

**BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS**  
**DPW Conference Room**  
**198 Sportsman's Road, Ludlow, MA 01056**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**September 15, 2020**

**\*Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, MGL c. 30A Section 18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Ludlow Board of Public Works will be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible.**

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Members Present: Steve Santos, John Davis, Barry Linton, Alex Simao, Dan Soares

Members Absent:

Also Present: Mike Suprenant, Amy Priest

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Mr. Santos called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. All present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPOINTMENTS:** 6:00 P.M. Vitaliy Gladysh to discuss permanent repair of roadway at 17-23 Focosi Lane & 188 Cady Street. Mr. Santos said that because of the deplorable condition the road was left in, they would like to put it back in the condition it was found in. Mr. Gladysh said he spoke w/ Mike who has a figure of around \$18,000 for DPW to fix it. Mr. Santos said he can continue with the house project, but nothing in the road. Gas work can continue because it is 4' off the road.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** #1001 Letter from Ed Nowak requesting permission to use woodchips at his home. **Mr. Simao motion to approve Mr. Nowak's request. Mr. Davis second. All in favor.** #1002 Email from Beachside Motors stating they have not received a letter of admission yet for damage to vehicles and landscaping. Mr. Santos looked at email, which shows it was sent on August 18 to all, including Beachside Motors. Mr. Suprenant will re-send.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** Focosi Lane. Mr. Batista said estimate for upper section is \$5,109.46 and estimate for lower section was \$5,005.40. That does not include berm or restoration. Mr. Santos said to include 10% administration fee in case prices change next year. Mr. Simao asked if this money is coming out of our budget. Mr. Suprenant said we have \$25,000-\$27,000 in bonds from him. Mr. Batista said the sewer is in, but it has not been pressure tested. **Mr. Linton motion to hold \$11,132 for milling and paving of Focosi Lane next spring when the whole project should be done. Mr. Simao second for discussion. Asked about what if it costs more money. Mr. Simao amended motion up to \$12,000. Mr. Soares second. All in favor.** Mr. Santos asked to write him a letter and this price does not include the berm. Center Street punch list. Email from Matt Shute says he's available to go over the punch list with the Board on September 29. He would like an amendment to the contract for additional services to be executed before then. He has not responded with a proposal yet. Mr. Santos read email from Matt Shute about punch list. It states No Turn On Red sign at McDonald's is not warranted. Light timings are correct also. Truck restriction signs not authorized by MA DOT project. They were removed in compliance with the plan. Mr. Suprenant said it might be worthwhile to put some traffic counters out there. Any modifications for the turn into TD Bank needs to be submitted to MA DOT. Mr. Suprenant said the left turn arrow is also pointing into the exit. The least expensive route is to grind it off and relocate it. **Mr. Linton motion to ask Selectmen to put back the No Turn On Red sign at McDonald's. Mr. Simao second. All in favor. CC Brian Shameklis on Safety Committee.** Printed uniforms should be done within the next 2 weeks. Email sent to Work-n-Gear to discuss the process for this year's order. He discussed this with the union steward. In the next 3-4 weeks he would like to place this year's order into Work-n-Gear. Mike Hastings resignation letter received late this afternoon. There is an open PW-3 position. Mr. Linton said it has to be posted internally. **Mr. Simao motion to post PW-3 position internally through Human Resources. Mr. Linton second. All in favor.** Mr. Suprenant read resignation letter. **Mr. Simao motion to file letter. Mr. Soares second for discussion. Mr. Batista responded to this resignation and Mr. Almeida's letter stating the Park Department was set up to fail. They had 9 employees this summer and new equipment. The diamonds look atrocious all summer long. The Parks foreman was reprimanded for leaving the back door wide open, in regards to damage or theft of equipment. We will probably need to get some kind of outside help to get the Parks where they should be. All in favor.** There are 2 qualified internal applicants for the PW-4. Interviews will be conducted this week. There are quite a few applicants for the open PW-2. Mr. Simao would like to see a Board member attend the interviews. Mr. Suprenant is still working on the road moratoriums. Island Pond Cemetery. Section V

could have additional grave sites added. We don't know where existing drain line is. Need to do a test pit. Section P has wider walkways. Maybe graves can be added. Mr. Santos said we are deed restricted and that's why we don't use the front section. **Mr. Simao motion to accept Director's report as read. Mr. Davis second. All in favor.**

**OPERATION SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:** Mr. Batista reached out to Game Time again re: quote for playscape. All the chains on the swings have been replaced. Bench slats have been replaced. He will try to get a price on a stand-alone slide. He would like Mike to look at it. He is in the process of getting quotes for sewer lateral repairs on 482 & 647 East Street. We will be doing Lockland ourselves. It has been dig safe-d, but we have no foreman for that crew right now. Pavement markings on Randall Road are done. Markings is doing recapping throughout the Town. We are in the process of installing construction signs on Winsor and Warren. Palmer expected in the next couple weeks. Residents are looking to put gas on Steven Street. He reached out to Columbia Gas. Mr. Santos asked for formal letter to be sent to Columbia Gas with a time frame. Mr. Batista has been in contact with Gomes to order curbing for the Beachside Motors project. He has been unable to meet up with Joe Fernandes. He has been unable to mark foundations at Island Pond Cemetery this week. Hoping to get it done by next week. During the August 4 storm, there was an oak tree on River Street that uprooted and hit a pine tree, which landed on the backside of a house. It is outside of our sewer easement. We will need to deal with it. We could rent a Volvo lift or bring a crane in. Resident at 249 Sewall Street on corner of Warsaw had an oak tree taken down years ago. Now the tree to the left of it sustained heavy pruning by Eversource. **Mr. Linton motion to take the tree down at 249 Sewall Street because it's dangerous. Mr. Simao second. All in favor. Mr. Simao motion to accept Operation Supervisor's report as read. Mr. Linton second. All in favor.**

**OLD BUSINESS:** Center Street punch list previously discussed. Uniform status previously discussed. Local 98 contract negotiations are meeting this week. Electric Park drainage on hold until Mr. Suprenant can gather pictures and package. PW-4 vacancy was posted as Parks and Cemetery. Mr. Santos said that should not have specified that. **Mr. Linton motion PW-4 be reposted internally by Human Resources. Mr. Simao second. All in favor.** PW-2 vacancy previously discussed. Island Pond Cemetery foundations previously discussed. There have been no more quotes on the work order system update. Mr. Suprenant met with the Assessor this week, who is putting together a list for the trash fee implementation. Focosi Lane previously discussed. Beachside Motors curb replacement previously discussed. Mr. Batista has meeting with Springfield Water about

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Rood Street. Mr. Suprenant said there is no update on the new cemetery. Mr. Simao asked to make sure the doors are closed to the building Island Pond Cemetery.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Mr. Simao asked if we have a personnel file on the summer help in case they want to come back next year. He would like to see some kind of performance comments. Mr. Santos said we are over budget in Forestry overtime. Also asked why fringe benefits was over budget. Vacation is over budget. \$79,000 expended out of Operations budget, streets and roads. Mr. Batista said that is Randall Road.

Cemetery commitment for July 2020 is \$5,200. Minutes of August 18 & August 25, 2020 not read and therefore not signed. **Mr. Simao motion to table minutes. Mr. Davis second. All in favor.** Invoices signed.

Mr. Soares said in regards to September 10 meeting, he is appalled of the actions of Mr. Linton and Mr. Davis. The meeting was of great importance. Furthermore, the actions of the Board members left him questioning their ability to remain on the Board. He recommends they resign or do their job as elected. Mr. Linton said there was 1 thing on the agenda for executive session. Mr. Suprenant and his lawyer left. The meeting was over. He made a motion that was seconded. He has the right to walk out of any meeting when there is a lawsuit threatened. Mr. Soares said there was no lawsuit. Mr. Santos said executive session is still open and still requires attention. Mr. Simao said meeting will be held next week at 6:00.

**At 8:08 p.m. Mr. Simao motion to adjourn. Mr. Davis second. All in favor.**

NOTES ACCEPTED:

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