

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the July 13, 2004 Meeting

6:30 p.m. Consultation w/Labor Relations Consultant. Pursuant to RSA 91-A 2 I, session was not open to the public.

1. CALL TO ORDER by Chairman William P. Cole at 7:00 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was led by Selectman Richard J. Maddox, following which Chairman Cole said a community is defined by the activities that take place within it and by the people who support those activities. Family, business, education, religion and recreation are but a few of the many areas of activity which depend on the day-to-day efforts of dedicated men and women. The Town's ability to provide essential services is yet another activity which depends on the hard work and support of individuals committed to the betterment of others. Those of us involved in Town operations, whether out in the field with the Police, Fire and DPW, whether Town employees or elected or appointed officials, have been saddened by the recent passing of three such outstanding individuals--John Bouley, Ed Badger and Mark Carpentier. John Bouley passed away on June 29th. He was a former Hudson resident who served with distinction as a member of the Fire Department's Call Force during the 1960's. Ed Badger created Hudson's official web site back in 1996 and served as its coordinator until just prior to his death on June 24th. Mark Carpentier, who passed away unexpectedly on July 5th as a loving husband, provided both personal and professional support to his wife, the Town's Finance Director, Kathy Carpentier. Chairman Cole asked everyone to keep John, Ed and Mark and their loved ones in their thoughts and prayers during this time of sadness and loss for the community. He then called for a moment of silence.

3. ATTENDANCE

Selectmen: William P. Cole, Teresa Stewart, Kenneth J. Massey, Kathleen R. MacLean and Richard J. Maddox

Staff/Others: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator; Priscilla Boisvert, Executive Assistant; Tom Sommers, Town Engineer; Rhona Charbonneau; Esther McGraw; Shawn Jasper; Leo Bernard; Ray Rowell; Tim Quinn; Ken Dickinson; Linda Kipnes; Bob Haefner; Howard Dilworth, Jr; Anne Lundregan, TEL

4. PUBLIC INPUT

Rhona Charbonneau, 2 Old Derry Road, said she met with Commissioner Murray today for about 1-1/2 hours relative to the acquisition of Benson's property. The three problem areas the Town had are being reviewed and the State hopes to have an answer within a week or two. Mrs. Charbonneau wasn't at liberty to discuss any more of what transpired in the meeting, but believes things will move along nicely. Relative to the ball fields by Stop & Shop, Commissioner Murray would like a copy of a plan, promising that she would move this project along, as well. She'd be happy to see what she can do, now that there is a right of way through Stop & Shop. Mrs. Charbonneau volunteered to bring the plans to Commissioner Murray, as it was important to do that as soon as possible, and assured the Board that their concerns were being addressed. Once the Town has the Quit Claim Deed, they should contact the Congressional Delegation for their help in getting federal grants.

Esther McGraw, 69 Kimball Hill Road, Benson's Committee Chairman, said the next cleanup day at Benson's is September 18. She had hoped to have more than one more cleanup day because a lot of people have pledged their help, even out-of-towners.

5. NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

A. Nashua Regional Planning Commission (Two alternates, terms to expire 12/31/06 and 12/31/07)

B. Planning Board (One alternate, term to expire 12/31/05)

C. Solid Waste Study Committee (One member, term to expire 12/31/05)

D. Zoning Board of Adjustment (Two alternates, terms to expire 12/31/05 and 12/31/06)

There being no applications received in time for the agenda, Chairman Cole said the vacancies will be re-advertised.

6. CONSENT ITEMS

Motion by Selectman MacLean, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to receive consent agenda items. A – D, as appropriate, carried unanimously.

A. Assessing Items

- 1) Elderly Exemption, 70 Highland Street, w/recommendation to grant.
- 2) Re-granting Elderly Exemptions, 277 Webster St & 142 Ferry St, w/recommendation to grant.
- 3) Re-granting Disabled Exemption, 17 Oliver Dr, w/recommendation to grant.
- 4) Veteran Tax Credits, 5 Lexington, 29 Westchester, 32 Sheffield, 70 Barretts Hill, 19B Holly, w/recommendation to grant.

B. Licenses and Permits

Outdoor Gathering Permit by Hudson Historical Society to hold Old Home Days at the Hills House on August 20, 21 & 22, 2004 in accordance w/staff recommendations.

C. Acceptance of Minutes

Minutes of the Selectmen's Meeting of June 22, 2004—accepted and referred to file.

D. Committee Announcements

7/14 3:00 Nashua Region Phase II Storm Water Coalition @ NRPC

7/14 6:00 Benson's Committee in BOS Meeting Room

7/14 7:00 Planning Board in CD Meeting Room

7/15 8:00 Highway Negotiations in BOS Meeting Room

7/15 10:00 HPD Negotiations in BOS Meeting Room

7/19 6:30 School Board in BOS Meeting Room

7/19 7:30 Conservation Commission in CD Meeting Room

7/21 6:00 Library Board of Trustees @ Ferry Street Annex

7/22 7:30 ZBA in CD Meeting Room

7/24 MDA Boot Drive at intersection of Derry/Ferry and Chase Streets

7/27 1:00 Trustees of the Trust Funds at Town Hall

7/27 7:00 Board of Selectmen in BOS Meeting Room

7/28 7:00 Planning Board in CD Meeting Room

7/31 8:00 -2:00 Cleanup Day @ West Road Landfill

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Dedication of Leonard A. Smith Central Fire Station

Shawn Jasper, 83 Old Derry Road, said at the Board's last meeting, they made a slight change to the wording on the plaque, from Commission to Commissioner. In order to keep things consistent, the word Board should be included relative to the committees Lenny served on, i.e., "Member of the Budget Committee, Planning Board and Building Board Of Appeals." The Board had no objection to the wording change. Mr. Jasper will order the plaque, which will

take about six weeks. Chairman Cole said, as a carryover from the June 22nd meeting, the Board was going to set a date for the dedication of the Fire Station tonight. On June 24, he e-mailed Marilyn McGrath, suggesting that she contact the Fire Chief and members of Lenny's family to give the Board a couple of options for dates to consider, but he has not heard back from her. They are in the process of looking at the Town's observance of September 11. Selectman Maddox felt that the dedication could also be held on September 11, and if there is a problem, Marilyn will let them know. At least they would be moving forward. Selectman MacLean asked if the dedication would be tied in with the 9-11 observance. Chairman Cole thought that would be inappropriate and ill-conceived. There is also going to be a state-wide Fire Chiefs' convention in Nashua on the 11th but he didn't know if that would impact the Town's plans. Selectman Massey said someone at the high school was trying to organize something on the 11th. He didn't think it was appropriate to do both events at the same time. September 4th was a holiday weekend and September 18th was Benson's cleanup day, so the only Saturday left is September 25. Selectman Stewart suggested October 9th during the Fire Department's open house for Fire Prevention Week. Chairman Cole didn't see a problem with that date, but thought they might want to wait until their next meeting so he can close the loop with Marilyn. The Board had no objection to deferring this item to July 27.

B. Revision of Charter for Open Space Subcommittee of Conservation Commission

Conservation Commission Chairman Tim Quinn and member Bob Haefner were recognized. A lengthy discussion ensued, relative to the establishment of an Open Space subcommittee of the Conservation Commission. Chairman Cole didn't see a significant change in the Charter from the one that was before them at a previous meeting. Selectman MacLean thought that the Conservation Commission did address the previous concerns and she supported them. Selectman Massey said from the first time this came before them, it sounded like a full-fledged committee with term limits and voting rights. Mr. Quinn said the object of the subcommittee was to develop a plan to identify and prioritize open space and provide a stewardship plan to manage open space. They cannot spend money or make commitments. Mr. Haefner said the subcommittee would not be able to make any final decision. Everything would be under the purview of the Conservation Commission. Chairman Cole asked Mr. Quinn what his expectation was from the Board. Mr. Quinn said a wild round of applause and for the Board to say this was a good idea and to come back in three months with a report--authorization to begin. Chairman Cole asked if the intent was to go ahead and form the subcommittee even without the Board's authorization. Mr. Quinn said yes, it was. (Selectman MacLean provided the applause.) Selectman Massey said this would not get his vote for the same reasons he voted against it the last time--a subcommittee shouldn't be structured to look like a true committee, with staggered terms, lengths of terms and alternates. Selectman Maddox said he was caught between Selectman MacLean's applause and Selectman Massey's skepticism. His hope was that the Board of Selectmen had appointed people to the Conservation Commission that knows what the Board expects and will work within that structure to make the subcommittee useful and functional. He has reservations relative to its design, but if enthusiasm counts, he will side with Selectman MacLean.

Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman MacLean, to give approval to the Hudson Open Space Committee to go forward and for the Conservation Commission or Open Space Subcommittee to present a report at the Selectmen's meeting on December 14, 2004. When asked to read the motion back, the Recorder said, "The Board gives approval for the Subcommittee to be formed, to allow them to go forward and that either the Subcommittee or the Conservation Commission presents a report to the Board of Selectmen at their meeting on December 14." Selectman MacLean couldn't understand the need for the subcommittee having to report back to the Board of Selectmen, which is not required of other committees. Selectman Stewart said mainly because Mr. Quinn suggested it. Also, it is a new committee and a progress report would be nice. In the past, the Planning Board has been requested to come before the Selectmen to explain certain things, so it's not an isolated thing. The Board had formed a Land Preservation Committee that never went anywhere.

Selectman Massey moved to amend, seconded by Selectman MacLean, to delete the first 15 lines under 'Structure,' and replace with, "The subcommittee shall consist of members of the Conservation Commission and other personnel who will bring specific skills and experience to the subcommittee, all of whom shall be Hudson residents." Selectman Massey said there is no need for the subcommittee to have voting rights because they would only be making recommendations, not motions. Selectman MacLean disagreed, thinking that it would be much more orderly if the group spoke with one voice by voting on their items. Selectman Massey said his motion would not prevent them from allowing voting to take place. He's simply saying it should be a true subcommittee, which is formed for a specific purpose, that reports back to the Commission, as a whole, and the Commission, as a whole, takes action thereof. He wants the Conservation Commission to be responsible for everything that happens for open space, not a subcommittee, and the only way that could happen is if the Selectmen make it clear that this is an advisory group to the Conservation Commission. The amendment failed by a vote of 1-4, with Selectman Massey voting in favor.

Amendment by Selectman Maddox, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to substitute the word 'support' for 'approval' and to change 'the committee' to 'Chairman of the Conservation Commission,' carried 4-1, with Chairman Cole voting in opposition. The main motion then read, "To give support for a Open Space Committee to go forward and for the Chairman of the Conservation Commission to present a report to the Board of Selectmen at their meeting on Dec. 14."

Selectman Maddox asked if the Hudson Land Preservation Committee was going to be dissolved. Chairman Cole said it was a defunct committee and served no purpose, so they could take it up at their next meeting to get it off the books. He agreed with Selectman Massey that this was not a subcommittee they were talking about, but a full-fledged committee. The Board of Selectmen wasn't really approving or supporting anything because the Conservation Commission was going to form the subcommittee, regardless of what the Selectmen think. That opens the door for future subcommittees to be formed; one to count birds; one to check on wild life; etc. There'll be no end to it, once they head down this road. Some say the RSAs support the Conservation Commission doing this, but he didn't think that was totally true. The Conservation Commission came to the Board a couple of meetings ago for input, which the Board of Selectmen gave to them. The document that was presented to the Selectmen tonight was essentially the same document, with a couple of small changes, but didn't include the Selectmen's recommendations. He referred to the memo from the Conservation Commission, dated July 5, 2004 and asked what was meant by, "There is a synergism between the talent embodied. . ." Mr. Quinn said the Conservation Commission deals with issues of wetlands, a large part of which is open space, and a lot of people on the Commission have technical knowledge of defining wetlands, buffers, flowing waters and different types of wetlands that, under criteria that has been used by (not discernable) would define the value of open space. Chairman Cole said with all of the synergism within the Conservation Commission, it would seem logical that the subcommittee would be made up of a majority of Conservation Commission members. The proposed method would take only a minimum of two members, which sets up the specter of the meetings being attended and/or run by outsiders to the Conservation Commission. Mr. Quinn said the subcommittee's scope was limited to building a plan for open space in Hudson. Chairman Cole thought that task was implied in the Conservation Commission's mission statement. Mr. Quinn said it was, and the subcommittee was a tool to develop the plan. Chairman Cole said that plan could conceivably be developed by non-Conservation Commission members, if the two representatives to the committee were not in attendance, so he couldn't possibly support this train that is off the track. The Conservation Commission does good work but, in this case, has wandered off the reservation.

Selectman Massey said he'd vote against this because if the subcommittee's mission was just to develop a plan, there is no need for a structure that includes terms of office and alternates. The purpose is finite and should have a finite time in which to operate. A subcommittee, if formed as planned, will eventually morph into something more. Mr. Quinn said they envision the plan will be something dynamic and changing over time. Selectman Maddox asked Mr. Quinn if the Conservation Commission was going to form the subcommittee, regardless of what the Selectmen do. Mr. Quinn said that was the intent. Selectman Maddox said he couldn't see the sense in supporting this if it's going to be done anyway, as much as he thinks what they are going to do is a good thing. He agreed with the Chairman's comments with regard to the train. Mr. Quinn said the Conservation Commission would unanimously support whoever comes up with a plan for open space in Hudson—but no one is doing it. Meanwhile, open space is being lost every day. Selectman MacLean thought the Conservation Commission has a great plan. They are energetic and want to do something good for the Town. Instead of beating them down, the Selectmen should encourage them to go for it and come back to the Board to report on how it's going. They are all grownups and she definitely supports them. Moreover, they don't even need the Board's support or approval. Selectman Stewart, in view of the aforementioned comments, withdrew her motion and Selectman MacLean withdrew her second. Selectman MacLean made a motion to support the Charter, but there was no second.

Motion by Selectman Maddox, seconded by Selectman Massey, that the Board of Selectmen supports open space and the Conservation Commission and would hope that an open space plan would be developed through the Conservation Commission.

Selectman Maddox said since the Commission is going to form a subcommittee anyway, so a formal vote from the Board of Selectmen isn't necessary. If the intent is for the committee to develop a plan, the Commission should just appoint some people within the Conservation Commission, or from the community, and just do it.

Vote: Motion carried 4-1. Selectman MacLean voted in the negative.

C. Proposed Makeup of Water Utility Committee

Town Engineer Tom Sommers said when he drafted this, he used wording from the Sewer Utility and RSA 38 relative

to the responsibilities and rights of forming this board. He recommended referring this to legal counsel to wordsmith.

Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Maddox, to refer the memo from Tom Sommers, dated July 8, 2004 Formation of Water Utility Committee w/attachment to the attorney to review prior to Board action, carried unanimously.

D. Award of Bid for Wason Road Water Line Extension

Town Engineer Tom Sommers said the recommendation was to award the bid to Hudson Paving for \$39,021 the lowest of four bids. Now is the time to do this because there is construction in this area and people in this area have petitioned for Town water because of the quality of their well water. He hoped they wouldn't lose this opportunity during the reconstruction of the road. Selectman Maddox suggested deferring this until their next meeting, pending information from the developer. Mr. Sommers didn't think there would be any further input. They are going through a review of the development plan with respect to the water, which they are paying for, and that is taking some time. They are looking at Compass Point with respect to that. This one piece won't be affected one way or the other. The longer the Town waits, the closer it is to Stop & Shop doing their work. The Town would then have to go back and excavate that area. This is a very short section of the 2,400' extension. He is in the process of drafting an agreement to present to the Board for consideration to be used for future items like this, i.e., proposed water line extensions, etc. The wording was taken from Pennichuck, who has a lot of experience in this area. He has also been meeting with the developer on other aspects, but it's not going to be ready for the next meeting.

(Start Tape 2, Side A)

Selectman Maddox said the Town didn't plan to do this work and without a commitment from the developer that the Town isn't going to pay the entire bill, he didn't want to award the bid. Chairman Cole said the agreement would be contingent on the developer getting Planning Board approval—and who knows when that will be. In the interim, if the 400' section isn't put in, the individuals in the Holly Street-Colson area, who have experienced water problems, would be on hold and nothing would get done. It was the intent for the Town to work with the developer in parallel to recoup X number of dollars from the Town's investment in the 400', 12" line. Mr. Sommers said that was correct, and there was another whole part to this as you move up in elevation, the possibility of a pumping station. Selectman Maddox said they are trying to push an elephant up hill. The developer who came before the Board didn't make any commitment. Understandably, the developer is in a difficult position, because his plan isn't approved by the Planning Board and still has several meetings to go—and the development might not even get built, for whatever reason. Chairman Cole said the question was if the Board felt that it was a good thing for the Town to put in a 400' long, 12" line down Wason Road.

Selectman Massey said a homeowner has approached him on several occasions about the poor quality of the water on Holly Lane. He believes that wells in that entire area are going to be in failure mode. People in the Bush Hill area, which is uphill from this area, have wells that they don't drink from because of the water quality. Even if this developer didn't materialize, the Town would be in a position to create a water-betterment district for Holly Lane and Colson Lane residents to tie into Town water, and it would be an opportunity for the Board to be proactive instead of always playing catch-up. This is the right thing to do and the Town has the ability to tell the developer there's a cost attached. He doesn't get a free ride because the Town can assess him some cost. There is no down side risk in doing this. Selectman Maddox agreed that this was a good plan, but he objected to the fact that it was raced in by a developer to get water to his development. Even though forward-thinking by the Board was a good thing, he didn't like being pushed by a developer who would benefit greatly by having Town water. Chairman Cole said it's interesting to see the various imaginative categories that funds are solicited from developers. He has no doubt that if circumstances allow them to deal with this developer, or others, for the 2,000 additional feet, the Town will recoup the expense on this project.

Motion by Selectman Massey, seconded by Selectman MacLean, to award the bid for the 400' water line extension for Wason Road to the low bidder, Hudson Paving & Excavation, in the amount of \$39,021 carried 4-1. Selectman Maddox voted in opposition.

Selectman Massey asked Mr. Sommers if he knew when this would get started. Mr. Sommers said he'd know tomorrow and expects it will be shortly. Selectman Massey said Stop & Shop isn't even close to starting work on their part of the road.

E. Organization of Cable Access Television

Chairman Cole said this item was put on tonight's agenda, as a result of their meeting with Atty. Epstein. Apparently, there was a miscommunication and the information from the attorney has not yet arrived.

Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman MacLean, to defer until the information is received from Atty. Epstein.

Amendment by Selectman Maddox, seconded by Selectman MacLean, to defer until July 27, 2004 carried 5-0.

Vote on the amended motion to defer until July 27, 2004, carried unanimously.

Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Maddox, for a recess at 8:12 p.m. carried 5-0. The meeting resumed at 8:19 p.m.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Public Hearing/Acceptance of a Donation from the Hudson-Litchfield Rotary Club to purchase and install three replacement benches at Library Park, which carries an estimated cost of \$2,245

Chairman Cole mentioned that the Road Agent had submitted a memo in support of this project, and would assist in the installation of the park benches, which will replace the old ones. He opened the public hearing at 8:20 p.m. and asked if anyone wished to speak. Being no response, he closed the hearing. Selectman Maddox wondered about the size of the logo and where it will be placed because that information was not included in the backup material.

Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman MacLean, to accept the donation, with the Board's appreciation, and with special thanks to Road Agent Kevin Burns and the members of the Highway Department, who will assist in this project, carried unanimously.

B. Sewer User Rate Reduction, as recommended by the Sewer Utility Committee

Town Engineer Tom Sommers said this action was the recommendation of the Sewer Utility, which is financially sound. There are enough new users coming into the system so those revenues can easily cover any reduction in cost. The rate has been held steady, with this being the second reduction. Selectman Massey said the Sewer Utility Committee spent a lot of time reviewing this and they have picked a prudent number, which he agreed with. Chairman Cole asked what the \$39,000 represented and if Mr. Sommers could foresee something happening that would cause the Town to renege on this. Mr. Sommers said the \$39,000 was lost revenue for a year, but new users will more than offset that, and the Town would not renege. Selectman MacLean thanked Mr. Sommers and the committee, saying this reduction was great.

Motion by Selectman Massey, seconded by Selectman Maddox, to approve the use of \$39,500 from the undesignated Sewer Fund Balance to result in a \$2 per quarter reduction in the fixed cost portion of the sewer rent for 5/8" and 3/4" meter users and non-metered residential customers, as recommended by the Sewer Utility Committee carried unanimously.

C. South Hudson Water Storage Tank and River Road Water Main Loop

Town Engineer Tom Sommers said, even though this warrant article didn't get the super-majority vote in the last election, it will be coming back because the issue will not go away. He recommended going forward with this by getting a design on the shelf, which would eliminate a year of a two-year process. If an emergency occurred and action needed to be taken, immediately, they would be much better off having a design in place. If there was a significant fire in south Hudson, there might not be enough water to put it out, an opinion of more than one fire chief. If it does happen, there aren't many options presently available to deal with it. He received a budget from the water consultant of \$50,000 and he included another \$20,000 for legal work with respect to land acquisition. They are currently talking with an individual for an easement, but it will take legal action to put together the documentation. They would then follow procurement procedures and the intent is to finish the project this fiscal year to have this item ready to go, whether it is voted in, or if it is something the Town is forced to do. At some point, it has got to happen. Selectman Maddox asked for a clarification of #5. Mr. Sommers said the \$20,000 relates to the legal work, not the cost of the land. Selectman Massey said the money for this was encumbered two years ago, so nothing is coming out of the current budget. Although this is a project for the south end, it will benefit people on the north end, too. A water tower on the south end puts less pressure on the operation of the north end. When the Town was before the

PUC to seek eminent domain proceedings against SoNH Water, two of the specialists who testified for the Town indicated that there were several items that needed to be done to the water system in 1996 and those were to put a tank in the south end, loop the water line in the south end, add another tank in the north end and update pumping and transmission lines in the north end. That same conclusion, essentially, was reached in 2001 when Weston & Sampson did an assessment of the water utility.

Motion by Selectman Maddox, seconded by Selectman Massey, to authorize the Town Engineer to initiate the procurement of design services for the design of the south Hudson water storage tank and water main looping system carried unanimously.

D. Request to negotiate Agreement w/Hudson Police, Fire and Town Supervisors' Association

Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Massey, to enter into negotiations for a successor agreement with the Hudson Police Fire and Town Supervisors' Association, and to appoint Selectman MacLean as the Board's liaison to the negotiating team carried unanimously.

9. OTHER BUSINESS/REMARKS BY THE SELECTMEN

Selectman Stewart said Birchcroft didn't have their trash picked up today by 5:30. She called, and things should be back on schedule.

(Tape 2, Second Side)

Selectman Massey said he accompanied the Town Engineer this week on his monthly survey of the wells that the Town owns in Litchfield. They also visited all of the other assets the Town owns, as the water utility. At the next meeting, he is going to bring a proposal to write the bid specs for the operations and maintenance contract, which expires in April 2005. On the basis of what he saw, it will be quite useful to the Town. If they continue to be a prudent steward of the wells in Litchfield, the amount of draw-down for this month will be normal. He passed out a copy of an intervenor form filing with the PUC. Milford and Raymond, who like Hudson have not joined the Water District, have filed as intervenors with the PUC relative to the Pennichuck-Nashua proceedings. The last date to file is July 23 and filing as an intervenor gives them the right to appear before the PUC to speak on the issue. If you don't file, you are not able to speak before the Commission. It preserves the Town's right to speak, so there is no down-side risk.

Motion by Selectman Massey, seconded by Selectman Maddox, to request the Town Attorney to file the intervenor document carried unanimously.

Selectman MacLean thanked Rhona Charbonneau for all her work at the State on behalf of the Benson's Committee and the Town. She also thanked the Conservation Commission for being so dedicated and committed to their cause. She hoped everything would work out for everyone involved. She thanked all of the volunteers for their time, for doing so much for Hudson. As their liaison, she thanked the Library Trustees, who are working hard on their library plans. On August 10, they plan to come to the Selectmen's meeting with all of their plans to, hopefully, get everyone excited about the possibility of a new library.

Selectman Maddox said he accompanied Bill Oleksak, the Building Inspector, for part of a day, and it was quite educational. Bill was inspecting everything from electrical meters to septic systems. It's amazing the amount of work that is expected by that department during the summer. It was quite the day, running from place to place—and he believes Bill has recovered from all of the questions.

He read the following public notice, at the request of Town Assessor Jim Michaud. "Public Notice. Hudson property value update 2004. In an effort to maintain property assessments current with market value and to maintain accurate valuations to minimize the risk of the State applying an equalization factor to the tax rate that artificially inflates property value and to control budget costs for the Assessing Department on a year to year basis, the Town of Hudson will be updating property values to full market value for all the property, as of April 1, 2004. The Town is anticipating sending out notices of new assessed values in September 2004. The new values will be used on the final tax bill of 2004. Assessing contractors will be conducting on-site data collection duties throughout the Town of Hudson and we thank you for your cooperation with this effort."

Chairman Cole said budget season is just around the proverbial corner, so the Board of Selectmen needs to set parameters for the department heads. He expects to put a budget discussion item on the next agenda or the

following one.

Chairman Cole talked about the article in the Telegraph around the first of July, a story about a grievance that was filed by the IAFF with regard to the Selectmen's decision with regard to union logos. He's not sure how that story came about, because a lot of the information was of a confidential nature, but he won't quibble because a good secret in Hudson is one everybody knows about. Something in the article caught his eye, which was that the Board was "stealing their identity" by taking the logos away from their apparel. The Board isn't stealing anyone's identify. The voters vote to hire fire fighters, not union members. He dearly loves the fire fighters, but there is a limit. When he got back on the Board of Selectmen two and a half years ago, he met with the union, at their request. At that time, he told them that he comes from a union background. He was raised in a union family and in a union town, so he doesn't appreciate anyone trying to out-blue collar or out-lunch pail him. His experience and credentials far exceed anyone in the Fire Department. He wasn't upset about the article; at first, he thought it was humorous, then he felt that it was a bit disingenuous.

10. NONPUBLIC SESSION

Motion y Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman MacLean, to enter Nonpublic Session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (c) Matters which, if discussed in public, likely would affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the body or agency itself, unless such person requests an open meeting; and (d) consideration of the acquisition, sale or lease of real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general community carried 5-0 by roll call vote.

Nonpublic Session was entered into at 8:53 p.m. and was terminated at 9:22 p.m.

Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman MacLean, to abate the unpaid property taxes for 27 Mobile Drive, Map 178/Lot 013-107 for tax years 2002, 2003 and 2004 carried 5-0.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Selectman Maddox, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to adjourn at 9:24 p.m. carried unanimously.

Recorded and Transcribed by Priscilla Boisvert

Executive Assistant

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN

William P. Cole, Chairman

Teresa Stewart, Vice-Chairman

Kathleen R. MacLean, Selectman

Richard J. Maddox, Selectman

Kenneth J. Massey, Selectman