

The meeting of the Board of Selectmen held on Tuesday, October 2, 2018 beginning at 6:00pm in the Selectmen's Conference Room, Town Hall.

Members Present: Manuel Silva, Chairman, William Rooney, Derek DeBarge, Brian Mannix

Members Absent: Carmina Fernandes

First Order of Business: The Pledge of Allegiance.

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TOWN OF LUDLOW

The Board would first like to take up correspondence #250 a letter from Board member Carmina Fernandes regarding her Medical Leave Notice:

Dear Mr. Chairman,

"It is with much regret that I write this letter informing the Town of Ludlow that I will be taking a medical leave from my responsibilities as a member of the Board of Selectmen until February of 2019. I have recently been diagnosed with breast cancer and have had some unexpected complications with the chemo treatment. My health and attitude are both positive, but some of the side effects of the treatment, such as lower immunity, fatigue and insomnia are impacting my ability to perform at my usual level, especially towards the end of the day. As the primary bread winner in my family, I will continue to work at my law practice, but my family and I have made the decision that, in order to have a more successful and quicker recovery I will have to scale back on some of my responsibilities. At least until I regain my strength and ability to once again be able to be fully engaged. Cutting back on some activities will relieve me of some daily stress. It is also the recommendation of my doctor that I take some time to recoup. It is for these reasons, that I am requesting the leave of absence from the Town until the new year. The Town will still be governed by the other four very capable members of the Board and I will continue to accompany all of the affairs of the Board until my return. I will also make myself available for any emergencies where a vote or decision might be needed.

As most of you know, I am passionate about this Town and greatly appreciate the wonderful opportunity that the residents have given me to serve our community. I am looking forward to my return in the new year.

Finally, I am asking that this letter be read out loud at the next meeting as I also would like to take a moment to remind all our female residents about the importance of getting a yearly mammogram. I used to get routine mammograms until I decided to stop because I was a strong Portuguese woman who believed I would never be affected by breast cancer. No one in my family had ever had breast cancer or any type of serious cancer symptoms and I have always been a person of excellent health. Believing I was immune to cancer and believing I was getting unnecessary radiation from the mammograms. I made a decision to delay getting mammograms. I was probably going to eventually stop going for mammograms but luckily, during a routine yearly physical exam, my excellent primary care physician convinced me to get a mammogram due to my age and gender. Out of respect for him (and because his office scheduled the appointment) I went. You can imagine my and my family's shock and horror when I was diagnosed with breast cancer. I am now an advocate for yearly mammograms. If you believe like I did, that you are immune to cancer, please think twice. Go get that mammogram as it could save your life." Best regards, Carmina Fernandes

Mr. Rooney stated that he had an opportunity to speak with Carmina and she is still fully engaged, full of life and he wishes her a speedy recovery. We will be glad to have her back. She is sorely missed, and we wish her well.

Mr. Silva stated that it is fitting that we read this letter, as it is Pink Month.

Visitations:

Ryan Churchill – Interview for Safety Committee

Mr. Silva: Good evening, tell us a little about yourself sir. Maybe have a couple of questions for you and we might not put you on or we might.

Mr. Churchill: I am a 33-year old resident of Ludlow, homeowner, husband, father of two. Motivated, highly interested in the safety of this town and therefore, I am here today.

Mr. Rooney: First of all, Mr. Churchill, thank you for coming forward. Do you have any concerns at all that you are coming forward to serve as a citizen member of the Safety Committee, but you are also a Police Officer and there are other officers that are on the Safety Committee, does that concern you at all, in terms of your focus being the entire safety of the town?

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Mr. Churchill: No, it doesn't, I believe that I am able to separate the two. Obviously, being an officer in the Town of Ludlow does help my perspective due to safety the infrastructure concerns, the citizens but I do not see a conflict of interest there I can easily separate myself I won't be speaking on behalf of the police department I will be speaking on behalf of myself as a father, a resident of Ludlow of where my general safety concerns lie.

Mr. Rooney: Ok, thank you I'm all set.

Mr. DeBarge: Ryan, can you see a difference between the two, with any situation that may come up where you would, I don't want to say differ between your profession and being a civilian on the Board, but, just carrying off of what Mr. Rooney says, was there something that drew you to the civilian position other than wanting to be there as a police officer or was it just the fact that you couldn't do it as a police officer because there were already two? What was it that brought you to that decision?

Mr. Churchill: So, I definitely gravitated towards this because I am tailored towards this in my job, however, I am able to separate the two. They obviously, there is a tie between, how they flow between law enforcement and the citizen side, so I can't say I won't have opinions based on law enforcement, obviously this is the town that I work, this is the area that I work, however I won't be speaking on behalf of law enforcement. I won't be voicing myself as a representative of the police department, I will be voicing myself as a citizen with knowledge that I may have gained as a police officer. But I will be putting that towards my opinions based off of things that I have seen. So, there is that tie, its kind of hard to get away from. Would I pursue the law enforcement aspect of this if that ever became available in the future, absolutely but in the meantime, I am able to separate the two of those.

Mr. DeBarge: I for one think it's a fantastic idea to have someone on law enforcement on the civilian side for volunteering for this position. In the time that I have known you, your integrity for such a thing is beyond reproach as is your experience with any of this stuff. I am all for it.

Mr. Silva: I don't have any questions, either. So, I will take a motion.

Moved by Mr. Rooney, seconded by Mr. DeBarge to appoint Ryan Churchill as a member of the Safety Committee. Vote 4-0 all in favor.

Mechilia Salazar, President &CEO Ludlow Community Center

Mr. Silva stated that Chili is the new President & CEO of the Ludlow Community Center. We just wanted to thank you and congratulate you. Why don't you give us a little background about yourself?

Ms. Salazar stated that she is proud to be the new director at the Community Center/Boys & Girls Club. She grew up not too far from Ludlow, just over the boarder in Enfield Ct. She is amazed at how many former club kids are on their Board or on the staff or serve as corporators. She brings a different perspective in terms of being a kid that didn't have a club. The experiences are telling in that they have so many wonderful stories from clubs all over the country and locals right here in town that can vouch for what amazing work clubs can do for a child and for the work of strengthening families and communities. To couple that from being on the other side and to say I also know what it is like when you are a kid and you don't get to grow up with a club and what can happen and the choices and challenges you must face. I think this town is very fortunate not only to have a club, but also to have this unique public private partnership where it offers a lot more opportunity to work together and leverage each other's resources and better connect various community members and business leaders. I have always been passionate about youth development and much of her career has been committed towards that. She first ran a Boys and Girls club outside of Boston over ten years ago. It is quite an honor to come back closer to home to be with my family and to really help move the next chapter of this club and this community forward.

Mr. Rooney stated that he spent many good times at the old facility. You have big shoes to fill. The club has a rich history in this town and we welcome you and sure you will be doing a great job and if there are things that we can help you with don't hesitate to contact us.

Mr. DeBarge stated that he too has been quite involved with this club with most of the sports. He coaches a lot there. It is a fantastic club. He looks forward to the sports programs growing and hopefully even joining the Ludlow Baseball Association and having a better relationship together.

Mr. Mannix stated that he likes her upbeat go forward positive attitude about what you have learned and spoken about so far for the club and for the town. Thank you and good luck with everything.

Cheryl Messier, Director of Nursing – grant received for drug destruction

My name is Cheryl Messier, Director of Nursing for the Ludlow Board of Health. She is informing the Board of a wonderful opportunity that the Board of Health has received to pass onto our town residents. This started when one of our nurses, Angela Cramer came into our office mentioning an ad that she briefly saw on TV with Big Y by selling deterra bags. She went online looking for them and came across a couple of grants. One was from the addiction policy forum and one was from a company in Kansas. The company in Kansas immediately wrote back and gave her information on where to get them locally.

As she researched it, she found out that one-third of the people aged 12 and up who used drugs for the first time began using a prescription drug for non-medical purposes and that 50% of all prescribed prescriptions are disposed of in the trash or down the drain. Due to environmental pollution concerns its no longer safe to dispose of these drugs down the drain or flush them. We were fortunate to be awarded this grant of these bags to our community to make our residents aware of the many ways to safely dispose of drugs and medications, so they don't get into the wrong hands also to protect our environment. As public health she feels that is part of her responsibility. This is also to make awareness of this product and that its out there. They are working in conjunction with the Ludlow Police Department and Fire Department as another resource to help take as many drugs that are in use out of the system, so they don't get into the wrong hands. December 2017, Ameri Source Bergan Foundation launched a program to provide communities with a safe solution called Site of Use Disposal of Opioids in offering these free disposable resources like these deactivated pouches to help dispose of medications in a safe manner. Inside of these bags is a universal activated carbon system which renders the compound safe for our landfills and reducing our watershed contamination. This product is available now, and we are making people aware of it. Mr. DeBarge suggested that we have them available to the DPW and the Michael J. Dias Foundation. So far, she has handed them out to the Police Department, Fire Department, the Ludlow School System, Ludlow Senior Center and the Ludlow Emergency Preparedness volunteers. She will be handing them out to Ludlow Cares, Flu Clinics, Ludlow Housing Authority, Ludlow Boys and Girls Club. They are in all the police officers' cars right now and if they come across a house that needs some they will hand them out.

Tom Haluch, Chairman of the Board of Public Works and Attorney Thomas Rooke – employee complaints.

Mr. Silva stated that they are there to discuss employee complaints. The first thing I would like to say is, you do have the opportunity to hold in Executive Session or hold it in public session.

Attorney Rooke stated with the sensitivity of the material, we are asking that it go into Executive Session.

Moved by Mr. Rooney, seconded by Mr. DeBarge to move into Executive Session at 7:16pm pursuant to a September 4, 2018 letter we sent to Thomas Haluch and not to come back into open session. Vote 4-0 all in favor.

Correspondence:

251. Beverly Feicha, President Ludlow Senior Center – inviting the Board to attend their Wine & Beer Tasting Fundraiser on October 12, 2018 from 5:00pm-8:00pm at the Ludlow Country Club.

Moved by Mr. Rooney, seconded by Mr. Mannix to file. Vote 4-0 all in favor.

252. Mikayla Weigel, Site Coordinator, Ludlow Community Center – requesting permission to hang banners at the Turnpike entrance and Putts Bridge for the Vendor and Craft Fair to be held on November 17, 2018.

Moved by Mr. DeBarge, seconded by Mr. Mannix to allow Ms. Weigel permission to hang banners at the Turnpike entrance and Putts Bridge for the Vendor and Craft Fair to be held on November 17, 2018. Vote 4-0 all in favor.

253. Fatma Citlak, Owner, International Market – requesting a Common Victualler License for International Produce located at 4-6 White Street. Board to sign if approved.

Moved by Mr. DeBarge, seconded by Mr. Rooney to allow Ms. Fatma Citlak a Common Victualler License for International Produce located at 4-6 White Street. Vote 4-0 all in favor.

254. Joe Alves, Assistant Assessor, Town of Ludlow – requesting the Board to schedule the Fiscal Year 2019 Tax Rate Classification Hearing for Tuesday, October 23, 2018.

Moved by Mr. Rooney, seconded by Mr. Mannix to set the hearing for the Fiscal Year 2019 Tax Rate Classification for Tuesday, October 23, 2018 at 6:00pm. Vote 4-0 all in favor.

255. Nancy F. Creed, President, Springfield Regional Chamber – inviting the Board to the Springfield Regional Chamber's Annual Government Reception to be held on Thursday, November 15, 2018 from 5:00pm-7:00pm at the Carriage House at Storrowtown Tavern in West Springfield.

Moved by Mr. DeBarge, seconded by Mr. Rooney to file. Vote 4-0 all in favor.

256. Mikayla Weigel, Site Coordinator, Ludlow Community Center – informing the Board that the Rag Shag Parade has been scheduled for Friday, October 26, 2018 starting at 6:00pm. Also, requesting the use of the Town Hall parking lot to assemble the parade.

Moved by Mr. Rooney, seconded by Mr. DeBarge to approve the request made by Ms. Weigel concerning the Rag Shag Parade as spelled out in correspondence #256. Vote 4-0 all in favor.

257. Geoffrey C. Beckwith, Executive Director & CEO, Massachusetts Municipal Assoc. – informing the Board of the MMA's Legislative Breakfast Meeting to be held on October 12, 19 and 26, 2018 in six cities and towns across the state.

Moved by Mr. Mannix, seconded by Mr. DeBarge to file. Vote 4-0 all in favor.

258. Michael Ferreira, Owner, El Cid Lounge – requesting permission from the Board to extend the closing time to 2:00am on Thanksgiving Eve, November 21, 2018.

Moved by Mr. Mannix, seconded by Mr. Rooney to reject or disallow the proposal from Michael Ferreira of the El Cid. Vote 3-1

259. Susan Westa, Senior Planner, Westover Air Base – inviting the Board to the Local Public Forum with Westover Air Reserve Base on Thursday, October 4, 2018 from 6:00pm-8:00pm at the Old Carnegie Library, Granby MA.

Moved by Mr. Rooney, seconded by Mr. DeBarge to file. Vote 4-0 all in favor.

260. Louis Gilli, Environmental Engineer for MMWEC – informing the Board that the Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company will be performing routine inspections on its natural gas pipeline right-of-way during the months of October, November and December.

Moved by Mr. Mannix, seconded by Mr. Rooney to file. Vote 4-0 all in favor.

261. Maureen O'Connell, Vice President, Regulatory Affairs, Charter Communications Inc. – informing the Board of a Petition of Determination of Effective Competition.

Moved by Mr. Mannix, seconded by Mr. Rooney to send letter to Cable TV Board. Vote 4-0 all in favor.

262. Lt. Michael N. Brennan, Ludlow Police Department – seeking approval from the Board to use Sportsmen's Road and any other town parking lot as needed for the 4th Annual Sgt. Joshua D. Desforges Walk/Run Challenge on Saturday, April 27, 2019.

Moved by Mr. DeBarge, seconded by Mr. Rooney to approve Lt. Brennan, Ludlow Police Department the use of Sportsmen's Road and any other town parking lot as needed for the 4th Annual Sgt. Joshua D. Desforges Walk/Run Challenge on Saturday, April 27, 2019. Vote 4-0 all in favor.

263. Dr. Elinor D. Kelliher, Board of Health – informing the Board that she will be the acting Chairman and Secretary for The Board of Health.

Moved by Mr. Rooney, seconded by Mr. DeBarge to file. Vote 4-0 all in favor.

264. David A. Slowick, Section Chief Emergency Response, Department of Environmental Protection – notifying the Board of a release of #2 fuel oil at 330 Sewall Street. Release Notification and Notice of Responsibility: M.G.L., c21E and 310 CMR 40.0000.

Moved by Mr. Mannix, seconded by Mr. DeBarge to file. Vote 4-0 all in favor.

Unfinished Business:

Board to approve and sign Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes of May 22, 2018 and June 5, 2018.

Moved by Mr. Rooney, seconded by Mr. Mannix to approve the Board of Selectmen's Minutes for the meeting held on May 22, 2018 with all members present. Vote 4-0 all in favor.

Moved by Mr. Rooney, seconded by Mr. Mannix to approve the minutes of the Board of Selectmen's meeting held on June 5, 2018 with all members present. Vote 4-0 all in favor.

Advertisement for the Board of Health vacancy has expired. There are two applicants for the position, does the Board wish to schedule an interview?

Moved by Mr. Mannix, seconded by Mr. DeBarge to schedule interviews with the two applicants as soon as possible. Vote 4-0 all in favor.

New Business:

Board to approve the call of the Election for November 6, 2018 and to sign ten (10) copies.

Moved by Mr. Mannix, seconded by Mr. Rooney to call for the Election for November 6, 2018 and sign 10 copies. Vote 4-0 all in favor.

Board to peruse Selectmen's Meeting Minutes of June 19, 2018 and July 17, 2018.

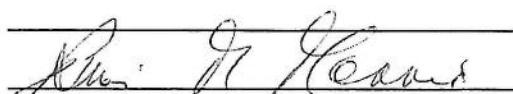
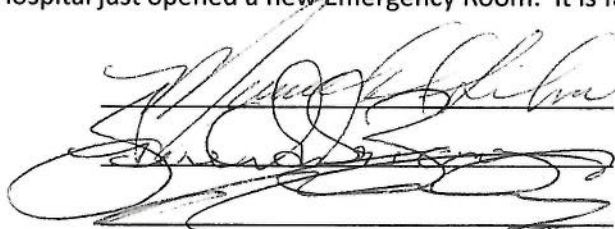
Board to peruse Executive Session Meeting Minutes of September 4, 2018

Board to enter into Executive Session

Moved by Mr. Rooney, seconded by Mr. Mannix to enter into Executive Session at 6:39pm for contract negotiations for fire unions and to come back into regular session. We do declare that it is imperative to collective bargaining and litigation and it would be detrimental effect on bargaining and litigation. Vote 4-0 all in favor.

Closing Comments:

Mr. Mannix stated that Baystate Wing Hospital just opened a new Emergency Room. It is fantastic. It is very nice and very efficient.



Ludlow Board of Selectmen

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

