

Meeting of the Board of Selectmen held on March 20, 2018 beginning at 6:00 pm in the Selectmen's Conference Room, Town Hall.

Members present: William Rooney, Chairman; Manuel Silva; Brian Mannix; Derek DeBarge; Carmina Fernandes

First order of business: Members of Pack 1774 from the Boys and Girls Club led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Visitations

The Board interviewed Cynthia Levine for a vacancy on the Commission on Disability.

Mr. Rooney: Welcome, thank you for coming forward and certainly what we would do is have you make some opening remarks as to why you have this interest and then if there are questions or comments from Board members they will pose those to you so the floor is yours.

Ms. Levine: Hello, thank you for having me here. I know I sent Lori my resume late in the process so I don't know if people have had a chance to look at it. I am a professional in the field and I may be first and foremost come as a sister to a brother with a disability. Allen Crocker, a nationally known physician who died a couple years ago, used to say only with people with disabilities have siblings, everybody else has brothers and sisters and that has always stayed with me so that's why my wording is cumbersome. So I don't know what I can tell you, I think it's because of my brother that I got, I'm sure it's because of my brother, that I got into the field of working with people with disabilities, he's only been gone a year and a half so I've been very active in working with people with disabilities of many types, physical, cognitive, emotional, most of my professional work has been with people with intellectual disabilities. My brother had a physical disability and I did start a Commission on Disability in Grafton, it took a while to get it off the ground and more quickly went back into the ground as I was moving out of town, we had a new Town Moderator and he didn't support us at all. While I was, during my tenure though, I worked with the Town to work on accessibility with the library, which had been way behind in terms of getting up to the standards, the architectural barrier standards and the Town Administrator, myself and one of the other individuals went to the Architectural Access Board in Boston, that was very interesting, I think people sometimes think it's harder than it is to bring buildings up to code and that's a whole other story because there had been state money and they turned it down but anyhow, I also set up a meeting with the Historical Society, the Board of Selectmen and other interested parties, of course the Town open meeting law, to meet with people from the Architectural Access Board to look at downtown Grafton, downtown Grafton is like, you know, a couple of stores with, you know, old, you know, across the street from the common, just in terms of as we were making the neighborhood accessible and supporting people and seeing that it doesn't mean you lose your vision of what the Town is or the area is, people had it in their minds that it would be, I don't know, concrete and metal fences or something and it was nothing like that, it all blends in and sometimes nothing is done depending on the situation and the building and all those, I can tell you more specifics, I don't know if you want to hear them, so that was interesting. I did meet with the Police Chief regarding handicap parking; that was not very helpful. Oh and I met with the Playground Committee a number of times, we were looking at building a handicap accessible playground. I think the money ran out at that point but we had everything in the works and what was interesting to me was the playground company we were working with was not up to speed on the ADA so I was able to provide them with information, they had some kind of computer system, some algorithm I suppose, and it didn't match the requirements. Specifically they were using wood chips in the playground for the surface and at that point that was not acceptable under ADA, of course, with all the changes going on in Washington, things may be changing anyhow, so something to pay attention to, at least from my perspective. I don't know what else I can tell, perhaps you have questions?

Mr. Rooney: Sure, let me turn it over to Board members and they may ask some. We'll start with Mr. DeBarge.

Mr. DeBarge: First of all, my condolences about your brother.

Ms. Levine: Thank you.

Mr. DeBarge: I can only say that the best experience as you have said is someone in your household when it comes to something like this, I do, I can see your enthusiasm with all the places you have gone to check on it and was that specifically towards the business that you were starting or the, I'm sorry, the

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Ms. Levine: That was the Commission on Disability in Grafton.

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Mr. DeBarge: okay, in Grafton that you were checking on, so when it comes to this here, our Commission for it, what do you see as far as our Town?

Ms. Levine: Truthfully I've been in Ludlow two years, maybe a year and a half so I'm still getting to know it, I'm not really familiar with what the Commission does, I would like to be part of a team and see what people are doing and be a part of that team. I'm certainly not coming in, I'm not interested in going in and changing things, you know, that's not how you do things. In all the work that I've done, be it consulting or teaching or the Committee and gazillion other Commissions, sometimes you have to acknowledge where you are and sometimes things change and sometimes things don't need to change and sometimes there are things that need to be moved forward, you know, it all depends and it also depends what people are looking for and it also depends on the time, it depends on Washington at this point, it depends on the economy and, you know, all those kinds of things, so truthfully I don't really know, maybe I should have looked harder for information, I don't know.

Mr. DeBarge: I do appreciate your experience and your tenacity and your honesty as well. That's all I have.

Mr. Rooney: Okay, Mr. Silva?

Mr. Silva: Yeah I normally ask if you know what you're getting into but certainly it looks like to me that you know what you're getting into with the experience that you've had in past years and dealing with your brother and whatnot, so for me I don't, I really, couldn't even begin to ask any questions of you, you're probably way better informed than I am so I do thank you for coming forward

Ms. Levine: Thank you.

Mr. Silva: and actually say good luck to you.

Ms. Levine: Thank you.

Mr. Rooney: Mrs. Fernandes?

Mrs. Fernandes: I agree with Mr. Silva, I think you have the qualifications for this position. I understand when, as with you, when you are dealing with somebody in the family that has a disability you get a totally different perspective on it, I'm dealing with my parents and they both have two disabilities that are different and if the community knew about grant monies and things out there and how sometimes it's a lot easier, sometimes just bringing their attention to the focus on that we had ours brought in by having our parents, but even, you know, for example, restaurants in town, bathrooms, you know, one is a wheelchair accessibility issue, another one is he's got a walker, well I can't really go into the men's room with him, and he couldn't get up off the toilet because it was so low so these kind of small things sometimes that a restaurant can fix or private business could fix if you brought attention to that working on this Commission, probably get a lot more people to make a couple changes that would help people with disabilities greatly.

Ms. Levine: Sometimes the changes are very minor, you know, like if you get a new toilet or some places have just made a unisex bathroom because one of the bathrooms was bigger, not that I necessarily like unisex bathrooms but it was an easy way to make some changes and I believe there are still some buildings and situations that are still grandfathered in. And the grandfathered idea, the grant idea is also a good one because at one point for example, there was a lot of grant money for libraries and for not the architecture, not the construction, but in terms of accessibility for people using different kinds of computers and we all know now that everybody loves to use a computer, whether it's the audiobook or for kids or other, for anybody watching

the book and hearing it or the movie or things like that, so sometimes, a lot of times these are supports that support all of us. I read something in the AARP magazine today about the newer toilets make your home more marketable or something as people get older. Not that I can relate to that but. (Laughter)

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Mr. Rooney: Anything else Mrs. Fernandes?

Mrs. Fernandes: No that's it.

Mr. Rooney: Mr. Mannix?

Mr. Mannix: I just want to thank you in a sense of coming out and listening to the knowledge and interests that you have I think is very important in the field and I kind of smiled when you made the comment about the wood chips because at one time wood chips were, everybody recommended and then when they took the wood chips, I shouldn't say, when they changed it to wood chips were not supposed to be there, it took people a long time even to find out about it and then it took them even longer to accept it and then they couldn't understand why you had to change. But no I mean, to hear that, you know, that's direction I think all of us want to go in so, you know, your interest, your guidance, your, you know, the family part helps a little bit, you know, ADA, you know, is constantly, I'm gonna use the word changing but I don't mean it like that, but they are changing all the time to the better. For the fact that we get someone in the town that has a little of that direction, a little of that knowledge, a little bit of that experience, not only can you guide yourself along, people with disabilities along, there may be people on the Committee that you can sit down and help and I'm sure some of them can help you. In the end, who's the winner, I'm gonna use the expression, the Town of Ludlow, well the Town of Ludlow is the winner because the people out there getting these benefits are the real winners and when they win, we as the Town of Ludlow wins so I'd just like to say thank you very much.

Ms. Levine: Thank you.

Mr. Rooney: Okay, I have no further questions other than what's been asked by my colleagues other than to thank you for coming forward. You obviously have the qualifications and I'm sure you can bring that knowledge to the Commission.

Ms. Levine: Wonderful.

Mr. Silva: Mr. Chairman?

Ms. Levine: Are you, I'm sorry, I don't who, are you from the Commission? (Speaking to Ms. Villano)

Ms. Villano: No, I'm the Town Administrator.

Ms. Levine: Oh I'm sorry, I apologize, I'm still getting to know.

Mr. Rooney: See the Cub Scouts could have been telling you that.

Laughter

Ms. Levine: I was listening avidly, I was taking notes.

Mr. Rooney: Mr. Silva?

Mr. Silva: Yes, I move that we appoint Cynthia Levine to the Commission on Disability.

Mrs. Fernandes: Second.

Mr. Rooney: Any discussion? Hearing none, all in favor? Vote 5-0 all in favor.

The Board met with Grace Barone from Keystone Commons.

Ms. Barone stated she is here on behalf of Dementia Friendly Massachusetts and she'd like to see Ludlow become a Dementia Friendly community. Alzheimers is the 6th leading cause of death in the United States, it's something we don't have a cure for, we don't know how to stop it, we don't know how to prevent it. We need to educate the people within the community about Alzheimers. Alzheimers affects the brain, it affects how people interpret things and sometimes it's difficult for those of us in the community that aren't familiar with that behavior. A Dementia Friendly Ludlow would be a great initiative and very beneficial and I hope we have your support going forward.

Mr. Rooney asked what she is looking for the Board of Selectmen to do. She stated nothing specific, just your support, the Alzheimers Association is helping them with everything. She asked if training could be held at the Library for members of the community and they could learn more about Dementia and how to help. Keystone is offering their Memory Café and they have support groups for family members and caregivers.

Mrs. Fernandes made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mannix, that once we fulfill all the steps and requirements required by the Alzheimers Association and any other organization to allow us to become a Dementia Friendly Community that we hereby agree to become a Dementia Friendly Community. Vote 5-0 all in favor.

The Board met with members of the Radio Advisory Committee; Police Chief Pablo Madera, Fire Chief Ryan Pease, Lieutenant Michael Brennan, Deputy Fire Chief Jeffrey Lavoie, Officer Daniel Soares, and DPW Director Steven Frederick.

Chief Madera stated that there is a final report of the review of our communications infrastructure compiled by the consultant including Police, Fire, the School Department and the DPW. Police and Fire are currently operating on a leased system on a month to month basis which has helped to improve communications. Officer Soares stated that with the old system there were areas of town where communication was impossible by portable radio. He stated that they are now using a 3 site simulcast system utilizing Tower Road, the Police Department and a tower site on Nash Hill Reservoir which has given them the communication coverage they need. He stated they are now operating on digital instead of analog which is providing clear communications where analog was subject to a lot of static noise and background noise.

Deputy Chief Lavoie stated that the Fire Department is still on analog and they have a secondary site on Nash Hill, their radios have increased in reception much better but there are still areas where they are still struggling. They took their equipment out of a climate-controlled area and relocated it to a better location within the building.

Chief Madera stated that the system is from 1995 and was updated in 2005 and has been basically kept alive through buying parts on e-bay to getting parts or restructuring from other agencies who have taken their systems offline who have given us some of that equipment to keep our system going. This is a big issue of Officer and Firefighter safety. Right now, the DPW and the Schools cannot communicate with each other and only one of the schools can communicate with the Police and Fire Departments. A new system would allow for that to happen. The consultant would like to present their study to the Board. The consultant works for the Town of Ludlow, not the vendors, so their focus is to make sure we get the best product with the funds that the Town invests.

Mr. DeBarge stated that he is impressed with this study and the detail, especially with the security of the sites. He stated that all of us know that this radio system is so antiquated and so dangerous that it's necessity is beyond the word, not even the right word of what we need. He stated in his opinion there is nothing on the horizon that should come before this.

Chief Madera stated that no one else in the area has brought in a consultant for this type of study. They are usually performed by a vendor. We are not letting the vendors dictate how we put this system together.

Chief Pease stated that the value to public safety can't be understated with communications. If we look at any large scale catastrophe where people got hurt, either Firefighters, civilians, Police

Officers, communications is always cited so reliable communications is, again, it can't be understated how important that is to all of us.

Mr. Silva asked if there are any costs that are being expended right now that will help in covering some of the cost of the new system.

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Chief Madera stated that yes, there are several radios on the Police side that have been replaced in the last few years that will be able to be utilized with the new system going into the future. The Town does not currently own the communication towers, we depend on the state on all levels for our communications, so the consultant's focus is if Ludlow is going to move forward into the future, they should own their own towers. He stated that to lower costs of the new system, he is proposing not owning our own towers and maybe in the future we can take a look at that.

Mr. Silva asked if something were to happen at the schools, they cannot communicate with the Police? Chief Madera stated we do have communication with the school through certain radio communication but they can't communicate amongst themselves. There is a cop sync program in place where teachers can communicate through tablets and their phones, they can contact us directly. Chief Pease stated that a lot of their portables and radios are about 15 years old, which is about 5 years past their life expectancy. He stated that he applied for a grant to buy new portables and mobiles so if they get the grant, that cost will be covered.

Mrs. Fernandes asked what the life expectancy of the new system would be. Chief Madera stated they're talking about a 15 to 20 year minimum on your infrastructure; software upgrades are continuous.

Mr. Rooney stated there can't be anything above this, this is, this really is the highest priority. He also commended the Committee for using a consultant approach rather than a vendor approach, that's going to better serve the residents of Ludlow.

Mr. DeBarge made a motion, seconded by Mr. Silva, to place an article on the Special Town Meeting Warrant for the borrowing not to exceed 4.8 million dollars for the purchase and installation of a multi-frequency public safety radio communication system. Vote 5-0 all in favor.

The Board met with Police Chief Pablo Madera, Lieutenant Michael Brennan, Fire Chief Ryan Pease and Deputy Fire Chief Jeffery Lavoie.

Mr. Rooney stated the first topic of discussion is Narcan. He stated that he and Chief Madera have spoken several times about this issue. He stated that this past week or two has not been good as we have lost a number of Ludlow residents to overdoses. This past weekend he read an article where a Ludlow resident was quoted to say there needs to be more education. He stated he can't disagree more, if there has to be more education on the issue of overdoses then somebody is simply not paying attention. Just the very nature of it being a nationwide, a statewide, a region-wide and a town-wide crisis, if we have to do more education, I look at the work that the Michael J. Dias Foundation has done, the Cares Coalition has done, this is not an education issue. On the other hand, it seems we need to do something more and that leads to the issue of Narcan. Should our Police Officers, as part of their first responder duties, be carrying Narcan? Currently they do not. Our EMT's are equipped with Narcan. I asked that this topic be put on this part of our agenda tonight.

Chief Pease stated he would like to talk about some of the misconceptions of Narcan. Narcan is an opiate receptor, it blocks the opiates. For it to be effective, people still have to be alive, they have to have some sort of respiratory effort and not be in cardiac arrest. Once you're in cardiac arrest, Narcan does not bring people back from the dead. Right now we carry it on all three ambulances. The Police are equipped with equipment to artificially and mechanically ventilate a patient. He doesn't think there is a negative impact of the Police carrying Narcan, it won't hurt anyone who has overdosed that are in cardiac arrest if you give them Narcan, it just simply is not going to work. The way people die from overdoses is their central nervous system becomes so depressed that they cannot breathe any longer or their breathing has slowed to a point where it

becomes inefficient to carry oxygen to the brain. Subsequently, a respiratory arrest happens and then a cardiac arrest.

Lieutenant Brennan stated as a Patrol Officer, if you want to give me an extra tool to help me do my job I'll always be happy to have extra tools so I can do my job more effectively. The thing with Narcan though is that some of the overdoses we're facing, if it's just one single dose of Narcan it may not be touching some of the substances that people are taking in. We have Paramedic level firefighters that are able to introduce Narcan intravenously and larger doses of it and that's an extraordinary service that this town has. We do have the equipment to keep them going as long as we need to if they do have a heartbeat, we are able to breathe for them, until we're able to introduce Narcan. Would it be an effective tool, maybe, maybe not; depending on the amount of substances that they've taken.

Mr. Silva and Mr. DeBarge both expressed their support of the Police Department having Narcan and being able to administer it when needed.

Mr. Mannix asked if there is an expiration date on Narcan. Deputy Chief Lavoie stated it is usually two years. Mr. Mannix stated his concern is the tracking of the inventory and storage. He believes the Fire Department would have a better handle on the inventory as it is kept in fewer vehicles. The Police Department may have it in 10 different vehicles and the expiration dates would be harder to track. Lieutenant Brennan stated they would have to take it in and out of the cruisers for climate control.

Chief Pease stated that most heroin addicts didn't start on heroin, they started on prescription pills. He stated that ten to fifteen years ago the philosophy was no one should be in pain at the MD level. No one thought they would get physically addicted to these drugs. And once they did, there was no plan in place for when the prescriptions stopped. It is now being acknowledged that that was part of the problem and opioids for pain management are now being limited. He stated it is very important for families to be aware of drug addiction and training in using Narcan and then using the 911 system. A family member can administer Narcan and then emergency personnel can take over from there. Just because someone gets the Narcan doesn't mean they are okay, depending on the substance and how much of the substance was taken, further medical care is necessary.

Ms. Maureen Rooney stated that families with known addicts in their home absolutely should have Narcan available and should be trained on how to use it. She stated she carries it herself, it's a small nasal spray, it's a simple procedure. She stated there is a standing order from the Government for any pharmacy in Massachusetts to give it out. In most cases, insurance will pay for it. Tapestry Health in Springfield will give it to you for free and train you on how to use it.

Deputy Chief Lavoie stated that the Police Department does a fantastic job. There are two reasons we use Narcan; one is for elderly people who accidentally overdose on their medication and for those who overdose on heroin. When there is a heroin overdose, the Police secure the scene so we can then tunnel vision on the patient and that's huge for us. I am not saying I don't want the Police Department to carry Narcan, the more tools the better. If the scene is secure and Fire has not gotten there yet, Police Officers take care of the patient.

Chief Madera stated I want to share this information so everyone gets a real clear picture of what's going on in town. If you want the Police to carry Narcan because you feel that they're the ones who are gonna come in and save the day, we're not gonna save the day. I'm sorry but I'm gonna put that out there. I would love to be the person who comes in and saves the day every time but I'm not going to. In reality it's in the hands of the families. Narcan has a tremendous impact if it's happening in front of you. There's no doubt that Narcan needs to be in the hands of the Police, but families have to take some responsibility here. If you know you have an addict in your family, you should have not one, not two, maybe you should have 4 doses of Narcan at home because the stuff that's out there today is going to kill you. It will kill you. It is affecting Police Officers who show up to do lifesaving at those scenes, who do drug raids, who make traffic stops, they are OD'ing themselves just from being in the air, and if it wasn't for fellow Police Officers having Narcan, those Officers go down as well. So this is just gone beyond the fact of just affecting the addicts, the families are affected, Public Safety responders are affected, it's everybody, so something has to be done now. The numbers just in our town right now, in the last year we had 98 events that involve heroin and cocaine incidents, 28 arrests directly related to

that type of incident. The numbers from the Fire Department, 14 overdoses. The State lists Ludlow as having 49 overdoses in 2015 and 44 in 2016.

Mr. DeBarge made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Fernandes, that the Police Chief bring back to the Police Union the implementation of issuing Narcan to the Police Officers in the Ludlow Police Department. Vote 5-0 all in favor.

The next topic of discussion was Central Dispatch. Carrie Ribeiro, Human Resource Manager joined this discussion.

Ms. Ribeiro stated that this was discussed with the Dispatchers Union as part of the negotiations and was approved to move forward over the next year and a half. Chief Madera requested changes to the Classification Plan to accommodate staffing. The Classification Plan currently reads we have 4 full-time Dispatchers (40 hours) and 4 part-time Dispatchers (21 hours). The proposed changes would change 2 part-time positions to full-time in addition to the current full-time positions we have now and grandfather 2 other part-time positions. It will be a total of 10 people filling 9 positions. The difference in salaries and wages from the two part-time positions going to full-time the benefits are already there because they are working 21 hours per week; and then 2 additional full-time positions including the salaries and benefits.

Chief Madera stated that dispatch is no longer Police, it's a public safety dispatch, this is the proposal where it's going forward, it will be Police, Fire and EMS. We will take over ambulance first and the next step would be to take over EMD, current Dispatchers have all been trained which was paid by a grant from the State. All of our software has been upgraded to meet these changes. It will take approximately a year and a half for the complete transition to Central Dispatch.

Chief Pease stated that they are in favor of Central Dispatch. It will free up a Firefighter to respond to emergencies which will be very beneficial to the Department. We are stretched to max right now. It will benefit the community more.

Mr. Silva made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mannix, that we approve the classification as proposed for the Police Dispatchers by the Police Chief effective immediately. Vote 5-0 all in favor.

Fire Chief Pease, Deputy Chief Lavoie and Ms. Ribeiro left the discussion at this time.

The next topic of discussion was the SRO (School Resource Officer).

Chief Madera stated that our School Resource Officer works within our schools.

Lt. Brennan stated our current SRO is Officer Jay Chelo. He has gone to basic SRO school. SRO's do a lot of different things. They are a big resource to the school administration. The kids get to see him every day, he doesn't wear a traditional police uniform, usually khaki pants and a shirt; but he still has all the tools he would have if he was on patrol. One of his primary duties is security of the schools. He spends his days primarily with the high school but is often called to the middle school. He is also an ALICE instructor and is an Assistant Team Leader on our tactical team.

Chief Madera stated he would like to expand the SRO program in the future. He stated that another SRO position was created and appointed but wasn't funded. That went away and never came back again. Currently, there is not enough staff to do that. Our Police Officers are making their presence known at the schools as best they can in between calls during the day. The SRO's are vital today; they make themselves part of the school community. His goal is to add one more SRO for the upcoming school year in the fall with the manpower that he currently has. He stated he would speak with the Superintendent and the School Committee.

Mr. Rooney questioned why we are paying for Police Officers to be in the schools? Chief Madera stated that when school is not in session, summers and school vacation weeks, the Officers go back to work at the Police Department. They are not there all the time and they are still doing police duties and work. The School Department currently pays up to \$30,000 for that position.

Chief Madera requested that two more positions be added to the Classification plan, but they would not be funded. He stated the Finance Committee is in support of this idea because we are constantly having to catch up in trying to get Police Officers into the Police Academy. He proposes expanding the Police Department from 40 to 42 but not fund the two extra positions. He stated that this would give him the ability to add staff through the Civil Service program more efficiently. The two positions wouldn't physically be filled, but it would give him the ability to call for lists and expedite the hiring process requirements of Civil Service. It will also put Officers into and through the Academy much quicker.

Mr. Rooney stated that he isn't sure he agrees with the 50/50% split of the payment of the salary for the SRO. He stated he would like to see a 75/25% split with the School Department paying the 75%. Chief Madera stated he would gladly talk to the Superintendent about that.

The next topic of discussion was the Unregistered Car bylaw.

Lt. Brennan stated that he reviewed the bylaw and had made some changes, particularly the type of cover used for vehicles. The definition of car cover is clarified in the changes. He asked the Board for their input on how many unregistered cars are allowed to be kept on a property, should it be reduced from 2 to 1. Also the definition of a "dilapidated" vehicle was clarified. The Board didn't have an issue with 2 vehicles being allowed. Lt. Brennan stated that the vehicles must be out of site. If they are visible they must be covered with a car cover.

The next topic of discussion was Certification.

Chief Madera stated that after 17 months, under the management of Lt. Brennan, the Department achieved Mass Certification. This is a pretty significant achievement for the Police Department. This is a review of all of our policies and procedures and it brought us into compliance with National Standards. This was supported by a compact grant from the Governor's office. Lt. Brennan performed 90% of the work needed to accomplish this. We had support from the Patrol Officers, the Detective Bureau, from K-9 and several Officers helped with the infrastructure of the Department. I couldn't be prouder of everyone for their participation in this process and it is a significant accomplishment. Some Departments are in this program for 5 or 6 six years and we did it in 17 months. Our next step and goal is Accreditation.

The next topic of discussion was correspondence #71.

71. Springfield Water and Sewer Commission - notifying the Board that reports of an individual claiming to be a Commission employee has attempted to gain entry into homes. The Commission is reminding customers that work is performed by appointment and not to allow anyone into their home without their identification cards and you may contact 413-452-1320 to verify the employee.

Lt. Brennan stated that there is a solicitor bylaw that requires an identification and approval from the Police Department. He stated these scams happen every other month. Springfield Water and Sewer employees have their own identification badges. The Police advises not answering your door or talking to people without identification. The Police Department posted information from Springfield Water & Sewer about this issue on their website and Facebook.

Correspondence

66. Sue Santos, Committee Volunteer – request to hang banners at the Turnpike entrance and Ludlow Bridge for the 2018 Annual Auction for the Ludlow Community Center/Randall Boys & Girls Club, scheduled for April 28, 2018.

Moved by Mr. Silva, seconded by Mr. Mannix, that we grant Sue Santos's request. Vote 5-0 all in favor.

67. Stephen Santos, Chairman – informing the Board that the Department of Public Works' Snow and Ice Removal Budget has been over expended as of February 14, 2018. Board to declare a State of Emergency. Board of Selectmen to approve the snow and ice deficit spending.

Moved by Mr. Silva, seconded by Mr. Mannix, that we declare a State of Emergency for snow removal and that we approve the snow and ice deficit spending. Vote 5-0 all in favor.

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68. Steve Lottman, Divisional Controller, Charter Communications – ~~Summary of the Annual Franchise Fee Payment for January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017 for Charter Communications.~~

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Moved by Mr. Mannix, seconded by Mr. Silva, to file. Vote 5-0 all in favor.

69. Department of Conservation and Recreation – informing the Board of the FY18 payment made to the Town of Ludlow under the Department of Conservation and Recreation Office of Watershed Management's in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) program.

Moved by Mr. Mannix, seconded by Mrs. Fernandes, to file. Vote 5-0 all in favor.

70. Jean Christy, Project Engineer, Tighe & Bond – Post Closure Use Landfill Quarterly Inspection Report for Holyoke Street Landfill.

Moved by Mr. Mannix, seconded by Mrs. Fernandes, to file. Vote 5-0 all in favor.

72. MassDOT – Massachusetts RMV announces new requirements, Lawful Presence and Real ID.

Moved by Mr. Mannix, seconded by Mrs. Fernandes, to file. Vote 5-0 all in favor.

73. Chief Ryan Pease, Fire Department – informing the Board of a \$25.00 donation received from Mr. Anthony Torres made to the Ambulance Grants and Gifts Account. Board to accept the donation.

Moved by Mr. Mannix, seconded by Mrs. Fernandes, to accept the donation of \$25.00 from Mr. Anthony Torres and thank him very much. Vote 5-0 all in favor.

74. Shonda Green, Department Secretary, Department of Telecommunications and Cable – informing the Board that the cable television license with Charter Communications expires on 9/16/20 and the Department is available to advise the Board regarding your duties and rights during the renewal process.

Moved by Mr. Mannix, seconded by Mrs. Fernandes, to file. Vote 5-0 all in favor.

75. Judith Priest – requesting to be appointed as an Election Poll Worker, she is registered Independent.

Moved by Mr. Mannix, seconded by Mr. DeBarge, to appoint Judith Priest as a Poll Worker as an Independent. Vote 5-0 all in favor.

76. Lt. Brennan, Police Department – request to charge off medical bills and lost wages to Chapter 41, Section 111F for injuries sustained by a Police Officer on March 16, 2018.

Moved by Mr. Mannix, seconded by Mrs. Fernandes, that we charge off to Chapter 41, Section 111F for injuries sustained by a Police Officer on March 16, 2018. Vote 5-0 all in favor.

77. Brian Quinn, Director of Engineering and Generation – information about living and working safely near gas pipelines.

Moved by Mr. Silva, seconded by Mrs. Fernandes, to file. Vote 5-0 all in favor.

Unfinished Business

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

Moved by Mr. Mannix, seconded by Mrs. Fernandes, that we accept the Special Town Meeting articles for May 14, on the agenda as it's posted. Vote 5-0 all in favor.

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Board to close the Special Town Meeting Warrant.

Moved by Mr. Mannix, seconded by Mr. DeBarge, that we close the Special Town Meeting warrant. Vote 5-0 all in favor.

Board to approve and sign the Selectmen minutes of November 28, 2017 and January 16, 2018

Moved by Mr. DeBarge, seconded by Mr. Mannix, that we accept the Selectmen minutes of November 28, 2017 with all members present. Vote 5-0 all in favor.

Moved by Mr. Silva, seconded by Mr. Mannix, that we approve the Selectmen minutes of January 16, 2018 with all members present except Mr. DeBarge. Vote 4-0 in favor with Mr. DeBarge abstaining.

Board to approve and sign the Executive Session minutes of February 20, 2018

Moved by Mr. DeBarge, seconded by Mr. Mannix, that we accept the Executive Session minutes of February 20, 2018 with all members present. Vote 5-0 all in favor.

Board to review and approve the information that will be provided to the Insurance Advisory Committee and Unions relative to the plan design changes, first 12 cost savings, draft mitigation plan and MOA in order to move forward with the Health Insurance Design Changes per the M.G.L. 32B, ss. 21 – 23 process.

Ms. Villano stated that there is a letter to the Insurance Advisory Committee asking to meet to negotiate the changes that you had voted on and discussed at your meeting in February. There is a letter to all of the Unions outlining what the current design is, what the proposed changes are, when the official start date would be, what their cost savings would be, what the mitigation plan would look like, there's about 5 or 6 things that we need to present to them. We also have to have them designate a Public Employee Committee representative from their Union and once that last, once we receive confirmation, when that last unit confirms, the 30-day negotiation period kicks in.

Moved by Mr. Mannix, seconded by Mrs. Fernandes, that we accept the information received and the information that was sent out to the Unions and Insurance Advisory Committee and send the letters. Vote 5-0 all in favor.

New Business

Board to approve and sign the Memorandum of Agreement between the Town and the Stanton Foundation for the Dog Park funding.

Moved by Mr. Mannix, seconded by Mrs. Fernandes, that we have the Chairman sign the Memorandum of Agreement between the Town and the Stanton Foundation. Vote 5-0 all in favor.

Board to discuss the possibility of obtaining additional insurance coverage which would provide medical coverage and third party administration of Chapter 41, Section 111F injuries.

Ms. Villano stated that MIIA also provides insurance coverage for Chapter 41, Section 111F which covers all of the medical costs. Ms. Ribeiro stated this coverage will pay for the administration of the claims and payment of the medical bills. The biggest thing is that there is a liability for the Town, if we have a major incident right now, we're not covered. We have no coverage, if something happens and it's a million dollar claim, we have no coverage. This is an

objective third party that will handle the claims. With this coverage, there is a clinical care nurse that handles each and every claim and communicates with all the medical providers involved. Ms. Villano stated that the Board will still be the authority deciding if an injury is covered under Chapter 41.

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Moved by Mr. Mannix, seconded by Mrs. Fernandes, that the Town goes forward with obtaining additional insurance coverage to provide medical coverage and third party administration of Chapter 41, Section 111F injuries. Vote 4-0 in favor with Mr. DeBarge abstaining.

Board to discuss Frango Queen, Inc./Galo Rei; they have not completed and returned the renewal application for the 2018 Common Victualler License, Entertainment License and the workers compensation insurance. How does the Board wish to proceed?

Mr. Mannix and Mr. DeBarge stated that if they are not in compliance with these requirements, they should be shut down immediately.

Mrs. Fernandes stated that she knows this business and it's probably an oversight, they do usually contact her when they receive these things, she will contact them tomorrow to get the paperwork in tomorrow.

Mr. Mannix stated that if they don't have worker's compensation insurance and someone gets hurt there, that is a big liability for the Town.

Mr. Mannix made a motion, seconded by Mr. DeBarge, to give them a week to comply with the information that's needed. Vote 3-1-1 in favor with Mrs. Fernandes abstaining.

Board to approve and Chairman to sign the Ambulance Service License Application.

Moved by Mr. Mannix, seconded by Mr. Silva, that the Chairman sign the Ambulance Service License Application. Vote 5-0 all in favor.

Board to discuss the Town of Ludlow's participation in the Opportunity Zone Program.

Ms. Villano stated that this is a federal program which allows for federal tax credits or incentives to any business that invests in a designated opportunity zone. Opportunity zones are census-tracked sections all over the state, that are low income or next to a low income. We have one in Ludlow, which is West Avenue down by the river to the Ludlow Mills. So if we petition the State and the Governor to designate that as an opportunity zone, anybody in the future who invests or builds can apply for federal tax incentives.

Closing Comments

Mr. DeBarge's comments were not recorded on the DVD.


Mr. Silva stated that Monday March 26 is the election, there are no contested races, there are two very important questions on the ballot and he certainly hopes that each and every one that is a registered voter gets out there and votes.

Mrs. Fernandes stated that everyone should go out and vote on whether you want a new school in town or not and whether you want a new senior center or not. She also stated that several municipalities are suing big pharma in a big lawsuit. She would like to reach out to the attorneys and ask questions. Mr. Rooney stated that that is on the next Agenda for the Board of Selectmen. She also stated that she attended the Senior Show at the high school and it was a wonderful show and she was really impressed.

Mr. Mannix stated that he ran into Mr. Saunders and his family and that he looks good and seems very happy. He also stated yes we are going to the polls on Monday and people need to really pay attention to what we are voting on.

Mr. Mannix made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Fernandes, to adjourn.

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Chairman



Ludlow Board of Selectmen

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