

The Meeting of the Board of Selectmen held on Tuesday, June 4, 2024, began at 5:30 p.m. in the Board of Selectmen's Conference Room at the Town Hall.

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

Members Absent: None

First Order of Business: The Pledge of Allegiance

## VISITATIONS

5:35 p.m. – Michelle Goncalves, Chair – Ludlow Cultural Council – To discuss food trucks at the Sunday concert series and the parking impact and possible police presence.

Ms. Goncalves: We have our annual concert series. This year we start right after the 250<sup>th</sup>. Every Sunday from June 23<sup>rd</sup> until August 25<sup>th</sup>. For the past year and a half, we've had a hot dog cart. It's a little smaller. We would go out to Chestnut Street. The Chief said if I could grab spaces I could grab them and we would put out lawn signs that said no parking so the truck could pull in. This year I reached out and asked if we could have a little bit more town assistance so we could formally say these are reserved on Sundays between these times. It's one truck every day, it's not like we're having a food truck festival. On some of these we might have an ice cream truck, so 2 maximum. We're looking to get formal permission to have Chestnut Street space reserved for us Sundays from 3:30 and the concerts end at 7 and they leave pretty quickly after that. The trucks are focused on the concerts but anyone in the public can go enjoy the food. We want to support the local businesses and make it as easy as possible for people to come and buy their food. When I told the Chief of Police that he said I should connect with all of you. He usually sends bike officers to check things out every concert. We've never had issues but when I mentioned food truck I think he was picturing a larger event than we've had in the past. We would love that but we don't know if it's going to happen.

Mr. Gennette: I think they worry about the traffic down on Chestnut Street but from what I saw last year the food trucks were off to the side anyway. I don't think it was impeding Chestnut Street.

Ms. Goncalves: They go into a regular parking spot. The issue we run into is, if you went to a bunch of concerts last year it's wherever a car has already taken a spot, we just have to pull in.

Mr. Goncalves: They can't go onto the grass on Park Place on the library side?

Ms. Goncalves: The concerts usually face the other way. They face towards Chestnut Street.

Mr. Goncalves: Should we see if we should put no parking signs up? No parking Sundays? Temporary signs?

Ms. Goncalves: I am in support of that. If we could grab 2-3 spots on Chestnut Street because you want the truck to be able to pull in if they're pulling a cart. That is ideal for us and we would love that.

Mr. DeBarge: I think we can talk to Jamie about providing temporary signs for the event for the spaces. Does anybody think the food trucks taking up 2-3 spaces from 3:30 – 7:00 will be a problem?

Mr. Goncalves: No.

Mr. Gennette: They haven't so far.

Ms. Goncalves: We have informed the rec department about the concerts, we've reserved the space, we reached out to Jamie to adjust the sprinklers so we're not surprised in the middle of a concert. We've also talked to Jamie about moving the port-a-potty in the old wooden park to the other side of the park so we have port-a-potty facilities a little bit closer.

Mr. Goncalves: Whatever we have to do to make it happen to be successful. It's nice. It's nice we have it because every community around us has something like this.

Ms. Goncalves: It brings in a lot of people and helps to support the local businesses.

Mr. DeBarge: I don't think there's any formal action needed from us.

## CORRESPONDENCE

258. Kelly DeGobbi, Resident – Requesting the Board approve the use of the gazebo and grounds for “Color Ludlow with Love” event to be held on Saturday, September 14, 2024, with a rain date of Saturday, September 21, 2024. The event will include kids play space, face painting, music, vendors, food trucks and a snack table to sell prepackaged items to benefit LHS GSA club.

Mr. DeBarge: We're going to table this for tonight because what we're doing with non-town or civil groups is we're going to have to come up with an open space use policy. We have reached out to our Town Counsel to come up with some language. We may have to do a designated area for other than civil spaces. If we do that we will reach out to you or any other organizations that want to do this. The idea of the Board of Selectmen is to keep the gazebo area for town and civil events and have a separate area for all other open space events. We're going to come up with a written policy that some other communities have for events like this and other events that we've had in the past. There's plenty of time with your request to be able to work this out.

Mr. Gennette: The idea here is to provide a better arrangement?

Mr. DeBarge: Yes.

Ms. DeGobbi: Same as last year. It was a really great event last year. It was well attended.

**Motion made by Mr. Goncalves** to table pending the outcome of the organizational changes we're trying to incorporate. **Mr. Rosenblum second. All in favor. Motion passed 4-0.**

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Board to approve and sign Executive Session meeting minutes of May 21, 2024.

**Motion made by Mr. Goncalves** to approve and sign executive session meeting minutes of May 21, 2024, member absent Derek DeBarge. **Mr. Gennette second. All in favor. Motion passed 4-0.**

Board to approve and sign Selectmen meeting minutes of May 21, 2024.

**Motion made by Mr. Goncalves** to sign selectmen meeting minutes of May 21, 2024, member absent Derek DeBarge. **Mr. Gennette second. All in favor. Motion passed 4-0.**

Board to approve and Chairman to sign the title for the sale of a 1993 Ford F350 with Fisher snowplow from Westover Golf Course in the amount of \$1,125.00.

**Motion made by Mr. Goncalves** to approve and Chairman to sign the title for the sale of a 1993 Ford F350 with Fisher snowplow from Westover Golf Course in the amount of \$1,344.72 including sales tax and buyer's premium. **Mr. Rosenblum second. All in favor. Motion passed 4-0.**

## NEW BUSINESS

Board to vote on authorizing the use of 40R funds to support the Charter Committee.

Mr. Gennette: How much are we talking here?

Mr. Strange: You needed 3 more meetings and it's \$2,000/meeting for the consultant.

Mr. Rosenblum: A motion in favor would be up to \$6,000. It could be 1-2 meetings but up to 3.

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Mr. DeBarge: \$2,000/meeting and to cover a mailing we have coming up as well.

Mr. Goncalves: What's the total?

Mr. Rosenblum: Not to exceed \$6,000.

**Motion made by Mr. Goncalves to approve use of 40R funds in support of the Charter Committee in an amount not to exceed \$6,000. Mr. Gennette second. All in favor. Motion passed 4-0.**

**VISITATIONS**

5:45 p.m. – Ryan Kazeroid – Interview for Westover Golf Commission

Mr. DeBarge: We appreciate your interest in the open seat at the Golf Commission. Start off with a brief introduction of yourself and if the selectmen have any specific questions we'll ask, then a closing statement and we'll get you out of here.

Mr. Kazeroid: I grew up in nearby Chicopee and moved to Ludlow and bought a house in 2022. My fiancé and I live in Ludlow. I've played golf my entire life. I'm a CPA so I'm interested in budgeting, finance and that type of thing. It's a combination of 2 passions.

Mr. Gennette: Do you live in town now?

Mr. Kazeroid: I do.

Mr. Gennette: How long have you been here?

Mr. Kazeroid: Since December 2022.

Mr. Goncalves: Thank you for your interest. What would be the one big objective you would like to see happen?

Mr. Kazeroid: I think making sure we're on top of upkeep of the golf course and growing the game for the younger generation. I had plenty of opportunities growing up, junior golf camps and things, so it's nice to get the younger generation involved and pass the game forward.

Mr. Silva: What's the one thing that might improve the income generated at the course so we can have a better outcome and spend some money on the grounds?

Mr. Goncalves: Besides raising fees.

Mr. Kazeroid: Fees are always a touchy subject. There's a few different ways. I don't think you want to raise the fees too much. I don't know if I got a concrete answer on that but it's one I'd dive into and think about.

Mr. Rosenblum: Thank you for applying. Is there anything you see at the golf course that would be in need of any capital projects.

Mr. Kazeroid: From what I've seen playing different golf courses is bunkers. I know that's a costly expenditure. I think the Springfield courses re-did them.

Mr. DeBarge: What's your favorite thing about Westover Golf Course?

Mr. Kazeroid: Memories of growing up playing 9 holes with my dad on a Saturday afternoon and learning the game. I think I made my first birdie there.

Mr. DeBarge: What's your least favorite thing about the course?

Mr. Kazeroid: Sometimes the pace of play gets a little slow and bogged down but that's not unique to Westover. There's some longer holes and some where you can get some cross firing.

5:55 p.m. – James Tyburski – Interview for Westover Golf Commission

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Mr. Tyburski: I've been here. I'm a resident of Ludlow. I play Westover all the time. I'm there almost every day. I know the pro shop crew, the grounds crew. There's an opening to be on the team and I'd like to join the team. I came from an automotive background and we have a lot of decisions there and the same thing with the golf course. I'm a decision maker.

Mr. Silva: What's the one major problem you see there?

Mr. Tyburski: The only problem I see is a lack of discipline. Ryan and his crew do everything, Billy does his job and they do great. I had my knee replaced in February and I have a handicapped placard and I put it in the window and parked in a handicapped spot. Last week on a Friday there were 6 cars parked in the handicapped spots. Three of the placards were expired. Just so people know somebody is watching. Same thing with the blue flags. Sometimes the guys get a little carried away and start driving through the green.

Mr. Rosenblum: Thank you for applying. Have you been on the commission before?

Mr. Tyburski: I've never been on the commission. I applied last year.

Mr. Rosenblum: I want to comment on the blue flags. You're absolutely correct. I was out there once and I saw someone going between the bunker and the green and I spoke out loud. Being in the business it affords you a little closer in certain areas but it doesn't mean you can go one foot on the green. It's not just Westover. As far as I know the bunkers were done recently.

Mr. Tyburski: The sprinkler system is going to get old and it's going to be a big expense somewhere down the line. Someday down the road that's a major issue and it's going to cost a lot of money to do. That's something you have to start putting money away for and get a game plan for the next 5-10 years. I don't know how old that sprinkler system is.

Mr. Goncalves: Do you have any big objective, anything you'd like to see a major change in?

Mr. Tyburski: Nothing major. Everything seems to be running smoothly. Billy does a great job in the pro shop. The carts could be a little cleaner. Just needs a little discipline. Being on the commission I could have the authority to go up to the kids and say let's get these carts cleaner. If I'm hanging around I could put the red flag on the cart and go chasing some of the guys around with the blue flags. If you wanted to hire a ranger that's roughly \$50,000/year. I'm a retired volunteer. I'd be happy to do it.

Mr. DeBarge: What is your favorite thing about the course?

Mr. Tyburski: My favorite thing about the course is the people. We've got a bunch of great groups that are there. It's the people that make the course. Billy does a great job choreographing everything. It's like a family over there.

Mr. DeBarge: What is your least favorite?

Mr. Tyburski: The blue flag guys and the discipline. I appreciate your time. I would like to compliment the DPW. Their snow removal in this Town and the potholes they fix in the Spring is outstanding.

Mr. Goncalves: In my opinion, Mr. Tyburski is probably my choice. It's a long time coming. He spends a lot of time there. He's got a good idea of what makes that place tick, but Ryan is full of energy and I hope he stays involved and eager to help somebody with something in Town. This time around Mr. Tyburski gets my vote.

Mr. Silva: I agree with Mr. Goncalves. I'm happy to see a young person with drive and helping out and doing a few things. Unfortunately, he's still a novice. I'm sure we'll see him on the board in the future. I would welcome Mr. Tyburski as well.

Mr. Gennette: I concur. I was happy to see Mr. Kazeroid. I hope he sticks around and keeps going for it. Mr. Tyburski has been in here several times looking for it. In due turn hopefully everybody gets their shot.

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Mr. Rosenblum: I agree. Playing the golf course for as long as he has and knowing so much about the course and understanding any shortcomings and what they are. He came in once before so I would be for Mr. Tyburski.

Mr. DeBarge: I like to see people return and if they stay interested in the position and come back for it again. I agree with what everybody said. It's nice to see a new face here and I hope to see him again.

**Motion made by Mr. Goncalves to appoint James Tyburski to the Westover Golf Commission. Mr. Rosenblum second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

## NEW BUSINESS

Board to approve and sign the contract between the Town of Ludlow (LCTV) and One Diversified, LLC for the televue playout system upgrade in the amount of \$38,069.30.

Mr. Gennette: I don't remember this being part of Capital. Was this approved at Town Meeting? Is this a standard contract we approve every year?

Mr. Strange: I'm not sure. I'd have to take a look at it.

Mr. Rosenblum: This looks like an upgrade.

Mr. Silva: Since we're in a quandary about it maybe we should table it until we get a little more information.

**Motion made by Mr. Silva to table until the next meeting. Mr. Goncalves second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

Mr. Gennette: That might not even be Capital if it's reoccurring.

Mr. DeBarge: I think it's just an upgrade to the system and he has his own.

Mr. Gennette: If it's an upgrade and a one-time thing it should be on Capital.

Mr. DeBarge: He has his own budget anyway. I'm sure that's all it is. Event calendar. Wednesday, June 12, 2024 – Michael J. Dias Capital Campaign Kickoff Event @ Twin Hills Country Club 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm. Saturday, June 15, 2024 – 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration Parade & Block Party beginning at 10 a.m. Wednesday, June 19, 2024 – Town Offices closed in observance of Juneteenth.

## CLOSING COMMENTS

Mr. Goncalves: Once again, the parade is coming up and this committee has done such an incredible job. If I had a project of any magnitude that required that type of workforce I couldn't imagine having anybody but them. They've been incredible putting it all together. This is going to be a big day for the Town. It's not just another event. This is the main event. I hope everybody can get out and enjoy it. I hope everyone thinks it's a big deal and makes it out there. Thank you again to that committee.

Mr. Gennette: A reminder about the Ludlow summer concert series coming up. You've seen them every year at the gazebo. They're going to start June 23<sup>rd</sup> with Union Jack.

Mr. Rosenblum: A reminder on the parade that it starts at the high school, goes left down Chapin, right down East all the way down to the park. It's different from Memorial Day parade. It will take about an hour. There's no stopping for music.

Mr. DeBarge: Please go to the Ludlow 250<sup>th</sup>'s Facebook page or their website and look at the layout and set up for the party. It's going to be a great time. A lot of work has been put into it. A lot of people and businesses have donated.

**Motion made by Mr. Goncalves to adjourn the Selectmen's meeting at 6:07 p.m. Mr. Gennette second. All in favor. Motion passed 5-0.**

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Chairperson

*William Rosend*

*James J. [unclear]*

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