

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS  
Meeting Minutes  
January 17, 2023  
Board of Public Works Conference Room

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Members Present: Stephen Santos, Keith Ouellette, Alex Simao,

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Member Absent: Daniel Soares, Matias Goncalves

TOWN OF LUDLOW

Also Present: Kenneth Batista, Rhonda Burelle

At 6:00 PM Mr. Santos called the meeting to order. All present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

OPERATIONS SUPERVISOR REPORT:

Island Pond Cemetery has been busy last couple of weeks, we have already had 5 funerals for this week. So, we have been busy digging and burying people. We had to go out salting yesterday 1-16-23 due to slippery road conditions.

We have also gone out jetting sewer lines to get ahead of the cleaning of the wet well at Chapin Street pump station. Not getting any heavy grease, the only thing we ran into was shop towels when we first started but beyond that everything has been good.

Our tree truck had to go back to CL Diesel it was evaluated, and it looks like we are going to need a new motor. I had them put an estimate together for that (Mr. Batista passed it around to the board members for review). **Mr. Santos asked:** The bill that is in the file to be paid for \$3,000.00 fixed what? **Mr. Batista replied:** They did an injector they thought that it was the injector that was bad in the motor. We ran the truck when we went to do a tree job and that is when it started making noise. We shut it down and brought it back to CL Diesel immediately and when they drained the oil it had a bunch of metal in the oil pan. They are thinking it is the Cam. **Mr. Ouellette stated:** Get a price from Allegiance. **Mr. Batista stated:** If it is that kind of money it will have to go out to bid. **Mr. Ouellette stated:** Wonder if that bell housing and that mount system would take a cummings. **Mr. Batista stated:** I asked Rich if he can change the motor and he stated a lot of things would have to be changed, computer etc. **Mr. Ouellette asked:** How many hours did we get out of it before it blew up. **Mr. Batista stated:** About 2 hours, 178,000 miles. Motor is problematic. **Mr. Ouellette stated:** We are gong to need three quotes on that.

With all the rain we have had we have been out patching holes. Sent a crew out today to complete and take care of everything we had and documenting everything that has been patched.

Safety Net Compliance Solutions has completed our safety plan. They emailed me the final draft last week, just have to review it and make sure changes discussed have been made, at that point they will release it to us. There is a part of it that we did the

training for that we need to submit to the department of labor standards and then everything in the notice we received will be taken care of through Safety Net. I will get a letter out to DLS tomorrow along with pictures, documents and sign in sheet that shows training was completed.

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Ever source is doing more right of way clearing, so they gave Northern Tree additional power lines to clear, starting at 21 North from Church Street to Belchertown line and anything within 15ft of the primaries, everything is going to be trimmed back. I did meet with their guy Todd Majars, and he showed me the front of our new cemetery. All the poles next to the power lines are all going to be trimmed on one side. He said that if we wanted, they would remove all those trees at no cost. Board members agreed to have them removed.

Capital improvement list, I did get a price for a pickup truck with 9ft plow & a Ford Explorer and a generator for the DPW facility. (Mr. Batista passed out prices for pickup and SUV) I met with Down to Earth for the generator and they told me that they will have to do a new transfer switch because the one we have isn't enough. It was a 130KW generator rated to 551amps that is what they figured we would need here. We currently have a 400amp service, then we figured if something kicks on like a compressor or something else draws from it, we have a buffer. The current one we have was never sized for the garage. The pricing is as follows: \$27,000.00 for the generator, \$4,000.00 transfer switch and then additional cost for labor they figure would be about \$100,000.00 to put in backup generator. **Mr. Santos asked:** How bad is ours now? **Mr. Batista stated:** Its cap and rotor and we can no longer get points for it. It starts and runs but we can't weld and run a compressor at the same time. **Mr. Ouellette asked:** What if we were hard wired with a wheel generator? We would still have the ability to power the shop if needed and it wouldn't cost \$100,000.00. This would be just to get us by until we budget for it. **Mr. Batista replied:** The one we have only provided power to the office part of the building, not the shop for what is needed. **Mr. Santos stated:** We can run the welder off the portable if needed. Why can't we just add a little more to our current KW's so we can run additional areas? I say we submit the two vehicles for Capital this year. Request another estimate to add more to our current transfer switch without replacing it. Get the welding outlet and compressor running see what we can get to run lights and what we need for generator. Get the quotes together and bring them to Capital and let them know this is what we are submitting for future budget for next year and see what they say.

Mr. Simao made a motion to file the Operations Supervisor Report, seconded by Mr. Ouellette. Vote 3-0 all in favor.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

*Board to approve and sign Sewer Abatement Certificate for:  
276 Fuller Street*

Mr. Ouellette made a motion to approve the abatement for 276 Fuller Street, seconded by Mr. Simao. Vote 3-0 all in favor.

Ms. Burelle mentioned an additional sewer abatement for approval for 5 Quincy Street.

Mr. Ouellette made a motion to approve the abatement for 5 Quincy Street, seconded by Mr. Simao. Vote 3-0 all in favor.

*Board to approve and sign Chapter 90 Reimbursement Requests:*

*Fuller Street*

*Colonial Dr., Heritage Dr., Manor Ln.*

*Alden Street*

Mr. Ouellette made a motion to approve the Chapter 90 requests for Fuller St., Colonial Dr., Heritage Dr., Manor Ln., and Alden St., seconded by Mr. Simao. Vote 3-0 all in favor.

*Annual Bid*

Mr. Santos mentioned that the Annual Bid copy he is looking at doesn't look like the most current one with changes he made. He discussed what he had removed from the original. He asked Mr. Batista if he was going to take the Curb out of the annual bid, the asphalt berm is going to remain, but the granite curb is going to be taken out, so we don't have to go thru Palmer and not the annual bid contractor. Discussions were made about what to remove and revise with Mr. Batista. Mr. Santos will get together with Mr. Batista to go over the Annual bid and finalize to get it out.

*2023 Paving Projects*

Mr. Batista listed off some streets that needed to be addressed. After discussion, the streets that are priority are Chapin St. & Cady St., Fuller St. & Center St., Merrimack St. & Cambridge St., Laconia St., and Stevens St.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Simao asked about the lights at the Ludlow Bridge, going to Springfield, they are down.

Mr. Batista stated: We had this scheduled to be done but our tree truck is down. He has called Down to Earth, and they will be changing them out tomorrow.

NOTES AND COMMENTS:

The Board signed invoices.

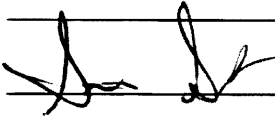
**Mr. Oullette asked:** Where are we with our Director and our PW3?


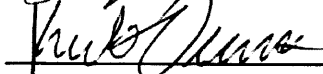
**Mr. Santos stated:** Both of them expected offers, Director is going for his physical on Friday and has a pre-employment meeting with HR. Not sure when mechanic will go for his physical. He has to give his two weeks notice at his current employer.

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**Motion was made by Mr. Simao to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Ouellette. Vote 3-0 all in favor.**

NOTES ACCEPTED:

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