

**PRELIMINARY MINUTES**

**VILLAGE OF LUDLOW  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**REGULAR MEETING  
HOWARD BARTON JR.  
CONFERENCE ROOM**

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2021  
6:00 P.M.**

**TRUSTEES PRESENT:**

David Rose, Chairman      Bob Brant      Earl Washburn

**STAFF:**

Scott Murphy, Municipal Manager      Chuck Craig, Chief Water Operator

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

George Abraham.      Patrick Cody, OVTV.      Brigid Faenza, Rec. Secretary

1. **Call to Order:** David Rose called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.
2. David Rose then asked for **Consideration of any Changes, Additions or Removal to the Agenda.** None made.
3. David Rose asked for **Approval of the Minutes from the Previous Meeting** of August 3, 2021: Bob Brandt moved to approve the Minutes of August 3, 2021. Earl Washburn seconded the Motion. All were in favor and signified by saying "Aye".
4. **Comments from Citizens:** David Rose said there appeared to be none this evening.
5. **Sewer Allocation Request** of Dan LaCroix, 115 Rimrock Road; this is a client who David Rose works for so he's not going to vote on this one. He (Dan LaCroix) is looking for allocation fees for a 5- bedroom home, @\$780.00/bedroom, for a total of \$3,900, and a hook-on fee for \$4500. This is discussed. Bob Brandt moves to accept the allocation fee and hook-on fee. Earl Washburn seconded. All were in favor and signified by saying "Aye".
6. David Rose said they were to **Review the Proposal from the Aldrich & Elliott Preliminary Engineering Services.** This is for the next phase of the High Street project, going from the Catholic Church basically down to the Baptist Church; it's water,

sewer. They did talk with the engineer at the Water Commission Meeting and asked him to include the water drainage project down by the Baptist Church to be included in that proposal. The second piece of the project is a water project on Pleasant Street Extension. Scott Murphy has negotiated with Aldrich & Elliott. They have come back with some pricing; they were estimating that the water portion of it would be between \$9,000 and \$12,000, and that would include both lower High Street and Pleasant Street Extension; and the sewer portion would be between \$7,000 and \$9,000. Scott Murphy states basically they would do preparation of the draft engineering services agreement, which the State has to approve and review. They prepare the planning applications for both the clean water and drinking water, which would enable the Village to be eligible for grant funding. For clean water, it's a 50% loan subsidy. The Village has already gone through the RFQ process of the selection. The Village is then eligible for a 50% cost reduction in the total of overall cost. Bob Brandt asked on the water side, if there's a 100% forgiveness if we get a hydraulic evaluation, which Wayne didn't think you would need, because it would cost you more to do it, so it would be a 50% for other planning purposes. Scott Murphy said "Yes." Earl Washburn asked about the hydraulic evaluation. Scott Murphy was asked to explain this. Discussion is held regarding this. David Rose said on the water side, the Board approved it to move forward because we went through the RFQ process, we had 3 engineering firms look at it, and we picked Aldrich & Elliott as the top firm. This is the next step heading down that road. So, if the Board is agreeable to it, he will take a motion to approve Aldrich & Elliott for the next phase. Earl Washburn moves that we approve this quote from Aldrich & Elliott. Bob Brandt seconds that. David Rose asked if all are in favor. All agreed by saying "Aye".

7. David Rose said approving the addition of **Juneteenth** as a holiday for employees to add to the Personnel Manual. Scott Murphy states currently they have on their holiday calendar 11 holidays, plus one floating for Town Meeting Day; and then there are two half days, one Christmas Eve and Good Friday. The Select Board considered and eventually approved, adding this Juneteenth Day as an additional paid holiday. Scott Murphy said the approximate cost for it would average about a little under \$1800, so we have to do the authorization for what's being done. Earl Washburn asked for clarification of "Juneteenth". Scott Murphy said it's a celebration of when Lincoln freed the slaves, the black people at that time, on June 19th that was done, so in years past, it's celebrated "Juneteenth". David Rose said "Being that the Select Board already passed this, it's kind of a done deal." Earl Washburn said I would approve it. Bob Brandt said he would second that. All were in favor by saying "Aye".
8. David Rose then asked for the **Manager Updates**: Scott Murphy said we have the Stonehouse debris: we might finally have a solution; we did receive one bid from Crownpoint Excavating. It's about \$28,700. Scott Murphy is bringing that to the Select Board next week for approval; the only reason he's bringing it to them is because they have funded the removal. Hopefully they'll do that next week and, if that's the case, we can get this finally taken care of. Discussion was held on this.

9. Scott Murphy said he and Chuck Craig conducted interviews, or multiple interviews of one person, as an applicant for **Wastewater Operator**. That one didn't really go anywhere, he has one or two others, so he's proceeding as the applications come in. Chuck Craig has been very patient with them as they come through with inquiries. We are still looking for more applications.
  
10. Scott Murphy said the **High Street Project** is moving along, it's on schedule to be completed at the earliest, the end of September, most likely, the middle of October. When they get here and do the work, they move along pretty quickly. We've run into a couple of snags here and there with additional cost requests from the contractor, but we're working to negotiate those types of things. Those were all concerning items we wanted added to the project, to add to the value of the project, so it's just a matter of how much we have to pay for it. So that's where we stand on High Street. They did the water test on the water line last week and it passed and they chlorinated it on Friday, doing bacterial tests today and tomorrow. So, we move on to the stormwater portion of it. Discussion was held regarding this.
  
11. Scott Murphy discusses one other thing of interest: the **American Recovery Plan Act, ARPA**, The Village had received half-payment earlier this year of \$40,252. Today, they received additional funding from the second source of funding, the County source. No one ever knew what that money was going to be, the amount. The first payment was based on population, and we had an idea on roughly what that was. Today, we received a little over \$74,000, that's the Village County portion. Scott Murphy said between the two of them, they've probably received over \$100,000 and we've got another \$40,000 coming after January. David Rose asked if Scott Murphy is looking into what we can spend that on. Scott Murphy agrees, saying we'll have that as an Agenda item either the next month or the month after. Discussion was held regarding this.
  
12. **Other Business:** David Rose asked for an update on the **Bowker Court** junkyard situation. Scott Murphy said we are holding a telephone conference hearing, instead of in court, on the 13th, which is next Monday. We just got it out of the Federal Court system and now the hearing is set for Monday. Scott Murphy is assuming and hoping that once we get through that hearing, we'll be able to enforce our ordinance and fine him, which is what our goal was all along. So that is next Monday and we'll know more after that.
  
13. David Rose then asked about the **Rotary Clock**. Scott Murphy said it will be unveiled soon, right after we get the daughters here at the same time. That's why it's still under wraps. This was discussed.

14. David Rose asked Bob Brandt if there's anything more to discuss and Bob Brandt said to let Earl Washburn know they talked a little bit to the Water Board Commission, spoke to them about High Street and they're going to talk to them again about removing that strip of pavement in the middle of the road. Earl Washburn said that was going to be his question and believes they should pave the whole thing. This was discussed.
  
15. David Rose said the next meeting is October 5th and possible Agenda items are all kinds of things: Stonehouse, High Street, Bowker Court, and Scott Murphy added that he'll give a year-end financial summary. David Rose asked when the auditors will start and this is discussed. David Rose said we've signed the orders, is there a need for Executive Session and the consensus was no. David Rose asked for a motion to adjourn. Bob Brandt makes the motion and Earl Washburn seconds it. All were in favor by saying "Aye".

Respectfully submitted,

Brigid Faenza  
Recording Secretary

Approved:

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David Rose, Chairperson

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Earl Washburn

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Bob Brandt