doing work in Ludlow to also act as the part-time building inspector as long as they don't inspect their own work.

Mr. Silva: Does that sound right, building inspector to practice for hire?

Mr. Strange: That's the statutory language.

Mr. Silva: It just sounds strange, to practice for hire.

Mr. Strange: It's awkward. Did you see anything Brian that's; did I send you the motions and the background?

Mr. Winner: I think you did. No, I didn't. I think I provided some comments early on and you incorporated those.

Mr. Strange: That's right.

Mr. Winner: I chimed in on a couple of little tweaks here and there. We had a little flurry of questions today on various things, but nothing particularly consequential I didn't think.

Mr. Strange: No.

Mr. DeBarge: I actually have one. The last town meeting we had when they wanted us to go with them voting against accepting Riverside Drive as a public way and we had the meeting out in the hallway and ended up going against their recommendation now that ended up being perfectly fine. Everything was done the way the parameters were set.

Mr. Goncalves: The new electrical system came in. They replaced it to the bigger system.

Mr. DeBarge: With no issues by the timeframe that we set, right?

Mr. Rosenblum: It was done in a few weeks because Mike Pio was the one that was in charge of that with Mike Carvalho and Carvalho was the one that did the whole punch list and the only thing they waited on was an extra week for something for the electrical and it was done.

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Mr. DeBarge: What were some of the potential shortfalls if it wasn't passed?

Mr. Goncalves: The ability for them to be able to subdivide the property and take the pieces under contract to be able to sell them.

Mr. Strange: So Westmass had to finish their parking area because the work that was going to be done in one of their buildings, maybe even Mill 8, they needed to use that parking lot as staging and the further it got into the wintertime or the fall the closer it got to the time where they couldn't get any additional asphalt. They were kind of up against a timeframe. So if they couldn't do the parking lot this year, they would have had to kick all that stuff into the spring.

Mr. Rosenblum: Because all the plants close usually the first week of December.

Mr. Goncalves: And more importantly the upsetting part is I thought that when he was here we had agreed that so long as we put the caveat in there that it wouldn't be approved until they met all the standards and he still got up and tried to kick it down the street.

Mr. DeBarge: And then they went up and spoke and tried to get us.

Mr. Goncalves: To kill it. It made no sense.

Mr. Rosenblum made a motion to adjourn this meeting at 6:38 p.m., seconded by Mr. DeBarge.

Mr. Gennette yes, Mr. DeBarge yes, Mr. Rosenblum yes, Mr. Silva yes, Mr. Goncalves yes. Vote 5-0 all in favor.

Chairman

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