

Town of Dudley

Board of Selectmen

Highway Commissioners

Cemetery Commissioners

July 13, 2020 @ 6:30pm

Dudley Municipal Complex

71 West Main Street, Dudley, MA

Room 321A

Approved August 3, 2020

Some matters have been taken out of agenda order but were typed up in agenda order for ease of locating information when necessary.

Chairman's Disclosure for Public Meetings:

Public Meetings:

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §20, and the Governor's Executive Orders imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, although a quorum of the members of the Dudley Board of Selectmen will be physically present for this meeting, no in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted. The meeting will be live broadcast on Dudley Cable Access Television, Channel 192, and members of the public can also access the rebroadcast of the meeting online via YouTube. In the event of an unanticipated interruption in this broadcast, we will post on the Town's website an audio or video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting.

Members of the public who wish to appear before the Board of Selectmen must make an appointment to appear on an upcoming agenda, by contacting Michelle Jervis at selectmen@dudleyma.gov or by calling Michelle at (508) 949-8001. Placement on the agenda is not guaranteed however, and persons requesting to appear before the Board of Selectmen should not attend a meeting in person unless and until the appointment has been confirmed by the Board of Selectmen. Persons with matters appearing on a meeting agenda may request that they attend via virtual means, such as via conference call rather than in person attendance. Such request should be directed to Michelle Jervis at selectmen@dudleyma.gov or by calling Michelle at (508) 949-8001 no more than three business days hours in advance, so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

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- 2. Persons who wish to participate in any particular matter on the meeting agenda will be asked to wait in a satellite room until that agenda item is reached, at which point attendees will be rotated between the main meeting room and the satellite room(s), as appropriate.*
- 3. Social distancing must be maintained in both the main meeting room and in satellite rooms. Face masks or coverings will be required in accordance with Governor Baker's May 1, 2020 COVID-19 Order No. 31, "Order Requiring Face Coverings in Public Places Where Social Distancing is Not Possible." A copy of that order can be found at <https://www.mass.gov/doc/may-1-2020-masks-and-face-coverings/download>*
- 4. Failure to comply with these requirements may lead to an attendee's removal from the meeting.*

1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance:

Kerry Cyganiewicz called the meeting to order at 6:35pm. In attendance were John Marsi, Jason Johnson and Steven Sullivan. Also in attendance was Jonathan Ruda, Town Administrator and

Michelle Jervis, Administrative Secretary. Paul Joseph requested to participate remotely under MGL Chapter 39§23D adopted 2/4/2013 and in accordance with 940 CMR 29.10(2). It was determined by the Chairman that the following factor made his physical attendance unreasonable (a) – Personal illness. **John Marsi motioned to allow Paul Joseph to participate in the meeting remotely. Steven Sullivan seconded.**

Roll Call Vote:

Kerry Cyganiewicz, Aye

John Marsi, Aye

Jason Johnson, Aye

Steven Sullivan, Aye

Paul Joseph, Aye

2. Legislative Update:

Representative Peter Durant came before the Board to speak about the updates in Boston. He stated that he does not have a number at this time for the FY 21 budget. The legislature is waiting for it as well. The state is \$6,000,000 to \$8,000,000 in the red and by statute the Senate needs to break by July 31, 2020. There might be some informal sessions and they can be called back in an emergency situation but he does not have any indication when the budget will be ready. He realizes it is extremely difficult to run a municipality without a projected number. Regarding school districts, the legislators are debating three scenarios. 1) all desk-in place sessions, 2) hybrid sessions with some online and some at school and 3) all online. He stated that the legislature is still working remotely but by the end of the month things will be frantic. Regarding the new police bill, they are tight lipped about it but he is not happy with what he has heard and read. Regarding the budget itself, it all boils down that the Federal Government has not released funds to the state and then the state needs to disburse the funds to the municipalities. Regarding higher education, still not sure. All agreed this is a tumultuous time in our history and we are hopeful to anticipate a number will come by September 30th. All thanked him for taking the time to speak.

1. Town Administrator's Report

Jon Ruda stated that he is still working with Ameresco regarding the landfill solar project. This project has been revitalized and he is working the National Grid and the Department of Energy. The school district will also benefit from the solar project by purchasing additional solar credits. The terms and conditions still need to be ironed out and he would like to have a member of the Board help with the recommendations. Another topic is creating a video. Paul Joseph mentioned in a previous meeting that many years ago he and another board member videotaped highlights of how town meeting works, Prop 2 1/2 and other important topics for the community to view. He feels that was a very good idea and will be preparing the video with the help of Nichols College. The video will be entitled "Town Meeting Form of Government: How Stuff Works". This video will be replayed on cable and our website with members of the Board as well as department heads. John Marsi stated he would like a subcommittee set up to write up the script. All agreed it would be a great idea. Mr. Ruda stated that he attended a Complete Streets meeting last week with Acting Planner, Bill Scanlan. This grant funds projects for all travel modes such as bike lanes, sidewalks, intersections and provides overall transportation grants. The Board needs to sign the Letter of Intent to Mass DOT and then adopt a policy. This would be a good Economic Development project and would like to concentrate on the intersection near Dippin' Donuts. Regarding the final payment for the Streetlight LED conversion, we received the final payment of \$27,000. This will be deposited into the municipal income account.

Michelle Jervis, Administrative Secretary, spoke about two grants the town received through the Janet Malser Grant. One was for the beautification of Village Cemetery in the amount of \$5,000 which will provide for a landscape plan and trees. The other grant is for mapping of the Veterans section in Corbin Cemetery in the amount of \$1500.00. She stated that she is excited about both

grants and thanked the Janet Malser Humanities Grant for their generous funding for these two projects.

Roberta Johnson, Public Health Nurse, came before the Board. She stated that Dudley had 102 cases from the beginning of the pandemic and we are now zero cases. There are no active cases at this time. She prepares a daily report as well as attends webinars from the Department of Public Health who gives her further guidance. She keeps in touch with dispatch on a case by case basis in the event fire or police need to help. All thanked her for her hard work and keeping them informed.

5. Appointments/Resignations:

Police Department – Officer Luis Pacheco – Chief Wojnar came before the Board stating that this appointment will take effect on July 31, 2020. He attended the academy and will be graduating on that date. He is attending training tonight so could not attend but he would like to have Officer Pacheco come in and meet everyone at a later date. **John Marsi motioned to appoint Officer Luis Pacheco to the Dudley Police Department effective July 31, 2020. Paul Joseph seconded.**

Roll Call Vote:

Kerry Cyganiewicz, Aye

John Marsi, Aye

Jason Johnson, Aye

Steven Sullivan, Aye

Paul Joseph, Aye

Cultural Council – Sheryl Barnardo – **Jason Johnson motioned to appoint Sheryl Barnardo as a member of the Dudley Cultural Council with a term to expire June 30, 2023. Steven Sullivan seconded.**

Roll Call Vote:

Kerry Cyganiewicz, Aye

John Marsi, Aye

Jason Johnson, Aye

Steven Sullivan, Aye

Paul Joseph, Aye

Personnel Board – Resignation of Joan Gardecki – Paul Joseph motioned to table the resignation of Joan Gardecki to the Personnel Board. There were no objections to the tabling.

Economic Development Committee – Appointment of Pam Boggio – **Steven Sullivan motioned to reappoint Pam Boggio as a member of the Economic Development Committee with a term to expire June 30, 2022. John Marsi seconded.**

Roll Call Vote:

Kerry Cyganiewicz, Aye

John Marsi, Aye

Jason Johnson, Aye

Steven Sullivan, Aye

Paul Joseph, Aye

- 6. Town Meeting Action – Steven Sullivan motioned to support the debt exclusion question which states: Shall the Town of Dudley be allowed to exempt from the provisions of Proposition two and one half, so called, the amount of Two Hundred Sixty Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$260,000) required to pay for the bond(s) issued in order to pay for the costs associated with the purchase of one ambulance and related equipment and incidental costs and expenses related thereto, approved by the June 22, 2020 Annual Town Meeting? Paul Joseph seconded.**

Roll Call Vote:

Kerry Cyganiewicz, Aye

John Marsi, Aye

Jason Johnson, Aye
Steven Sullivan, Aye
Paul Joseph, Aye

Regarding the vote all agreed the need for a new ambulance and that the ambulance is a revenue generator. Chief Kochanowski stated that last year the ambulance brought in \$520,000 and this year \$618,000 along with an additional pending amount of \$32,000 from Mass Health. He would like to have a media blitz to put the information out to the voters on the need for this equipment. Since it is a debt exclusion question, the money is borrowed, taxes will increase for the life of the loan and then it goes away. It is not like an override. People should be educated about this and the videotaping that will be done in the near future will help get the information out to the voters so that their questions are answered and educated on the process.

Chairman Cyganiewicz – List of volunteer board and committee vacancies as of July 6, 2020. The Chair read off the list of vacancies of town boards and committees. These vacancies will be immediately posted and advertised.

Town Administrator – Cancel July 20, 2020 meeting – Mr. Ruda indicated that August and the fall will be extremely busy for the board so he requested to take a week off. **Paul Joseph motioned to cancel the July 20, 2020 meeting. Jason Johnson seconded.**

Roll Call Vote

Kerry Cyganiewicz, Aye
John Marsi, Aye
Jason Johnson, Aye
Steven Sullivan, Aye
Paul Joseph, Aye

Consent Agenda – Mr. Ruda requested to review and adopt the special rule of order *Consent Agenda*. On this agenda a special section of it, usually in the beginning, is focused on reoccurring, non-controversial topics such as renewing licenses. If a license needs to be addressed a member can pull it out for discussion. It is used on some decision that is either routine, or is so widely supported that to make approval a separate action would bog the board down. John Marsi stated that this agenda should be used sparingly. **Steven Sullivan motioned to accept the Consent Agent format effective immediately. John Marsi seconded.**

Roll Call Vote:

Kerry Cyganiewicz, Aye
John Marsi, Aye
Jason Johnson, Aye
Steven Sullivan, Aye
Paul Joseph, Aye

Highway Superintendent Search – **Paul Joseph motioned that the town authorize a highway superintendent search committee and to approve an immediate posting based on the three points requested by Mr. Ruda which are: Direction on how to proceed after the Personnel Board has done their work and made recommendations to the Selectmen; Approval of a hiring timeline and; Approval to post the position and for all to go through the Personnel Director to the Board of Selectmen for approval with an ending date of August 12, 2020 and a posting date of July 14, 2020. Jason Johnson seconded.**

Roll Call Vote: check.

Kerry Cyganiewicz, Aye
John Marsi, Aye
Jason Johnson, Aye
Steven Sullivan, Aye
Paul Joseph, Aye

Board Member Comments:

Departmental Communication:

George Patrinos, Water/Sewer Department, stated that his department is monitoring drought problems. He is urging residents to conserve water. He does not want to mandate restricting water use at this time but will be checking and monitoring the situation. Also the sewer department has a new generator at Lakeview Ave. The generator will expedite emergency power if needed. Also David Haynes, the developer of Lyons Estates, gave a generous donation to the water department in the amount of \$7,500.

Adjournment:

Jason Johnson motioned to adjourn at 9:02pm. Steven Sullivan seconded.

Roll Call Vote

Kerry Cyganiewicz, Aye

John Marsi, Aye

Jason Johnson, Aye

Steven Sullivan, Aye

Paul Joseph, Aye

Respectfully submitted

Michelle Jervis

Administrative Secretary

Town of Dudley

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Board Member Comments:

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Roll Call Vote

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John Marsi, Aye

Jason Johnson, Aye

Steven Sullivan, Aye

Paul Joseph, Aye

Respectfully submitted

Michelle Jervis

Administrative Secretary