

**SELECT BOARD
MINUTES
Town Hall & via ZOOM
March 21, 2023**

Members present: Michael-Ray Jeffreys, Chairman; Tom Alonzo, Vice Chair; Lou Franco, Clerk; Heather Sroka

Also Present: Heather Lemieux, Town Manager; Karl Edmands, Aiden Swift, Kathy Comeau, Stanley Barney, Michelle Belleza, Karen Kemp

Chairman Jeffreys called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Watters opened the Finance Committee meeting at 7:04 p.m. Mr. Jeffreys announced in accordance with the requirements of the Open Meeting Law, please be advised that this meeting is being recorded and broadcast live over the Lunenburg public access channel and Facebook Live and will be uploaded to the Lunenburg public access YouTube channel within 24 hours after the meeting.

The agenda lists all the topics which may be discussed at this meeting and are those reasonably anticipated by the Chair. Votes may be taken as a result of these discussions. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by the Open Meeting Law.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Jeffreys read a letter from Select Board member Todd Dwyer.

"I'm sending this letter to inform you of my resignation from the Lunenburg Select Board effective immediately. It has been my distinct honor to have served the residents of Lunenburg. I'd like to thank my fellow board and commission members past and present. I would also like to thank all of the residents who put their trust in me to serve. My six years as a member of the Conservation Commission and the past three years as a member of the Select Board have been very rewarding. Working with my fellow board members has been a humbling, challenging and fulfilling experience that I truly enjoyed. My experience also leaves me with no doubt that the Town will be able to tackle its recent and future challenges due to the dedication and integrity of the town's employees and volunteers. Yours sincerely, Mr. Todd Dwyer."

PUBLIC COMMENT

Cathy Clark, 275 Cross Road, commented on the snowstorm last week and the restoration of service. She believed Unitil did not appear to comply with the 2009 storm legislation that indicates that restoration communication information needs to be given.

Debbie Lincoln, 46 Hemlock Drive, commended Mr. Franco and Mr. Alonzo for their work on the senior tax relief legislation. Pete Lincoln, recommended the three candidates up for appointment tonight for the 300th Anniversary Committee.

Ms. Sroka stated (in reference to a previous meeting public comment), I'm not going to apologize for reading several lines of an unsigned email during my public comment, I simply didn't recall them. I'm human and it happens to the best of us. None of this makes me deceitful or dishonest. Reading an unsigned email during my public comment violates no Open Meeting Law, Town bylaw or Select Board policy. When I spoke about the email that has been the center of so much scrutiny, I was trying to make a point that there are residents who are fearful of expressing their concerns in public regarding this tax assessment because they believe it could cause backlash and

retaliation. I think we can all agree these concerns have been confirmed. I would like to offer my sincere apologies to the author of the email. I had no idea that you would be targeted and harassed, it was never my intent to bring ill will to you. I hope you know that and can accept my apology. If you would like to forward any of the harassing emails you have received, please do so I will cherry pick some and read them in public.

Mr. Franco thanked Mr. Dwyer for time served on both boards and stated he would miss him. He thanked Mrs. Lincoln for her comment.

Mr. Alonzo also thanked Mr. Dwyer for his commitment, as well as Mrs. Lincoln's comments. It has come to my attention regarding the tax assessment issue that right from the beginning there was a discrepancy from residents who wanted to know why the tax bills were received so late. While we did get some documentation from our tax bill provider on a call that Mr. Jeffreys and I had with the president of that company I did ask whether there was a mail receipt that would indicate from the post office that it was received. After several weeks of investigating I have severe doubts that the tax bills were mailed on December 30th and more likely according to receipts I've received from the post office they were received on January 6th. I will turn this over to the Town Manager; I spoke with her briefly earlier and I will hand it over to Mr. Jeffreys and the Town Manager for verification. If that is true, there are different deadlines that come into play and get changed for lots of people; which would be when you could file for an abatement would be extended, any penalties that you had for non-payment by February 1st could be negated because the payments wouldn't be due till May 1st. I would like to know from a legal standpoint what constitutes a legal mailing. We need to determine when the bills were mailed because it's the only remaining urgent item because it does affect people's lives now and when the timing of payments and filing of abatements would be allowed or when they would be due.

Mr. Jeffreys, regarding public comment, stated we need to be open for all people to be able to participate, a lot of people come with a lot of different perspectives and sometimes people just want to offer something without and just lay it on the table. We do receive emails frequently, communications from the public. It was in my view inappropriate to publicize that individual's (that Select Board member Sroka referenced), email address on a social media site that resulted in that individual receiving a series of inappropriate emails. Let's be mindful that the democratic process is meant to incorporate viewpoints from all people. I want to extend a sincere apology to the member of the public who provided us an email that was publicized with their contact information. Mr. Jeffreys also recognized Mr. Dwyer's work and stated it was a pleasure working with him. Moving on to the mailing date he had a question about the way that the form was notarized because it wasn't notarized properly and so there was a conversation that was had with Mr. Alonzo and I very early on to get to the bottom of when those mailings occurred. I'm very interested in the information you have because it would directly conflict with the affidavit that we have in our possession from the company.

Communications with Other Boards

Mr. Jeffreys reported a member of the board as well as a member of the public has requested for us to hold a joint meeting with the Board of Assessors. That request was sent to the BOA probably about three or four weeks ago now and we are waiting for a response.

APPOINTMENTS

Tollbooth Request- Fitchburg/Leominster Shriners Club - May 13 from 9 am to 2 pm (Town Center)

Mr. Edmands, President of the local Shriners Hospital for Children, stated these monies would be used to transport children that are burned from other countries and those monies are used just for the transportation, it's not to run the hospitals. We had a very successful tollbooth last year, I think it was around \$900 that we were able to donate and we'd like to do that again this year.

Motion: T. Alonzo

2nd: H. Sroka

To approve the tollbooth request for the Fitchburg/Leominster's Shriners for May 13th from 9 am to 2 pm at Town Center

Vote: All in Favor

Mr. Edmands thanked the board and exited the meeting.

Tollbooth Request- Lunenburg Skate Park- May 27 from 10 am to 2 pm (Town Center)

Aiden Swift presented the group's request and stated they were approximately \$15,000 away from their benchmark goal of \$225,000 after six years of fundraising. The board members commended them for their fundraising efforts.

Motion: T. Alonzo

2nd: H. Sroka

To approve the tollbooth request for May 27 from 10 am to 2 pm in Town Center

Vote: All in Favor

The group thanked the board and exited the meeting.

INTERVIEWS/APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS

Appointments to the 300th Anniversary Committee:

- Stanley Barney-1236 Mass. Ave.
- Kathy Comeau- 806 West Street.
- Michelle Belleza-126 Sunnyhill Road

Ms. Comeau and Mr. Barney related that they had worked on the previous anniversary celebration and Ms. Belleza stated Mrs. Lincoln had reached out to her to get the kids involved.

Motion: T. Alonzo

2nd: L. Franco

To appoint Stanley Barney, Kathy Comeau and Michelle Belleza to the 300th Anniversary Committee

Vote: All in Favor

Appointment to Board of Registrars: Karen Kemp, term to expire March 31, 2026

Karen Kemp stated she has been a registrar for almost 40 years.

Motion: T. Alonzo

2nd: H. Sroka

To appoint Karen Kemp as Registrar with a term to expire March 31, 2026

Vote: All in Favor

Ms. Kemp thanked the board and exited the meeting.

Ratification of the Town Manager's Appointment of Recreation Director Angela Clement

Ms. Lemieux stated this position has been vacant since the end of August 2022 when the previous Recreation Director resigned. Since September 2022 we have received 14 applications and of those, seven interviews were offered and five people accepted interviews. Angela was one of the top two candidates for the position. She comes with a bachelor's degree in physical education, recreation and fitness club administration and has over five years of relatable experience gained while working as a youth sports manager. Her references describe her as pleasant, hard-working, organized and a go-getter, so I'm asking you to ratify this appointment tonight.

Motion: L. Franco

2nd: T. Alonzo

To ratify the Town Manager appointment of Angela Clement to Recreation Director
Vote: All in Favor

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Announcement on Existing Vacancies

The following is a list of current vacancies on the following committees:

- 300th Anniversary Committee (2 vacancies)
- Agricultural Commission (2 vacancies)
- Council on Aging (1 vacancy)
- Finance Committee (1 vacancy)
- Green Communities Committee (1 Associate vacancy) Historical Commission (2 vacancies)
- Open Space Committee (1 Member at Large vacancy) Personnel Committee (1 vacancy)
- Zoning Board of Appeals (1 Associate vacancy)

Interested persons can find Volunteer Applications on the Town Website and completed forms can be sent to the Select Board's Office. Anyone that has any questions on volunteer opportunities can contact the Select Board's Office at (978) 582-4130 x 144.

Current Employment Opportunities with the Town

The following is a list of current employment opportunities with the Town:

- Administrative Assistant Police (16 hours/week)
- Assistant Town Accountant (32 hours/week)
- Digital Services Staff Librarian (20 hours/week)
- Heavy Equipment Operator (40 hours/week)
- Library Assistant (19 hours/week)
- Police Officer (40 hours/week)
- Production Technician (20 hours/week)
- Seasonal Lifeguards (Seasonal)
- Beach Director (Seasonal)
- Videographer (2-10 hours/week)

More information on each position can be found on the job postings, which are located on the town website.

Line Striping Contract

At the end of February the DPW Director sent a letter to K5 Corporation to notify them again of their breach of the terms of the contract with the Town and we were terminating the contract as of March 7th. Along with this notice, a project evaluation form was completed by the DPW Director that will get submitted to MassDOT that rated this company poorly on the relevant categories. The DPW Director is working on a new spring contract for the remainder of this fiscal year and a revised Road Materials Bid for work in FY24.

Grants:

The DPW Director was notified this week that School Zone Traffic Calming Speed Sign grant he applied for was awarded to the Town. This will be for the Oak Avenue School Zone.

LED Streetlight Green Communities Project

I have been working with the consultant that we hired to assist with an audit of our inventory and consulting services. I submitted an order for the equipment from a vendor on the state contract on March 10th and the expected delivery is between 6-8 weeks. There are other components such as "labels" and disconnection fuses that are ordered separately and both have been ordered. I am reviewing the draft RFP from the consultant for the installation that will go out shortly. Based on delivery of the equipment and projected award of bid for the installation, we anticipate the project to be complete by the end of the fiscal year.

We also submitted our Energy Incentive to Unitil and I signed off on this at the end of February. Our estimated incentive is \$33,500. These funds will be deposited into the general fund and close out at the end of the fiscal year they are received.

Facility and Parks Updates:

- The Town Beach project is complete per the bid requirements. There is some additional work needed to be done, including repairs to a ceiling in another section and exterior work. This is planned to be complete before the beach is set to open.
- The Facilities Director is lining up repairs to the McNally structure which will include demolition of the second floor that was not built to code and retaining the first floor which is still structurally sound.
- The Facilities Director secured a new architect for the Ritter ADA Ramp and Building Envelope project. Once he has updated the drawings and specifications, we will work on re-submitting a Certificate to Alter to the APDC.
- The Facilities Director attended procurement training the week of March 7th.

Department Head Updates

Land Use: The Building Commissioner needs to do a final inspection on this property and once a Certificate of Occupancy is issued, this will capture the new growth for this property towards the certification in the fall. The Planning Board has reviewed and interviewed the three firms for the Master Plan and the award will be to a company called Over Under of Boston for a total of \$153,000. The MBTA Action Plan was submitted to the State and is now pending approval. This is to be in compliance with the new multi-family zoning requirements for MBTA communities and adjacent communities.

Fire: The Fire Chief reported that by fall of 2023 there will be 2 paramedics on each shift. Chief waiting on update on repairs to Ambulance and when it will be back in service.

COA: The Council on Aging is planning on having a volunteer job fair in September, which will include 7-10 large non-profit organizations. Free Reiki classes will be held the 1st Monday and last Friday of the month from 10 to noon and the Memory Cafe is back up and running. The lunches put on by the Meal Site Manager are going well.

Police: Due to Officer Pingitore leaving for the MA State Police, they have one patrol vacancy. The hybrid police cruiser is expected to be delivered the week of March 20th. The department is still working towards full accreditation, which is expected by summer. The PD's security system is having critical failures and trying to work with current vendor to provide temporary fixes. The Chief reported

that arrest numbers were up from this time last year and accidents were down.

DPW: The DPW had seven snow events in February and they spent a couple of weeks doing tree clean up. The Director is currently working with the engineers on the Flat Hill Road culvert project and the Page Street culvert project to prepare to bid. They continue to interview candidates occasionally for the Heavy Equipment Operator position but to date have not found the right candidate.

Public Access: Public Access is continuing to work with IT on the network connection that is needed from Town Hall to the School and will be order the necessary equipment. The IT Director reported that Comcast finished the connection and this is ready for IT and Public Access to test out.

Assessors: The Principal Assessor reported that MV excise bill were mailed out.

Library: The Library has been busy with programming and is currently looking for a Digital Services Librarian and Library Assistant.

Disposal of Surplus Equipment/Vehicle through Municibid:

- The Council on Aging Director auctioned a 10 year old steam table on Municibid. The table sold for \$525.
- The Police Department is auctioning off a 2016 Ford Explorer Police Cruiser with over 168,000 miles on it on Municibid. This vehicle is no longer part of the fleet and is not reliable as a cruiser. It is also the last gas Ford vehicle.

Mass Development One Stop for Growth Expression of Interest (TM Goal #1

Last week I submitted an Expression of Interest application for two projects to Mass Development through their One Stop for Growth portal. The purpose of an expression of interest is to give applicants an opportunity to articulate the goals, objectives and preparations as they related to certain projects related to economic development and receive feedback and guidance from Mass Development for the path forward for each project.

The first project was improvements to the Leominster-Shirley Road corridor. This project was proposed by the Land Use Director and he provided all the relevant information that needed to be submitted as part of the Expression of Interest. This proposed project is to design intersection improvements at two locations on Leominster Shirley Road to ease traffic congestion and mitigate safety concerns along the corridor. The two intersections on Leominster-Shirley Road are at Reservoir and Fort Pond Roads.

The other Expression of Interest project was for technical assistance through Mass Development's Real Estate Services Technical Assistance program to assist with putting together a Request for Proposals when we are ready to sell the property. Feedback on both of these projects will assist the town to submit formal applications that are due by June 2, 2023.

Public Employee Committee Agreement Update:

The last time the Town amended the health insurance agreement with the Public Employee Committee, the Town agreed to investigate offering a health insurance opt out plan. We will be working with our health insurance consultant and are aiming to meet with the Public Employee Committee in April. The idea behind a health insurance agreement is that employees that have been on the town's health insurance would opt out for a minimum period of time and receive a payment for opting out. This would result in an overall savings for the town for the employer share of health insurance plans.

30 School Street Hazardous Materials Abatement and Demolition:

The Contractor awarded the hazardous materials abatement and demolition of 30 School Street provided a project schedule and they have begun the administrative side of the project by notifying DEP of the hazardous materials abatement and requesting permits. Their schedule indicates they will be preparing the site the last two weeks of March and the abatement will be the first two weeks of April and begin to mobilize for demolition by mid-April. The current schedule indicates a completion date of May 8th.

Tax Assessment Services Update:

We have entered into an agreement with Municipal Finance Services, LLC out of Stoneham for tax assessment services for up to \$10,000 as authorized by the Select Board related to lakefront abatement applications. The firm began inspecting properties this past weekend and will be continuing to inspect properties every weekend.

We currently have a Request for Proposals out for bid and proposals are due this Thursday, March 23rd. This will be the same scope of services as the smaller contract but due to the estimated cost, required to be put out for formal bid.

Meetings, Events, and Other Announcements:

- The Citizens Party Caucus in Monday, March 27th at 7 PM at the MS/HS Auditorium.
- The Finance Committee has a public hearing on the budget and articles on the ATM warrant on March 30, 2023 at 7 PM at Town Hall.
- The Annual Town Meeting is Saturday, May 6, 2023 at 9 AM at the Lunenburg Middle/High School.
- The Annual Town Election is Saturday, May 20, 2023 7 AM-5 PM at TCP.

CURRENT BUSINESS

1. **Approval of Common Victualler license for Priha, Inc d/b/a Jaxx Country Variety, 1353 Mass. Ave.**

Mr. Jeffreys noted this had been overlooked at the alcohol license hearing for Jaxx Country Variety.

Motion: T. Alonzo

2nd: L. Franco

To approve the common victualler license for Priha, Inc. d/b/a Jaxx Country Variety

Vote: All in Favor

2. **Review Upcoming List of Board/Committee Vacancies for June**

Mr. Franco read the list of upcoming vacancies, including current vacancies and annual appointments/reappointments in June.

300th ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

2 MEMBERS (after this evening's appointments)

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

2 MEMBERS

1 ASSOCIATE MEMBER

ARCHITECTURAL PRESERVATION DISTRICT COMMISSION

1 MEMBER AT LARGE

1 RESIDENT MEMBER

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES COMMISSION (APPOINTED BY TOWN MANAGER/RATIFIED BY SB)

1 MEMBER AT LARGE

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

2 MEMBERS

COUNCIL ON AGING

3 MEMBERS

GREEN COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

1 MEMBER

1 ASSOCIATE MEMBER

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

3 MEMBERS

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

2 MEMBERS

PACC

3 MEMBERS

ZBA

1 ASSOCIATE MEMBER

Mr. Jeffreys noted these vacancies will be advertised and anyone interested should submit a volunteer form to the Select Board office prior to the end of May.

3. Approval of Minutes of January 17, 2023 (Session II)

Motion: T. Alonzo

2nd: L. Franco

To approve the minutes of January 17, 2023 (Session II) as presented

Vote: All in Favor

OLD BUSINESS

Finalize Budget and Legislative Priorities Submittal to Legislators

The board reviewed the various department requests. She presented a list for this year to the legislators:

1. Security Upgrades at the Public Safety Building (cost TBD but estimated at \$50,000)
2. Security Upgrades identified on FY24 Capital Plan for THES and Primary School (\$160,000, \$131,000, and \$83,500, respectively for three projects)
3. Fire Alarm at THES on FY24 Capital Plan (\$287,000)
4. Marshall Park Funding

Ms. Lemieux noted the security upgrade amount (#1) has been finalized at \$83,000. Ms. Lemieux noted the security upgrade amount (#1) has been finalized at \$83,000. After discussion, the following was decided on:

1. Turkey Hill Elementary School \$374,000
2. Marshall Park \$250,000
3. Library \$36,000
4. Sewer Pump stations \$300,00

Old Business (continued)

Discussion on Senior Tax Relief Program for the ATM

The board was directed to the draft warrant article for the town meeting:

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board, on behalf of the Town, to petition the General Court for the enactment of special legislation substantially as provided below, provided that the General Court may reasonably vary the form and substance of the requested legislation within the scope of the general public objectives of this petition:

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF LUNENBURG TO ESTABLISH A MEANS TESTED SENIOR CITIZEN PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION.

SECTION 1. With respect to each qualifying parcel of real property classified as class one, residential in the town of Lunenburg, there shall be an exemption from the property tax in an amount to be set annually by the board of assessors as provided in section 3. The exemption shall be applied to the domicile of the taxpayer only. For the purposes of this act, "parcel" shall mean a unit of real property as defined by the board of assessors under the deed for the property and shall include a condominium unit. The exemption provided for herein shall be in addition to any other exemptions allowed under the General Laws.

SECTION 2. The board of assessors of the town of Lunenburg may deny an application for exemption if the board finds that an applicant has excessive assets that place the applicant outside of the intended recipients of the senior citizen tax exemption created by this act. Real property shall qualify for the exemption under section 1 if all of the following criteria are met:

- (i) The qualifying real property is owned and occupied by an Applicant who has applied for and been granted the State's Senior Circuit Breaker Tax Credit;

Each Applicant named in an application who has attained the eligibility age 70 years for an elderly exemption in Lunenburg under M.G.L. Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 41(C) must have applied for and been granted this exemption;

- (i) Each Applicant named in an application has attained the age of 65 years by the close of the calendar year immediately preceding the year of application;
- (ii) The Applicant has owned and occupied a home in the Town of Lunenburg, as his or her primary residence, for at least 15 consecutive years pre-dating and including the date of application;
- (iii) The Applicant has demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Lunenburg Board of Assessors that (s)he, and each co-applicant, owns no other significant assets such as, by way of non-limiting example, a second home, a trust fund, securities, equities, and bonds.
- (iv) The amount of relief granted to each Applicant under this program shall not exceed 100 percent of the Circuit Breaker Tax Credit for which the Applicant qualified in the previous year.

SECTION 3. The board of assessors of the town of Lunenburg shall annually set the exemption amount provided for in section 1 relative; provided, however, that the amount of the exemption shall not exceed the amount of the circuit breaker income tax credit pursuant to subsection (k) of section 6 of chapter 62

of the General Laws for which the applicant qualified in the previous year. The total amount exempted by this act shall be allocated proportionally within the tax levy on all residential taxpayers and shall not exceed 1 percent of the town-wide real property tax levy. To the extent that the total value of exemption requests timely received by the board of assessors exceeds 1 percent of the levy, the exemption amount for which each applicant has otherwise established eligibility shall be proportionally reduced by multiplying the established eligibility amount by a quotient equal to 1 percent of the levy divided by the total town-wide dollar value of exemption requests for which Applicants in the aggregate would be eligible in the absence of the cap represented by 1 percent of the levy.

SECTION 4. A person who seeks to qualify for the exemption under section 1 shall, before the deadline established by the board of assessors of the town of Lunenburg, file an application, on a form to be adopted by the board of assessors, with the supporting documentation of the applicant's income and assets as described in the application. An applicant must submit an application, and demonstrate eligibility, for each year for which the applicant seeks the exemption.

SECTION 5. No exemption shall be granted under this act until the department of revenue certifies a residential tax rate for the applicable tax year where the total exemption amount is raised by a burden shift within the residential tax levy.

SECTION 6. This act shall expire after 3 years of implementation of the exemption. or take any other action relative thereto.
(Submitted by the Town Manager)

The board discussed legal counsel's comments. It was noted that if approved at town meeting, the state legislature will have to be petitioned under home rule or petition. After discussion, Ms. Lemieux will ask Town Counsel a question about expiration after three years (section 6) and an amended draft will be presented next meeting.

The board moved on to the ATM warrant and reviewed the articles and made recommendations on some of them. Many did not have monetary numbers as yet and were passed over.

- To see if the Town will vote to hear and/or accept the regular written reports of the Town Officers and Committees; or take any other action relative thereto.
(Submitted by the Town Manager)

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION: RECOMMENDS 4- 0

- To see if the Town will vote to authorize revolving funds for various departments, boards, committees, agencies or officers pursuant to Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023 to be expended in accordance with the by-law heretofore approved; or take any other action relative thereto.
(Submitted by the Town Manager)
- To see if the Town will vote to authorize revolving funds for various departments, boards, committees, agencies or officers pursuant to Massachusetts General Law Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023 to be expended in accordance with the by-law heretofore approved; or take any other action relative thereto.
(Submitted by the Town Manager)

<i>Revolving Fund</i>	<i>FY24Spending Limit</i>
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Ambulance Billing	\$100,000
Timber Rights	\$10,000
School Custodial Special Details	\$13,000
Green Thumb	\$5,000
Library Revolving	\$12,000
Council on Aging/MART Revolving	\$45,000
Stormwater Task Force	\$5,000
Electrical, Gas, Plumbing Inspector	\$46,000
Technology	\$30,000

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION: RECOMMENDS 4- 0

- To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds, all sums of money necessary to the Overlay Account for all costs associated with FY 2023 abatements; or take any other action relative thereto. (Submitted by the Town Manager)

Ms. Lemieux stated she was recommending \$1.5M from Free Cash. That includes worst case scenario if every abatement was approved plus interest if it moved on to Appellate Tax Board and that we had to pay back interest on those abatements minus the \$200 000 from the overlay, so worst case scenario is \$1.5 M. Further discussion ensued about the possibility of the bills being mailed late and changing the deadline date.

- To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$10,000.00 from the Sale of Lots account to be used for the care, improvement and embellishment of the

Town Cemeteries; or to take any other action relative thereto. (Submitted by the Cemetery Commission)

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION: RECOMMENDS 4- 0

- To see if the Town will vote to amend the Code of Lunenburg, to modify §250-4.1 by inserting §250-4.1K(20) Self-Storage as shown below, or any other action relative thereto.

4.1K	COMMERCIAL USES	RA	RB	O	LB/R	C	OP/I	R	VC D	S S	TT	W
4.1K(20)	Self-Storage	-	-	-	-	S P - Z B	SP - ZB	-	-	-	-	-

4.1K(20) Self-Storage: A building or group of buildings of a controlled- access and/or fenced

compound that contains compartmentalized and controlled-access stalls or lockers, for the storage of customers' goods or wares.

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION: RECOMMENDS 4- 0

- To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c.40, §5B, to create a new special purpose stabilization fund, to be known as the Opioid Settlement Stabilization Fund, which may be expended for all of the purposes allowed by law, including those outlined in applicable opioid-litigation settlement documents, a document prepared by the Substance Abuse Bureau of the Commonwealth's Office of Health and Human Services Department, found at <https://www.mass.gov/doc/massachusetts-abatement-terms/download> entitled "Abatement Strategies", and consistent with any state guidelines or regulations further clarifying allowable uses of opioid litigation settlement funds; and further, to adopt the last paragraph of said §5B and dedicate to such fund, without further appropriation, 100% of the opioid litigation settlement funds received by the Town; and further, to transfer from available funds a sum of money equal to that received or to be received by the Town from opioid litigation settlements resulting from the Town's participation in the national Opioid Multi-District Litigation into said Opioid Settlement Stabilization Fund; or take any other action relative thereto. (Submitted by the Town Manager)

SELECT BOARD RECOMMENDATION: RECOMMENDS 4- 0

WARRANTS

The board signed an Accounts Payable warrant in the amount of \$366,747.26.

ACTION ITEMS

Mr. Jeffreys in response to Ms. Clark's public comment regarding Unitil's communications during the March 14th storm, brought up the discussion. Ms. Lemieux stated during one of our calls; we had calls twice a day during the storm it was addressed. Unitil met or exceeded those requirements of that law; they were sending out PSAs daily, they were doing social media posts, they did interviews with the media and they sent emails to their customers that they had email addresses for. They did address that with every all the member towns that were on that call and I did put that as well in a post I did on Facebook.

Mr. Jeffreys asked how the resident who doesn't have power gets the communication from them. Ms. Lemieux will research that. Mr. Alonzo commended the DPW for their work during the storm.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Franco reported he attended the Council on Aging meeting and there was much discussion about the 300th Anniversary Committee and how the COA could be involved. Eagle House Supporters are still holding their clothing drive for the Epilepsy Foundation. They are collecting clothing every Tuesday and Thursday between 10:00 AM and 12 Noon until April 29th.

Mr. Alonzo reported Finance Committee is holding their public hearing for the budget on March 30th at 7:00 PM in this room.

Mr. Jeffreys reported Ms. Lemieux, the Finance Director and he met with the Library Trustees Chairman regarding their trust funds. The legislature has finally approved their using other

investment resources. Ms. Lemieux and Mr. Jeffreys met with resident Jack Rabbitt and the majority of the discussion was about Jack's experience using a quality control system and how the town can benefit from that. This is looking at a business model for quality control and implementing and identifying how the town could be better for it. Mr. Rabbitt sent a lengthy 119 page packet; we went through that packet, although we did skip around 35 or 40 pages that were focused on the tax assessment investigation. I would focus if you're just looking at it, on the quality portion, it's actually some really good stuff.

Municipal Building Design Committee met last night. We will be meeting again the first Monday of April to finalize the hybrid option as well as providing the Select Board with their needs. The committee believes we have met the board's charge being able to come forward with different plans. We will be looking to schedule a meeting with the board in April with the intent to provide those permutations to lay out what a projected timeline could be for this board's consideration and further development.

Mr. Jeffreys reviewed the upcoming meetings; March 28th and April 4th.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Lemieux reiterated she was sad to hear of Mr. Dwyer's resignation. I think he was an excellent board member. I respected his opinions and what he added as far as value to the meetings. So it's hard to see him go.

Mr. Alonzo reminded the Water District is holding their annual election this Saturday from 8:00 – 10:00 a.m. and immediately after they will hold their annual meeting.

Motion: T. Alonzo
To adjourn the meeting

2nd: L. Franco
Vote: All in Favor

The meeting adjourned at 9:41 PM

Respectfully submitted,



Elaine M. Peterson
Executive Assistant to the Town Manager