

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Minutes of the April 3, 2012 Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER - by Chairman Coutu the meeting of April 3, 2012 at 7:05 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at Town Hall.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - led by Selectman Nadeau.
3. ATTENDANCE
Board of Selectmen: Roger Coutu, Rick Maddox, Ben Nadeau, Ted Luszey, Nancy Brucker
Staff/Others: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator; Chief Shawn Murray, Deputy Chief Rob Buxton
4. NOMINATIONS & APPOINTMENTS - NONE
5. CONSENT ITEMS

Motion by Selectman Nadeau, seconded by Selectman Luszey, to approve Consent Item A as noted or appropriate, carried 5-0.

A. Licenses & Permits

- 1) Request to Solicit Funds by Hudson Dog Park

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. October 2011 Snowstorm After Action Report

Chairman Coutu recognized Fire Chief Shawn Murray.

Thank you Mr. Chairman and members of the Board. Chief Murray said he was here tonight to provide you with an update of our after action report from the October 2011 snow storm. We have been working on the action items in the report. I've provided you with an update this evening. I'll briefly touch on a couple of the action items we're working on. If any members of the Board have any questions on any of the other areas, I will certainly be glad to answer them for you.

On page 1, number 4, Chief Murray indicated they've been working on obtaining cost estimates for backup generators for Alvirne and Trigate Road radio sites. One of the immediate things we were able to do was put a UPS backup power unit up on Trigate Road. As you know, one of the radio systems both police and fire are up at Merrill Hill. During the October snow storm, there is a generator up there. However, that generator failed and we lost the phone lines to the radio system. Working with IT, they purchased a small UPS unit and now have the critical phone lines and radio power on this UPS backup that will buy us some time and hopefully the generator starts up again up there. We do not own the generator up there. That is a private entity and that's their responsibility. They have since repaired it.

Chief Murray indicated he's been working with Gary Webster in coming up with a written plan for the maintenance and checking of pump houses and sewer stations both mechanically and making sure there's monitoring equipment to assure that during wide-spread power outages that the equipment is operating properly and is being monitored by the SCADA systems that you've heard so much about. Gary will be working on the written plans. I'm not sure if that's going to be another task for his interns.

We reviewed and revised Town Hall and department notifications listing. Just yesterday, Chief Murray said all town departments have a recall telephone notification list. Most recently we updated the emergency operation center call down list, which is all the key players in the Town including the Chairman, department heads, and other critical staff to notify if we have to operate that.

Numbers 7, Chief Murray indicated is our Central Fire Station/Town Hall complex emergency generator. As you are aware, we are currently in progress addressing that issue. We'll be discussing it more tonight.

Page 2 - Establish a Town of Hudson emergency management page on the Town website. That has been accomplished. Chief Murray stated we have a generic emergency preparedness link now on the Town web site. What we have left to do is to now begin to populate it with Town of Hudson specific information. That's ongoing also.

Number 10 - Conduct generator and heating safety public safety announcements and public training session on maintaining portable generators to include proper safe installation and use of such equipment. Chief Murray has completed PowerPoint slides which can be immediately loaded up to the Hudson community TV system which will give people directions on how to make contact with PSNH during a power outage. In addition, I'm trying to find a community partner or business that would be willing to work with us to sponsor a couple training sessions for the public given them general information on generators, how to care and maintain them, and how to run them properly. We'll be working on putting that program together.

Number 11 - Develop use of social media accounts for the dissemination of information related to ongoing storm operations. To date, Chief Murray has established a Town of Hudson emergency management Twitter account. I'm still trying to become familiar with how Twitter really works. Once I do that, I will provide public announcements that will invite the public to join Twitter if they wish to do so. I'm working on establishing a Facebook account. Secondary to that if you recall, the Board approved us to go to the Nixel system, which is another form of media which would alert the public during disasters. Deputy Buxton did set up that account. We now have to just develop the policies and procedures and then once again that will become part of a public information campaign to give them yet another access to information during disasters.

Number 12 - Communicate the need to PSNH to develop a power restoration notification system for local emergency officials. Chief Murray indicated that they will be holding these community meetings which will allow us to give them input on how they can improve their services. I also sent a copy of the October ice storm report to them. We'll be communicating with them to review that with them. That's ongoing as well.

Number 14 - Meet with Rec. Department and School Department to develop dedicated warming centers geographically located around the Town of Hudson. We did have an initial meeting back a month or so ago with Superintendent Bell. What Chief Murray need to do next is - and I'm going to wait until after school gets out - I want to get together with the School Department again with key emergency management personnel in the Town and go look at all our designated shelters now and once again reauthorize or reappoint what the Town is going to use for warming centers. We'll be looking at that geographically.

Selectman Luszey was wondering if we could expand on the recommendation here. I think it's great that we're going to be working with the School Department and hopefully get the use of their schools that now have generators as warming stations. I think we need to once we work out all those details, maybe have a refrigerator magnet for lack of a better description made up and sent to all the property owners in town so that they will know where these warming centers are. Part of the feedback that I got during this whole event is people really didn't know where our centers were. It's great that we're using our cable TV but a lot of people don't watch cable TV. A lot of people don't use Facebook or Twitter. We need to get something out there that will notify folks well in advance. It's something that they can put somewhere that they can have on hand.

Selectman Maddox thought we talked on the original round of actually sending out once a year in the HLN an 8 ½ X11 that would do multiple purposes. It would tell where the warming stations are, quick directions, and some of the other things like telephone numbers and those type of things. A refrigerator magnet might be nice, but it's not going to be able to give them directions to it. You're right. Some sort of method by which people have the information in advance to say if it gets to this stage we're going to open these up for warming stations. Here are the 3 locations on one piece of paper. Selectman Luszey was looking to have that marketing of our emergency preparedness to the folks added to that. Selectman Maddox indicated it would have our Twitter account on it and all that information so that people...Selectman Luszey said this item was talking specifically to the warming centers. That's why I feel it is important. Folks didn't know we had warming centers.

During the power outage that came along with that storm, Selectman Brucker knows as her house they had no telephone because we had no electricity to the phone. Unless you're near a Wi-Fi, how are you going to get Twitter, Facebook, etc. Chairman Coutu said you'd have to use your cell phone. Selectman Brucker didn't know if it was only their experience but my husband's phone, he had one of these Tracphone and it was the only one that could get reception because some of the towers were out. To have something in writing in front of you that before you lose all this access to information is the best thing I think.

Chairman Coutu told Selectman Luszey that his point is well taken. Chairman Lavoie, the School Committee, and I have had an informal meeting and we've agreed to have a joint meeting with both boards. It's something that you've advocated for some time. We've agreed to do this. I think these are the kinds of things that we should be discussing. We should probably have a workshop with them and we should take up this action plan. These are the kinds of things that we can communicate at both levels from our side on the Town side and certainly through the school system. It would be nice for kids to know what they can and can't do. I'd also advocate we can't always depend on Selectman Nadeau to be the pizza delivery guy and the transportation guy every time we have a critical area but he always

seems to be there doing that. I'd also like to have some sort of provision made for elderly people who don't have transportation to a warming shelter to be able to get there. I know you Ben in the past storms you've been out going to complexes and homes where you know there are elderly people to see if they needed transportation. You've been very accommodating. I think its all part of the plan and I think that's something we'll discuss at a workshop.

Selectman Nadeau has two things that he's written down so far. One of them is I went to an emergency management seminar one day. One of the things they said, and we talked about it in the past, was getting some of those sandwich reader boards that you can write on with chalk. If we were to get a half dozen of those, you can place them at key places like the high school, the center of town. When we had no power, you didn't have those nice fancy sign boards that said the warming shelter was open. I just saw some that were like the sandwich boards/reader boards but they were done with chalk. If you used a neon yellow chalk, you could write Alvirne High School is open or whatever school is open as your warming center. You have one down at the south end, a couple in the center of town, I think we have to go back to the basics is what we learned when we went to this last emergency management meeting. I think that's one of the things that we should look at getting a half dozen of them so that we can put them at the fire stations - Burns Hill, Robinson Road, some key places so people can go to the town website with the address on them. If they're sitting there at the Robinson Road fire station and everybody is out on calls over there, it would be a good thing.

The other thing Selectman Nadeau saw back here on Number 10 were the developed hang tags for CO safety detectors. A lot of times you'll hear when they're going out on the storm calls, people have the generators going in their garage and they're not home. I'd like to see these tags made up so you can throw them on all 3 doors of their house so that they have to go through one of them to read these tags. I think the safety is important. Like you said, developing a seminar for these people would be a good thing. Get a couple of the local businesses that want to sponsor it to do it. I think the yellow hand tags with the bright orange hang tags listen, we're out in your neighborhood and we saw that your generator was running improperly. Please go to the web site and look up the proper usage of a generator for your safety and your family's.

Chief Murray said they sell paper stock in the form of a paper hanger so we could collaborate with the high school - the printing up at the Voc. Tech. asking to print them up. Those are a great idea. Selectman Nadeau saw it on here and thought it was a great idea because it's not one or two that you hear. It's 5 or 6 every hour. When I'm out driving around in the storms, I see it all the time. You want to go bang on the door. You go bang on the door for 5 minutes and nobody comes to the door. That night you come home and here they are and the generator is still sitting in the garage running with the window open. I think these hang tags would be very important. Luckily we've had no problems with them. You always have one that could be the problem.

Topic 15, Chief Murray says talks directly to all the comments about coming up with an information card, placing all that information. I am looking into that. We can do a simple paper but we may also be able to get a commercial product which is laminated in plastic. So like you said, it will last a long time and will come with a magnet. We'll put on all those critical numbers and information about warming shelters. That will be my next focus to start looking at that specific issue.

(Chief Murray) Number 16 is Hudson Community Television. We're looking to identify and train a group of town staff to access and post messages on Hudson Cable TV access channel. That's really actually a very simple 20 minute class that we simply just have to do. It shows how to get on access. How to create a slide and the proper authority to do that. I am planning on having at the end of introducing the revised emergency management plan just waiting to hear from the feds that it is acceptable to them. When we have all the department heads together, I'll do it at the same time that we review the plan.

Use of Hudson School District emergency notification system. We did use it a couple of times during the October snowstorm - very successful. We just need to develop a mirror policy for the town which the School Board would accept on how we're going to go about using it, how to get authority to do it, and at what times are appropriate. That's really just a policy issue and coordination with them to be able to use the system. They are more than willing to put out messages for us.

PSNH input, number 18, is similar to the previous item. We're just waiting to be able to make contact with them and tell them what our specific needs and suggestions for improvements here in Hudson are.

Selectman Luszey asked about the one prior, the phone system. Are you looking at just using the names in their database because it's basically of the students, or supplying the school with a snapshot of all the phone numbers of Hudson and run the message against that, or you've had any conversations with them about the possibility doing that? For the time being, Chief Murray said they can reach out to all students. Actually up at the State of New Hampshire level, State 911 is developing a reverse phone call back that every community will be able to do this emergency notification. It is then they tie off of the 911 database and you can geographically take parts of the town or

you can do every phone in town and get that message out. Last I knew they were in the bid stage and review. I'm hoping within the next year that program becomes available to every city and town.

Number 19, backup serve - obtain a back up DNS Server. Chief Murray indicated it was an IT action item. Lisa Nute and the staff are looking at that and then the planning stage, I guess, as funding allows they'll go after that.

Number 20 is redundant backup information. They have the ability to provide snapshots of the police and fire servers and dispatch programs over the fiber optic system. They have that capability now and its up and running. They can look at both out dispatch systems and back each other up.

Selectman Luszey said on the DNS server, that's the critical component of keeping our systems alive and well should something happen. I think we, this Board, really needs to figure out how to help the IT Director get the funds to put that server in place. We've seen a couple of times now where not having it has caused us a lot of issues. Chairman Coutu hoped she's working on a cost estimate. Is that the progress? When we have all the details, we can have that presented to us and we'll take a look at it. Any further questions on the after action report?

Selectman Maddox had a question on number 2. I think this is where combined dispatch is going to come in handy. You're not going to have two separate sets of people getting phone calls about the same issue. Hopefully combined dispatch will take care of some of these issues. I think you're probably working on a policy if there's a call for down wires; maybe the police go there first and see its just cable. There's no sense in rolling the fire truck to say it's a cable. With combined dispatch, I think this is going to be one of those things that hopefully get much better. Chief Murray said that along with during these potential storms which are going to result in a potential wide-spread power outage, we're actually putting staff in forestry vehicles, command vehicles and sending them out instead of sending in Engine 2. That will all come together to avoid that duplication because it does occur.

Chairman Coutu will say relative to what Selectman Maddox just brought to the floor is that in this last storm, October, it was so rare and so unusual and totally unexpected. For something that hit us in the passion in which that did totally by surprise, I was amazed. I was monitoring a lot of calls and you had called me and said that you would be available if I wanted to go out into the field to see what was going on. I felt it was being well managed. One of the things I noticed is that we were having police and fire utility vehicles were going out there doing just that. They were identifying areas where it wasn't of a critical nature. There were downed cable wires and in areas where there was a critical need, they were coordinating with extra staff that was brought in from Highway to get out there and move trees. I thought because of the magnitude, we couldn't get to every area immediately but I noticed all the main thoroughfares were being addressed almost immediately. As quickly as one was being resolved, we would have another one. Then we had what I thought was going to be a major calamity on Highland Street when that whole thing came down. Then everything hit the fan at that moment. Everything was coming down all at once.

Considering all that took place in October, which is a very rare and unusual situation for us, Chairman Coutu thought it was well handled. I was very proud, and I think we all were, the town and how it responded to the needs almost immediately. The outcome is that we had some weaknesses. You've addressed a lot of those and I think these are items that we're going to have to work on in the future so that we make it a lot easier for our citizens for access to warming shelters, what they need to do in case of an emergency, how this town can make our resources available to them to facilitate any discomfort they might have. We want to make sure that people are not cold. We want to make sure that proper food is provided them and a shelter if necessary. I appreciate this after action report and the large document that you prepared to share with PSNH. I hope that we can work very cooperatively with them because I think their coming into Hudson and setting up their emergency center right at Wal-Mart was a tremendous asset for us and a tremendous resource for us. You know, you spent every day there. Selectman Luszey you went to the site. I was on site as was the Superintendent of Schools and we made our tour of the town to make sure everything was being taken care of. I was very, very pleased and I'm very pleased to see that action is being taken relative to addressing some of those critical need areas to make this a lot easier the next time. Hopefully there won't be. Mother Nature as she is can be very testy at times.

Just a comment. Given the magnitude of the storm that we saw and the one prior to that and to take a look at the items that we're working on, Selectman Luszey said there really is nothing of huge significance here which really is very complimentary of the staff and their preparedness to handle whatever Mother Nature should decide to try to throw at us.

Two little side notes Mr. Chairman. Chief Murray said the federal money reimbursement for the storm has been received. It has been placed back in the various budget accounts by the Finance Director. Credit for that goes to Kevin Burns. While we were going through the filing process, FEMA really took us to task on - we had put in for reimbursement for the generators. Unfortunately, we didn't get a lot of that money back but at the say time while Kevin was working that avenue of it, he has done a complete inventory of all generators in the town, including pump

stations, sewer stations, and actually took pictures of each and every. So we now have a comprehensive list and know where all our emergency backup generators are.

When you're looking for corporate sponsors for your potential training class on disseminating information, Chairman Coutu said you might want to deal with some of our in town electrical companies. I think they would be an ideal source for sponsorship inasmuch as they install generators for the most part. Thank you Chief. If there's no further discussion, we'll move to the next item. Are we all set? Good, thank you.

B. Replacement of the 1999 Ford Crown Victoria

Chairman Coutu recognized Fire Chief Shawn Murray and Deputy Fire Chief Rob Buxton.

Chief Murray indicated that Chairman Coutu asked him to come back to the Board to discuss further the replacement of the 1999 Crown Victoria. Since that time, I've asked Deputy Buxton to go out and do some further research on the vehicle issue. If I may, we'll have him present to the Board.

Good evening members of the Board. Deputy Buxton said tonight we come back and really revisit the Tahoe issue and the replacement of the Tahoe we're attempting to purchase to replace the 1999 Crown Victoria. Currently that vehicle, the Crown Victoria, is assigned to Fire Prevention. One of the things that was described to you last week was that we have in our replacement plan what the Chief has described as a trickle down process where the command vehicles are rotated out and then trickled down to the services bureau being fire prevention training - those two areas specifically.

Deputy Buxton had some brief conversations with the Fire Chief and the Chairman who is our current liaison. We talked about how to basically describe for you what the pros and cons are of the two vehicles. I was asked to look at a 2012 Chevy Traverse, which is one size smaller than the Chevy Tahoe and really do a comparison of those two vehicles. If you remember the last time we purchased the 2011 Tahoe, we started talking about size, cargo space, and that sort of stuff again. I went out and did that and I work with MacMulkin Chevrolet over there. They helped me with the comparison. The biggest thing at the end of the day I come back to is the Tahoe provides us with a lot more heavy duty of a vehicle. I don't think that's a surprise to anybody in the room. Specifically under the services grade vehicle, we zero in on a couple of major issues. One is the electrical capacity or the battery capacity of the vehicle. The Tahoe has available a dual battery and larger alternator which provides for the emergency lighting and those sorts of devices within the unit. The Chief described to you last week that we have a command center in the back of these vehicles which has an independent radio and supporting electrical devices for the command post. So that dual battery and larger alternator is very important. The other piece to the services package that is big for us is the heavier duty trailer package and that sort of thing.

One of the things that Deputy Buxton took away from what we discussed last week in regards to fuel capacity and miles per gallon and those sorts of things. I specifically went to the vendor over at MacMulkin and asked the question regarding fuel mileage. I described to them what we were going to be carrying in the back of the vehicle and how that would work out for us. The Chevy Tahoe has an electronically controlled fueled system in it. All the vehicles coming out from Chevy now have what they called a flex fuel system, which is basically a higher octane fuels that are being produced today versus the older fuels that are being produced. The thing to zero in on is the electronic controlled fuel system. When that vehicle is idling at an emergency scene or is in traffic and you get up to your cruising speed, it actually reduces down from 8 cylinders to 4 cylinders. When we start looking at the weight that we're going to be putting in the back of the vehicle, when I looked at the Traverse, it is a 6 cylinder vehicle and it always runs on 6 cylinders. There is no reduction when we're idling or when we're up to cruising speed.

Deputy Buxton indicated that the other thing that we talked about was not only the fact that fuel efficiency has increased, but it is a full frame underneath that vehicle. There is a full frame underneath the Chevy Tahoe vehicle. The Traverse or anything smaller than the Chevy Tahoe would revert back to a unibody construction, which isn't as heavy duty. We do tow with these vehicles. In the October snow storm and the hurricane Irene and those storms, we put those vehicles to use within the separate districts as a quick response. We just talked about that regarding the snow storm in October. We've had a good track record with them. Then provide us with a good supporting space for our command post. The command post will not fit in the back of a smaller vehicle. It does not fit in the Explorer. It does not fit in the Traverse. That is a \$5,000 investment that we've made currently and we've invested in the Tahoe. When we start looking at the things, we start taking on the reduction, we're not going to see the fuel mileage that we were talking about because of the added weight we were putting in the back. We're not going to see the additional support for the emergency lighting or radio system that's in there because we're really to a non-commercial grade vehicle. The Tahoe that we're buying is a commercial grade vehicle. The standard lighting package or emergency lighting package would need to be reduced. We need to look at the trailer capacity.

One of the things Deputy Buxton took away from, and I mentioned this to the Fire Chief the other day, was that we've had very good luck with the Tahoes. We really have not had maintenance issues with them. We're not burning through brakes. We're not burning through the electrical systems. That is something to be said for that type of vehicle. We're buying the right vehicle for the right type of job. I believe that this purchase is in the best interests of what we want to do operationally and our goals in the operational division. I'm open to any questions you may have. Basically that is the comparison at hand. There's really not too much more to get into.

Selectman Maddox didn't disagree and I talked to the Chief today. I think that the command vehicles should be Tahoes. I think my question was the last time is the Support Services doesn't need a Tahoe. I think that we need to take a look at buying Tahoes. We talked about 6 years. I know there's been talk about looking at whether that makes more sense to go to 7 or 8. Whatever it may be but at the end of their life, we trade them in when we get the new one and put a vehicle that is sized and set up for inspectors because that makes more sense to this Selectman at least to say they don't need a Tahoe to do inspections. I know that they go out into mud but so don't our inspectors for electrical, plumbing, health. They're using recycled cruisers. Again, I don't have a problem with having 3 command vehicles that are Tahoes. My problem is we have 4 right now. There's no sense in my mind as buying a new one right now. I think that maybe more the questions Mr. Chairman. I did talk with the Chief. We found \$8,700 in the FY13 budget. Unfortunately, it got carried from FY12 as year 4 of 4 for one of the Tahoes into FY13, year 4 of 4 of the lease. We pick up \$8,700 out of the FY13 budget for Tahoes is already been to the cycle. Again, I think we should be looking at asking the Chief to come back and say if we went to a 7-year cycle so that we wouldn't have these years where there's 3 of them in the budget, there would be only 2 Tahoes in the cycle and at the end of their life, they trade them in and we get what we get for them and then go to another vehicle for the non command vehicles makes more sense Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chief Murray agrees with Selectman Maddox. I have no issues switching from a 6 year to a 7 year program. I do support staying with Tahoes only for the command vehicles. I can accept that and that makes sense. We had discussed that with the previous 2004 Tahoes. We were just going along with the program and passing them down. The only thing I would ask is that as a matter of fact, we can commit to that program right here and now. If we're going to talk about 3 Tahoes, we now have 1 2004 Tahoe that's actually 8 years old. So now would be the time to replace it. If I may Mr. Chairman, in our discussion today too, Selectman Maddox also talked about potentially moving it out to July the purchase of it.

I made contact with Paul Laroche who's the government representative. If you don't mind Mr. Chairman I'll read my e-mail so those out in the audience and TV can hear it too. I'll follow you through on it. Selectman Maddox inquired whether it would be feasible to wait until July. So I wrote Paul and said, "Paul, as you informed me the 2012 Tahoe special services package was discontinued by Chevrolet about a month ago. This meant that Chevrolet would not be producing those Tahoes on special order. You advised me that you were able to secure a package 2012 Tahoe which essentially are similar to the special service package but there could be no modifications or additional options requested. I understand you ordered one and were holding on to it for Hudson Fire until I could commit or not commit depending on the approval of the Hudson Board of Selectmen. You indicated that if we did not purchase it, you would easily sell it to another agency. If we were to wait until July to purchase a 2013 Tahoe, what is the lead time for delivery? Will the cost change for a 2013 and do you currently have someone that would purchase the 2012 Tahoe you are holding for us? I appreciate a quick response to this e-mail."

Chief Murray indicates that Paul writes back, "Hi Chief. I would estimate an October delivery time for a 2013 Tahoe service package ordered in July. There will be a new price for a 2013 model. That pricing will not be determined until late August. I am sure that price will be higher, however, I don't know how much. New Hampshire State bid pricing for 2013 does not come out until the end of November. Anything delivered before then does not have the bigger New Hampshire concession. I currently do not have anyone else on the Tahoe. However due to the fact that there are no more until October, it will not last long. It will be listed under my inventory in about a week and then calls from other dealers looking at it for it to start. I wish I could hold the vehicle longer. However, the interest charges add up quickly. I will, however, hold this one for you until you are able to answer yes or no as long as it's not too long. Thank you. Paul"

Chairman Coutu had Chief Murray do this at his direction. I wanted to see if there was any possibility of holding the vehicle until July as a result of the conversation I had with you Selectman Maddox. There was this concern. My first sense was that the New Hampshire bid pricing policy is for the 2012 and that they're not going to know what the 2013 bid price is. Obviously like everything else, they go up. We're looking to push this off now until probably October or November.

Since Selectman Luszey probably started the wheels rolling on this, and I spoke with the Chief a couple times since then, and I think we all agree that our current replacement vehicle plan is probably a little out of whack. It's not just the Fire Department's replacement plan. I think we should go forward with this purchase because the prices are only going to go up. I don't think its prudent use of taxpayer's money to keep putting money into a vehicle that really does

not fit the needs for the department. However, I would vote in favor of this conditionally that we as a Board review the entire town's vehicle replacement strategies and plans - Fire, Police, and Highway. I don't know how many years we go through this and every year around budget time I beat my fists up and down on the table. I've seen where we have an Animal Control Officer getting a sedan for picking up dogs, wild animals, and stuff like that. We did at one time, right? By chance a utility vehicle came up and we finally got in there. I think we should go through each department's needs and make sure we're putting the appropriate vehicle in the appropriate task. I think we can start that work in this next budget pass.

Chairman Coutu didn't disagree with Selectman Luszey. I think that the history of the existing rotation plan, which you are so adverse to it and so am I, I didn't think it made much sense especially in light of what was brought to light with this particular action in trying to buying the Tahoe to see that we're just rotating cars down and we're losing maximum trade-in value that we could get if we did it earlier. However, this was a plan that was put in place several years ago. As I understand the original plan, it was recommended, as I understand it by the Fire Department, it would be a 10 year replacement plan. Someone from the Board of Selectmen recommended that it be made a 6-year plan. I was tried and now we can see that perhaps in hindsight we need to revisit. My discussions with the Fire Chief and the Deputy Fire Chief - a lot of discussion evolved around whether or not they would seriously sit down with us and look at this whole plan and see if we can tweak it. I think that there's a better approach to doing this. Selectman Maddox and I have had extensive discussions as well about what the cost savings would be in terms of pushing out the vehicle to get another year or two out of them and then maximize the trade in value in that vehicle because it's a pretty sturdy vehicle. Mileage is being put on it, but they're not being abused. I'm sure today vehicle up to 120,000 miles are not unrealistic. I think we can maximize that. In light of what you just said, I think it would be more apropos that we look at the entire town plan. I would agree with that I think. That's another workshop item. We certainly can add it to our directives to them during budget cycle each department to come in and we're going to revisit their vehicle plans. I agree with that.

Selectman Maddox thought that was all fine. I know we're going to get to it but we never do. The Fire Department I think is the only one that has a vehicle plan.

Selectman Luszey said the Police has it for cruisers and Highway has it for trucks.

Selectman Maddox said he couldn't vote to buy a new Tahoe right now. We have 4 Tahoes right now and 3 people to put in them and one of them isn't coming until June. I think this is a case where we can hold off until FY13 to buy another new Tahoe after we get the report to say what their existing fleet is as far as mileage and age before we go out and spend a vehicle that we might put out to 7 years and now we have a new one in the cycle that makes no sense. I would hope that the Board would wait until FY13 to buy another new Tahoe. Thank you Sir.

Chairman Coutu indicated he didn't have it with him right now but we were provided with the age and mileage of all the vehicles in that fleet at the last meeting. Selectman Maddox said that none of them were excessive.

Deputy Buxton said that currently we have a 2011 Tahoe that is assigned to the Fire Chief. We have a 2009 Tahoe that is assigned to the Deputy Fire Chief. We have a 2004 Tahoe that is temporarily assigned to the Captain of Training and Safety, which will be transitioned back over to the other Deputy Fire Chief if this one is not purchased. We have a 2004 Tahoe that has been rotated down to the Fire Prevention Officer in Fire Prevention. Then we have a 1999 Crown Victoria which has been assigned to Fire Prevention. Currently we have 5 staff position with 5 staff vehicles.

Selectman Nadeau indicated that you just gave us the 4 Tahoes that we have. We know we're getting rid of the Crown Victoria eventually. What are the mileages on the Tahoes that we currently have? Deputy Buxton said the 2011 has 6,842; the 2009 Tahoe had 32,182; the 2004 Tahoe has 46,404; and the 2004 white Tahoe has 69,924 miles.

Knowing that we don't need 5 Tahoes or we say that we don't need 5 Tahoes and we want to start looking at a smaller vehicle, Selectman Nadeau wouldn't be in favor of purchasing another Tahoe just because he tells us we can't hold on to this one until the new bids come out. We might find out that we don't need something that big for the Inspections Division. For as much as the Inspection Division uses the lights and sirens if we use it once a year for the big storm that comes whether it be the summer, fall, winter, its 4-wheel drive. I just can't vote for buying a new Tahoe because they tell us we can't have a special price on it. We have the State bid price. MacMulkin has always done very well with the other vehicles that we've asked them for whether it be Trail Blazers, which they're not making any more; whether it be the Equinox; whether it be a smaller vehicle that's 4-wheel drive such as a crew cab small pickup truck. They do make the Chevy Colorado. That might be more what we're looking for. I just don't think a big Tahoe is what we need at this time. Before I go buy a Tahoe, I want to look at all the vehicles first.

Just a couple of things in response to Selectman Nadeau. Selectman Luszey thought if we wait much longer we're getting past the point of diminishing returns with our vehicles. The whole thought process that went into the budgeting process that the voters approved this vehicle in was to hopefully manage our fleet. We're sitting here 1) we're second guessing our own budget. We put and approved the budget that went forward to the voters to put the money for this replacement vehicle. 2) Yes we can wait. The point that I think you're missing is that we will begin to start making sure that we maximize the trade in value. By holding onto the 1999 Crown Victoria to right now, we're getting \$1,500 for it. If we were to trade it in when we should have traded it in, we would have probably got around \$8,000 to \$9,000 for it. We're not helping the taxpayer here by waiting a few months only to have the price go up and to negate any money that we're going to get for the Crown Victoria.

If we're looking to get the most bang for our buck, we should be looking to trade in the 2004 with 69,000 miles on it. If we wanted to get rid of one of these Tahoes out of our fleet and keep 3, then this is the one that I'd be looking to get rid of and 69,000 miles on a Tahoe for another town like Bristol, New Hampshire that's looking for one, we're going to get top dollar for that. Whether we buy 2 Equinoxes for the inspection and the Captain if that's what we're going to do is get the biggest bang for our buck, then get rid of the 2004 with 69,000 on it and start the replacement plan now.

Selectman Luszey asked if Selectman Nadeau was suggesting that we scrap the 1999 totally and reduce the fleet. Selectman Nadeau said no. But I could be in favor of getting rid of the 1999 totally too. You're not going to get anything for it. You're probably going to get as much in scrap right now for it as you are for a trade in. That was Selectman Luszey's point. That's where we're at. If we're going to start looking at the replacement plan and getting serious about it, Selectman Nadeau said we should be looking at the Tahoe and keeping 3 Tahoes and getting rid of the 4th one that we think we should be getting rid of at a reasonable trade in.

Chairman Coutu said he'd reserve his comments because this is borderline ridiculous.

Selectman Brucker's question was how many thousand miles do you usually keep these Tahoes. Chief Murray said this is our first experience with we purchased our first Tahoes back in 2004. Selectman Brucker indicated that these were the first ones through. Chief Murray said yes. I'd just like to remind the Board that currently the 2009 and the 2004 Tahoes are paid off. They're free and clear of any leases. I fully understand what you're saying. We discussed tonight and talk about from here on moving in the future, we're not going to establish that we're going to keep command vehicles. I'm just suggesting that the two 2004 Tahoes are free and clear of any costs. I certainly support in the future beginning the program of focusing only on the 3 Tahoes. I believe we are not creating any additional costs now because they're paid off and we are not having significant maintenance problems with them.

Selectman Maddox thought that we have a 2009 and a 2011. I think if you use that same logic, we go to a 2013. That would keep that cycle of - and I'm not for getting rid of the Tahoes. I think I want to be emphatic here that that's what the Fire Department needs for command vehicles. I'm not looking to put them in a Ford Ranger. I'm just saying that if we wait until the 2013, it will line up with what we have right now with a 9, 11 and a 13. All I'm saying is we don't need to buy one tonight. We have 4. We don't have anybody to put in it until June. If it waits til November, it waits to November but then we're on a 9, 11, and 13 - every 2 years we're buying a Tahoe type of set up. That makes more sense than injecting this one into a fleet that we really don't need to buy right now.

Chairman Coutu wanted to make sure you haven't lost anything in all of this translation. We're using this purchase to try to reorganize this whole trade down vehicle policy that we said we were going to look at. I don't think it's appropriate to do that. In light of the fact that we vetted this budget, we approved this. The Budget Committee vetted the budget, they approved it. The voters voted on the budget and they approved it and now we want to change the whole scheme of things in one move and it isn't going to be done. It's very complex at this point and it's getting very difficult to understand. I think one of the points was lost in the translation is that at my direction I asked the Fire Chief to get a hold of MacMulkin and find out if there's any way they could save that vehicle for us until July so that we would get it at the State approved bid price, which we all know is a lot lower than if you and I went out and tried to buy one of these. They replied and the replied was - he handed it to me and I got it as fresh as you got it. I tasked him with doing this today. They said that there was no way they could hold it until July because obviously they pay a loan on these vehicles that they bring in until they sell them and interest is accumulating. That's number one. So the vehicle will not be available to us in July. The new person, by the way I would expect, is going to be on board in June and not in July.

Chairman Coutu said if we were to buy a Tahoe in July, there's a depreciating point that the vehicle we're trading in is going to depreciate as we go along and we're going to lose some of that value. If we're going to buy in July, we're not going to get the bid price. We're going to get a much higher price. It's going to be whatever fair market value is for the general public is what we're going to pay for this vehicle. The bid price for 2012 is exhausted when the 2012 vehicles are done. The next one, which is going to be established in August or September, is going to be for the 2013 vehicles which are not available until usually September or October when they roll out the new vehicles. So now we're pushing it way out until September or October and we've depreciated the 2009. We're obviously going to pay a

higher price. Considering all that's been done if you want to spend an additional \$3,000 or \$4,000 more above and beyond what we've already agreed to spend, then that's the direction you want to go in. I'm not adverse to buying the vehicle now because I think the overall cost savings will be \$3,000 to \$4,000 by doing it now rather than wait until the fall based on the way the economy is. Things are not going to go down. They're not going to be cheaper; they're going to increase the cost of the vehicle. Next year's vehicle is going to cost more than this year's vehicle. I don't see how pushing it out does any justice to the taxpayer. We're going to ask them to pay more money.

Again, Selectman Maddox said we're going to wait until the New Hampshire State bid price in November. So it will be up maybe a couple hundred dollars but not several thousand. In the past, they haven't gone up that much. This will bring us to a 9, 11, and 13 cycle every two years on the Tahoes. The other Mr. Chairman I've heard twice that the voters approved this expense. Well they also approved paying for year 5 of 4 in the budget. People don't know what's in that budget. It's just a total budget. It's not like they were worried about if we're going to get a Tahoe in this year or next in the budget. Again Mr. Chairman I'm hoping that we step back, look at this, and say we don't need it today. We can wait until 2013.

Selectman Luszey said if we wait for the 2013, just based on what you just said, you'll have a vehicle in January. Selectman Maddox said we have one now. We have a vehicle to put him in.

Chairman Coutu asked if there was any further discussion. Seeing none.

Motion by Selectman Luszey, seconded by Selectman Brucker, to authorize the Town of Hudson Fire Department to purchase one 2012 Chevrolet Tahoe from MacMulkin Chevrolet of Nashua, New Hampshire, as approved by the fiscal year 2012 budget process. The vehicle would be purchased for a total cost not to exceed the budgeted authorization of \$34,800.

Selectman Luszey thought we've said enough on this. I think we should move forward with this. I think it's a needed item. As I said before, I think it will give us time to take a look at all of the Town's fleet and put appropriate vehicles in the appropriate place and maximize the trade in value of the vehicles that are there.

Selectman Brucker thought we should go forward with it.

Selectman Nadeau thought we should go forward with purchasing a vehicle. I just don't think - we've talked about how we were going to get rid of the Tahoe as not being in the command vehicle fleet. If we were going to do the right thing, we'd get rid of the 2004 if we wanted to maximize our trade in. Obviously we know where we're going with this. That's where I'll leave it.

Vote: Motion carried 3-2. Selectman Maddox and Selectman Nadeau in opposition.

Motion by Selectman Luszey, seconded by Selectman Brucker, to authorize the Town of Hudson Fire Department to enter into a four (4) year lease/purchase agreement for the financing of the vehicle purchase. Financing rates and terms shall be reviewed and approved by the Finance Director, carried 3-2. Selectman Maddox and Selectman Nadeau in opposition.

Chief Murray thanked Chairman Coutu and members of the Board.

C. Liaison Assignments

Chairman Coutu asked if there were any comments, suggestions, or objection. Selectman Nadeau you'll notice that you have a major assignment this year. Benson I know is near and dear to your heart. You'll be sitting on that Board. Mrs. Brucker you requested almost every single committee but I tried to ease the load. I think that budget was important. The process Selectman Luszey indicated to me that he definitely is going to sit in as a backup. If you ever need him or for any reason there's an emergency and you can't make a budget meeting, just notify Selectman Luszey and he will represent the Board at the meeting. Selectman Brucker only meant to convey that I was willing to serve.

Selectman Nadeau indicated that one of the things we had on the Benson Committee is we had an alternate. I was the alternate to Selectman Jasper. I don't see an alternate. Chairman Coutu is willing to take it unless someone else wants it as back to Selectman Nadeau. It's not just a backup. You can attend and discuss. You just can't vote. If not, I will take that. Thank you for bringing that to my attention.

Motion by Selectman Maddox, seconded by Selectman Luszey, to approve the Liaison Assignments for the upcoming year, carried 5-0.

6. OTHER BUSINESS/REMARKS BY THE SELECTMEN

Selectman Maddox - Thank you Mr. Chairman. You and I had the pleasure of attending a meeting with alphabet soup on Monday in regards to Zach Field. I'd just like to bring an update to the Board. I call the alphabet soup the EPA, the DES, REDC and a million initials that are working towards mitigating the asbestos at Zach Field that we have on Industrial Drive. Although it is glacially slow, there is forward progress. I think that I was heartened to hear that there was no big objections. The plan of burying the asbestos under the parking lot looks doable by all the calculations that were done by the engineers. They did additional test borings. All of that said there's also money in place to do this. That is really the key. They are working towards getting this completed by the fall as far as all of the submittals to the various governmental agencies that it needs to go through. It was a positive meeting inasmuch that it can be done. The money is there. It's pushing the glacier up hill. At this point ladies and gentlemen, I know it's been kind of on the back burner because of the testing that had to be done and all of the engineering. That is positive and now the next steps are going through the various reviews by all the agencies. The good thing is the money is in place to do this. Hopefully they will get this started sooner rather than later. They will be playing football in there hopefully soon by government standards. I don't want to give a date because we had that issue. Again, it was a very positive meeting. I thought Mr. Chairman you can chime in Sir but I think it was bringing them all together. We brought them over to the Community Development room and every seat was filled with various people from agencies. No one said this won't work. No one said it can't be done. We're seeing positive. They're sitting across the table from you and not on an e-mail list. It was just a good meeting. Thank you. That's all I have this evening.

What impressed Chairman Coutu is the cohesiveness and the working relationship. Each of these agencies have with one another relative to this project. I know I made a comment to them and said this is the most important thing you have on your plate. Let's get it done. That's what every person who's fighting for a plan is supposed to say. They understood the message. I think that you and I and the town side, include Len Lathrop who's carrying on behalf of the family this project. We asked the right questions. We got the answers we were looking for. We got into the issue of containment of the asbestos, what was feasible and what could be done. I think we worked out some alternatives that were acceptable to them. It appears to me that everything is going in the right direction and it will happen sooner than later. As you stated, the most critical aspect is whether or not the money was going to be there. It was very heartening to hear that not only is the money there but if there are additional funds required, there's a possibility of getting those additional funds as well. They are certainly working with us to get this thing done. Thank you for that update.

Selectman Brucker - I've enjoyed being on the Board. It's been kind of interesting. It's been really interesting doing some of the research on even the Tahoe. I'm looking forward to the committees.

Selectman Nadeau - I have a few things tonight. First one is this weekend there's a lot of events going on in town. Friday night we have the egg hunt at Benson. There's going to be 2 age groups this year. There's going to be the first grade and under will be at 6 p.m. and then the first grade and up group will be after that followed by a short intermission until they get the eggs set up. It will give everybody a chance to check out the nice playground and the park. It's supposed to be a nice night. Mal's Pals is doing a fundraiser for the amphitheater at Benson's on Saturday night. That will be at Alvirne at 6 p.m. with a former student who's on the show Ghost Hunters, Chris Williams, which is kind of interesting. On Saturday night is the Comedy Night. I believe there are still tickets available. You can check at Town Hall or the Recreation Center on Oakwood Avenue. On Saturday morning, there will be plenty to do. There will be a yard sale over at the library for the dog park. There will be treats available for the dogs and for the humans. They always have good treats over there for sale at their bake sale. Unfortunately I won't be at any of the tables because I'll be working that day. The Kiwanis Club has a lot of community groups that will be having a yard sale over at the Kiwanis Hall. The Recycling Committee has a table there. Benson Park has a table there. A lot of the different groups in town have tables there inside.

Just to be aware as you're driving around town, today I ran across the Highway Department working in 3 different sections of town raising manhole covers, fixing storm drains. They're out there doing their spring work on the roads. Please pay attention. They're going to start paving work throughout town. So be aware that there will be some traffic delays.

Selectman Luszey - A couple of things. One is could you ask the Highway Department to paint over the handicapped parking spots again. I'm starting to see the symbol.

Selectman Luszey received a call from Representative Jasper today regarding the Benson deed saga that continues. Apparently the holdup has been is the State is trying to find out where they're going to get the money to fulfill their portion of the agreement, which is some of the cleanup of the hazardous waste that's buried out there somewhere. After a lengthy conversation that Representative Jasper had with folks up in Concord, he believes he has a commitment from them to have it completed and worded whatever they need to do over the next couple of weeks. We're still making headway there.

To that, I think our next meeting we will have the Town Engineer in to talk about the selection of the architect for designing of the senior center.

I'd like to bring up the Central Station generator again. We did have the work done about doing the load testing. When they completed that work, it turned out that we need 125K. I was a little over my estimates, which is good news because the bill for that turn out to be \$55,750 to replace it. The only unknown is putting natural gas from Library Street to the generator. We'd switch over from diesel to natural gas. The Highway Department can do all the digging and the road cutting. We haven't been able to get a price. They have called PSNH a number of times and we've not had a response from them is the connection of the larger pipe. Selectman Luszey's best guess on that we believe is probably within the \$3,000 or \$4,000 range to have that plumbing done.

Motion by Selectman Luszey to authorize the Fire Chief to go out and begin the actual procurement of the generator and to approve a not to exceed \$60,000 PO.

Chairman Coutu thought they were doing an RFP or an RFQ. Just to be on the safe side, Mr. Malizia said just do it now authorize him to put in an RFQ for the generator project.

Chairman Coutu said procedurally you can make that motion but before you do, why don't we discuss this a little bit. One of the concerns that you raised Selectman Luszey was we are certainly aware that something needs to be done sooner rather than later. You were concerned about anticipated growth. We were concerned that we didn't want to over buy and we certainly didn't want to under buy. You did get the number and it was a lot more conservative and I'm going to assume then that also takes into consideration future growth - anticipated increase in the wattage that we're going to need.

Selectman Luszey said they went back and they used actual usage for the complex. We then took that at 125 percent to give us a growth. We also assumed running it at a 90 percent duty cycle versus a 100 percent duty cycle. What the actual number came out to be was you need about 112.5 KVA. When you add the future growth to that, you get a 123.75. Since you can't buy that, the closest unit is the 125 versus the 150 which I was estimating.

The other question Chairman Coutu had and it's not really a question. I think maybe you can expound on it. I want the voters to be aware that this isn't something that we're frivolously entering into. This is something that there's an emergency situation. We lost our generator and we're converting from diesel fuel operation which is now expensive to natural gas, which has now become the most economical fuel. If you want to expound on that, there is going to be some cost savings in the operation.

Selectman Luszey said there's a number of cost savings there. One it's not just in the fuel cost itself but an actual the preventative maintenance aspect of it. With the diesel, you have to send a person out there to do the starting, run it, and all that. On the natural gas, it's automated. You can have it set up so it will fire up every week if you want, which is normally what they do, run it and it will monitor all that stuff for you. So we don't have to have any labor associated with the weekly firing and running of it. You also get another benefit and the Green Team will like you as your carbon footprint has actually decreased. There are a number of benefits to going to this unit. Probably the most important consideration is the age. The insulating components on the inside of the generator is beginning to fail. It's become unreliable. It's basically the coating on the wirings, the dielectrics. To have a piece of equipment that is the term we would use is "mission critical" that is unreliable puts the entire town at risk. It needs to be done. This is a life safety issue.

Selectman Nadeau asked if it was possible to or was it thought about or talked about tying in the lights up the street. Selectman Luszey said it wasn't talked about but we could add that to the scope of work. It would change a little. That was a question Selectman Nadeau said had been asked in the past.

As part of the upgrade to all the lights that are going to happen this year, Selectman Maddox said they have asked them to have one controller rather than the three that they have presently. We were going to have a generator hookup only. We could certainly take a look at whether it's cost effective. The other thing I was going to say is right now they're fed from two different circuits. It would be really problematic. The ones down by Showtime are on another circuit. As part of the upgrade, we are looking at having a generator connection so that we can put a portable there. I'm not sure we want to run a set of lines off of our generator all the way over there.

Chairman Coutu said about a month ago you brought that to my attention. I thought that was a great idea. Good.

Motion by Selectman Luszey to authorize the Fire Chief to put out an RFQ for replacement generator.

Mr. Malizia said he wouldn't put an NTE on it because let's see what you get. If you say \$60,000, everybody is going to bid \$60,000.

Motion by Selectman Luszey, seconded by Selectman Maddox, to authorize the Fire Chief to put out an RFQ for replacement generator, carried 5-0.

Selectman Coutu - I had also spoken with Selectman Jasper. He called me about the deed. I'm glad you cleared that up. That is the only stumbling block for us to be able to actually take some ownership in that parcel of land so that they can start the process of building this thing whenever the voters approve it.

The only other thing Chairman Coutu had this evening is that in my discourse with Selectman Jasper. He had stated to me as I had asked him if he would continue to advise us as I said last week on State matter. That's why I didn't put name as State Liaison because I'm a member of the House Representatives. I expected and Selectman Jasper will be calling all of us and keeping us up to date if we have particular questions. Feel free anybody to call him. If he gives you something and doesn't pass it onto us, report it because as I said he will by defacto still be our liaison for State legislation.

The other thing Selectman Jasper mentioned to me is that he had said that in his announcement to the press after the election that he wanted to continue to stay involved in town government. The person who won the write in vote for the Budget Committee has decided not to accept the position. Selectman Jasper stated to me that he would be very interested in serving on the Budget Committee. We all know - Ben you probably more than anyone - you started your career on the Budget Committee. So you understand the process as well as anyone of us if not more so because you started at a young age. It was your introduction to politics and that's what attracted you to running for the Board of Selectmen. You learned about this whole process and how the finances are handled. Selectman Jasper, we all know, has had many, many years of experience both as a member of the Budget Committee and as a member of this Board of Selectmen. He suggested to me that he would certainly like to serve on the Budget Committee and he also asked if I would object to endorsing him for that position. I said I would not and I would take it to the Board of Selectmen and see if anyone would be willing to entertain a motion to direct our Budget Committee Representative to the Budget Committee to support Selectman Jasper if his application does become the Board of Selectmen. If there is an agreement to that, I will entertain such a motion.

Motion by Selectman Maddox, seconded by Selectman Luszey to direct our Budget Committee Representative to the Budget Committee to support Shawn Jasper in his application to the Budget Committee, carried 5-0.

Chairman Coutu said at the next Budget Committee if his name is proposed, we're asking you on behalf of the Board to support his nomination.

The only other thing Chairman Coutu had is Selectman Nadeau touched upon it. Easter is coming. All the eggs will be out there next Saturday night. I want to wish everyone a very blessed and Happy Easter. It is also a holiday. Please drive very carefully. Please do not over consume your alcohol. Let's all try to enjoy our holidays hopefully with our families. I know that I'm very fortunate this year in that I have sufficient help. I will have the weekend off. I'm very grateful for that. Happy Easter everyone and happy Easter members of the Board. Thank you.

7. NONPUBLIC SESSION

Motion by Selectman Maddox, seconded by Selectman Luszey, to enter into Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:2 (a) Strategy or negotiations with respect to collective bargaining, carried 5-0 by roll call.

Chairman Coutu indicated that Nonpublic Session is being entered at 8:28 p.m., thus ending the televised portion of the meeting. Any votes taken upon entering open session will be listed on the Board's next agenda. The public is asked to leave the room.

Chairman Coutu stated that open session is being entered at 10:24 p.m.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 10:25 p.m. by Selectman Maddox, seconded by Selectman Nadeau, carried 5-0.

Recorded by HGTV and transcribed by Donna Graham, Recorder.

HUDSON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Roger E. Coutu, Chairman

Benjamin Nadeau, Vice Chairman

Richard J. Maddox, Selectman

Ted Luszey, Selectman

Nancy Brucker, Selectman