

August 24, 2017

The meeting of the Board of Selectmen held on August 24, 2017 beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Selectmen's Conference Room, Town Hall.

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Members Present: William Rooney, Chairman, Manny Silva, Carmina Fernandes, Brian Mannix and Derek DeBarge was absent.

First Order of Business: The Pledge of Allegiance

6:00 p.m. Janice Grimaldi Council on Aging Interview

Mr. Rooney welcomed her and she introduced herself to the Board. She and her husband have lived in Ludlow for two and a half years, both born in Springfield so they have lived in the area all their lives. She is a part time professor at AIC (was full time since 1988) and she is willing and able to help within the community. They partake of services on occasion at the Senior Center and Mr. LaFayette let them know that this position may become available and suggested that if she was interested she could present a letter of interest.

Mr. Mannix has no questions but thanked Ms. Grimaldi for applying.

Ms. Fernandes has no questions but thanked Ms. Grimaldi for applying and if Mr. LaFayette suggested she apply she must be qualified.

Mr. Silva also has no questions, it seems like she understands what the position is all about and he thanked her for stepping forward for consideration.

Mr. Rooney also has no questions and thanked her for coming forward and noted that the Council is a great Board.

Moved by Mr. Mannix seconded by Ms. Fernandes that the Board appoint Ms. Janice Grimaldi to the Council on Aging. Vote: 4-0 in favor.

211. Permit application from Michael Rodrigues for a One Day Wine & Malt Beverage Permit for the Vanished Valley, Outdoor Barbeque to be held on September 23, 2017.

Moved by Ms. Fernandes seconded by Mr. Silva for the Board to approve the One Day Wine & Malt Beverages permit for the Vanished Valley, Outdoor Barbeque on September 23, 2017. Vote: 4-0 in favor.

212. Letter from Seth Falconer, MDA Committee Chairman requesting permission to hold the Annual Boot Day to benefit Muscular Dystrophy Association on September 1, 2017 from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Moved by Ms. Fernandes seconded by Mr. Silva for the Board to approve the Annual Boot Day to benefit Muscular Dystrophy on September 1, 2017 from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Vote: 4-0 in favor.

213. Letter from Debbie Williams, Event Chair/Vice President – The Foundation for TJO Animals 9th Annual Ride Like an Animal Motorcycle Run & Car Show fundraiser is being held on September 9th they are requesting Police assistance for Holyoke Street and West Street.

Mr. Mannix asked Ms. Villano if the Police Chief has been notified and she stated that they were but they have not responded as of this date.

Moved by Mr. Mannix seconded by Ms. Fernandes for the Board to approve, with Police acceptance, the TJO Animals event on September 9, 2017. Vote: 4-0 in favor.

214. Letter from Kevin Quiterio informing the Board that he has accepted a position with the State Police and thanked them for offering him a position as Patrol Officer in Town.

Moved by Mr. Mannix seconded by Ms. Fernandes to file item #214. Vote: 4-0 in favor.

215. Letter from Sara Clark, Department Secretary, Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Telecommunication and Cable informing the Board that cable television license with Charter Communications expires on September 16, 2020. Federal law provides for a formal renewal process that begins between 36 and 30 months before the license expires.

Mr. Mannix asked if we have a full Cable Commission and Ms. Villano stated that yes, we do and if the Board wants to begin opening up negotiations for the new contract that can be done.

Moved by Mr. Mannix seconded by Ms. Fernandes for the Board to allow the Cable Committee to contact Charter and open negotiations for this next contract. Vote: 4-0 in favor.

216. Application from Deacon Rickson requesting a One Day Wine and Malt Beverage permit for the St. John the Baptist School, St. Club Cinquante Luncheon to be held on October 1, 2017 and the Board to waive the fee if approved.

Moved by Ms. Fernandes seconded by Mr. Mannix for the Board to approve the One Day Wine and Malt Beverages permit for St. John the Baptist School, Club Cinquante Luncheon to be held on October 1, 2017 and to waive the fee. Vote: 4-0 in favor.

217. Letter from Sgt. Brian Shameklis, Chairman, Safety Committee recommending that a representative from the School Department be appointed to the Safety Committee.

Moved by Mr. Mannix seconded by Ms. Fernandes for the Board to allow another member from the School Department be appointed to the Safety Committee. Vote: 4-0 in favor.

218. Letter from Anna Lucey, Director, Government Affairs from Charter Communications informing the Board of changes to the channel lineup.

Mr. Mannix commented on Charter taking a channel away and not replacing it and that the Board did not receive answers to their questions which seems to be a usual occurrence for them. Perhaps in negotiations on the next contract they can pinpoint something that would provide better communications.

Moved by Mr. Mannix seconded by Ms. Fernandes to file item # 218. Vote: 4-0 in favor.

219. Letter of appreciation from Mary Cassidy, Executive Director, Community Survival Center to the Celebrate Ludlow Committee for allowing them to set up a table at the event as follows:

Dear Celebrate Ludlow Committee:

This was my first time attending Celebrate Ludlow, and I really enjoyed it. What perfect weather with wonderful music and food. The fireworks were spectacular! I am very grateful that the Committee allowed us to set up a table close to the entrance so that everyone knew immediately where to bring their food donation. Attendees donated 211 pounds of food. They also spent \$90 on raffle tickets beyond the free ticket with a food donation. I met Rebecca Paul from the Committee and she was so helpful and welcoming; the whole event was really well organized and I look forward to next years. The mission of The Community Survival Center is to provide survival items of food, clothing, and household goods to members of our community in times of need. Our programs are self-sustaining through the support of the community. I am truly thankful to have the Celebrate Ludlow Committee as part of that community. Sincerely, Mary Cassidy.

Mr. Mannix wanted to thank the Celebrate Ludlow Committee as this shows how organizations in Town and the whole community are helped with this event.

Moved by Mr. Mannix seconded by Ms. Fernandes to accept this letter with a thank you. Vote: 4-0 in favor.

220. Follow up letter from Roger Cox, Jr. regarding the meeting held on August 10th by the Zoning Board of Appeals with HAP Housing on 188 Fuller Street.

Moved by Mr. Silva seconded by Ms. Fernandes to file item # 220. Vote: 4-0 in favor.

221. Petition from Eversource requesting for the installation of a new 40' full electric pole to feed new sub-development on Avelino Way, Board to schedule a hearing.

Moved by Mr. Mannix seconded by Ms. Fernandes for the Board to schedule a hearing for this petition from Eversource regarding the pole to be installed on Avelino Way. Vote: 4-0 in favor.

222. Letter from Mary Pichetti, Director of Capital Planning, Massachusetts School Building Authority with review comments for the Module 3 Feasibility Study Preliminary Design Program submission for the Chapin Street Elementary School project in the Town of Ludlow received by MSBA on July 20, 2017 with follow up items received July 28, 2017.

Ms. Villano noted that there are some response items that need to be handled within 10 days and the School Committee will be taking up at their next meeting with the Mt. Vernon group handling the response. Mr. Mannix asked about the number of questions with no response or that needs response and is this usual. Ms. Villano stated that this is her first time with MSBA and she really can't comment but that Mt. Vernon is extremely through. The two sites that are referred to are Chapin Street and Veterans Park which is part of the process. The vote of the CORE school committee after nine options was the Chapin Street site with a new build for the school.

Moved by Ms. Fernandes seconded by Mr. Mannix to file item # 222. Vote: 4-0 in favor.

6:15 p.m. Matthew Mitchell Firefighter interview

Mr. Rooney: Good evening. Mr. Mitchell the process that we follow is that you be provided with an opportunity to give a brief opening comments, then it will be open to questions from members of the Board of Selectmen. And when we are done you would have an opportunity to close.

Mr. Mitchell: Yes, I would just like to say that I thank everybody here for taking the timeout of your day to let me come down here and give me your consideration to come down here. Thank you very much.

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Mr. Rooney: Alright we will start with Mr. Silva.

Mr. Silva: Why Ludlow?

Mr. Mitchell: Well, you know I have heard good things about this Town. I have done construction before and had a hand in building some of the buildings around here. I also have talked to some of the firefighters that are on the department too and it seems that it is a good department and a really food Town and I would like to be a part of the team. I have been looking to move from where I am currently, and I have been looking at this area particularly so, I have been very interested in coming this way so...

Mr. Silva: So, if you get a position you would move into Ludlow.

Mr. Mitchell: Absolutely, yes sir.

Mr. Silva: The other question I have for you is ...is this your life's passion? Do you want to be a Firefighter for the rest of your life you believe?

Mr. Mitchell: Absolutely, I have bounced around with a few different jobs, one being construction the other being the military. I didn't stay in the military, I got out, got into construction, my brother owns his own company so it was easy for me to start doing that but I didn't feel passion there. I started doing the paramedic work, working on the ambulance and things like that, and volunteering at the local fire stations, something that I really enjoy. And I think that it would be a really good fit for me, I like being in the uniform, being part of a team and I am really excited about it so...

Mr. Silva: That's it for now, thank you.

Mr. Rooney: Ms. Fernandes?

Ms. Fernandes: Besides some of the things you just said, why do you think you want to be a Firefighter?

Mr. Mitchell: Well, you know, you are helping people, because you are a firefighter and a paramedic, so you have a lot of relations with people, part of a team, part of a uniform which I am familiar with being in the military. Something that I kind of missed when I got out. And it is very welcoming to me, it feels at home. And it feels like a really good fit for me. Doing the paramedic work I really enjoy. Doing the firefighting part, the volunteering, I really enjoy that too. So, both of them combined I think would be an excellent fit for me. I have been having a really good time with it and hope to continue going forward with it so...

Ms. Fernandes: Do you work well under stress?

Mr. Mitchell: Absolutely.

Ms. Fernandes: Ok, I think that is it.

Mr. Mitchell: Thank you.

Mr. Rooney: Mr. Mannix.

Mr. Mannix: I just want to thank you for your service and do you have any intentions of going back into the reserves or anything?

Mr. Mitchell: I spent four years in the reserves when I had gotten out and it didn't necessarily interest me to stay in for the long haul so I would probably call it after the eight years that I was in so I am not interested in continuing going forward in the reserves.

Mr. Mannix: And I am just going to reinforce what Mr. Silva was asking and saying that, and you signed your waiver for it, with the agreement of moving into Town for whatever, up until three years. I was very interested in your comment of why you came to, why you selected Ludlow, and I have to smile. We have a brand-new Chief here so I have to be nice to him. If this Town of Ludlow is looking for anything, and if you just go to the fire department, the people there, you know 'tell us something about Ludlow' because it is just routine over and over again for people who want to become a firefighter. And the pat on the back they give the Town, and they give the service for the Town. I think it is very upstanding for you, and I say 'you' for the people working down there for the Chief himself. So, it's good to hear the reputation and name. What brings you here, you live in Easthampton or Westfield or something. And there are a lot of places between here and there and you selected here, I do like your answers. Thank you very much, I wish you the best of luck.

Mr. Rooney: Ok, Mr. Mitchell, as Mr. Mannix said, I too certainly thank you for your service. In the package of information concerning your military service, you have their 'squad leader in fire team' do I have that right?

Mr. Mitchell: Yes sir.

Mr. Rooney: Just tell us a little bit about what that entailed.

Mr. Mitchell: I started off as a private, which is part of the enlisted side, not the officers' side, you work your way up you become noncommissioned officer so I was a corporal. Being a corporal, you get put into a leadership position, so I was a squad leader, meaning I had a fire team of four individuals, I was the leader. This is something that when you go, because I deployed overseas, I was the team leader so I would have an assistant gunner, machine gunner appointment and we would kind of conduct various missions and that we needed to do throughout that time and I was the leader of that. Part of that was I was part of a convoy leader so... a really big convoy is a lot of vehicles would go out to supply different areas and bases around there. I was part of the lead in that also so, I have had a lot of leadership positions that I was put into early, I was very young. I mean I did really well, handled the stressful situations very well. And it is something that I really enjoyed. Put in that position, I liked that so...

Mr. Rooney: Alright, if you weren't sitting here, but somebody was sitting here that you know very well, what do you think that person would say would be a weakness about yourself?

Mr. Mitchell: Well, I'd have to say if my girlfriend was the one sitting here, she would say listening. So that could be potentially it.

Mr. Rooney: Let's assume it is not your girlfriend. Somebody else.

Mr. Mitchell: It's hard to look inwards and say a weakness cause I always strive to, you know, get a higher standard out of myself, you know, push myself further. You know, sometimes I was a little bit, say too 'gung ho'. Something that as I am getting older I check myself and have more humbleness to myself, as I get older. So that was a weakness that I had recognized early. They called me a 'little ball of fire' of things so I learned how to scale that back a little as I got older.

Mr. Rooney: Ms. Fernandes asked you a question about if you do well in stressful situations and you answered that you do. Can you give us an example of a stressful situation that you handled?

Mr. Mitchell: There has been many, again, you know, being in the military, especially in the Marine Corp. from boots on deck, it's a stressful situation. And then when I got out, you know, being a paramedic, of course, that's stressful too because you are going into a house to be the calm in the chaos. Things going on you have to be the person who can be altogether. On your feet, and make rash food decisions. A few examples, you know, just one being in the military, with the missions that I had to do, get into say a firefight or something like that, react in very calm and cool collected, again being the leader of it and fan people out and handle the situation to the point that we needed to be in to have a successful mission. Numerous times I have been in those situations. I flourished in that and then getting out ... I quickly, in the construction world became a foreman, and so it can get stressful there, where people are yelling at you 'why isn't this done yet' 'your team isn't working hard enough' I put that together so... in the construction world, I was able to talk to everyone, get them satisfied with the work we were doing and then get to the mission there. And then being in the paramedic world also, you are going in, you are the lead paramedic being with somebody who doesn't know or have as much knowledge as you, they are not the paramedic and you have to again have to be in a position where you are calm, cool, collected. And to be calm, cool, collected and handout directives and have the mission, the end goal, be accomplished. So that is something that I have been doing very young, since I got out of high school.

Mr. Rooney: Good. How much do you know about the Ludlow Fire Department as far as what things it does well and things it needs improvement on?

Mr. Mitchell: I mean I have known a few people through the company that I work with that also work here also so they have said a lot of good things saying that it's a great team of guys, everyone gets together so you know, motivated and things work well here. I have heard a lot of good things. I haven't heard much negative. So, I have just heard good things really. Its, good so, that's really where I lead with that.

Mr. Rooney: Ok, alright any other questions? Ms. Fernandes?

Ms. Fernandes: How well do you work with others?

Mr. Mitchell: Very well. Again, coming out of high school went in the military, you are always with somebody. Eighty-one, eighty-nine people sharing the same stalls, sharing everything so, I work well, very well with people. One thing that is a strength of mine is that I can be a leader and I can also be the follower too. You are not always going to be in the lead position, not always have to be the leader, I can sit back and listen and take orders too so... I can fluctuate and manage myself in different scenarios and situations I have so I work very well with people.

Ms. Fernandes: Are you involved in any way in your community right now?

Mr. Mitchell: Right now, community wise, right now I do a try to do a martial arts type of thing. Sometimes we give free classes to people who might not be able to afford it. Get their kids involved so I just try to participate like that. Military, I volunteered my time quite a lot, I have a few certificates for it so I do like to be involved with the community and would reach for that, it is something I do like so....

Ms. Fernandes: That would be something required here because our community is very strong and our Fire Department works with the community very well, very involved.

Mr. Mitchell: Yes, that's excellent.

Mr. Rooney: Any other questions? Ok well thank you for coming in, I did tell you, you would have an opportunity to close so this is that opportunity.

Mr. Mitchell: Yes, again, just thank you for your consideration to have me come here and listen to me speak and I hope you all have a very good night, and thanks again.

Mr. Rooney: Ok (Chief Pease), did you have any questions?

Chief Pease: No, my staff and I have interviewed already.

Mr. Rooney: Very good, ok, thank you.

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6:30 p.m. Benjamin Bobanski Firefighter interview

Mr. Rooney: First of all, you have been through this process before, you will have an opportunity to make some brief opening remarks, then answer questions put forward by the Board members and an opportunity to close.

Mr. Bobianski: Ben, 27, worked as a paramedic for the last six years. I grew up in Springfield. My Dad is a firefighter, ever since I was a little kid I wanted to be a firefighter. In the meantime, I got into EMS, just looking to work in Western Mass as a paramedic firefighter and help provide for a Town.

Mr. Rooney: Ok, Mr. Mannix?

Mr. Mannix: Where is your Father a firefighter?

Mr. Bobianski: He is in Springfield currently and he is planning on retiring in January.

Mr. Mannix: So, he has been there a good number of years?

Mr. Bobianski: 32.

Mr. Mannix: Why would you not follow his footsteps and go to Springfield instead of coming here to Ludlow?

Mr. Bobianski: Because in the meantime I got into EMS and a paramedic and I enjoy it.

Mr. Mannix: And, you realize that if you get the job here in Ludlow you are going to have to move into Town?

Mr. Bobianski: Yes.

Mr. Mannix: You don't anticipate a problem with that at all?

Mr. Bobianski: (no)

Mr. Mannix: That is all for right now Mr. Rooney.

Mr. Rooney: Alright, Ms. Fernandes?

Ms. Fernandes: Question for you again, do you work well under stress?

Mr. Bobianski: I believe I have had a lot of practice working for six years as a paramedic. I have handled very many stressful situations and I feel like over time I have come to work, could accomplish anything under large amounts of stress.

Ms. Fernandes: What is one of the most stressful situations you have encountered in the last six years?

Mr. Bobianski: Probably looking back on the most stressful situations I had was, I was a transporting paramedic for the last line of duty shooting death for the Springfield Police Department, and I learned a lot from that.

Ms. Fernandes: And why do you want to be a Firefighter?

Mr. Bobianski: Like I touched on earlier, growing up my Dad doing it, my Dad did it, my Grandfather did it, it is something it have wanted to do growing up.

Mrs. Fernandes: It's in the blood?

Mr. Bobianski: (yes)

Ms. Fernandes: Ok, and how well do you work with others?

Mr. Bobianski: I believe I work really well with others, working as a paramedic, EMT, part of that you pull a lot of different people on ambulance and you have to come together and accomplish the task every call gives you. I have been very good at adapting to different people's work styles. I mean just work really effectively no matter where I am, just one other person or a team of people.

Mrs. Fernandes: And why Ludlow?

Mr. Bobianski: I just want to stay local, Western Mass, previous co-workers that I have worked with in the past, other ambulance companies all work here and I have never really heard anything bad about it. And I really want to stay local to be close to my family and my girlfriend, she has eight brothers and sisters and she really doesn't want to move.

Ms. Fernandes: And last question because I know Mr. Rooney is going to ask the opposite of this what are your two biggest qualities that you think you bring, you would bring to the Ludlow Fire Department?

Mr. Bobianski: Very hard working and very dedicated, anything I put my mind to try to do I put 100% in and do it to the best of my ability and try to learn as much as I can to just very hard working no matter what I try and very dedicated to whatever it is I am trying to accomplish.

Ms. Fernandes: Ok, thank you that is it.

Mr. Rooney: Mr. Silva, if you have any questions left...

Mr. Silva: I think she (Ms. Fernandes) stole all mine.

Ms. Fernandes: I did I asked part of the ones I had here

Mr. Silva: Do you believe that this is your passion for the rest of your career, being a firefighter, or do you have any interest in maybe going on with the medical type thing?

Mr. Bobianski: This is pretty much what I wanted to do since I was a kid and I believe I can make a career out of it. Something I believe I can do very well at, you know, work hard until I retire.

Mr. Silva: Ok, she (Ms. Fernandes) asked you, but what specifically intrigues you about Ludlow the most?

Mr. Bobianski: Its nearby where I grew up, it's by my parents, by my three brothers, my girlfriend, her eight brothers and sisters and their family. One of my full-time partners, while I was working at AMR works here and says great things about it.

Mr. Silva: Thank you, all set.

Mr. Rooney: I probably asked you about this incident the last time you were here. You were working for AMR back in 2014, and you were fired. Can you tell us something about the event or maybe more importantly, what you have learned from that event?

Mr. Bobianski: It pretty much sums down to that a co-worker was upset with me, lied to management; I just learned that how to keep your work and personal life separate. I learned a lot of different things from it ...not to trust people as much and try not to put yourself in situations where they could lie and cause problems for you.

Mr. Rooney: I, we had someone sitting here that wasn't a family member, that knew you well, what would the person say would be a weakness of yours?

Mr. Bobianski: Probably that I try to do too much at one time. Time management and probably take on more than I should at once. I usually achieve everything, it's just that I should probably try to finish some things before I try to take on more.

Mr. Rooney: Do you know any of the specifics of what the Fire Department is doing, obviously, other than the day to day work that they have to do; but specific to Ludlow and what attracts you about that?

Mr. Bobianski: Previous co-workers work here and I catch them in passing at the ERs and on ambulance calls, briefly talk to them, talk about the way the system works here, the call backs and that's why you need to live close to – the residency requirements – the distance from the Town. I feel like I have a pretty good understanding of how it works. Would not say I know everything, they give me a pretty good understanding of how it works.

Mr. Rooney: Ok, any other questions? Mr. Mannix?

Mr. Mannix: I have a couple of follow ups. You brought up the topic of trying to do too much, you don't really slow down when you should. When you are in those situations, and someone of your co-workers or superior over you comes over and tells you 'slow down, stop not now' how good are you at accepting that, and after the situation is over with and done, do you follow that up with any questions?

Mr. Bobianski: I feel like over the last couple of years I've got better at it. I usually try to ask what is the most important, what to get done now. A good example is that I will take on too many home improvement projects, I'll upset my girlfriend a lot, the house will be in shambles but, I usually just pick the most important one and do that one first and work my way down till I am done. And I accept criticism from anyone who wants to give it to me very well and use it as an opportunity to learn and grow from that experience.

Mr. Mannix: Thank you. That's all Mr. Rooney.

Mr. Rooney: Ok, any other questions?

Mrs. Fernandes: Notice the girlfriend pattern here?

Mr. Rooney: I mentioned earlier that after the questions would be an opportunity to make closing comments, so that is open to you at this point.

Mr. Bobianski: I would just like to thank everybody for the opportunity and I wish you the best of luck getting the best candidate to help service your Town.

Mr. Rooney: Ok, very good, thank you.

Mr. Rooney: Ok, Chief, why don't we turn it over to you at this point and let us know what your thoughts are, what the department's thoughts are. Obviously, you have a pretty detailed structure of what you do for applicants so why don't you tell us what you found.

Chief Pease: Well, the five Captains, Deputy Chief, me and Human Resource interviewed both candidates pretty extensively, and after each interview we go through and we pretty much take a

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poll. And the poll was pretty much unanimous with Matt Mitchell. So, it would be my recommendation that we hire Matt Mitchell. And, you know, I think his packet speaks for itself. And he again demonstrated his ability to do the job as a firefighter, I think he interviewed pretty well today.

Mr. Rooney: Carrie, anything you want to add to that?

Ms. Riberio: Well, Mr. Mitchell was, from a Civil Service standpoint compliance, he was number one on the Civil Service List. I think his military background speaks volumes, his leadership ability, as somebody that has a lot of experience in dealing with difficult situations, stressful situations – that was a question that came up. He can handle himself in those particular situations. In the interviews the one thing he kept saying was that ‘he’s committed, he’s committed’, so it sounds like this is what he wants to do and where he wants to land and you know, he has made it very clear that he is willing to relocate and move here.

Mr. Rooney: Ok, members, questions, comments?

Ms. Fernandes: Yes, I thought Mr. Mitchell interviewed very well, as I was listening to him I could see him, his leadership qualities, you could see him going up through the ranks very quickly. Excellent experience. The second applicant as well, but, Mr. Mitchell just had a real command and I think he brings a lot, he would bring a lot to the Ludlow Fire Department.

Mr. Mannix: If I might, Mr. Rooney, I would venture to say that I am very supportive of Mr. Mitchell at this point from some of what Human Resource has spoken of, he himself has spoken of...the time he spent in the service, a time that we all grow up, to be young and to get some of those leadership qualities early in life and looking where he has been and what he has done in comparison to my military service, he advanced very well as far as leadership and he has a good head on his shoulders and he would not have made those positions – or those ranks by any means if he was not able to do that. And I think he conducted himself extremely well here. Once again, being number one on the list and in my opinion, a better interview candidate than number two, I would support Mr. Mitchell very strongly.

Mr. Rooney: Ok, Mr. Silva?

Mr. Silva: I agree with all the above, I can't much really rebut the unanimous decisions that the Chief spoke of so, not much else I can say.

Mr. Rooney: Ok, I feel the same way, I think it is certainly obvious when you listen to him, I've never had any experience in the military but, clearly, he's got a confidence about him, a leadership quality about him, the fact that it was unanimous with your group, which may not be an easy thing to achieve. I think it makes it kind of an easy decision for us. So,

Moved by Mr. Mannix seconded by Mr. Silva to appoint Matthew Mitchell to the Ludlow Fire Department effective August 24, 2017. Vote: 4-0 in favor.

Ms. Villano: You can appoint him effective today but his start date would be later, he has to pass a physical the PAT.

Mr. Rooney: Again, I will say it, I sound like a broken record and you know the fact that you folks (Fire Department) put this packet together for each of these candidates is very helpful. The process that you go through is helpful to us. Certainly, kudos to you (Chief) and to Carey and the management team there. Thank you.

223. Notice of application from the City of Holyoke Gas & Electric Department accepted for filing, soliciting comments, motions to intervene and protest.

Mr. Mannix wanted to know what the town has to do with this. Other than it is a utility asking for something it may cover throughout the State.

Moved by Mr. Mannix seconded by Mrs. Fernandes to file item # 223. Vote: 4-0 in favor.

224. Letter from Patrick Paul, District Highway Director sending a copy of the District's comments on the consultants, PS&E design submission for Ludlow – 605011 Reconstruction of Center Street (Route 21).

Moved by Ms. Fernandes seconded by Mr. Mannix to file item #224. Vote: 4-0 in favor.

225. Letter from Nick Breault, Town Administrator, Town of Wilbraham inviting the Board to the next Regional Boards of Selectmen Meeting to be held on September 14, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at the community/training room in the new Wilbraham Police Station.

Moved by Mr. Mannix seconded by Mr. Silva to file item #225 but also that some of the Board Members would attend. Vote: 4-0 in favor.

7:00 p.m. Attorney Schneider Order of Land takings for Center Street Reconstruction Project.

Attorney Schneider: We have an Order of taking that we need the Board to adopt in order to condemn the easement parcels fee takings in order to make the Center Street project happen.

Mr. Rooney: This is a follow up from the action by Town Meeting last week, so is there any other information that we need to know prior to signing.

Mr. Silva: My corporation is one of the land owners.

Attorney Schneider: I think you would be justified in recusing yourself.

Mr. Rooney: Will that mess up the signature page.

Attorney Schneider: No we still will have the majority three out of five. We need a motion to adopt the order of taking following the Special Town Meeting of August 16th and to condemn the property interest described in the order of taking.

Ms. Fernandes: I moved that we adopt the order of taking after the August 16th Town meeting and to condemn the property interest memorialized in the order of taking.

Mr. Mannix: Second.

Mr. Rooney: Any discussion on the motion. Vote: 3-0-1, Mr. Silva abstained.

Attorney Schneider: I have signature pages, please sign each of these pages. This has been a huge engineering project. I need to take your acknowledgments. Mr. Rooney is this you're free act indeed. Mr. Rooney yes. Ms. Fernandes is this your're free act indeed. Ms. Fernandes yes. Mr. Mannix is this you're free act indeed. Mr. Mannix yes. Attorney Schneider this will be recorded in the morning and that will allow the office to get the notices out to the affected land owners and get the bids out and get the project moving.

Unfinished Business

Adopt Order of taking for Ludlow Reconstruction of Center Street (Route 21), MassDOT Project file 605011, as authorized by the August 16, 2017 Special Town Meeting.

Board to authorize the Town Administrator as a signatory for paperwork needed relative to the Center Street Reconstruction project land dealings.

Moved by Ms. Fernandes seconded by Mr. Mannix to authorize the Town Administrator as a signatory for the paperwork needed relative to the Center Street Reconstruction project land dealings. Vote: 4-0 in favor.

Board to review the articles for insertion into the Special Town Meeting Warrant.

Moved by Mr. Silva seconded by Mr. Mannix that we insert the articles in the Special Town Meeting. Vote: 4-0 in favor.

Board to sign the One Day Wine & Malt Beverage permit for St. Club Cinquante Luncheon for St. John the Baptist School.

Board to sign the One Day Wine & Malt Beverage permit for the Vanish Valley Outdoor Barbeque.

Chairman Rooney to discuss the Zoning Board of Appeals vacancy.

Mr. Rooney I have had some discussions about this and there is one individual who has applied. The issue is that the problem is that this person would be coming on right in the middle of a detailed complicated process and chances are they will not have any input into that because that person was not there from the beginning. It may make sense and I certainly would defer to the Board wishes to wait and fill that vacancy when the issue with Wayfinders is done. It may make sense to wait til the Wayfinders issue is past the ZBA and then make that appointment.

Mr. Mannix I support your thinking after the final decision.

Board to discuss designating Carmina Fernandes a State Employee/Special Municipal Employee under the Conflict of Interest Law.

Moved by Mr. Silva seconded to table. Vote-3-0-1 in favor. Carmina Fernandes abstained.

Board to approve and sign the Selectmen Minutes of July 25, 2017.

Moved by Mr. Silva seconded by Mr. to approve and sign the July 25, 2017 with all members present. Vote: 4-0 in favor.

New Business

Board to approve and sign the two copies of the Memorandum of Agreement for the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 98.

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Moved by Mr. Mannix seconded by Ms. Fernandes to approve and sign of the Memorandum of Agreement for the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 98. Vote: 4-0 in favor.

Board to approve and sign the two copies of the Memorandum of Agreement for the Ludlow Police Supervisors Local 487.

Moved by Mr. Mannix seconded by Ms. Fernandes to approve and sign two copies of the Memorandum of Agreement for the Ludlow Police Supervisors. Vote: 4-0 in favor.

Board to peruse the Executive Session Minutes of July 25, 2017 and August 8, 2017.

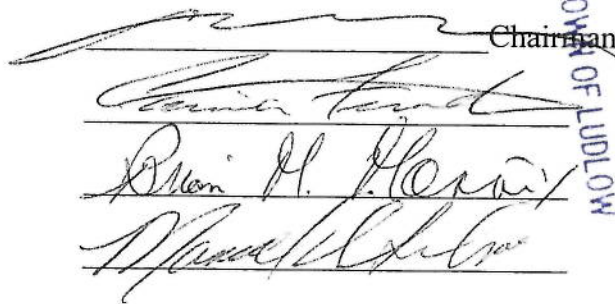
Board to peruse Selectmen Minutes of April 27, 2017.

Board to enter into Executive Session for the purposes of labor negotiations with LATOS, Non-union contracts and pending litigations.

The Board is too enter into Executive Session purposes of discussing strategy for collective bargaining with LATOS, Police Dispatch Unions and non-union personnel contract further the Board to enter into Executive session for the purposes of discussing pending litigation. I as Chairman declare that these discussions held in open session may have detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigation position of the public body.

Moved by Mr. Mannix seconded by Ms. Fernandes to enter into Executive Session for the reasons as read at 7:10 p.m. and not to return to open session.

Mr. Mannix yes, Ms. Fernandes yes, Mr. Silva yes, Mr. Rooney yes.


Chairman
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Ludlow Board of Selectmen

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

