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TOWN OF LUDLOW

Town of Ludlow
Office of the Select Board

The Meeting of the Select Board held on Tuesday, April 14, 2026, began at 5:30 p.m. in the Select Board's Conference Room.

Members Present: Anthony Alves, James Gennette, William Rosenblum, Antonio Sanches, and Manuel Silva.

First order of business: Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Rosenblum: Pursuant to MGL Chapter 30A, section 20(f), after notifying the Select Board chair, any person may record the open session of this Select Board meeting, subject to reasonable requirements of the chair. This meeting is being recorded by Ludlow Community Television. If anyone else is recording, please identify yourself now. There is no one.

5:30-5:45 P.M. – PUBLIC COMMENT

VISITATION

5:45 P.M. – Eversource – Pole Hearing – 155 West Street.
Motion made by Mr. Silva to open the public pole hearing for 155 West Street with Eversource. **Mr. Alves second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.** Mr. Cosimini introduced himself as being from 11 Arthur Street, Springfield. He noted there had been an abutter present, but after he explained the project, the abutter left. The new pole will be placed at the end of the customer's driveway. The property has a leased solar array, and the existing right of way leading to it will be removed. An underground service will be installed to the new pole, and wires on West Street will be rerouted from this new pole to the pole on the opposite side of the driveway. Mr. Silva stated he saw no issues and noted there were no abutters present with concerns. **Motion made by Mr. Silva** to agree to the pole as submitted by Eversource. **Mr. Gennette second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

CORRESPONDENCE

26-68 Board of Health Reorganization.
Mr. Silva said the Board of Health has reorganized with Lauren Yelinek as the chair, Tony Tavares as secretary and Kelly Lamas as member. **Motion made by Mr. Silva** to file. **Mr. Alves second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

26-69 Hubbard Memorial Library Board of Trustees Reorganization.
Mr. Alves said the Hubbard Memorial Library Board of Trustees at their meeting on Tuesday, April 7th, reorganized as follows, Ruth Saunders chair, Antonia Golinski-Foisy secretary, and Linda Collette member. **Motion made by Mr. Alves** to file. **Mr. Gennette second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

26-70 Jewel Environment Corporation – Permanent Solution Statement Report for I90 East @ Mile Marker 54 in Ludlow. **Motion made by Mr. Silva** to file. **Mr. Gennette second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

26-71 Springfield Water & Sewer Commission – Disinfection Byproduct (DBP) MCL Violations.
Mr. Silva said this is generally done quite a bit and just want everyone out there to know that if you would like any of this information we will have it at the Selectman's office. **Motion made by Mr. Silva** to file. **Mr. Alves second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

26-72 Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities – Notice of Inquiry and Request for Comments.
Mr. Gennette said I don't know if everybody had an opportunity to look at this, but this was actually from 2025. The Department of Public Utilities was interested in inquiring or investigating the public utilities into gas and electric delivery and bill redesign and how those charges affected it. This is an update regarding that which is an interesting read. They voted to open the investigation. The department invites members of the public to submit written comments on the questions contained in the order and their experience with gas and electric delivery rates by 5:00 PM on April 30th, 2026. All documents should be submitted to the department in PDF forms. They're looking to close this. **Motion made by Mr. Gennette** to file. **Mr. Alves second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

26-73 National Grid – Project Information Update Line 301 Asset Condition Refurbishment (ACR) Project. **Motion made by Mr. Gennette** to file. **Mr. Silva second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

26-74 Christine Bassett – Request to be appointed to the Celebrate Ludlow Committee. **Motion made by Mr. Alves** to appoint Christine Bassett to the Celebrate Ludlow Committee. **Mr. Silva second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

26-75 Michael Bettencourt – Request to be appointed to the Celebrate Ludlow Committee. **Motion made by Mr. Silva** to appoint Michael Bettencourt to the Celebrate Ludlow Committee. **Mr. Sanches second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

26-76 Michael Bettencourt – Request to be appointed as a poll worker. **Motion made by Mr. Silva** to appoint Michael Bettencourt as a poll worker. **Mr. Gennette second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Board to place an opening for precinct 6 representative town meeting member on the 2027 ballot. **Motion made by Mr. Silva** to place an opening for precinct 6 representative town meeting member on the 2027 ballot. **Mr. Gennette second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

Board to discuss and possibly approve repair and replacement of the roof at the Gazebo (continued from April 7, 2026).
Mr. Silva said they had this before and it was significantly less, but they are doing a lot more extensive work now than previously when they were just replacing the roof. Mr. Strange said there was an estimate in front of everyone and they had wanted a full assessment of the gazebo, and this was the result. Mr. Alves said it only added the power washing and that before there were two quotes around the 9,800 number. Mr. Rosenblum asked if there were now two quotes above 10 from the same company. Mr. Strange said the other quote was for Whitney Park. Mr. Gennette asked if they were still just replacing the roof and noted there was no wood damage. He said this was just the estimate and that putting it out to bid could bring a different price. Mr. Rosenblum said they don't have to put it out to bid if it's under 9,999. Mr. Gennette said the estimate seemed high compared to before and questioned why they wouldn't go out to an RFP. He said it seemed like a lot of work for replacing shingles, spray cleaning the concrete, and painting. Mr. Rosenblum asked if the power washing was in addition. Mr. Strange said they could probably power wash it. Mr. Silva said the Department of Public Works. Mr. Rosenblum asked what the original cost was. Mr. Strange said three or four. Mr. Rosenblum said they had asked for a full assessment. Mr. Gennette said he didn't mind paying the going rate but the increase seemed egregious, especially since 98.5 didn't include power washing. Mr. Alves said there were two quotes, including 9,850 for stripping one layer and installing, and that nothing had changed except the power washing recommendation. He said the question was whether they wanted to do the work and whether they wanted the power washing. Mr. Rosenblum said it would be 11,7 if they did it all, requiring three quotes. Mr. Strange said they could get quotes for power washing separately. Mr. Rosenblum suggested doing just the roof and having DPW try the power washing. Mr. Alves asked about the Whitney quote and whether it would need to go out for bids. Mr. Strange said it was 38,000 without prevailing wages and that they needed three

quotes including prevailing wages. If it exceeded 50,000, they would need full procurement with sealed bids. Mr. Alves asked if they had to vote to initiate the process. Mr. Strange said no, and that Jamie was working on it. Mr. Rosenblum asked if the numbers in mass were 9,999, 25, and 50. Mr. Strange said for a public works project on a building, between 50 and 150 requires a full sealed bid process. **Motion made by Mr. Silva** to approve the roof at the Gazebo and award it to P.R. Remodeling. **Mr. Gennette second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.** Mr. Gennette asked where's the funding coming for this? Mr. Strange said it'll be building infrastructure.

Board to discuss and close the Annual Town Meeting and Special Town Meeting warrant.
Mr. Gennette questioned moving the election date and asked why, if moving it anyway, it wouldn't be moved to November when regular voting occurs. He said, "If we were gonna move it from one crappy date to a second crappy date, why wouldn't we just move it to November when the regular voting is."

Mr. Rosenblum said the charter prevented moving it to November. Mr. Strange explained that the state recommended against November because the ballot already had 12–13 questions and a local question would "get lost." He also noted a special town election would still be required for the public safety HVAC bond.

The Board discussed timing issues, the 35-day requirement between a Select Board vote and a special election, and how this affects scheduling around town meeting. Mr. Strange clarified that even with Article 24, a special election would still be required this year, though changing dates would prevent this problem in future years.

Conversation shifted to the Ludlow public safety complex cost increase, with Mr. Gennette calling the $6.8 million figure "insane" and recommending an oversight committee. He said the chiefs "don't know this stuff" and suggested adding experienced members to review the project.

The Board then discussed stabilization funds, free cash certification timing, and whether capital items could be funded without depleting reserves. Mr. Strange explained the town's financial policies, the impact of timing on appropriations, and the possibility of needing a special town meeting to replenish stabilization. Members debated whether to delay certain fund transfers, rely on known unallocated free cash, or adjust capital planning depending on certification timing. **Motion made by Mr. Gennette** to close the Annual Town Warrant. **Mr. Silva second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.** Mr. Alves asked Marc with the unpaid bills, I know sometimes we have some coming in late, do we anticipate there are any other that might come in? Mr. Strange said no. **Motion made by Mr. Alves** to close the Special Town Meeting Warrant. **Mr. Gennette second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

Board to discuss resuming the Community Preservation Committee.
Mr. Rosenblum said he agreed with the idea but noted the community had voted it down twice because "in all essence it's a tax." He explained that the state match had dropped to 16.9%, saying, "Meaning you raise a thousand dollars you're getting 169 bucks from the state." Mr. Silva added that the state "snowed people" with the program and that the public ends up paying for state projects.

Mr. Rosenblum said the Town Planner indicated this would not take effect for a year or two because the CPA committee would need to be reestablished and research completed. He said he would support putting it to voters but noted it had failed twice in the last 10–15 years. Mr. Alves said he was not opposed and asked who comprises the committee, noting the Select Board can appoint up to four community members. Mr. Rosenblum said Planning would likely determine the size and that the structure probably already exists. Mr. Silva said certain departments would influence it.

Mr. Alves said they would need to post vacancies if they are appointing members. He asked Mr. Strange who comprises the Community Preservation Committee. Mr. Strange said the composition is in the bylaw. Mr. Sanches asked whether the committee already existed; Mr. Rosenblum said it had been established before, disbanded, and would now be reestablished. **Motion made by Mr. Alves** to post for four openings on the Community Preservation Committee. **Mr. Gennette second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.** Mr.

Strange said the CPA is Con Com, Historical Commission, Planning Board, Housing Authority, Rec Commission. Mr. Alves said and four community members. Up to four.

NEW BUSINESS

Request from the Community Survival Center to have a truck at Town Hall Saturday, May 9th 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. for the annual National Letter Carriers Food Drive. **Motion made by Mr. Silva** to approve the Community Survival Center to have a truck at Town Hall Saturday, May 9th 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. for the annual National Letter Carriers Food Drive. **Mr. Alves second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

Board to approve and sign Common Victualler License for WTP Ludlow, LLC/Jersey Mike's Subs (pending inspections). **Motion made by Mr. Alves** to approve and sign Common Victualler License for WTP Ludlow, LLC/Jersey Mike's Subs (pending inspections). **Mr. Sanches second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

Board to approve and sign license for Billiard, Pool & Mechanical amusements and Sunday Entertainment for: Polish American Citizens Club, Laconia East, Inc. (El Cid), Gremio Lusitano Club, Inc., Tin Cup Facilities (The Lighthouse), CMD Café (Brookside Café), Bocage, Inc. (Open Door Café), Ludlow Fish & Game Club, Inc., Unity Athletic Club, Inc., Ludlow Lodge of Elks #2448, and Mill's Tavern & Grille. **Motion made by Mr. Silva** to approve and sign license for Billiard, Pool & Mechanical amusements and Sunday Entertainment for: Polish American Citizens Club, Laconia East, Inc. (El Cid), Gremio Lusitano Club, Inc., Tin Cup Facilities (The Lighthouse), CMD Café (Brookside Café), Bocage, Inc. (Open Door Café), Ludlow Fish & Game club, Inc., Unity Athletic club, Inc., Ludlow Lodge of Elks #2448, and Mill's Tavern & Grille. **Mr. Gennette second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

Board to reappoint Annual Appointments: **ADA Coordinator** – BJ Church; **Affirmative Action Officer** – Carrie Ribeiro; **Agent of Record** – Anjo Pereira; **Agricultural Commission** – John Chenier, Agnes "Betty" Kibbe, Beverly Landers; **Airport Master Plan Consulting Committee** – Joseph Queiroga; **Board of Registrars** – Kim Batista; **Building Commissioner (On-Call)** – Paul Adzima; **Cable Commission** – Michael Assaf, James Gennette, Michael Hill, Marc Strange; **Capital Improvement Planning Committee** – Anthony Alves, Kathleen Houle, Chris Manfredi, Marc Strange (Ex-Officio), Luis Vitorino; **Celebrate Ludlow Committee** – Linda Collette, Ron Saloio; **Commission on Disability** – Beverly Dudley, Christopher Harkins, Harry Mills, Diane Shea Walton, Jennifer Wright; **Conservation Commission** – Helder Cerqueira; **Constables** – Detective Ryan Collette, Detective Peter Gallagher, Detective Lt. Sean Knox; **Constable for Tax Collector** – Jeffrey Reid Jr, Christine Jeffrey; **Council on Aging** – Fernando Barroso, John DaCruz, Rosalind Forti, Helen Grabowski, Debora Johnson, Robert Mishol, Diane Peacey, Robert Radowski, Kara Ribeiro, Deborah Potter; **Director of Emergency Management** – Chief Ryan Pease; **Dog Park Committee** – Josh Carpenter, James Goodreau, Darlene Kennedy, Jesse Mendez, Kara Ribeiro, Marc Strange, Melissa Stokowski; **Economic Development Officer** - William Rosenblum; **Energy Coordinator** – James Gennette; **Equal Opportunity Employment Officer** – Carrie Ribeiro; **Fair Housing Committee** – Joel Silva, Marc Strange (Ex-Officio); **First Meeting House Committee** – Thomas Haluch, Jeremy Kavka, Agnes "Betty" Kibbe, Marily Paul-Lewis; **Graves Registration Officer** – Eric Segundo; **Assistant Graves Registration Officer** – Steven Sawyer; **Hazardous Material Coordinator** – Captain Zac Ellison; **Historian** – Marilyn Paul-Lewis; **Historical Commission** – Allison DeLong; **Historic District Study Committee** – Sandra Stanek; **Industrial Finance Authority** – John DeBarge; **Insurance Advisory Committee** – Brian Bylicki, Mickey Buhl, Captain Zac Ellison, Peter Gallagher, Melissa Graf, Ashlee Goncalves-Korny, Richard Kolodziej, Marc Lachartie, Deputy Chief Jeff Lavoie, Amanda Lemieux, Carrie Ribeiro, Detective Sgt. Stephen Ricardi, Marc Strange (Ex-Officio); **Internal Safety Committee** - Michael Bertini, Mickey Buhl, BJ Church, Heather Jolicoeur, Deputy Chief Jeff Lavoie, Amanda Lemieux, Dave Ritchie, Prov. Lt. Brad Tierney, Jamie Tomas; **License Agent for the Select Board** – Detective Peter Gallagher, Detective Lt. Sean Knox, Detective Sgt. Stephen Ricardi; **Local Emergency Planning Committee** – Ken Batista, Chief Michael Brennan, Mickey Buhl, Josh Carpenter, Louis Gilli, Helen Grabowski, Michael Hill, Kristen Jerome, Scott Kozak, Paulina Matusik, Bob McCormick, Chief Ryan Pease, Dave Ritchie, Marc Strange; **Ludlow Cultural Council** – Pamela Hayes, Robert Roccanti; **MMWEC Board of Directors** – James Gennette; **Mobile Home Rent Control Board** – Mary Evangelista; **Municipal Hearing Officer** – Marc Strange;

Open Space Planning Committee – John Archambeau, Josh Carpenter, William "Bud" Ellison, James Goodreau, Elaine Hodgman, Ryan Linton, William Rosenblum, Joel Silva, Angela Tierney, Jamie Tomas; **Parking Hearing Officer** – Anthony Alves; **Permitting Authority Trench Regulations** – Ken Batista, James Goodreau, Jamie Tomas; **Pioneer Valley Planning Commission** – Ray Phoenix, Joel Silva; **Pioneer Valley Transit Authority** – Anthony Alves; **Pond Management Committee** – Judy Breault, Elaine Hodgman, Patricia Kwasiborski, Julie Markiewicz, Linda Nawracaj, Stephen Rourke, William Simons, Anna Vital, Tony Vital; **Safety Committee** – BJ Church, Christopher Coelho, Captain Zac Ellison, Prov. Sgt. David Krok, Deputy Chief Jeff Lavoie, Sharon Martins, Michael O'Rourke, Prov. Lt. Brad Tierney, Jamie Tomas; **Sealer of Weights & Measures** – Patrick Halpin; **Sworn Weigher** – Joanne Martins; **Town Counsel** - Brian Winner-Mead, Talerman & Costa, LLC; **Town Labor Counsel** – Kate Federoff-Mead, Talerman & Costa, LLC; **Westover Metropolitan Development Corp (WDMC)** – Maureen "Kim" Downing, William Rosenblum; **WMDC Board of Directors** – Manuel Silva. **Motion made by Mr. Silva** to appoint **ADA Coordinator** – BJ Church; **Affirmative Action Officer** – Carrie Ribeiro; **Agent of Record** – Anjo Pereira; **Agricultural Commission** – John Chenier, Agnes "Betty" Kibbe, Beverly Landers; **Airport Master Plan Consulting Committee** – Joseph Queiroga; **Board of Registrars** – Kim Batista; **Building Commissioner (On-Call)** – Paul Adzima; **Cable Commission** – Michael Assaf, James Gennette, Michael Hill, Marc Strange; **Capital Improvement Planning Committee** – Anthony Alves, Kathleen Houle, Chris Manfredi, Marc Strange (Ex-Officio), Luis Vitorino; **Celebrate Ludlow Committee** – Linda Collette, Ron Saloio; **Commission on Disability** – Beverly Dudley, Christopher Harkins, Harry Mills, Diane Shea Walton, Jennifer Wright; **Conservation Commission** – Helder Cerqueira; **Constables** – Detective Ryan Collette, Detective Peter Gallagher, Detective Lt. 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Sgt. David Krok, Deputy Chief Jeff Lavoie, Sharon Martins, Michael O'Rourke, Prov. Lt. Brad Tierney, Jamie Tomas; **Sealer of Weights & Measures** – Patrick Halpin; **Sworn Weigher** – Joanne Martins; **Town Counsel** - Brian Winner-Mead, Talerman & Costa, LLC; **Town Labor Counsel** – Kate Federoff-Mead, Talerman & Costa, LLC; **Westover Metropolitan Development Corp (WDMC)** – Maureen

"Kim" Downing, William Rosenblum; **WMDC Board of Directors** – Manuel Silva. **Mr. Alves second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

Board to post vacancy for appointed member of Westover Golf Commission. **Motion made by Mr. Silva** to post vacancy for appointed member of Westover Golf Commission. **Mr. Alves second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

Board to vote on a FY27 budget recommendation.
Mr. Strange said the updated version included $30,000 for the Pond Committee and increased MS 365 licenses by $24,000, with Windows server software updated from $17,000 to $11,000. He said, "Right now, with all those changes we're about a hundred thousand dollars under capacity."

Mr. Gennette said he had not yet spoken with CMD but felt the IT budget was reasonable and said he would approve it at its current scope. Mr. Alves asked about the $88,000 delta from last week and whether it related to reclasses. Mr. Strange said adjustments were likely due to the check-and-balance process he and Cheryl use when reconciling Munis with his spreadsheet.

Mr. Alves confirmed that approving this does not approve free cash utilization, only the operating budget. Mr. Sanches noted Hubbard Library's number increased from 709 to 722. Mr. Strange said the earlier number was wrong. Mr. Rosenblum asked if the governor cut them 4.21%; Mr. Strange said yes. **Motion made by Mr. Silva** to approve the FY27 budget recommendations as presented. **Mr. Gennette second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

BOARD UPDATES/MISC

Chairman to approve and sign all bills, warrants and abatements. A record of all warrants is in the Select Board's office for perusal until provided to the Town Accountant's office.

Mr. Gennette said it looks like there's gonna be a change in capital. We have lost Mr. Sanches because he was the Fin Com member that needed to be on the board. Fin Com's gonna meet tomorrow and they're going to appoint a new person to capital. I'm probably gonna go to the next capital meeting just so that I can hand over the reins to Mr. Anthony Alves who just took it as part of the position. From capital perspective thank you to Mr. Sanches for all his fine years of work there.

CLOSING COMMENTS

Mr. Silva said he's been questioned time and time again about the Riverwalk, noting the Board of Public Works had been directed to shovel and plow, but this year it was dropped and in terrible state. Mr. Alves said there's a sign saying Riverwalk closed for winter. Mr. Rosenblum said that's the way it's been since they opened it and it was pass at your own risk but closed. Mr. Gennette said there was a vote four or five years ago due to ice, complaints, and liability, so the answer was to close it. Mr. Rosenblum said if you clear it, you have to salt it, and due to proximity to the water there might have been runoff concerns. Mr. Silva said he'd like to at least tell people the reason. Mr. Alves announced Town Hall is closed Monday, April 20th for Patriots Day and April 27th is pre–town meeting Q&A at 6:00 PM. Mr. Gennette said DPW is in spring cleanup, roads are rough, the asphalt company opened a week and a half ago, and crews will be out patching, cleaning up, and street sweeping soon. He gave DPW a shout-out for doing a great job through winter and for spring cleanup.

Motion made by Mr. Silva to close the meeting at 7:22 P.M. **Mr. Gennette second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**



Chairman

Ludlow Select Board

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