The Meeting of the Board of Selectmen held on Tuesday, July 25, 2023, began at 5:30 p.m. in the Board of Selectmen's Conference Room.

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

Members Absent: None

First Order of Business: The Pledge of Allegiance

VISITATIONS

5:35 p.m. Deb and Kris Walsh (Residents) to discuss utility poles installed in front of their residence.

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Mr. Walsh: Unfortunately, Deb couldn't make it. You guys should be happy that you're dealing with me.

Mr. Gennette: Kris, if you wouldn't mind introducing yourself real quick and kind of giving us a background on what you're looking at.

Mr. Walsh: I'm not sure what you guys have.

Mr. Gennette: We have everything you're holding.

Mr. Walsh: My name is Kristopher Walsh; my wife is Debra Walsh. We live at 336 Miller Street. Debbie's family has been at 336 Miller Street for 60 years, since 1960. I'm a transplant from Holyoke. She'll tell you that she saved me, twice. I guess this started about 6 months ago. The first thing I'm supposed to state for Debbie, I'm assuming you are Marc Strange, she's very appreciative and thankful for your communication through this whole process. Approximately March timeframe. We have, I'm going to call them telephone poles, utility poles, one on each front corner of our property on the street side, preexisting. Back in March, they added a replacement pole to the one as I'm facing out to the street, they added a new pole there.

Mr. DeBarge: The one by the mailbox?

Mr. Walsh: No, the other side. And added some apparatus on top of it. I'm guessing it's some kind of a transfer switch. We still have those two poles today. The new pole and the old pole right next to it on that side. About a month ago, forgive my timeframe, the pole on the opposite side by the mailbox, the 2nd utility pole was installed there, so we have two pairs of poles. The old poles haven't been removed and new poles have been put in place next to the existing. On top of that they've put up a pretty good side sled apparatus. There's power that comes down to another box that's pretty close to our mailbox. Our first concern is we got no communication whatsoever. We had no one come to us saying this is what's happening. We're going to put a new pole up, put some other stuff on it. I don't mean to step in because I know Debbie's not here and she did a lot of communication, but she was told it was going to be like for like. Putting up a new pole and just transferring the existing wires over to the new pole. You can see that's not the case. There's been an additional apparatus attached to that utility pole. Not real attractive. Don't know what it is. Never was told what it was. I don't know if we have to get into the incident, I call it an incident for lack of a better term, with when the second pole was being installed. My wife was home, she works from home now, so she was interacting; acting for a supervisor from Eversource, and they called, and they were waiting for an Eversource person. She was waiting for that, and I guess a traffic officer on site had a conversation and came up the driveway and spoke to her and stated that he gave them the right to go ahead and keep on working before the supervisor showed up. Basically, he threatened to arrest her without any really transaction. He came up the driveway to her. Debbie had no…just stating asking for a supervisor and I think he was trying to get ahead of the game. Again, I think it falls under the whole umbrella of communication. There's been no communication in this entire process, which I take to heart. Being only a resident for over 30 years, it still should be a courtesy to whoever's working on your…I get that there's some 10' of property the town owns, I'm not sure how that all plays out where the poles are. I don't know if it's Marc or somebody else, but you've gotten her talking to a few different companies. Nobody was owning the pole for a little while. There was a lot of scarecrow going on from the Wizard of Oz but now

Eversource is claiming it. There's been a little bit of a dance but there's been no communication except from what we're getting from Marc and what he's accomplished for us. We still don't have in writing what that stuff is on top of those poles. I can make guesses. I'm in an engineering business. Still, the fact is there has been no communication. I'd like to know what the process is when these things happen. Someone told Debbie again, and I'm sorry I'm 3rd hand in this, that it's Verizon that if it's a preexisting pole they can replace it. If you add a new pole to some place, there's some subcommittee that's involved with voting whether it goes there or not goes there. I get it for a like to like pole but when you start adding additional hardware to that pole, I think there should be some oversight on that. Someone should be discussing if that equipment should be placed at 336 Miller Street or somewhere else. I'd like to know how that process works. I don't know who has...

Mr. Gennette: Is there anybody here from Eversource?

Ms. Henderson: I'm Amie Henderson, the community relations specialist for Eversource assigned to the Town of Ludlow.

Mr. Fuller: My name is Matthew Fuller, the field engineering designer also assigned to the Town of Ludlow.

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Mr. Gennette: You've heard Kris here talk about the pole and what do you have to offer in response?

Mr. Fuller: The structure that he sees on the new pole over by the mailbox is called a recloser. What that does is it allows our dispatcher from a computer in our office to open and close, essentially like a switch. The box below is the manual field control for that device. It's low voltage wiring from the device up top so that it can be controlled or locked out in the field to enhance crew safety either on source or load side of that device. That was an upgrade from the air brake switch, which is essentially a piece of hardware that cannot be operated remotely. It's simple open and close for the high voltage. As I understand it, the recloser is in addition to the air brake so that if the recloser operates they can lock it out and tag it and open the air brake switch so the line crews in the field have a physical open between source and where their work zone could be set up. Reclosers are frequently added to the system to make the customer count behind them smaller. What that allows our dispatch office to do is in the event of a big storm and we have outages they can consolidate or keep out the area that's affected while restoring as many customers as possible even before the line crews get out to the field. It's both a safety and reliability component on our end. It requires taller poles than simply what was there before. The device itself, last I checked, had about a 40" height to it. It mounts up top near the high volt primary so standard now for any pole installation along an area where we have three phase equipment is a minimum of 45'pole. That allows room for our equipment up top where they can physically place a bank of transformers or an overhead can or apparatus that we need to operate the system safely while leaving enough room for phone and cable to run their equipment expansion for fiberoptics down the road. We're setting these plans for the future so that we don't have to touch it again for another 30 years. Verizon is custodian in Ludlow, as you guys know. Typically, they're here before you for the pole petitions when a new plan is required, unless it's Holyoke owned by us, in which case you would see myself or another designer from the Springfield office here before you're looking for permission for the new sets. When they're replaced, we observe that 3' offset around the pole. It's standard maintenance guidelines and if there's anything else I didn't cover I'm happy to give you whatever information I can solidly put forward.

Mr. Walsh: How is it determined that it's our poles?

Mr. Fuller: There is a group of engineers that will look at the customer counts beyond a particular area. They'll look at outage histories, rations of outages, frequency of them and they pick the locations for the reclosers based on where our customers are. If it was picked to be on Miller Street at a certain point, the customer count beyond that was beyond the threshold where instead of maybe 1,000 customers it splits it down to a 500 count and when there's an outage on the circuit, they can isolate the device ahead of it with a device that we just placed. So now instead of having 1,000 people out we have 500 people out because our dispatcher can automatically open or close that device to bring the outage zone down to a minimum.

Mr. Walsh: I understand that there's a need to improve the infrastructure and adding some other new devices. This is pretty large. You can't say that that's not a decent size when added to a previous pole. That's significant. What I'm asking is where does the resident come in to play? The resident doesn't come into play at all? We have no say? There's no communication that comes to us. Not to mention the truck is blocking the driveway and no one came and knocked on the door and said sorry we're going to be working on the poles for a little while, let us know if you need to leave.

Mr. Fuller: When vehicles are parked, we obviously try not to encumber anybody's access to their property. That's generally not our practice. If that did happen there, and I'm not saying it didn't, I can bring that to our senior overhead supervisor back in Springfield and discuss that with the crews to make sure it didn't happen. I just want to see if that was our crews or if that was a vendor so the information I bring back goes to the right place. Our guys will try to keep the vehicles off the grass.

Mr. Walsh: They were just blocking the entire driveway at the time. I don't think it was on the lawn at all but certainly no notification for us to be able to get out of the driveway.

Mr. Fuller: I don't know if they're contract Eversource or if they're Eversource, but I'll take these back. It will be the tag on the door. Sometimes it will say Eversource, it will say contractor working for Eversource. The trucks look in some cases kind of similar.

Mr. Walsh: I still have the concern of this being right next to the mailbox.

Mr. Gennette: I guess the situation is he's looking for some kind resolution. What is Eversource willing to do to resolve this problem? What are we looking at?

Mr. Fuller: I don't have authority to blanketly tell you we can move those devices. They're designed through a team of engineers for their placement in the field. They're selected for accessibility and for the customer accounts. The zone creates where they're placed. I did not design this particular location but was asked to come in and have the discussion. I am familiar with the construction and what the equipment actually does. Whether it can be moved would not be my call. I can certainly bring the concern back but it's not something I can commit to or guarantee at tonight's discussion.

Mr. Walsh: Can I ask what this is on that pole? Is it a transfer switch?

Mr. Fuller: That's an air brake switch. The recloser itself, the first picture that you have, is a device that can be operated remotely. That device is manual in the field, so if the recloser is open and it locks out, a line crew, like a contract crew that maybe doesn't have the company radios with them, they can go over there. They can open that air brake switch, install grounds on the load side and that gives them 100% safety in the zone that they're working in, should they find themselves out there working beyond that device. It enhances worker safety.

Mr. Gennette: Does anybody on the Board have any questions?

Mr. Goncalves: In looking at this, you've got a good section of wooded area next door to him and you're 150' more or less from an intersection, where there's probably a bunch of other things hanging around, hydrants and what not. Why in front of somebody's house vs somewhere it's not going to be as pronounced?

Mr. Fuller: I don't know, to be very honest with you. Like I said, I was not intimately involved in the design of this.

Mr. Goncalves: I know that. That's something you can take back. Within 100-150' it's a customer on either side of the road, I'm sure whatever you're doing is 50-60-100 customers, so 2 more or less doesn't make a difference, and maybe move something like this to where it's not going to be in sight or part of the landscape in front of his house. An intersection or woods, I don't think anybody would care.

Mr. Fuller: I certainly can bring that back.

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Mr. Walsh: I'm just going to ask here. Why are we still going aerial? Is there a reason why we're not investing?

Mr. Fuller: That's a whole conversation. I'm not touching that with a 10' stick.

Mr. Goncalves: Kris, that's not even millions, it would be billions.

Mr. Walsh: I understand but they've been spending billions on cutting trees. Some of that money could be transferred. You had a section on Center Street that was ripped up to the dirt. You have a section on East Street that was ripped up to the dirt. I think the opportunity was there for us to start doing sections. I know it's a different conversation but…

Mr. Gennette: Let's stay on this issue right now. Does anybody else on the Board have anything?

Mr. Silva: This is probably new innovations, new stuff that's coming our way, and I'm sure these things are going to be popping all over the place.

Mr. Fuller: No, this was a singular upgrade. Reclosers, as they're pictured here, we have them installed throughout our system. The air brake switches have been around a lot longer than I have been for sure. The equipment itself is not new. Gradually over time there may be a little bit more of them as they try to work out those zones where again you don't have 2,000-3,000 customers beyond a single device. Those zones are broken down into much smaller neighborhoods if you will. It gives our dispatch much more leverage to make that outage smaller even before a crew can get there. Instead of 2,000 people out for 4 hours, they pick up 1,500 people and that 4-hour outage is down to a few hundred people. That's what these devices help us do.

Mr. Silva: You might have some more, not just this one?

Ms. Henderson: Are there more on this system that you're aware of?

Mr. Fuller: Absolutely, there's multiple reclosers on every circuit we have.

Mr. Goncalves: I think what Mr. Silva is saying, what we can expect is that we may have this same thing going on more times in the future.

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Mr. Fuller: There will be more installations, yes.

Mr. Silva: That's what I mean. Certainly, you may want to take that back and communicate that you might want to do, like Kris said, a lot more communication with the homeowner to see if there's ways you can alter the location. Certainly, to put something up right in front I probably wouldn't want to, not probably, I wouldn't want anything put up at my house just like that.

Mr. Walsh: Does the Board, or is there a subgroup of the Board that deals with this or is this truly between me and you?

Mr. Gennette: No, they come into us for new poles.

Mr. Walsh: I get with the new poles, but I'm saying for situations like this, or can it be something in the future that they're going to put a, you're going to call it a recloser, I'm going to call it a sled. Should somebody in the town have some say about where it goes?

Mr. Goncalves: I think that's something we need to research and see what our agreement in our contract is with the utilities and what their responsibility is to us.

Mr. Walsh: I understand you need the area to help minimize the process. I'm just asking the process and if there's a project manager.

Mr. DeBarge: Since everything else was covered, I just have a question about that. Do you think that that could have been on the other side of the pole as to not be so close to the mailbox when they installed that?

Mr. Fuller: It could be turned around if they needed to, absolutely.

Mr. DeBarge: The picture of them standing when they were installing with the door open, it seems awfully close to the mailbox.

Mr. Rosenblum: I do think that at some point some kind of notice going out, because I'm looking at one pole down is literally right in line with the trees and that's less invasive.

Mr. Fuller: In fairness to that, the locations may have been picked because there's no canopy interference. As you guys know, most of the outages that we incur during rain and wind events, ice, and snow, are because there's trees on the line. That equipment right now is extremely difficult to get a hold of. Where it is placed there is always an underlying reason why the location was picked. It's not something arbitrary that somebody remotely across the country picks. These are done by either local contractors or in-house. It very well may have been that there was nothing around it, so there's no risk of canopy coming in contact with it. We can certainly take a look into it. In the event that there is traction to relocate this, we do need to trim trees in order to keep that zone safe. Is that something…

Mr. Gennette: You'd have to ask the resident?

Mr. Fuller: Out in the public way. We can't touch anything on private property, but would there be objections to that if that conversation needed to be had?

Mr. Goncalves: I don't think we'd have any issue with it.

Mr. DeBarge: Not at all.

Mr. Gennette: I guess what it comes down to is, as far as this issue goes, let's see what we can do to make the resident a little bit happier here. Bring it back and see if we can't relocate the box, even if we can move that stuff out of there. Obviously, they don't like it there. They feel like they should have been contacted at some point. The Board already talked about it but see if there's something you can do about it on your side and please report to us, so we know that something's going on with it. We just don't want this whole thing to get lost.

Mr. Fuller: It won't.

Mr. Gennette: Are you ok with that?

Mr. Walsh: Yes, I appreciate you coming to the table.

Mr. Gennette: We'll see what we can do and go from there.

Mr. Goncalves: How about you, Amie, what do you got?

Ms. Henderson: I brought the engineer with me.

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Mr. Gennette: I have to be honest, Eversource, as long as I've been here, has always been pretty accommodating in most things. They've always been pretty upfront so I'm hoping they can probably do this for you. I am hoping everybody can find a happy place.

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Mr. Gennette: We're going to jump right over to 98. We have people here to discuss that and I want to make sure that we can have our conversation with them, and everybody can enjoy their evening.

98. Grace Burek, resident – Requesting the Board to approve the use of the Gazebo and Grounds for the "Brave Book Story Hour" to be held on August 5, 2023, from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. in conjunction with the National See you at the Library Movement.

Mr. DeBarge: I just want to make sure before the conversation goes any further that the same event is happening in the library the day before. So, this is outside of the library. Am I right about that?

Ms. Burke: We originally booked the library on August 4th, but I ended up canceling that. The thing is Friday at 11 a.m. wasn't good for my crew to be able to go in. They can't take time off from work.

Mr. DeBarge: Thanks for clearing that up.

Mr. Gennette: You were not approved by the library to do that; the timing wasn't right?

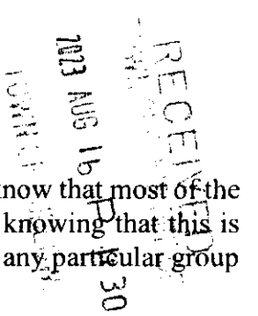
Ms. Burke: I was approved by the library to do it on the 4th.

Mr. Gennette: Anybody else have any conversation about it? We're good? Can I get a motion?

Motion made by Mr. DeBarge to approve the use of the gazebo and the grounds for the Brave Book Story Hour to be held August 5th, 2023, from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. in conjunction with the National See you at the Library Movement. **Mr. Goncalves second for discussion.**

Mr. Goncalves: Rather than all of us sit here and look at each other and nobody wants to say anything, I'm not going to be a chicken, it's not a secret the potential of what can come with this book. In the library you had a controlled environment. I did some reading, and it appears that wherever there's a book reading you end up having some disturbances normally. It's attracting other groups that are protesting against this type of thing. The last time we had any type of organization or group do anything of that nature, it cost the town $19,000 in police overtime and ambulance. That was the BLM march from the high school to the police station. That, we didn't even see it or know it was coming, where this one I can comfortably read where very recently in Louisiana there was a major disturbance at one of these readings. Who picks up this tab if all of a sudden we run into that type of situation? That really bugs me.

Ms. Burek: We don't have that kind of bank account. This is for children.



Mr. Goncalves: I understand but have you googled it?

Ms. Burek: I have, and I've been on a conference call. I am aware and I also know that most of the disturbances were very subtle. Yes, it could happen, but I would think that knowing that this is children and it's a story book time and songs and activities. This isn't against any particular group this is just to bring back…

Mr. Goncalves: I understand but the idea is are we inviting a lot of freedom of speech that's going to create a public safety issue for us? I didn't spend a lot of time seeing everything that has happened but just the recent, I don't think the book's that old probably, just the more recent issues I think in Louisiana in March, it was downplayed if you look at the publication. But it was something and it would create an expense because there was no question that I think there will be an enormous group of protestors, probably not even local ones. I think you'll probably have a band of them traveling and I don't know if I want to put the town in that position. It has nothing to do with the book. It could be whatever book or whatever. In the library it would be easy, you could control it, nothing's going to get out of hand. If people want to march around outside that's great. Now you're outside, it's wide open, you can have a lot more people and you don't know what's going to happen.

Ms. Burek: We will have folks that will try to kind of calm down anything that would be a potential problem. I welcome people to come and listen to the story. I welcome any group to come and see what's going on there and they'll know there's really no need to have any type of protest.

Mr. Goncalves: It's just once it starts in one place there seems to be rallying behind that type of protesting everywhere. Again, we had Black Lives Matter was a hot topic for a while and they were all over the place and low and behold we had a rally or march here. Two months earlier, nobody would have figured it would come to Ludlow, but they came and now we can sit and think or assume that they're going to come in, but I don't know that.

Ms. Burek: What would stop the protestors from going into the library?

Mr. Goncalves: The library, you can keep them outside. You could limit it to 100 people or get tickets ahead of time or whatever and maybe police who's there, to an extent. You're going to be outside. You're going to be an open door. Anybody can come over the bridge, come off the turnpike, you can have large numbers and you can't stop it.

Mr. Silva: I know people take offense to so many things and it's getting out of hand, but do you know of anything or anyone that's opposed to or thinks that this is offensive or happening out there that would create an issue?

Ms. Burek: It was brought to my attention that there was maybe one or two people and that was about it that had something to say. I don't know anything about anybody else.

Mr. Silva: You don't know of anything that's really offensive in the book.

Ms. Burek: In the book, no, absolutely not.

Mr. Silva: I don't see a problem then.

Mr. Rosenblum: I don't have any problem with it, it's just that as Mr. Goncalves is saying, the potential for what can occur. Again, I will never censor anyone, I would never want to do that to anyone. The tough part I have a little bit is knowing that this is religious, because it is a Christian book.

Ms. Burek: It's based on Christian values, which was the foundation of the country, so that's basically where that is. We will not be teaching, preaching, or discussing any religion.

Mr. Rosenblum: That's just what I wanted to know because as a political board just trying to tiptoe that line to where we're not infringing on anything. That's just a little bit of a concern of mine. I understand that nothing will probably happen and in the same sense there's probably people that look at the website and they're picking the places to where they can go. To Mr. Goncalves' point, there are people that travel specifically to do things to interrupt anything that they don't agree with. That's my only concern. This is just me thinking out loud, did you think about the parish center at St. Elizabeth?

Ms. Burek: No because we didn't want to make it religious. We're keeping it out of the church, we're keeping it out of any political environment.

Mr. DeBarge: This is easy for me. That's why I just read the motion and don't need to discuss it because to coin the phrase by Mr. Goncalves to not be a chicken, this is the problem. These groups that go against things like this that preach the family unit and all of that, these groups prey on fear. They prey on fear of people like us that won't vote for this because we're afraid of backlash from 3 people on social media. I could care less about that. I would vote any day for this and vote against anything that I don't think is right for the community at large. It's as simple as that. It's my responsibility as an elected official to say OK is this damaging to anybody? It's not damaging in my opinion, and I have a vote on this. And it's not damaging. Anything that preaches family unit, patriotism, and all of that I am all for. What everybody is talking about is if we approve this will we have somebody come in front of us with some kind of other show, a drag queen story hour or something like that was mentioned in the gazebo. I will not vote for that, and I have no problem saying that. That's my point. This can be read and passed or read and not passed however you guys feel but I don't think being afraid of a little protest, if there even is one, is reason to back off of something that this country sorely needs.

Mr. Goncalves: Just to be clear, I'm not even looking at what the book is or what's going to be read or the patriotic part of it, I'm looking merely at the potential for an expense. We weren't counting on $19,000 with a march from the high school to the police station, but it was $19,000. That's an expensive book reading if it happens again. That's all I'm saying. When you look at it, the benefit can be fantastic and maybe we're going to have hundreds of citizens that are going to enjoy it, but we're also maybe asking 22,000 people to flip a bill for something that can be avoided. It's a non-emergency.

Mr. DeBarge: I don't think it's remotely close to what the BLM thing was.

Mr. Goncalves: I'm not talking about the intent or the value of what's going to be discussed, I'm talking about what can happen and what it can end up costing the town. I'm not talking about what it's about or not about.

Ms. Burek: I understand.

Mr. Goncalves: What I'm saying is I've read what's happened in other places and coming to a town near you, is it going to be Ludlow flipping the bill. We're asking citizens to flip a potential bill for something that we can't control, we don't know. I'm not a betting man but I might even put a bet on what could potentially or probably happen. I just don't know if it outweighs the good, if ultimately people think there's a good to it.

Ms. Burek: I think there could be protests in any given situation that's in the public.

Mr. DeBarge: Christmas tree lighting.

Mr. Goncalves: There's a tendency for protest to follow these type of things. Not just Sunday morning because you went to church, there's a hundred people outside with signs. This is something that's been demonstrated in the past to have a negative following, negative towards those people and what's being preached or spoken or read. And I'm not saying there's preaching. Financially I don't know if we're putting ourselves out there where we're going to end up flipping a bill.

Mr. Gennette: I've got my little speech to give too. This is a public area, and this is free speech. I don't know what the hell any of you are talking about. They can do whatever they want.

Mr. DeBarge: With our approval.

Mr. Gennette: With our approval. How do you stop that. It's that simple. Free speech. You can't stop it. This is America and anybody can read at the gazebo if we approve it.

Mr. Goncalves: James, I got you, but we can stop it. If we think it's going to create an expense on the town or dangerous situation, we'd be remiss not to stop it.

Mr. Gennette: If there was a threat, but there's no threat.

Ms. Kapinos: I don't know if the selectmen know me here, but most everybody else does. I'm a town meeting member and I've talked to quite a few people because it's been on several town forums. I'm a friend on those but I don't usually say much on them. I will say this, I've researched this, I bought the book, I read Kirk Cameron's latest book. It's a fine book. I didn't think it was very well written, but that's my personal opinion. I think it has some reference passages of the bible, which is fine. I belong to a church. I'm an army brat, I'm a patriot, my father fought for people to have the right to do this, the right for people to kneel at football games. I asked him, how do you feel about that. He said my first reaction was it's horrible. Then I realized I fought for people to have that right. I grew up with a dad who went 2 years to Vietnam. I know where people are coming from here. I will say, and I have fought for the right of libraries in these public schools to have the books for everybody to read. Everybody knows that here. As I said, I read the book and said what's the problem with the book? The book isn't the problem. I went on to Bravebooks.com and Kirk Cameron has a 3-minute video, and the first sentence is we're trying to stop indoctrinating our children. That is where I have the issue. Many people, and I'm not going to say just a few, have already told me that they will be bringing in people from out of town even, to protest this. Their idea is that they want it to be a family with a mom and a dad and a boy and a girl.

Mr. DeBarge: God forbid.

Ms. Kapinos: That's my family, but there are families that are 2 moms, or 2 dads and we represent all of them. As a town meeting member, I represent everybody.

Mr. DeBare: So do we.

Ms. Burek: And they're welcome to come.

Ms. Kapinos: I let people speak and didn't interrupt so I'd appreciate the same. Thank you. I have been friends with Grace for a long time. I thought Bella was the best defensive female soccer player I've ever seen play. I still go with that. I know people here. They're what I would consider people that are in my group. Because this is a community. The town of Ludlow is a community. But I do believe that the way they portray that 3 minutes, the way he talks about what they're trying to do is they're trying to get people to all believe that there's only one way to have a family. And that is just not what's real. It hasn't been real for hundreds and thousands of years. A good friend of mine in Ludlow, I won't name names, but she said to me you remember we used to have 2 aunts that lived together. We just didn't talk about it. This has been going on for a long time. We just need to make sure that it's safe for everybody and it is based on Christian values. Maybe it should be in churches. It's already penned on their website that it's happening in 2 places in Massachusetts, the gazebo in Ludlow and Oxford. I want you to know that I do know from people in the LGBTQ+ community that are concerned about this and they're going to show up. I'm just saying it's not going to be a few people. I don't want our community to be in that kind of a position.

Ms. Burek: I would again welcome folks from the LGBTQ community to come and listen to the story telling, listen to the story hour, watch the kids sing, watch them do their activities. This is purely family values. It's not saying that a man and a man or a woman and a woman can't be parents. That's certainly not my intention. What you've heard Kirk Cameron say isn't necessarily the position that we take with what we're doing.

Mr. Goncalves: Right, but Kirk Cameron is the one that everybody is coming to see and he's going to be talking.

Ms. Burek: He's not coming.

Mr. Goncalves: I honestly thought it was him coming in to do the reading.

Mr. Rosenblum: It's across the country from that time period on the 5th. 11-1 it's across the country. I did go to the website, and I did look at the procedure they go through to go ahead and hold the event, with the requesting the library. And I know you requested the room for Friday, but it doesn't work so it's on Saturday. When you go on the map it does have the gazebo already on there. For me, this is purely procedural, and this has nothing to do with what we've been talking about, is the fact that you're asking for permission now, but it seems like it's already there. It's procedural. It has nothing to do with what we've been talking about. I have everybody on hold until tomorrow, until I know what's going on.

Mr. Gennette: We have a motion and a second. All in favor?

Mr. Goncalves: Abstain.

Motion passed 4-0-1.

Mr. Gennette: Ms. Batista, are you here for something specific?

Ms. Batista: I am.

Mr. Strange: First item under New Business.

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Board to discuss and possibly vote to approve the use of $19,000 in 40R funds to purchase twelve (12) poll pads for elections.

Mr. Goncalves: What are poll pads?

Ms. Batista: They look like iPads and they're to replace the voter list to check in people and make it easier for the election officers.

Mr. Goncalves: So, it would be one on the way in and one on the way out in every precinct?

Ms. Batista: We don't have to have a checkout list, but we are going to maintain the checkout list. We don't even have to have them; the State doesn't require a checkout table at all, but they

recommend it. So, we still will have a check out table. It's mainly for the check in list, because we get a lot of people in certain precincts. There's usually lines. There was a lot of lines in precinct 6 and the high school. It would make it easier for them, especially during the primary. If a person is unenrolled and they have to pick a party, the election officer then has to remember to check the list and write down what ballot they have. It would make it easier at the end when they go to finalize the election, they'll be able to see how many voted and be able to finalize the election a little bit easier and bring the information back to my office.

Mr. Goncalves: Are we going to have training or is it fairly easy?

Ms. Batista: Yes, 2 hours of training. No expense. You'll be able to use this during early voting as well.

Mr. Silva: Obviously it's an approved expense from 40R, right?

Mr. Strange: Yes, there's no restriction on 40R.

Motion made by Mr. DeBarge to approve the use of $19,000 in 40R funds to purchase (12) twelve poll pads for elections. **Mr. Goncalves second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Strange: Apologies that the street paving took on a life of its own. At the last meeting the Chairman asked the DPW for a street paving plan. We started that conversation with the DPW, and we really haven't done a formal 5-year paving plan in the past. We're working on getting that started. During those conversations, it was striking to me how expensive it is to pave roads. That was kind of the background as to some of the information I'm going to provide now. It's certainly a source of concern, at least for me. We wanted to highlight the issues that we are facing with the condition of our town roads. We are set to receive about $685,000 in Chapter 90 funding for FY24, which is one of the lowest allocations we've received since before COVID hit. In FY19 we received almost $700,000 and that amount has been slowly decreasing since then. In addition to the $685,000 in Chapter 90 funds, there is $190,000 in the DPW operating budget for street maintenance and repairs, which gives us $875,000 for road repairs and maintenance this fiscal year. This is a paltry number; however, because the cost of paving streets has exploded. For example, with any luck we may be able to pave 5 roads this year. As an example, and the DPW provided sort of a priority list with estimates. Justina Circle would cost about $94,000. Elizabeth Drive from Longview Circle to 166 Elizabeth Drive would be about $340,000. Grimes Street would be $54,000. Grimard Street would be $200,000. And then we could choose one of Barton/Cambridge or Merrimac to get within that $875,000. Again, for the public, these are not set in stone. These are roads and projects that have been identified as priority projects. Prices are constantly changing. All these streets, again, are part of the DPW priority list. Again, we're probably only going to be able to do 5 streets in FY24.

Mr. Silva: Marc, do we have a procedure for setting which roads are priority? Because I know that where I came from, we had a list, and they kept that list going and moved it on so the streets would slowly creep up. Obviously, you have issues where some of them have to be done because they deteriorate over the years much more. But is there a procedure? It's an ongoing concern and people are asking how do you get your street repaved because our street is awful. I tell them there is a procedure, that we have lists of streets that are in line first and we keep going. I think maybe we should come up with something where there's some kind of a list and even the public can see that we're getting close.

Mr. Strange: I totally agree with you, and this was part of the conversation, that we need a 5-year plan that we can say in the next 5 years these are the roads. That changes because things change. But we absolutely need that. This is kind of a first stab at it because we haven't done this in the past. We haven't put together a plan. It's kind of like putting together a capital plan. I will send that back to Jamie and Jim and Kenny and say we need to be more detailed about how we're going to prioritize over the next 5 years. I totally agree with you.

Mr. Gennette: I think patching the streets, potholes and things like that, if we know about them, we can tell the DPW, and we can do some small patch in the meantime. I know you get some of

them, like Stevens at the end there, you patch so bad it's absolutely destroyed down there. It's not like we just don't neglect all the streets that aren't on the list.

Mr. Rosenblum: To the point of Mr. Silva saying, and you were saying also, Mr. Strange, is that the priority list could change. So, maybe it's something we look at quarterly or biannually as we look at that list as we're going through it, instead of just maybe once a year. Like you said, the downpour we just had now and a street we had patch on could have been destroyed. So, maybe look at it over every 6 months. Generally, the asphalt plants close the middle of December.

Mr. Strange: This board is the acting Board of Public Works so you can certainly do whatever you would like to do. I'll relay that back to the DPW. I wanted to finish up with that's the cost to take care of the blacktop. That's to say nothing of what's underneath. We don't know infrastructure, utility lines dated throughout the Commonwealth. My point being that these numbers could be a lot more. Best practice is to dig up a road if you're going to reclaim it, replace the utility lines as you're digging up the road because obviously, you'd have to re-dig up a new road to replace utility lines. We're not there yet, I just wanted to put that in people's minds. In 2022, PVPC put together a pavement management for the town. I provided some excerpts from that plan. By their estimation, even if we increase our annual pavement management budget to 1.2 million dollars from $875,000, the overall conditions of our roads are still going from 64 out of 100, which it is now, to 51. So, even with an increase of $325,000, still roads are crumbling. Ludlow is not alone in this situation. Many towns and cities are facing the same thing, but the condition of our roads is no secret to anybody who's driven on them. We have to do better with our infrastructure. And that's why we've talked about big ticket items for saving on our budget, like increasing the trash fee and regionalizing dispatch. If we don't do anything, our roads are going to continue to deteriorate. There's really no way around it. It's a tough situation. There is some discussion at the state level for increasing Chapter 90. Right now, the formula is based upon population and road mileage, so obviously we know everybody in Western Mass suffers with population, so the majority of the Chapter 90 funds are going to Eastern communities because they have a higher population. Even so, with an increase in Chapter 90, there's not going to be enough to go around to make up that delta. Just something to think about. Really educational for the public, it's really expensive to pave roads and we have a lot of roads to pave.

Mr. Gennette: Do we have one construction company that we go with?

Mr. Strange: That's a very good question. The way the Board of Public Works did this year's bid, that's exactly what we did. We basically did one bid for one company. One company got it so 1, our prices are elevated. We also don't have a plan so typically what you like to do is you like to put out Elizabeth Drive to bid and let companies bid on it. They know what the time frame is, and you can lock them down to a price. The way we did the bid this year is it's one company and we're basically at the beckon call of whenever they're available to do our roads. We're going to rebid that in December, so it's possible we could get a better bid on some of these roads in the spring of 24, which we're hoping for but there's no guarantees. Moving on to the charter commission. As many people know, a robocall went out yesterday to solicit more applications for the charter commission. The application period is open until this Friday July 28th. This is the average registered voter's opportunity to literally create the town's new form of government. In my estimation, I'm a municipal geek, this is a really cool opportunity. Anyone who is interested should submit a letter of interest and resume to selectmen@ludlow.ma.us. And if anyone has questions about what it entails, please feel free to call the Board of Selectmen's office, 413-583-5600 x 1200. Last, but not least, I've found that since coming to Ludlow there is a strong golf culture in Ludlow, which suits me just fine. This summer there's a lot of golf fundraisers and there are several town officials that came out to support the Unity Club at their fundraiser on July 15th at the Chicopee Country Club. The foursome, anchored by our Planning Board's own Josh Carpenter won the tournament at 15 under par. Although there were some mulligans that were able to be purchased. It was a fun day for a good cause. Some of us golfed. It was a great day. But there is another great day of golf and fundraising coming up on September 9th. It's the town's 250th Committee hosting a fundraising golf tournament at Westover Municipal Golf Course, and there are openings still available.

CORRESPONDENCE

91. Chief Ryan Pease – letter informing the Board that the Ludlow Fire Department has received an Assistance to Firefighters Grant to replace their 28-year-old source capture exhaust system

(Plymovent System). The total cost of the project is $98,620 and the Federal award total is $89,654.55. Leaving the town with a balance of $8,965.45.

Mr. DeBarge: Marc, can we cover the $9,000.

Mr. Strange: Yes

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Motion made by Mr. DeBarge to file. **Mr. Rosenblum second. All in favor.**
Mr. Goncalves: You don't have to approve that money? It's ok?

Mr. Gennette: It's part of the budget.

Mr. Goncalves: It's already in there? Are we sure?

Mr. Gennette: Yes, he just asked Marc. Marc said it's in his budget.

Mr. Strange: You're asking if we have to approve the grant? I asked this very same question and apparently, we don't. You guys don't. **Motion passed 5-0.**

92. Eversource Energy – Presentation for the Control House Project at the Center Street substation.

Motion made by Mr. DeBarge to file. **Mr. Silva second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

93. Fanelli Amusements – applications for Carnival Rides and Sunday Entertainment permits for August 31, 2023, through September 4, 2023, for the annual Festa.

Motion made by Mr. Rosenblum to approve the applications for carnival rides and Sunday entertainment permits for August 31, 2023, through September 4, 2023, for the annual Festa. **Mr. Silva second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

94. Chief Pease – request to charge off medical expenses and lost wages to Chapter 41, Section 111F for an injury sustained by a Firefighter/Paramedic as a result of an incident that occurred on July 9, 2023.

Motion made 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/paramedic as a result of an incident that occurred on July 9, 2023. **Mr. DeBarge second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

95. Cameron J. Covill – Requesting the Board to appoint him to the Ludlow Conservation Commission.

Motion made by Mr. Silva to appoint Cameron J. Covill to the Ludlow Conservation Commission. **Mr. DeBarge second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

96. Chief Valadas – Letter informing the Board of rescheduled Civil Service Promotional Exams being administered on Saturday, September 23, 2023.

Motion made by Mr. DeBarge to file. **Mr. Silva second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

97. Chief Valadas – Requesting permission from the Board for Ludlow Police expenditure of OT for the two proposed traffic periods for the 10th Annual Breathe Free Ride Hard Motorcycle Run for CF.

Mr. DeBarge: Marc, overtime is a 4-hour shift so did they say how many they wanted?

Mr. Strange: I don't know many details.

Mr. Rosenblum: We have done this before, I believe.

Mr. Strange: It doesn't say, and I do not know how long it's going to be.

Mr. Gennette: Can we get a little clarity on that?

Mr. Rosenblum: Sunday, July 23rd.

Mr. Goncalves: At this point, why don't we table it and ask the Chief to give us what those amounts are?

Mr. Gennette: Consider it tabled.

99. Michelle Goncalves – Ludlow Cultural Council – Requesting the Board to approve lawn signs at the bridge and possible other locations to be requested in the future from July 26th through September 11, 2023, for their Sunday Concerts and a Community Market sign from September 16th through October 2, 2023. They are also requesting approval to place "no parking signs" on Chestnut Street next to the gazebo on concert days.

Mr. Gennette: We're going to have to talk to Safety before we do the Chestnut Street signs.

Mr. DeBarge: Safety or the Police Department?

Mr. Silva: The other thing, with the no parking signs on Chestnut Street, there's businesses right there that might suffer quite a bit maybe.

Mr. Goncalves: There's no businesses on Chestnut Street.

Mr. Silva: The corner of East and Chestnut. They have quite a few businesses there.

Mr. Goncalves: I'm wondering if they're setting up partially in the street with any of their boots, etc. Or fire and safety are going to be on Chestnut and that's why they want it.

Mr. Gennette: I think they just want it; I don't know why they're not allowing parking on Chestnut Street for the gazebo.

Mr. Rosenblum: They have spoken to the police about this, and they said as long as it doesn't make people park illegally, they were apparently fine with it. I would like to get that from the Chief himself or the Police Department. Also, I think the no parking was mostly so one of the vendors can get in.

Mr. Gennette: How do you feel about the other signs that they're requesting?

Mr. Goncalves: They're all lawn signs. 18 x 24's. Bill, I know you know that off the top of your head, dates before, dates after.

Mr. Rosenblum: It's usually 2 weeks before and 7 days after and they can request the help of DPW but they're different signs. That would be more like the banners. In theory, lawn signs aren't supposed to go on private lawns either.

Mr. DeBarge: The police told them OK as long as they don't make people park illegally so I'm good with it.

Mr. Gennette: It says there's possible other locations to be requested in the future.

Mr. Goncalves: The locations came in a separate email.

Mr. Rosenblum: Are any of the signs on town property?

Mr. DeBarge: I would think they all are.

Mr. Rosenblum: This is for a nonprofit?

Mr. Gennette: It's Ludlow Cultural Council.

Mr. Rosenblum: I'm reiterating it because it has been an issue in the past.

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Mr. Strange: The locations are the turnpike entrance, Putts Bridge, corner of Chapin and Center, corner of West and Holyoke, corner of East and Miller, corner of West and Russell, corner of West Ave and Center.

Motion made by Mr. DeBarge to approve the Ludlow Cultural Council and their request to place lawn signs at the bridge and possible other locations, which our Town Administrator has read to everyone watching, from July 26th through September 11th, 2023 for their Sunday concerts and a community market sign from September 16th through October 2nd and also to place no parking signs as long as it adheres to the agreement they have with the Police Department. **Mr. Silva second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Board to discuss strategic planning ideas and initiatives.

Mr. Gennette: I'm going to have this on the agenda every time for every meeting so that we can kind of keep coming back at it. One of the things I had said was we need a little better ordinance correction and stuff like that so I'm wondering, Marc, if you have any progress on any ordinances and stuff like that.

Mr. Strange: No, we haven't made too much progress but we're going to start looking at articles for the October town meeting. Those are due in September so probably next week or so I'm going to have to sit down and list out everything that we're going to put forward. We have a lot of stuff that we're going to present to you guys, and I can make that one of them. We've got to figure out exactly, are we looking at fees and fines, are we looking at more specific provisions for dumpster placement and things of that nature.

Mr. Gennette: Perfect. Do we want to give an update on aggregate electric?

Mr. Strange: We're working with Mass Power Choice on our aggregate electric, and they've been great. They pretty much take care of everything. Put our documents together; our agreements, marketing materials that will be going out to residents. We have a new website that's all Ludlow's own. I believe it's ludlowpowerchoice.com. We have our own logo. So, I think they're just finalizing some of the final details and we should be ready to send out marketing materials to the residents in the fall, I would think. I don't think there's too many left to do.

Mr. Gennette: They're just going through the motions now trying to get to where we need to be. At some point there will be public meetings. We'll have to sit in front of the public and explain what's going on with them. We'll keep the community posted when those come up. We did a little bit of work on the logos. It's Ludlow Power Choice and we think it looks great. I think that's it for me. Does anybody else have any strategic planning ideas or initiatives that we want to put before Marc?

Mr. DeBarge: I talked to Marc about the building and unkept properties and all of that. It has to be not only good information disseminated to the public, but it has to be enforced. We have to change. Some areas in town are changing. We have to realize that, and we have to take steps to make sure that it doesn't encroach on everything else and make people keep up their property.

Mr. Gennette: One of the things I saw, a testament to that, I think it's $85 to dump your mattress at the transfer station, but the fine is $50 if you want to dump it down by the mills on the side of the road. It's actually cheaper to dump your mattress into the woods.

Mr. Strange: I don't know if we want to advertise that.

Mr. Rosenblum: That's the same thing you see with a lot of tires getting dumped on the side of the road and there's a cost associated with the tires too.

Mr. Gennette: That's the kind of stuff, people who do that have to be fined heavily for it, and these are some of the ordinances we need to make improvements on.

Mr. Silva: That might be well for the mattress but if there's an arrest it's a lot more costly than $50.

Mr. Gennette: That's true. Thank you for pointing that out before people started dumping mattresses.

Board to approve and sign Selectmen Meeting Minutes of July 11, 2023.

Motion made by Mr. Goncalves to approve and sign Selectmen Meeting Minutes of July 11, 2023, with Mr. Rosenblum missing. **Mr. DeBarge second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

NEW BUSINESS

Board to discuss and possibly vote to approve $927.89 for International City/County Management Association (ICMA) dues for the Town Administrator.

Motion made by Mr. Goncales to approve $927.89 for International City/County Management Association (ICMA) dues for the Town Administrator. **Mr. DeBarge second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

Board to approve and Chairman to sign the Sunday Entertainment License for Fanelli Amusements for Festa on September 3, 2023.

Motion made by Mr. Goncalves to approve and Chairman to sign the Sunday Entertainment License for Fanelli Amusements for Festa on September 3, 2023. **Mr. Rosenblum second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

BOARD UPDATES/MISC.

Mr. Rosenblum: We had an open space meeting yesterday. Some of the things we're looking at that we kind of got into a lot was, a lot of it actually depends on IT, it's access to information type thing, it's saying we have a decent amount of trails, hiking trails in and around the reservoir, facing rock, Bridle. We want to try to do something on the website where we have a recreation setting on a tab. Something where we can go ahead and get the links to these different places because to try and get more information out about what is available besides soccer or anything like that is what we have for recreation or open space. Going through that, there will be a survey going out soon. As Mr. Strange had on his survey, we have to have it translated into Portuguese. We're going to have a survey going out to see what the people of the town see as their priority for open space and recreation. Most importantly we decided it's something that we lacked, and I also mentioned that things could change in a year or two with a change of government as to how it goes about. Talking about the possibility of a park and rec department and things of that nature, the information we've been lacking in this town for years on how we communicate. Getting that information out. It's one of first things we started talking about.

Mr. DeBarge: The Celebrate Ludlow Committee met last night. I tried to make it and I couldn't. So, everybody knows, Celebrate Ludlow this year will be October 14th from noon to 7:00 p.m. down at the gazebo area with improvements from our first time last year. Hours and music will be from 1:00 – 6:45. 97.7 will be broadcasting there and there will be a lot more things to do; food vendors, beverage vendors, all of that. Celebrate Ludlow 2023, October 14th, 12 noon to 7:00 p.m. down in the gazebo area.

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: August 31st – September 4 – Festa
September 30th & October 1st – 3rd – Annual Community Market @ Memorial Park/Gazebo
October 14th – Celebrate Ludlow @ Memorial Park

CLOSING COMMENTS

Mr. Gennette: Any closing comments, Mr. Rosenblum?

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Mr. Rosenblum: No, that was my board update.

Mr. Silva: All set.

Mr. DeBarge: I have a couple more events. 250th has a lot of events going throughout the year, folks. Please, get on to the Ludlow 250th Committee Facebook page and look at those events. I'll only say the 2 that are coming up quickly. Tuesday, August 1st is a car show at the Ludlow Elks. We'll have a basket prize raffle as well. From 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Marc had already mentioned it, the golf tournament. The golf tournament is tough. It's September 9th, Saturday, 11:00 a.m. registration, start 12:15 shot gun. 250th Committee tournament is sandwiched in between the Sheriff's Department's tournament and Luso's tournament. If you can, call your friends, call your family, grab a foursome, and come out and support this. We're trying to do as much as we can. For our Veteran's Center, we're moving right along with a bunch of programs and some new ones too. This week there will be limited hours throughout the week, as our Veteran's Service Director is at a convention. We are starting our very first coffee hour the first Thursday of every month starting August 3rd from 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Come in and have some coffee and danish and talk to a fellow veteran. I'm happy to say it's being sponsored by Common Ground Café in Wilbraham. Food pantry is in full vigor. Thank you to everyone that donates to the food pantry. You would be surprised that when we get a donation how fast it goes out and all of the great people it's helping. A new thing coming is Eric Segundo is setting up a dentistry visit for veterans to come in and have, nothing invasive of course, a cleaning and checkup. Finally, the Government Restructuring Committee, aka Charter Commission, the letters of intent and resumes, the people that are interested in this are trickling in. The deadline is looming. If you're putting it off, if you're thinking about it and putting it off, please get that in. Because I would rather not extend the deadline, personally, because this project is a rather long project, and we need to get moving. If you have an intent to want to join, send that letter out by Friday.

Mr. Goncalves: Mr. DeBarge took care of most of the ones that I was going to be mentioning. I want to say a special thanks to Mike Scycourka and a group of youth soccer players from town. If you haven't noticed on Saturdays, you're going to see them. They're all wearing yellow shirts and they're hitting all our public parks and doing a great job of cleaning up. These are kids donating their time. Mr. Scycourka has been donating his time and resources. This last weekend I think they did Memorial Park and the junior high school. They're going to be going out to all the public places. Mostly fields and parks and doing clean ups every Saturday. If you see them, toot your horn and say thank you. That's really nice of them. Maybe other organizations in town can follow suit. For people who aren't paying attention, this Thursday at 7:30 tune in your tv's to channel 191. I know we've mentioned it before, we're going to have a new cable company in town. You're going to have an alternative to Charter. It's in high speed right now. The company's name is Go Net Speed. Their equipment, etc., is going to be based out on East Street at the Polish Club in their parking lot. There was an area there that was being used as a no smoking tent, and that's actually going to be converted over and fenced in. All the fiber equipment is going to be there. I believe they're going to start wiring the inner community almost immediately. It's going to be fiber, high speed, so that's coming. If you're wondering what's going on, Planning has a hearing on that this Thursday at 7:30, so you can find out a little bit more about that and what's happening.

Mr. Silva: How in God's name are you going to be able to do that? That's an endeavor that's probably a billion dollars.

Mr. Goncalves: It's a private company, this will be their second community, I think. They're out in Brockton. They've got a couple already in Massachusetts, very successful. Marc and I met with them about a year ago. We checked into everything and there wasn't an issue. They're able to use existing poles. There's something in the laws that allow them to use those poles along with every other public utility. They're going for it. If you want more information, Thursday, Planning Board 7:30 there's a hearing. You could either come in or at least watch on TV if you've got questions. 250th, there's a bunch of events coming up. The car show, the golf tournament, River Hollow on August 5th, August 1st is the car show at the Elks and the 9th the golf tournament. It's going to be 3 tournaments in a row, kind of town oriented, but if you can do it maybe call Josh Carpenter.

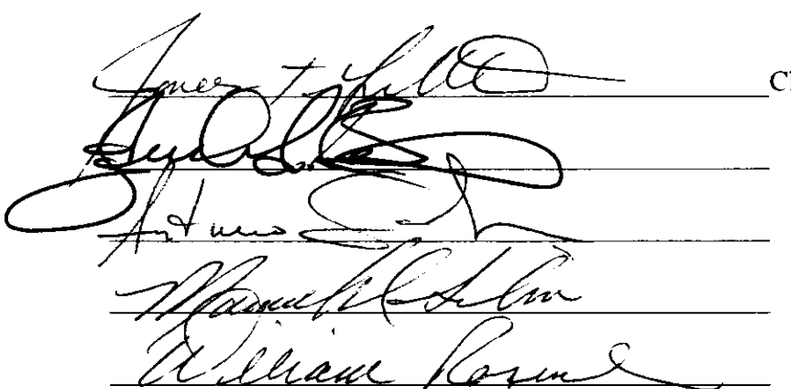
Mr. Silva: As I was looking through the news, there's a heat wave coming that's supposed to be significant, from out west and just want to make sure that everybody is checking in on their family members and elderly. Stay safe.

Mr. Gennette: Ludlow Cultural Council doing a lot of things down at Memorial Park near the gazebo. I went down there last Thursday, and they had a movie showing. What a great little time. A bunch of kids came down to watch the movie. Just to let you know they have a lot of good things going on there. I want to make sure we stay on top of letting everyone know what good things the Ludlow Cultural Council is doing, and the library.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares.

Motion made by Mr. Rosenblum to adjourn the meeting at 6:57 p.m. and to enter into Executive Session and not to return to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares. **Mr. Goncalves second. Roll Call. Mr. Goncalves yes, Mr. DeBarge yes, Mr. Silva yes, Mr. Rosenblum yes, Mr. Gennette yes. Motion passed 5-0.**



Chairman

Ludlow Board of Selectmen

