

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the November 26, 2019 Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER

By Chairman Morin for the meeting of November 26, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at Town Hall.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - led by Boy Scout Roman Provencher.

3. ATTENDANCE

Board of Selectmen: David Morin, Kara Roy, Roger Coutu, Marilyn McGrath and Normand Martin

Staff/Others: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator; Diane LaMothe, School Board Rep.; Kathy Carpentier, Finance Director; Elvis Dhima, Town Engineer; Police Chief William Avery; Brian Groth, Town Planner; Cemetery Trustees Member Mary Ellen Gannon

4. PUBLIC INPUT

Chairman Morin asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Board on any issue which the Board has control of at this time. Seeing none.

5. RECOGNITIONS, NOMINATIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

A. Recognition

1) Ceremonial Check Presentation for Unanticipated Aid from the State of NH

Chairman Morin recognized State Representative Lynne Ober.

Lynne Ober explained this is a check extra revenue from the State budget for \$627,061 and it's for both school and town. Now we gave a similar check in Pelham and immediately they said "oh we used to get more for our road money". Okay, this has nothing to do with your road and bridge money. You're getting your road and bridge money. You're getting all your revenue sharing. This is money that is from basically the tax cuts that we put in last year and the national tax cuts officially known as "the Trump tax cuts" although I hate to use names but we got excess revenue. The State did not want to put it on recurring projects. I've had a conversation with your Town Administrator. It's yours and not strings attached. Spend it however you want. However I would not spend it on staff because I think you're going to get this only this year and we have some in for next year but it depends how the revenues go and right now the revenues are down a bit. After that, you'll get just your normal distribution. So it's yours. Spend as you guys decide.

Chairman Morin said we appreciate it very much. Thank you.

Selectman Coutu indicated a couple of questions if we could. Do you know what the divide is on the money? Is it based on percentage so that the school is aware what their portion would be? Representative Ober noted DRA has all of that and you and the School District will be getting that. Selectman Coutu said theirs a formula it just hasn't been officially presented. Representative Ober said they use the ADM to decide the money for town and school districts and of course that's based on the average daily membership in the schools on one day in October. That's how they divided it from town to town. DRA is doing the rest of that Roger. You will get actually written paperwork from the Department of Revenue Administration. We got to bring the nice, happy check. Selectman Coutu said well we're happy to receive it. Thank you. I want to extend our sincerest appreciation to all of you for even taking the time to come get dressed and come out here this evening. This is why the people elect you to represent the Town of Hudson and the Town of Pelham and you've responded in kind. It's a hell of a way to pay for your votes but we appreciate it. It was a very expensive campaign \$627,061. Representative Ulery said that's more than \$.50 a person in the county. Selectman Coutu thought we'd get a buck a person but that's okay. We're very appreciative and we appreciate all the work that you do. Now if you can help us get some funding for the circumferential highway.

Representative Ulery stated one of the things that several of us could have done this several years are very well informed about and are constantly talking with both the Committee and the House which holds the purse strings for the ten year plan. With the Governor regarding getting federal funding and that is not an issue that is far from our discussions.

Selectman Coutu said thank you very much. I appreciate it. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

2) Proclamation Commemorating Hudson School District SAU 81 Choice Week

Chairman Morin recognized Selectman Coutu.

Selectman Coutu noted this was something we started last year. I received notice that this was a national doing. It's something most cities and town across the country. Some refuse to do it. I think it's appropriate that we should. I'm asking the Board of Selectmen to agree in total that we will have:

"A proclamation commemorating the Hudson School District SAU 81 Choice Week.

Whereas, all children in Hudson should have access to the highest quality education possible; and

Whereas, the Town of Hudson recognizes the important roles that the effective education plays in preparing all students in Hudson to be successful adults; and

Whereas, quality education is critically important to the economic vitality of the Town of Hudson; and

Whereas, the Town of Hudson is home to a multitude of excellent education opportunities from which parents can choose for their children; and

Whereas, educational variety not only helps to diversify our economy but also enhances the vibrancy of our community; and

Whereas, our area has many high-quality teaching professionals who are committed to educating our children; and

Whereas, School Choice Week is celebrated across the country by millions of students, parents, educators, school, and organizations, to raise awareness of the need for effective educational options;

Now therefore, the Hudson Board of Selectmen do hereby recognize January 26 to February 1, 2020 as "Hudson School District SAU 81 School Choice Week" and we call this observance to the attention of all of our citizens." Signed by the Hudson Board of Selectmen.

Selectman Coutu said before we start any discussion Mr. Chairman, I will make a motion.

*Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Martin, to declare January 26 to February 1, 2020 as "Hudson School District SAU 81 School Choice Week".*

Selectman Roy asked if somebody could define school choice. Is that school choice as the way I understand it.

Diane LaMothe said I can attempt Mr. Chairman. To be honest with you, I saw this on the agenda and it's the first time that I heard of it. Having the SAU 81 in the title of School Choice Week, I was a little thrown by that. That's I think wonderful you're willing to celebrate. From my research on what it was, it's basically a proclamation by the Governor to recognize that there are options to students for the 267,000 children living in New Hampshire. Families can choose from traditional public, public charter, public magnet, private schools, on-line academies, and home schooling. That's my understanding of it from my brief research on it.

Selectman McGrath asked do we have charter schools in the town. Ms. LaMothe said the State possibly. I don't

know. Selectman McGrath said she mentioned in her research. Ms. LaMothe said charter or magnet schools in the State of New Hampshire. I'm not sure about Hudson.

Selectman McGrath asked do we have a number of children that are being home schooled. Selectman Coutu said there is a number available. There are some. I know two or three families in Hudson that are home schooled. Selectman McGrath asked to get that number at some point.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0.

6. Consent Items

Chairman Morin asked does any Board member wish to remove any item for separate consideration.

Selectman Coutu stated I have a couple of questions.

Selectman Martin said maybe pertaining to the same thing. 6.b.1, 2, 3, and 4. I didn't pull these aside to talk about the amount of money. I pulled these aside because there's a process. When we apply for a grant, there's a deadline to have your grant in. If you have your grant in a month later, you're not going to get considered. They're not even going to hear from you. These four particular items had a deadline of October 10<sup>th</sup>. One was submitted 11/4, 11/9, 11/8, and 11/12. Why should I vote to approve this when you can't file in a timely manner? If you file your taxes late just because you wanted to file your taxes late, you get penalized. I will not support approving these. It's not the money. It's the process. We shouldn't even have taken them in. 10/10 was the cutoff. Thank you.

A. Assessing Items

- 1) 2019 Supplemental Tax Bill Pilot Agreement - Map 109 Lot 10 - 300 Derry Road - Southern NH Medical Center
- 2) 2019 Supplemental Tax Bill - Map 190 Lot 14 - 32 Cross Street
- 3) 2019 Supplemental Tax Bill - Map 191 Lot 82 - 7 Alpha Street
- 4) 2019 Property Tax Abatement - Map 183 Lot 35 - 2 Blackstone Drive
- 5) 2019 Property Tax Abatement - Map 182 Lot 179 - 20 Adelaide Street
- 6) 2019 Property Tax Abatement - Map 192 Lot 17 - 68 Pelham Road

Selectman Coutu said that's not what I wanted to discuss. Mr. Malizia on item A. 6 - 68 Pelham Road. I'm a little confused. Is that land..? Mr. Malizia said we own it now so we don't tax ourselves if that's your question. Selectman Coutu said I understand that. I'm just questioning - this isn't the property we sold, I mean the property that we turned over to Conservation. Mr. Malizia said it is the property we procured and Conservation now has it under their control. As a result of that, Selectman Coutu stated just this year alone we're going to lose \$4,199.79 in tax revenue, right? Steve Malizia said that's what this abatement is for yes. Selectman Coutu said in continuum at the end of ten years, it will be \$41,000. At the end of 100 years, it will be \$419,000. All right. Just questioning that one.

B. Water/Sewer Items

- 1) Sewer Abatement - S-UTL-20-06 - 157-05; 15 Falcon Drive, w/recommendation to approve
- 2) Sewer Abatement - S-UTL-20-07 -157-058-000; 26 Robin Drive, w/recommendation to approve
- 3) Sewer Abatement - S-UTL-20-08 -147-001-012; 27 Shoreline Drive, w/recommendation to approve

- 4) Sewer Abatement - S-UTL-20-09 -140-035-000; 6 Manny Court, w/recommendation to approve

C. Licenses & Permits & Policies

- 1) Tag Day - Salvation Army
- 2) Raffle Permit - Happy Tails New Hampshire

Selectman Coutu questioned "Happy Tails New Hampshire". Are they a...? Steve Malizia indicated they're a retail location in the plaza on...Selectman Coutu said they're not a non-profit organization looking to raise funds. Mr. Malizia stated they're donating to the Humane Society. We have other organizations that do raffles at various other establishments that make those donations. Selectman Coutu said they don't ask for permission to do it. Mr. Malizia said yes they do. Selectman Coutu said I can name you several businesses in town that run raffles and donate all the money to charity and don't get permits from us. Mr. Malizia said well then they're not in compliance. If I don't know about them, I can't do anything about them. The ones I'm aware of come get a permit.

Selectman Roy recalled Happy Tails is where Chasing Our Tails used to be. In fact, I saw the sign there the other day when I was there. It's going to the Nashua Humane Society. Selectman Coutu said I applaud them for doing what they're doing but I was wondering why were they applying. I thought it was a business in town. Why are they applying for permits? I owned a business. I never knew that you had have a permit. I never ran a raffle but I never knew that you needed a permit as a business person to run a raffle to give money to charity. Selectman Roy said we've approved them before for like The Bar. They've run quite a few. Mr. Malizia said if somebody doesn't come and I don't know about it or we don't know about it, I'm not sure what we're supposed to do. When we find out, we tell them the policy and give them the permit.

Selectman Coutu said that's good enough. My questions are answered.

Chairman Morin asked if there was any other discussion. Would you like to defer Item B. and have someone come in? What would you like to do? Selectman Martin asked why are we letting the folks submit late. That's my concern. Chairman Morin said we can ask that question. That's why I'm asking what you'd like to do. Selectman Martin said I would like to see these deferred because like I said, it's not a lot of money we're talking about. It's the process. There's a process to be followed and it should be followed. We all have to follow the process even if I was turning in one of those cards. Thank you.

Chairman Morin asked do you know of any reasons why they would be late. Steve Malizia said I can't speak for the four people. This is not the first time. I'm not saying for these people. We get these constantly. People sometimes have busy lives and don't always make every deadline. I don't have any specific reason why those four. When we get them, we process them. They have to go through the Municipal Utility which I think meets once a month.

Selectman McGrath noted their applications are in the packet.

Chairman Morin asked if there was any other discussion on Item B. Seeing none.

Motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman Coutu, to defer Consent Item 6. B. 1, 2, 3, 4, until the next meeting, carried 4-1. Selectman McGrath in opposition.

Steve Malizia asked what you're expecting at the next meeting. Selectman Martin said what I'm expecting is why do we accept things late. For instances, you're expecting some kind of money let me just say. So you have a scratch ticket that's expired on the 366<sup>th</sup> day. The State isn't going to give you the money so if you have a process, a date specific to turn you thing in - like I told you, it's not a lot of money. Why would we accept that? I'm going to let you know now, we're going to hear and I'm going to hear oh we are all busy. Yup I'm busy. Everybody in this room is busy. When you're expecting money back, you should pay attention to it. My opinion. Thank you.

Selectman Roy said to Selectman Martin to Mr. Malizia's question, do you expect the citizens to come in here. I don't understand what you expect to happen between now and the next meeting. Selectman Martin said you know what, motion to deny all four.

Motion by Selectman Martin to deny Consent Item 6. B. 1, 2, 3, and 4.

Chairman Morin said there's no second. Would you like to have someone from this building come to the next meeting and explain because if Mr. Malizia says we do this often, maybe we can get an answer from our own people and we'll understand it?

Selectman Martin said we don't need the people to come in. I need the employee that works in this department or whoever come in and explain to me why we're accepting things late. That would be acceptable to me.

Selectman Coutu asked on December 3<sup>rd</sup> are we going to have a workshop. Steve Malizia said that's up to the Board. Chairman Morin asked would you like to have one. Selectman Coutu said no. We just went through a budget process. Unless somebody on the Board has something they want to discuss.

Chairman Morin said I know there was something but it hasn't come forward yet that they wanted to do. I haven't seen it yet that's why. I didn't know if you knew a little more.

D. Donations - None

E. Acceptance of Minutes

1) Minutes of the November 12, 2019 Meeting

F. Calendar

|       |      |  |
|-------|------|--|
| 11/26 | 7:00 | Board of Selectmen - BOS Meeting Room              |
| 11/28 | -    | Happy Thanksgiving - Town Hall Closed              |
| 11/29 | -    | Town Hall Closed                                   |
| 12/03 | 7:00 | Board of Selectmen (Workshop) - BOS Meeting Room   |
| 12/04 | 7:00 | Budget Committee - Buxton Meeting Room             |
| 12/05 | 6:30 | Recreation Committee - BOS Meeting Room            |
| 12/05 | 7:00 | Benson Park Committee - Hudson Cable Access Center |
| 12/09 | 7:00 | Budget Committee - Buxton Meeting Room             |
| 12/09 | 7:00 | Cable Utility - Hudson Cable Access Center         |
| 12/09 | 7:00 | Conservation Commission - BOS Meeting Room         |
| 12/10 | 7:00 | Board of Selectmen - BOS Meeting Room              |
| 12/11 | 7:00 | Planning Board - Buxton Meeting Room               |
| 12/12 | 7:00 | Zoning Board of Adjustment - Buxton Meeting Room   |

Motion by Selectman McGrath, seconded by Selectman Martin, to accept Consent Items A, C, D, E, and F, carried 5-0.

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Votes taken after Nonpublic Session on November 12, 2019

- 1) Motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman Roy, to hire Thomas Henley for the position of Firefighter/AEMT in the Fire Department at the contracted salary of \$20.55 per hour (step 1). This assignment will be a non-exempt position in accordance with the International Association of Firefighters Local #3154 as per the union contract, carried 4-0.
- 2) Motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to hire Ryan DiFranza for the position of Firefighter/Paramedic in the Fire Department at the contracted salary of \$22.51 per hour (step 1). This assignment will be a non-exempt position in accordance with the International Association of Fire fighters Local #3154 as per union contract, carried 4-0.
- 3) Motion Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to promote Camera Operator Jacquie Lemay for advancement to the position of HCTV Assistant with a change in pay from the base rate of \$12.50 per hour to the part-time HCTV Assistant rate of \$15 per hour, carried 4-0.

- 4) Motion Selectman McGrath, seconded by Selectman Roy, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Hudson and the Hudson Police Employees Association adding the position of Part Time Animal control Officer to the bargaining unit and to authorize the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen to sign the Memorandum of Understanding, carried 4-0.
- 5) Motion Selectman McGrath, seconded by Selectman Roy, to hire Jill Laffin for the position of Executive Assistant to the Board of Selectmen at an annual salary of \$58,000. This is a nonunion, non-exempt position, carried 4-0.
- 6) Motion Selectman Roy, seconded by Selectman Martin, to deny the request to abate the interest accrued on the past due taxes for Map 204, Lot 006-835, 835 Fox Hollow Drive, carried 4-0.
- 7) Motion to adjourn at 10:30 p.m. by Selectman Roy, seconded by Selectman Martin, carried 4-0.

## 8. NEW BUSINESS

### A. Boy Scout Project - Blodgett Cemetery

Chairman Morin recognized Troop 20 Boy Scout Roman Provencher.

Roman Provencher explained I handed out this presentation. I wanted to do a project at Blodgett Cemetery in Hudson. The project would be a sign and also a website. The website would include an online database with a map of the graves. It would also include a history of the cemetery. That's the project. I think it will benefit the cemetery because the map will make it much easier for families to find their loved ones. It will also make it easier to keep track of the records and stuff at the cemetery. Expected cost for this would be zero dollars. There's no cost for the on-line database or website. The sign it would say "Blodgett Cemetery, Hudson, New Hampshire" and then the date it opens and closes. I will be raising money for the cost and materials for that. So no cost to the town.

Chairman Morin said I've talked to a couple of members to the Cemetery Trustees and they are very excited about this project and they're looking forward to it. It will help them greatly. Appreciate it. Anybody have any questions?

Selectman McGrath asked why did you choose this project. Roman Provencher said I chose this project specifically because I've helped volunteer at that cemetery before. I already knew one of the people there so I just wanted to help. Selectman McGrath thought it's an admirable project and it will be much appreciated by the family members who are buried there.

Selectman Martin noted it will not only help the families greatly but I do research on ancestry and I just might know somebody in there as well after you do this. It's very admirable that you took on this project. What's admirable the most is your deadline. As you've seen me talk about deadlines tonight, your deadline is by March 2020. That's very aggressive. I know you can do it because you want that Eagle Scout so your heart is set on it. I look forward to using the database so thank you for coming forward and doing that.

Roman Provencher stated I actually had a couple of questions for you guys. So for the sign was there any specific requirements that the town would want for it? Selectman Coutu recommended that you go to the Building Department and ask to speak to someone about your project, and what you're doing, and the Board of Selectmen suggested you go there. They can give you some guidance on the height of the sign and things like that. They're not going to charge you a fee. When people go for a sign, usually you have to pay a fee. They won't charge you a fee for the sign but they'll give you some guidance on high it should be. They want to make sure it's not obstructing view but that it's obvious to the citizens that are coming in.

Selectman McGrath suggested for the sign, you should center all of the lettering. I'm looking at what you presented. That's just a suggestion for you. Mr. Provencher said I'll do that.

Roman Provencher also asked I wanted to know is there any permits involved for the sign. Selectman Coutu said check with Land Use.

Also for the website, Mr. Provencher asked would I like that to the Hudson town website or would that...Selectman Coutu said that's up to you. Steve Malizia thought probably work with our IT people to make sure that more than likely it will be some sort of...Selectman Coutu said we have an IT Department here in town and the offices is downstairs here. You talk to Lisa Nute. She is the Director of IT and she will look at what you're presenting and if there's a possibility of linking it through the cemetery department, they will link it. I think it would be a valuable asset, a tremendous resource for a lot of people in town. I admire you for the project Roman.

Motion by Selectman Roy, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to approve the Blodgett Cemetery project by building an entrance sign and an online database

Selectman Martin asked could we put in there that building fees will be waived. Selectman Coutu said Steve will take care of it. Steve Malizia said don't worry about it.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0.

B. United States 2020 Census

Chairman Morin recognized Brendan Drew from the US Census Bureau.

Thanks for having me and thanks for your help so far with the 2020 Census. My name is Brenden Drew. I am a Partnership Specialist with the US Census Bureau. I report to the New York regional office which is New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico, and the New England States. The reason why they have Partnership Specialists is because it works in New York doesn't necessarily work in Northern New England. They send me out to partner with trusted voices in the community so that we can make sure that we count difficult to count populations. So that could be homeless population. That could be farm born population, college students, and in towns like this most likely it's going to be children under five. Now I'll kind of explain why that's so important to count all those folks. I'll be real brief. I just want to go over why it's important, why it's safe, and why it's easy to do the 2020 census. After if you have any questions, you can ask me. You're already helping us so again I really appreciate that.

So why it's important? Mr. Drew said there's really three reasons. The main one is representation. Redistricting depends on getting an accurate count and that's not just the federal government that's also States use our numbers for redistricting. That's the primary reasons why we've always done a census. The second reason is because of a \$675 billion disseminated every year based on our numbers. That's money for roads. That's money for medical care. That's money again for schools and you name it. The example I typically use especially when we're talking about children under five is if you have - I'm in Hancock and that's a very small town. We spend about 75 percent of our budget is on the school alone. The folks there hear about and they run up to elections why are we spending 75 percent of our budget on schools. Well if you have say a family in Massachusetts for example and there's a breakup and the kids come to New Hampshire to live with grandma. They're only supposed to stay for a couple of months but a couple of months lead to a couple of years. Those kids are in the school system. It's very important that we have them counted so that we can apply for grants for the federal government to cover the costs of those students that are in the schools. It is very important that we make sure that we get everyone counted for the federal funds that are coming in. Every grant that is written uses our numbers. The third reason really is because business uses our numbers. A business wants to make sure that there's a market. A business wants to make sure that there are employees in your area. When they apply for a business loan, they're going to use our numbers as well.

Brendan Drew stated I can go over the timeline a little bit. Mid-March is when it's going to be kicking off and you're going to be able to go on line and fill out your census form. I kind of went over why it's important. One thing that we want to mention this time is why it's safe. If you've been watching the news, you know that this census this time around has been politicized. There was an immigration question on there so there's a lot of fear in a lot of different communities about the privacy of the US Census. I can tell you this that as an employee of the US Census Bureau if I give out information about an individual or an address, I face five years in prison and \$250,000 in fines. The only thing that we can release is statistical data on the federal, State, local, and census track level. I can say 30 percent of Hancock residents rent a home but I can't say that Brendan Drew lives at 100 Main Street in Hancock. There's serious consequences of anyone who releases that. We've had federal agencies try to gain access to our data. We've had law enforcement, we've had private people try to access the type of data and they've been blocked from accessing this every time because of the federal law prohibits it. It's very safe. This is something that I run into when I talk to folks that work with the farm born community but I also up in the mountains where I'm from, you run

into a lot of people. This is the live free or die State and people value their privacy. It's something that we have to explain to those folks too because we can't really do it without the public trusting us. Public trust is the foundation of what we do and it's really our job to get that across. The census is safe. It's also very easy this time around. You're going to be able to go on line to do it. You're going to be able to call a 1-800 number to do it and you're also going to still be able to do the traditional paper questionnaire. A lot of the older folks that's the only way they're going to do it. They're not going to go on line. That's three ways that they can do it.

Mr. Drew noted if people don't do it in those three ways, then we send out the army of consensus takers. The last time around we hired about a half a million people to go out and knock on doors for the people haven't responded. What that means for your community is jobs. There's a saying that we have that the census is a national event but it happened at the local level. Currently we're paying \$17.50 for census takers and a variety of other jobs. We have not just census takers but we have managers, IT people, recruiters, you name it. We need those folks to get hired. It's \$17.50. It's no experience necessary. It's great for students, great for retirees, great for anyone who has some time to go out and knock on some doors in the springtime and talk to their neighbors. If you know anyone, there's a link at the back here: [2020census.gov/jobs](https://2020census.gov/jobs) and you'll be able to take a look at all those different jobs. One thing I want to leave you folks with is that if you work with our numbers at all, if you've ever had any trouble working with our numbers because it's a little bit dry, we have a data dissemination program. Instead of paying a third party to compile our data together and sell it back to you, we have full time people here in New Hampshire that will walk you through our numbers. We won't write the grant for you but what we will do is through seminars and workshops, or getting someone on the phone, or e-mail, we'll be able to show you how to put our numbers within that grant so that you get some actual results. Again, thanks for having me here. If you have any questions, just let me know.

Chairman Morin asked anybody have any questions. Seeing none. Very much appreciated Sir. Thank you.

C. Water Main Acceptance - Autumn Circle

Chairman Morin recognized Town Engineer Elvis Dhima.

Thank you Mr. Chairman. Good evening everyone. Elvis Dhima said the first item for you tonight is Autumn Circle 8" water main acceptance. This is an eight lot subdivision. It's located at the town line of Hudson and Litchfield. It's a single family subdivision. The water line has been installed and in accordance with the town regs. I'm here in front of you tonight to recommend the water line acceptance as recommended by MUC, the Director of Public Works, and myself. I'll take any questions you might have.

Chairman Morin asked if there were any questions. Seeing none.

*Motion by Selectman McGrath, seconded by Selectman Coutu, to accept the water line (Autumn Circle) as recommended by the Town Engineer, DPW Director and Municipality Utility Committee, carried 5-0.*

D. GIS 3" High Resolution Flyover Agreement

Chairman Morin recognized Town Engineer Elvis Dhima.

Thank you Mr. Chairman. Elvis Dhima indicated the Town of Hudson in 2017 took advantage of a fly over by another community at a very reduced cost. That same company has reached out to us this year to let us know they're doing another flyover in our area. Basically we can get the highest resolution for civil use for about \$23,500 something that can cost about \$35,000. The way we're structuring the funding for this is most of the money is coming from the Planning Board accounts which is related to updating the tax maps. The other half is coming out of the water and sewer utility which we use daily. With that said, I went in front of the Planning Board and they recommended expenditure and they approved the expenditure of \$13,500 out of their account. I'm here in front of you tonight to ask you to consider this opportunity and if you'd like to move forward with it. This is recommended by all the departments even though financially they couldn't support it but spiritually they did. This will be beneficial to all of us internally and everyone that lives in Hudson that would like to get an idea to what the aerial looks like on their property. It comes very handy. That's all. I'll take any questions you might have.

*Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to waive the bid process and sole source this work to Quantum Spatial for the following reasons: 1) They have provided similar services in 2017, at a discount; 2) They are currently hired by State of New Hampshire to provide aerial services; 3) They are providing the service at a significant discount.*

Selectman Roy asked to clarify the whole cost of this is \$23,500. Mr. Dhima said yes correct.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to proceed with the contract to fund the GIS high resolution aerial flyover using Planning Board Tax Map Update Account 1312-505 in the amount of \$13,500, Water Utility Account 5592-252 in the amount of \$5,000 and Sewer Utility Account 5562-252 in the amount of \$5,000, carried 5-0.

Before you leave, Chairman Morin asked would you like to talk about our DOT meeting real quick or do you want to wait. Elvis Dhima said I'm going to be here for the grant and the easement. We can do that or we whatever you would like. Chairman Morin said we can talk about it then and that makes sense.

E. Bullet Proof Vest Capital Reserve Account

Chairman Morin recognized Police Chief William Avery.

Thank you Mr. Chairman. Good evening members of the Board. Chief Avery indicated tonight I'm here before you to request to withdraw \$1,235 out of our Capital Reserve Account which is set up for bullet proof vests replacement. We have one current bullet proof vest that is about to expire and we do need to replace it. This account was set up years ago for this purpose to replace bullet proof vests when they expire.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to accept the Police Department's request to utilize funds in the amount of \$1,235.00 from the Bullet Proof Vest Capital Reserve Account to purchase one (1) replacement Bullet Proof Vest at \$1,235.00 per vest. The Bullet Proof Vest is on a 5 year cycle and has expired, carried 5-0.

F. Victims of Crimes Act Grant (VOCA)

Chairman Morin recognized Police Chief William Avery and Officer Downey.

Chief Avery stated Officer Downey as everybody knows now that's Officer Downey sitting to my right. Officer Downey has been at the forefront with the Hudson Police Department with our department citizen's program and looking out for them mental health and well-being of all of our police employees. He's also reached out with Fire Department employees, and is currently looking at joining forces with the Southern NH Citizens Team. Officer Downey came to me several weeks ago regarding a possibility of receiving a grant which is a no match grant meaning that the town would not have to kick in any money. He went through the whole grant with me and requested that I approve him to go ahead and apply for it. We are before you tonight. Officer Downey is going to speak briefly on this grant and fill you in what it's about.

Officer Downey explained it's a victim of crimes act. Its federal funded. This year they've allotted and it's through the State of New Hampshire Department of Justice. They've allotted over \$2 million throughout the State and regions like us or a town like us can apply for anywhere from \$5,000 to \$250,000. The packet that I handed you, they go into many details. It goes into housing and it's a lot of different things to support. The criteria that I would be applying for the grant would be to fund the comfort dog program where it would assist victims of crimes. It actually matches with the description in the criteria and it's a new program so we do not have to match some of these programs. You would have to match if it was not a new program. At that point right now, the training costs would be \$5,000 for the fee and then obviously the uptake of crates and information. Sometimes toys. We do have food covered but there's a lot of different things and potentially overtime or budgeted items that we haven't really foreseen yet because it is such a new program. I think the sky is the limit with this program. It's a two-year opportunity grant. Obviously the second year would be a little less of what I would be applying for because I still have to cover veterinary costs, unknown emergencies if there is to have anything. Even though they're lovely, right now she'd likes to eat a lot of socks. I'm trying to prevent any emergency visits. With that being said, I'd just like to hopefully have. It is a budget that we based off of donations only.

Regarding the donations, Chief Avery said the people in Hudson and the businesses in Hudson have been so generous as we've moved forward with this comfort dog project. We will be coming in in the near future to accept the donations from the businesses and residents of this town. The other part of this grant, and I didn't mention it first, is the work that our Victim Witness Advocate Geri Cloutier does on a daily basis. She is constantly in touch with victims of domestic violence and other victims of burglaries, thefts, or what have you and really, really has done an incredible job for the Hudson Police Department in taking care of all the victims that we deal with on a daily basis. It's almost to the point where I wish I had her at the building seven days a week. Domestic violence does not stop on Friday nights, or Saturday nights, or Sunday nights. When she comes in on Monday morning I happen to be in the Services Division last Monday morning, her phone literally did not stop running for an hour and fifteen minutes. Ring, ring, ring and she had to be at Court to help another victim. So the grant will also help with Geri Cloutier and I would like to sum it up by wishing everybody a Happy Thanksgiving and for all the people listening, please do not drink and drive over the holiday weekend. If you need a ride and you are in a jam, do not be afraid to reach out to a loved one and if need be contact us and we will take care of it. Thank you.

Chairman Morin wanted to say Jeri is one of those employees that we never see but does a huge amount of things. I have to thank you Officer Downey for taking this to the next level past where we've gone before and bringing Hudson Police to make sure we serve the victim from the crime scene right up through until as much as we can help them. I appreciate all your work. Thank you.

Selectman McGrath asked we met the dog Haven. Do you foresee needing a second dog? Honestly because as people here know, I'm a news hound. I watch the news so I hear all of these different reports. It wouldn't surprise me to hear that you would need a second dog. Officer Downey thought it's such a new program that there's a lot of dogs. I was just at a conference up in Concord. Between Massachusetts and New Hampshire and it is growing. It's a huge growing trend and police departments popping up everywhere we're it's a New England group that we're trying to join now. There was a couple of topics. Right now I think some of the companies are being inundated so I think right now you'll see police departments only having one for right now and then potentially you could see more of a need for it. Again it's just kind of unknown at this point but I would not be surprised if you see more departments, bigger departments having more than just one. It can be taxing on the dog as well as the handler. We will have a secondary handler if I was on vacation that she would still be working so that we don't - unlike the K-9 program where when he's on vacation, no one else can really grab that dog to do tracks or anything like that. This is a kind of a different aspect where for the most part anyone walks into my house, she'll probably lick you to death as opposed to talking your head off. That's what it is. Again it's an emotion toll on them. You can see it. They can get mentally drained just like we do emotionally drained. How empathetic they can be and the way they sense it, it's amazing. There was a couple of good stories that we had at the conference. One of the main speakers he did Sandy Hook. He went out with a Saint Bernard. He did Las Vegas. There's a lot of different things that we can definitely use it for as well as I plan on trying to use it because I am a member of the citizens team that debriefs or critical incidents around the State to kind of try to start bringing her in as well to maybe help or comfort them. Sometimes people don't want to talk but sometimes just relaxing can help someone feel a little bit more comfortable.

Chairman Morin stated I was recently in Franklin and got a chance to talk to their officer with their dog. The stuff she was telling me, the dogs are a huge, huge help to them when dealing with people.

Selectman McGrath noted there's a commercial on TV that there's a little girl in a hospital bed and they bring in a dog. They're actors I know but the transformation in the little girl and the dog, it's really remarkable. I'm very much in favor of this program.

*Motion by Selectman McGrath, seconded by Selectman Roy, to authorize the Hudson Police Department to apply for the Victims of Crime Act Grant through the Attorney General's Office and the Department of Justice in the estimated amount range of \$5,000 to \$15,000, carried 5-0.*

Chairman Morin asked Dianna Cannava to come sit at the table.

I'm Diana Cannava. I'm an HCTV volunteer and I was part of the Telethon. One of the raffle items was a police car that is a replica of Hudson PD. I'm here tonight as I was watching you on TV looking at the agenda going get in the car and get there fast. Chief Avery asked who did this. Chairman Morin said a gentleman named Phil Duffy. He's a town resident and he's actually done one of those for me and he actually did the Fire Department fire car.

Selectman Coutu noted he spends hours on that. A total replica of the cruiser.

Chief Avery said I would like to obviously personally thank Mr. Duffy on behalf of all of the members of the Hudson Police Department. Diane and I have grown over the years. We've been in constant communication. As I was a Captain for ten years and we constantly communicated about different quality of life issues down and around her neighborhood which I will not announce. Diane I can't thank you enough for your support over the years. You've been a tremendous asset. She is a set of eyes and ears for us as we move forward in policing. Thank you and thank you to Mr. Duffy. This is unbelievable.

Selectman Coutu explained we had an auction to raise money at the food pantry. Mr. Duffy presented us with two vehicles last year. He presented the two vehicles this year. They went out to bid. Diane was the highest bidder for that vehicle and she bought it and she's donating it to you. Diana Cannava said it was supposed to be anonymous.

G. Conveyance of Easement - 225 & 227 Lowell Road

Chairman Morin recognized Town Engineer Elvis Dhima.

Thank you Mr. Chairman. Good evening everyone again. Elvis Dhima stated as you know the Town of Hudson has been in agreement with the State of New Hampshire to widen Lowell Road from Haffner's entrance all the way to Sagamore. It's a \$1.5 million project through an 80/20 program that we got accepted a couple of years ago that would require land alongside of Lowell Road. That goes from 225-227 Lowell and also beyond that. The Planning Board recently approved the site plan in front of 225-227 Lowell Road and they were able to exchange the cap fees for approximately \$59,000 or \$88,000 worth of easement that's required for widening Lowell Road for this phase and recommended by town staff. I'm here in front of you tonight to ask you to accept this easement to complete this transaction. With that said, I'll take any questions you might have.

Selectman McGrath said I don't have any questions but I have a comment. I had discussions with both Mr. Dhima and Mr. Groth concerning the acceptance of this easement in lieu of collecting a cap fee. In this particular case, I'm in agreement with what they've presented because the cap fee would be less than the value of this property and this is going to help to alleviate morning traffic going south bound on Lowell Road getting onto the Sagamore Bridge. I'm in favor of this for that reason.

Chairman Morin asked if there was anyone else. Seeing none.

*Motion by Selectman Roy, seconded by Selectman Martin, to accept the conveyance of an easement for land required for the Town's CMAQ lane-addition project at Lowell Road and the Sagamore Bridge from RH Flagstone, LLC, carried 5-0.*

Elvis Dhima indicated I'd like to talk a little bit about the DOT meeting if that's okay before we get into the grant. As you know not too long ago or even before a couple of months ago, the safety concerns were brought up about traffic calming off Sagamore landing to Lowell Road. It's definitely noticeable. We were able to talk to NRPC. You Mr. Chairman and Selectman McGrath attended that meeting with Mr. Malizia. After that, we were able to get DOT out there at the site. I thought it was a good meeting with their traffic engineer, safety engineer. Basically what we came up with is they were willing to do two things: 1) a temporary rumble strips in spring of 2020 but also there seems to be new technology out there that basically involves installing a blue light similar to optacon for fire department or an optacon like a white light that basically says that snow is coming and you shouldn't be on the road or parked on the road. This particular one is blue and what that allows the police department is to have a 360 as people are coming though the red light. It appears that the Police Chief checked with his prosecutor and the Judge and it appears that that will be allowed to write tickets with this particular technology. This is currently being used widely in Florida and allows our police officers to station at a safe area and being able to pull people over without having to chase them or witness that red light violation. With that said, it appears that the cost of this is about \$1,000 and DOT might be able to do this for us. It is their intersection. We can get through that. I reached out to our consultant and the cost for this if we end up doing it ourselves is about \$2,800. It's not a big ticket but we'd like to have them do it obviously. Thanksgiving week we're not getting any feedback but I've reached out to them a couple of times and it seems that we may be heading that way. The blue light first and rumble strips next year. Trying to make that intersection safer.

Selectman Roy had one question. So the officer still has to give a physical ticket. It's not like a mail in or..Mr. Dhima said we would not be taking any pictures of the plate. That's still not allowed in New Hampshire but this will allow

them instead of them being at Sagamore and waiting for that individual to go through and then chase them behind, they can be right on Lowell Road and as the light goes blue, they can pull people over if they're coming through the intersection. It's safer. I think it's a greater mass production. If you have a people right after the other, they can line them all up. It appears I sent a couple links to Mr. Malizia and Mr. Morin about it. It seems as it's been successful so it might be worth a try. It works 24/7. It works at all times.

Selectman Coutu said one of the things we talked about Mr. Dhima is that the luxury that this affords us and there's a question that follows this is that the light will go off if a car - it's timed with the red light. You can have a police officer standing on the opposite side of the road and they can flag them over to pull them over and they can pull over 12 cars if they had to. They just pull them over and the cruiser is going to come up and they're all going to wait. I've seen this system done down south. The question I had Mr. Dhima is we had a discussion about how to provide for the transit of vehicles going north on Lowell Road towards say from Walmart to Market Basket - the two well-known locations. The number of cars we pull over in order not to block that entrance lane to take a right on Wason can we work something out with the State to make a curb cut to be able to make them go in there and then pull out a little further out. This is a safety issue.

Chief Avery explained when the police officers initiate a motor vehicle stop, they first they're trained at doing is picking a safe location to bring these cars to a stop. I know when I was on the street Mr. Coutu a lot of times we wouldn't activate the lights until they were through that intersection so they would be in front of Market Basket or their lights are on, they're going to take a right on Wason and then immediately pull over. It could present an issue if we do have what you had mentioned a stack of cars that blow through that intersection like rush hour traffic. We have officers sitting on the north bound side of Lowell Road just waiving cars over. We will do it. We could present a little bit of an issue there if we're using those methods.

Elvis Dhima noted there was a discussion about creating a pocket out on Lowell Road. There's a particular shoulder there the width. I'm not sure if it's wide enough to put a vehicle and stack in there but we could push that back if we need to. They didn't say no. I guess the first to see if it's successful enough and then it becomes the next issue and this program is successful, then we can go to the next phase and push that. There's a sidewalk there too as well. We could push everything back a few feet, or 5 feet, or 10 feet to create a pocket to line maybe 5 or 6 cars at least plus PD. I don't see why not.

Selectman Coutu asked where are you talking about from the welcome to Hudson sign up and I measured it the other day. There's sufficient room to add a safety lane for vehicles to be pulled over. It's whether or not DOT will allow the curb cut. Where they were there and they liked the idea and they're willing to provide the funding to get it done. Mr. Dhima said we just have to be careful so it doesn't come across that we're starting the circumferential highway. It could be achieved. We could look into that.

Selectman McGrath commented Elvis you mentioned I think when I talked to you about a week or so ago the rumble strips are a temporary device and they have to go in in the springtime because they'll impede snow removal. They're looking at it as a temporary solution and the light I think will have a much greater impact on people running that red light. The light will go off immediately and if there's a cruiser in the area, they can grab them. Elvis said the rumble strips they were willing to make them permanent. They just seemed to have mixed feedback from them. There's been cases where it works. There's been cases it doesn't work. There's been cases where it worked but they were very loud and they were very close to residential areas. We don't have that issue over there. It's kind of isolated and it's a highway. We didn't push too hard. We kind of wanted to see but if it's successful, the rumble strip could become permanent. It just seems to be a good solution before you commit to it 100 percent and do significant changes to the pavement.

Selectman McGrath noted if this saves a life or saves serious injury - I mean I've witnessed cars and trucks welling through that red light. I relayed one of our volunteers in town was sitting at a red light to take a left onto the Sagamore Bridge and the light turned green, she went to move, the car next to her in the next lane went to move and a tractor trailer truck went blowing through the red light. Fortunately both of those cars hesitated and weren't affected. You can imagine what that damage would do.

Elvis Dhima said when we were having the meeting at the side, they kept looking at the intersection and you could see clearly when the battalion was done and there was one or two cars just catching up, it was clearly visible they were going through the red light. They were noticing that too. Yeah it happens. Obviously different times of day

are different but there's different issues there. Selectman McGrath stated that was early in the morning the tractor trailer incident. Mr. Dhima said this particular one was around 10 o'clock when you could see not as much traffic and it was still.

Selectman Martin indicated it's going to be a great revenue generator I'll tell you that. As soon as those people see that blue light going and people getting pulled over, it will slow down. I know it will. Steve Malizia noted we don't get the money though. Selectman Martin said I know we don't get the money but I'll tell you what when just got some back from the State it was extra revenue. We can continue to move it like that. Once the people see that blue light and cars getting pulled over, they're going to think twice. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

#### H. 2019 BUILD Grant

Chairman Morin recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia stated we did not get a 2019 BUILD Grant but I put this on the agenda so the Board could at least realize that. The question remains does the Board wish to do anything with the circumferential highway as a warrant article. If you recall last year, we had an article predicated on getting a BUILD Grant. This year you have not discussed or forwarded an article but given that there's no BUILD Grant hence no funding from the feds, I thought it was appropriate that the Board at least discuss or decide you want to forward an article or do you not want to forward an article.

Selectman Martin said no for me.

Selectman McGrath said the question that when I was reading this to get ready for this meeting the question that I thought of was if we put this on the warrant, this is another big ticket item for the town. We want the Police Department to be expanding and that's critical. The school is coming in with a number of very costly items and if we don't get a grant, I just don't see the need to put it on the warrant.

Chairman Morin understood the clock is ticking but after listening to our legislators tonight that it was going to come up, maybe we should see what they can do. I think it would be a lot easier sell for the townspeople and I agree with Selectman Martin and Selectman McGrath. We have some other things that we need to get done. It's not a dead item trust me. It's not a dead item but let's see what they can do.

Elvis Dhima said I totally agree. I think we're better off as long as there still remains it as an option in case something ever comes up down the road. I don't think the need for it will ever go away. We put it off last year. What's another year? Not a problem. We'll still continue to plan and we haven't lost anything.

#### I. Proposed Warrant Article - Tax Impact on Ballot

Chairman Morin recognized Finance Director Kathy Carpentier.

Kathy Carpentier stated I come before you for your consideration of adding a warrant article to the ballot this year. It is to put the tax rate impact on the ballot. Back in FY2009 we asked the voters if they wanted to put the tallies meaning recommended by the Board 5-0, recommended by the Budget Committee 11-0. Now you have an opportunity to ask the legislative body which is the voters if they would like to have the actual tax rate. If this one costs a penny, or if this one costs two pennies, or for the operating budget it cost \$5 per thousand of assessed value. If you'd like to entertain it, the warrant article would say "Shall the Town of Hudson vote to require that the annual budget and all warrant articles as determined by the governing body shall contain a notation stating the estimated tax rate impact of the article."

Selectman McGrath agreed that that should be on the warrant article. Can we add language - as an example, a calculation showing for a house valued at \$250,000 this is the calculation and this is how you reach the impact based on this. Ms. Carpentier explained I took this language from a template given to me by the Department of Revenue or their website. I definitely could propose that to both Department of Revenue and our Legal. Even if they said no for instance, we definitely could put it in our budget books. We could put it on the thing that goes to the public hearing. The thing that goes to the Deliberative Session. The note could come the actual ballot. I think examples could be part of selling this warrant article every year as we go through the process of deliberating a budget but I would have to follow up with those two legal entities.

Steve Malizia said Statutes are pretty specific. When you want to do something, this is what it allows you to do which is basically the tax impact. It doesn't allow you to put more almost editorial. It doesn't allow you to do that. It is the tax rate impact. As Ms. Carpentier said, when you're doing public hearings, you're doing voter guides, you can certainly put that out but the actual ballot - just like the tallies, would just be tax rate impact is X. That's what they'll allow you to do.

Selectman McGrath thought people have a difficult time figuring out what the impact is going to be to them. The more that we can help them to understand what the impact is for their circumstance whether their house is valued at \$100,000 or \$500,000, they need to know. Some people just don't know how to calculate that. They wouldn't have that expertise. What we can do to help them I think would be really beneficial.

Kathy Carpentier noted you are the second Selectman who sort of said that to me. I did throw in the word "rate". It's not on the document in front of you but instead of just tax impact because the tax impact would be my tax bill might go up \$100 but if you say it's a tax rate impact, we're hoping that that would help also. The penny is just the rate is going up by a penny not my tax bill is going up by a penny. I do believe it is up to us and the Budget Committee to educate the taxpayers.

Selectman Coutu said I was the other Selectman and had the conversation with you relative to this. I felt very strongly as eloquently stated by my colleague Selectman McGrath that a lot of people are somewhat confused by our approach on presenting warrant articles and the cost associated with the warrant articles. People see eight cents; a lot of people expect their taxes are going to go up by eight cents period. That's a question I have more often than any other during the year. How come my taxes went up \$35, or \$50, or \$110, or whatever the impact is? I said well the voters voted for warrant articles and they all have costs associated with it. Well it said my tax rate was going to go up two cents. I read it in the Annual Report. They think that when you say it's going to affect your tax rate by one cent that that warrant article is going to cost a penny. They really think that. There are a lot of people who do. As Selectman McGrath stated there are a lot of people that it's a simple calculation. There's a lot of people that are not numbers people. We try to round it so it makes the calculating a lot easier. If you said \$200,000 and its ten cents, take off two zeros and add one back because you're multiplying by ten. The affect is \$200 a year. For us it's fine we do numbers all the time.

Selectman Coutu had a discussion with Ms. Carpentier about trying to clarify the language a little. I know we are restricted. We're governed by the Department of Revenue decides what the language is going to be. They put it through their counselor's office and they approve it. I still think it's worth the fight. I think it's worth the request. It think that it should be explained to them that our concerns are that we want people to know exactly what it's going to cost them to vote for a particular warrant article. I don't care if it's ours, the schools, or even a - we can't do it for - private citizens can't request - yeah they can. They can request petitioned warrant articles. They can request something that costs money. Do we put the tax impact on those as well? Mr. Malizia stated right now we don't put it on anything because we don't have the Statute that allows us. Selectman Coutu asked would we be able to...Mr. Malizia didn't see why we wouldn't. Selectman Coutu said we should ask that question as well. Thank you. I appreciate the work that you've done on this. It's time to get people to understand what the impact is going to be.

Kathy Carpentier thought sometimes after we go through deliberations people will see just the ballot and say I don't know the tax impact on this or the tax rate impact. I just figured since we put it on every document up to the ballot, we should also think about putting it on the ballot.

Selectman McGrath said I talked to KC this afternoon and I was in Steve's office. I went to see Jim Michaud. This is something that the Assessing office prepares. I've been wanting it on the tax bills since I've been on this Board. For people that are visual learners, this says it all. It breaks out what the percentage of your tax bill goes to - whether it's to the municipal, County, or the education process. It's all by color. It lists the percentages. For people that are interested in seeing this, I think we should put this on our website number one. Number two, people that come into Town Hall this is on the bulletin board upstairs right outside of the Board of Selectmen's office. This clearly illustrates the breakdown of our taxes. I brought that tonight.

Chairman Morin asked if there were any further questions. Seeing none.

Motion by Selectman McGrath, seconded by Selectman Roy, to forward warrant Article X Tax Impact on Warrant Articles to the warrant, carried 5-0.

J. Proposed Warrant Article - Appoint Town Treasurer

Chairman Morin recognized Finance Director Kathy Carpentier.

Kathy Carpentier indicated I come before you with one other consideration. I'm proposing a warrant article to appoint the Town Treasurer. Back in FY2014, we had asked the voters at that point to appoint the Town Treasurer and it did fail with 31 percent of the population saying yes and 63 percent saying no. I think it's important this person is in charge of all the funds that are coming into the town for both the town and the school. It's a large responsibility. It's not investing funds. It's a lot of transactions. A lot of bookkeeping. Substantial time is spent and I just think that having an appointed Treasurer who gets vetted with a resume through this Board would be better than just appointing somebody who just has name recognition to the position. I'm asking for your consideration to put this warrant on. The warrant would say, "Shall the Town of Hudson vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to appoint a Town Treasurer in accordance with RSA 41:26 e rather than electing a Treasurer".

Selectman Roy asked so we just appointed a Treasurer. So would this take affect after that person's term is...? Ms. Carpentier said when an elected position as the Treasurer is left vacant, you have to appoint but that person no matter how long the term is would only go to the next election. Selectman Roy said correct. What I'm asking is this would take affect after that person's term is over - the person we just appointed. Ms. Carpentier said no because they're going to be at the ballot at the same time.

Selectman McGrath said I'm in agreement with this because when we interview candidates, we've gone through a few interviews - the Town Planner; we've gone through the Executive Assistant to the Board of Selectmen, and recently the Town Treasurer. We look into their backgrounds and make sure that they have the appropriate credentials to fill the position. I think that this is as opposed to standing up at a candidate's night and presenting the information that you want the voters to hear, this body can look into their backgrounds, do background checks, and recommend hiring the most appropriate candidate.

Selectman Martin stated the question is, is the person bonded. Kathy Carpentier said yes. All elected positions are bonded through our property and liability insurance.

Motion by Selectman McGrath, seconded by Selectman Coutu, to Forward Warrant Article Y Appointment of Town Treasurer to the warrant, carried 5-0.

K. 2020-2021 School District Warrant Articles

Chairman Morin recognized Selectman Martin.

Selectman Martin said I had forwarded right out of my budget book the copies of the warrant articles that were submitted through the Budget Committee. Upon arrival, I was met with the same document but upgraded. Let me tell you why. On the warrant article to the operating budget, it showed \$56,712,644 for the budget and \$54,226,858 as the default. I don't know things happen - \$56,710,504 is the proposed budget. The operating default is \$55,613,146. I don't know if you've looked at it but we go the new document in front of us.

Just so you know, Selectman McGrath said who found that error was Ms. Carpentier. She called the SAU and got the correction for it. She's the one that found this mistake and deserves kudos for that.

Selectman Martin noted which she will get. Further was questioning Warrant Article 16 had some typos of where it was going to. It said Hudson Memorial but in the warrant article body said Alvirne High School when it's actually Memorial School. Just wanted everybody to be clear about that.

Selectman Martin added Warrant Article 5 is to see if the School District will vote to authorize until rescinded to retain the year end unassigned general funds in the amount not to exceed in any fiscal year 2.5 percent of the current fiscal year's net assessment in accordance with RSA 198:4-b II. Such fund balance retained may only be used to reduce the tax rate or for emergencies to be approved by the Department of Education under RSA 32:11.

We had quite a bit of discussion at the Budget Committee regarding this. I was totally confused. I was shown there are some documents that you have to submit to have this but one thing they don't support on this is for the Department of Education whoever it may be to approve an emergency in expenditure for the school district. I think it needs to be local not up in Concord that has no control over the town at all or the district. So that's my comments. I'm looking for support on Warrant Article 1, 2, 5, and 6. Three and four are contracts that have not been presented yet so there's no numbers.

Selectman Coutu stated that raises a few questions. Number one, you said you're looking for support on 1, 2, 3 or are you just looking for a vote. Selectman Martin said I'm looking for the Board's consensus to let me know how to vote.

Selectman Coutu had a question for School Board Representative Diane LaMothe. Warrant Article 3 it says "collective bargaining agreement between the Hudson School Board and the Teamsters. Which union? Ms. LaMothe believes the Teamsters is the custodial, maintenance personnel. I'm sorry I don't have the specific. Selectman Coutu reiterated custodial and cafeteria. Ms. LaMothe said not cafeteria more custodial, landscaping, maintenance.

Selectman Coutu said Warrant Article 5 I happened to watch the Budget Committee meeting this week. It's not something that I take great pleasure in but I was curious to see what the final numbers were going to be. This warrant article says that 2.5 percent of the current fiscal year's net assessment. When I look at that and I try to be analytical about what people write, I take assessment as meaning the assessed value of the town which is in the billions of dollars. That's what an assessment is. Is it 2.5 percent isn't it actually 2.5 percent of the current fiscal year's budget? Ms. LaMothe said no it's not the budget. Selectman Coutu asked well how do you come up with \$800,000 then. How did you come up with the number of \$800,000 is what they want to keep every year.

Diane LaMothe said the presentation I believe the \$720,000 was mentioned as the ballpark figure of what we would be looking at. Selectman Coutu stated that's what I heard at the presentation but I heard the money changed. Ms. LaMothe said it is determined on an annual basis, the net assessment changes. Selectman Coutu asked what is the net assessment of what. Ms. LaMothe believed that comes from the town. I don't know if KC maybe...Selectman Coutu said it's the assessed property value of the town.

Selectman Martin indicated we'll find out right now.

Kathy Carpentier stated I too watched the Budget Committee meeting and had a few conversations with the Business Administrator and we got some clarification. Net assessments are coming from right from the RSA so that wording is coming right from the RSA. It wasn't written by the School Board but it is their prior year net assessment so that is how much money is being raised and given over to the school less prior year education grant. The calculation is just a little over \$1 million if this had passed this year.

Selectman Coutu said it's going to be more than \$1 million. The number keeps going up. Ms. Carpentier said if for FY20 the one we're in, it would have been \$1,034,000. If it passes for FY21, it would be \$1,054,000. So they go with your last year's assessed value. This is a document I got from Karen and I believe here and her staff were talking with the Department of Revenue. Selectman Coutu was wondering why whatever they were spewing the other night and we find out it's over \$1 million. In essence what the School Board is asking is that they be allowed to keep no more than 2.5 percent of their current budget but whatever the current budget is for whatever year they would be in, they want 2.5 percent maximum retention or does this give them authority to retain a full 2.5 percent regardless. They can just bank it or do whatever they want? Ms. Carpentier indicated they can bank 2.5. That's all they can have any year. They can increase it to the million. One year they could use \$200,000 but then they can only go up to \$1 million again. They can't put 2.5 percent in every single year. It's a maximum that always can have the 2.5 percent. Similar to we have 8 percent which is about \$6 million reserve but as the school did point out, what we are reserving in our unassigned fund balance does include the school appropriations. So technically our 8 percent could go lower if this was to pass. Do you know what I'm saying?

Selectman Coutu said our unexpended fund balance could be seriously affected by doing this. Kathy Carpentier said we wouldn't have to reserve as much if they were reserving their own. That would be like two different savings accounts.

Chairman Morin asked are you all set. Selectman Coutu noted I'm good.

Selectman McGrath asked it's my understanding that the Budget Committee requested legal counsel on this item. Ms. Carpentier said yes. As of today, I think there was discussion last week and last night by the Budget Committee on this warrant article, Warrant Article 5 for the school. They have requested that the town get a legal opinion on Warrant Article 5 to see if our lawyers are in agreement with it and if it is a good warrant article. This just happened today. I was gathering the information. I have not asked legal but that all just happened today.

Diane LaMothe added we've consulted our school attorney on this and it is in compliance with the two RSAs mentioned in the warrant article which, again, this wording is from the Department of Revenue. It would be great if we could expand it and provide more clarification but as stated earlier that just can't be done. Our attempt will be made to clarify it for the public.

Selectman McGrath noted the Budget Committee will get their clarification. If there's a disconnect somewhere, then we'll see where that goes. My concern with the wording is in the very first sentence. It's indefinitely until rescinded. That can be in perpetuity if people aren't paying attention. I'd like to see that language stricken but until we get a legal opinion for the Budget Committee, I'm not in favor of any vote being taken on that item. Are we going to go through these one by one? Chairman Morin said yes we are.

Selectman Roy asked a question on Warrant Article 5. Do you have to have that whole last sentence? I would like to see it - I agree with Selectman Martin that it not have "or for the emergencies to be approved by the Department of Education". Diane LaMothe indicated I asked Karen Burnell and yeah the wording is from the Department of Revenue. The question could be asked if it can be amended. That would be a question for the attorney.

Steve Malizia said that's the law. In the RSA, that's the specific language. That's what it states.

Chairman Morin asked any further general questions.

Diane LaMothe added it talks about emergencies to be approved by the Department of Education because we do have a Budget Committee. The Budget Committee would have to first approve the expenditure and at that point it then can be forwarded to the Department of Education for approval. It would involve the town Budget Committee.

Selectman McGrath asked isn't it a three-pronged approval process. It has to be the School Board, Budget Committee, and the Department of Education. Ms. LaMothe agreed.

Selectman Coutu recalled from the Budget Committee meeting they were talking about this in particular and a lot of discussion centered on the process in which they could retain the money for emergency purposes. There was a lot of confusion. It seemed pretty clear to me. However, based on the RSAs that we are governed by as a municipality both school and municipal is it not true - I know it's true for the town but I think it also applies to the schools - in the event that there was an emergency because someone said something. What if we lost part of a building? Not that that has never happened here in Hudson because it has happened, is it not true that they have reports for that now. We can call for a special town meeting. We can have a special town meeting to appropriate the expenditure of money to cover an emergency. Steve Malizia stated you'd most like have to petition the courts to have a special town meeting. Selectman Coutu thought we could have a special town meeting if there's an emergency. Mr. Malizia believes you'd have to petition the court. Selectman Coutu asked do you think if we went to the court and said a big portion of the building collapsed whatever and we need to get it done they're going to say no? There is recourse other than having to go through whole process. Mr. Malizia said you're correct. You have to go through the courts. You can't just declare a special meeting. We also have insurance. Selectman Coutu said I was wondering about that too. Most things have insurance. There are a few things - we didn't have insurance for example for the generator at the Fire Department. We had to take the money out of the end of year unassigned or non-expended monies to buy the generator. Mr. Malizia thought we upsized the generator if I'm recalling correctly so the insurance doesn't usually cover upsizing some things. I would picture an emergency on the school side - this is just my supposition - let's say they had 5 special needs kids move into town at a cost of half a million dollars. That's probably an emergency that's not going to get covered by insurance. That would maybe be something you'd want to have the ability to be able to do that. That's my speculation. We're insured for most every other physical peril. Now it may take time. You may have some cash issues but generally speaking we're insured. If you wanted to have a special meeting, you'd have to petition the court. I'm sure they'd grant it. I can't imagine why they wouldn't.

Selectman Coutu said I can't see why we wouldn't support it. It's going to be our obligation. You have to support it whether you like it or not. Mr. Malizia said typically yes. Selectman Coutu stated everyone is entitled to a free education. If they have special needs, they have special needs.

Steve Malizia said I'm just making that as an example but I can think of what would be a true emergency. That may very well be an emergency. You couldn't have foreseen it. You couldn't have planned for it. Selectman Coutu noted it's happened before and it can happen again. The example that was given a grandparent inheriting children and they have special needs and they're from another State but they have no place to go. The grandparent takes them in. We inherit them in the school system or any municipality would inherit them. We also have to provide the services that are necessary to educate that child in a manner in which is comprehensible to them.

Diane LaMothe added the next one an example to bring up because I did ask for examples. Our school attorney provided the explanation. Some examples of some unanticipated emergency expenditures that have been approved include facility problems and unanticipated special education expenses that districts have faced.

Selectman Martin said I go Selectman McGrath's census. Anybody else? Yes? No?

Selectman Roy asked for what.

Chairman Martin said what we were going to do is the next general and start at one. I just want to make sure that we cover everything that's all. Anybody got any other general comments before we take each warrant article.

Selectman Martin indicated #1 is the Alvirne High School renovations. "Shall the Hudson School District raise and appropriate the sum of \$17,550,000 for the design, construction, and equipping of additions and renovations to Alvirne High School and further to authorize the School Board to issue not more than \$17,550,000 in bonds or notes for the balance of the project costs in accordance with the Municipal Finance Act...and further raise and appropriate the additional sum of \$445,453 for the first year payment on the bond and authorize the School Board to take any other action necessary to carry out this vote or pass any other vote relative thereto."

Chairman Morin said that last sentence you read that's probably normal but that kind of bothers me where we are in the problem right now with the voc. tech not having enough money. Would that allow them for some reason they came up short that they could expend more money than what's approved?

Selectman Martin said I don't know.

Selectman McGrath said that question needs to be answered. The tax impact for that \$.14 on a 250 - I've done the calculation and I've gone over them with KC to make sure that I'm accurate. On this \$.14 for a \$250,000, the impact would be on that person's tax bill would be \$35 for the renovation of Alvirne High School in addition to the CTE project that's already been approve. We need an answer that Selectman Morin just presented before...

Kathy Carpentier thought this is pretty much standard language. I mean I didn't run it by our legal by any means but what it's saying is the School Board at the appropriation is the \$17,550,000 but if the interest rate was a little higher or lower, that that 445 could be adjusted. They're not saying they can spend more but they might need to have interest payments of more. That is what that line is saying. They would still only be able to spend the \$17,550,000 but the bond payment/interest payment might be different.

Selectman McGrath said if they have access in their budget throughout the year in different accounts, different line items, can they transfer that money to the renovation of the high school? Does this allow them to do that? Ms. Carpentier didn't believe so because a warrant article they can only spend \$17,550,000 but I don't want to speak to the school's policy.

Diane LaMothe said that sounds right to me.

Selectman McGrath asked didn't they do that for the CTE project. Ms. Carpentier apologized. I only know the policy. Selectman McGrath said you work for the town not the school. Okay.

Selectman Coutu said on that subject I'm only - Diane I'm not trying to insult you or your intelligence because I know you're a very intelligent woman - based on the history that we have before us when the Palmer project CTE Center and you know I was a strong proponent of the CTE Center, we heard all kinds of numbers thrown at us. Then they told us this was what it was going to be. The funding is going to be approved. We're all set. We started building it and the funding wasn't all there. So now we've started a project. We don't know if we're going to get the money. Everybody says everybody is on board but until it's passed I don't know what's going to happen three-quarters of the way through and the School Board discovered that the funds will not be available. I would suspect they will be because of that. If there's that kind of money for them to go around and say can give out, I would hope that they had enough to meet their commitment. What happens if there is no - what is the State \$4 million for the CTE Center.

Diane LaMothe said for the CTE Center, it was represented that the State was going to come through with \$17 million in funding but they split it between two biennium. We're still expecting the balance of the \$17 million to come. It isn't going to come until later. Selectman Coutu asked what if it doesn't. Ms. LaMothe said there are discussions on possible solutions. One would be having to extend the construction period. Construction would stop and then 8 to 10 months later when we're in the following biennium, construction could then begin again. The assertion was made and it will be held that the taxpayers are not going to be asked to fund more than the \$8,265,000. The school district is not going to go to the taxpayers for any more money on that. I believe the same will follow for this.

Selectman Coutu stated I'm just wondering what happens if the contractor comes back and says look it's been a year now, costs have gone up again, the tariffs have impacted us. This project is going to cost an additional \$300,000 over and above. The school just has to figure it out. Clause it out here or there or whatever just to get it down, right? That's basically what they'd have to do. Getting back to this warrant article, I suspect that the funding will be available so we have a smooth flow on the CTE project. I think the State is going to come through with the money. I think the Governor has heard enough from a lot of people about that. In this last line where it says, "the School Board to take any other action necessary to carry out this vote or pass any other vote relative thereto." Well there are presently no other warrant articles except for this one for an appropriation to design and construct an addition to Alvirne High School, correct. Ms. LaMothe agreed. Selectman Coutu said they're not going to take any action to carry out for the purpose of any other vote for relative thereto because there are no other votes thereto. Diane LaMothe state the thing is relative to as KC had mentioned the first year payment on the bond which is interest only. Until we actually secure the bond, we don't know exactly what the interest rate is going to be.

Selectman Coutu stated your interpretation is that this refers directly to the first year's bond payment. Kathy Carpentier agreed. If you go in the middle of this warrant article which Selectman Martin jumped over "authorize the School Board to issue, negotiate, sell, and deliver such bonds and notes and determine the rate of interest thereon. You know all of that depends on what the interest rate is when they go to buy this bond or if they get a note or something else. That number of interest might not be right. The appropriation...

Chairman Morin told Selectman Coutu I think I can answer your question if you don't mind. This is the circumferential highway warrant article. The last sentence says, "For the first year payment on the bond and authorize the Board of Selectmen to take any other action necessary to carry out this vote or pass any other vote related thereto." We have the same thing.

Selectman Coutu thought it's relevant to all bonding because that's Department of Revenue language. Steve Malizia stated that would be in the police bond. Standard, normal...Getting back to Warrant Article 1, Selectman Coutu said the renovation project said \$17,550,000 is what would be approved by the voters and that's an amount not to exceed. Ms. LaMothe said correct. That's the project total. Selectman Coutu noted I have a better understanding of the language. I'm good. Thank you so much.

Selectman Martin said \$17,550,000 and \$445,453. We're raising and appropriating that first year's bond payment.

Selectman Roy asked is that right.

Selectman Coutu stated \$17 million covers the first year's bond payment as well.

Selectman Martin said no. It's an addition to the \$17,550,000.

Selectman Coutu commented so it's an \$18 million project now.

Steve Malizia noted it's going to cost you more than that because you're going to make interest payments every year. So the 17 is the principal cost of the project. When you do a bond, you will have interest costs over is it 20 years or 30 years. Diane LaMothe indicated 30 years. Mr. Malizia stated you'll have interest payments over 30 years. You'll be well north of \$17 million. The first year's payment is usually a half a year bond payment just because of timing. That's where the \$445,000 comes in. That's just the first year half year bond payment. The second year, you'll get a full payment. I don't know the number. I don't have the schedule in front of me but that's typically how bond payments work.

Selectman Coutu indicated the first year is they want their interest I believe. There's nothing applied to the principal in the first year. Mr. Malizia said that's correct. That's a half a payment. Selectman Coutu stated that's how municipalities do it. So it's really a...Mr. Malizia said the full affect comes in in the second year. So once we looked at a bond schedule...Selectman Coutu said based on bonds at 4 percent, we're looking at approximately \$23 to \$26 million in the end. Mr. Malizia said at least if I had to think for 30 years yes.

Selectman McGrath asked why aren't we showing the full impact to the taxpayers of the cost of this project. \$17 million and you carry it out over 20 years or however long the bond is and whatever the interest rates are going to be, we can come up with some sort of an estimate and at least let the taxpayers know that this isn't an \$18 million project. It's more like closer to \$30 million.

Selectman Coutu asked did we not do that in the circumferential highway. There was one that had a breakdown of the...Steve Malizia indicated that's the bond payment schedule. That's a repayment schedule. Selectman Coutu said but you could add it up and figure out how much money.

Diane LaMothe wished I had the bond schedule with me and unfortunately I don't. I'm guessing that the wording here estimated tax rate impact is talking about the first year. Information that will be presented by the school, and Superintendent forums, and the budget hearing, deliberative they will show a schedule of the tax impact. I know I've seen in the past. I'm expecting it will happen again and it shows the second year is the highest and then the tax impact over the rest of the 30 years gradually comes down. The information will be provided but there's limitation as to what can be put in the warrant article is my understanding. So we can certainly find out.

Steve Malizia stated this is the prescribed language that you do for the warrant articles. It is what it is.

Selectman Roy asked did we do that for any of like the fire station where we put that plus the interest or is it just...Mr. Malizia said when you see the police warrant article, it will say \$4. Whatever million and that will be it.

Selectman Coutu noted there was no interest in the fire station. Steve Malizia noted nor will there be on the police station warrant either when we do the bond. We'll pay interest but it's not in the warrant article. This is the language you use. I didn't make the law. This is the law. Selectman Coutu said we're going to pay interest on the police station but we didn't pay any on the fire station. Mr. Malizia noted we didn't bond it.

Just on the proposed circumferential highway for example, Selectman Coutu stated the cost that we're seeking based on Elvis' estimates and conversations is \$45 million. A 30 year bond is going to cost us \$74,649,000 or \$29,649,000 over the \$45 million. That's a problem that it's like buying a house. You're making a mortgage payment and you bought a house for \$300,000 but you'll probably end up paying \$450,000 for it after a 30 year mortgage. We don't provide that number for the voters to see what the actual costs of the project is over the full term of the loan.

Diane LaMothe indicated we'll provide it.

Selectman Coutu indicated banks are required to disclose that when you have a mortgage. They're required to show you what your total payment is at the end of 30 years. You will pay that. I think that's what you're saying Selectman McGrath. Here we were disclosing it in our recommendation for the circumferential highway. We show we want to buy \$45 million. We know we're going to have to pay \$29,649,000 in interest for a total of \$74,649,000. Selectman Roy thought that's what you're saying is, is that information is going to be provided as part of the deliberative session, any public hearing. Diane LaMothe indicated any means possible we'll share that. Steve

Malizia said it's not part of the language of the warrant article. Selectman Roy reiterated it's not going to be part of the language of the warrant article. Selectman Coutu asked why haven't we heard it yet.

Selectman Martin said well it's just getting off the ground I think. Selectman Coutu stated it's been off the ground for - this is the third try on the ballot. I never heard what the total costs would be with interest.

Chairman Morin asked if there was any further discussion on Warrant Article #1.

Selectman McGrath indicated I'm not going to support it because I don't the voters are going to be presented with all of the information that they should be provided with. We can't work in the shadows. We shouldn't work in the shadows. This I think does that. I'm not in favor of it and that's my position.

Diane LaMothe added the Budget Committee recommended 8 in favor, zero against, 2 abstained just for the record. Our intention is to be fully transparent. We can't put it in the warrant article. We would if we could and we can't. We'll provide it at other places.

Selectman Roy said I am going to support it. I think that this project is long overdue and if we continue to kick the can down the road, it will just get increasingly more expensive. I take Board Member LaMothe's word as do the School board's word that they will fully disclose all of that information during the public hearing and deliberative session. I'll be supporting that.

Chairman Morin asked do you want a consensus or a vote.

Selectman Martin said just a consensus so I know where to go.

Consensus: Selectman McGrath - no; Selectman Roy - Yes; Selectman Martin - yes.

Selectman Coutu stated I want to qualify my vote if you don't mine. I've been to the school as you know on several occasions and so have you for other reasons. We've walked through that building not just this year but many years we've been in and out of that building. I heard all of the explanations for and I've heard all of the explanations against. I truly believe after careful consideration, and deliberation, and conversation that it's time to bring Alvirne High School into the 22<sup>nd</sup> century and move forward and put this behind us. I disagree with what the people are saying that this is going to provide better environment and a better quality education and I disagree with that settlement and I wish people would stop using it. People were educated and became scholars in a one-room classroom years ago. I was in a class and when I went into public school I was two years ahead of everyone else. I had a parochial education. There were 35 of us in a classroom. We had kids who had special needs but we didn't have special needs programming. They blended in, and they made them blend in, and they gave them the best education they possible could. We didn't have teacher's aides. They didn't have special needs teachers. These arguments about the building is going to improve the quality of education is a farce. It's a misnomer. It is not true. It's the educator. It's the curriculum. If we invested a couple of million dollars out of our pocket immediately to change the curriculum in the Alvirne school system, we'd see the grades go up. It's imperative and I know this School Board finally is taking steps to go in that direction. You have an Assistant Superintendent who is so passionate about curriculum and providing the curriculum that's necessary to bring our students to a higher grade level. Another argument that's made for this is doing this is going to have more people coming to Hudson and wanting to live here. It's not the building that's going to get people to come and move here.

Selectman Coutu said I've used this example and I may have told you about it Diane. An Executive from the Walmart Corporation moved up here and is going to be running the New York and Northwest which would be Ohio, Pennsylvania, and New England region for the Walmart Corporation and he closely assessed all of the school systems. I said to him so you'll be coming to Hudson. He looked at me and he laughed. He said no. I'm not coming to Hudson. I'm going to Hollis/Brookline (HB). If you look at their scores and their ratings, they do exceptionally well. The teachers work with the tools that they have and we're not from my perspective providing them the proper tools to do their job. I walk in the classrooms and I see whiteboards that are not being used. We spent thousands upon thousands of dollars on white boards. They're not being used. Some teachers like them and they are using them but a lot of them are not using them. It's those kinds of problems. However aesthetically, aesthetically the building is in dire need of an uplift. If nothing else, it will improve moral in the teaching staff tremendously. If nothing else, the remainder of the safety features that I think are required in today's environment are finally going to be

addressed. Something that should have been addressed back at Sandy Hook era not now. It's a little late but we're going to get it done. We've been fortunate thus far. I will be supporting it because I think it is time to bring the school into the 22<sup>nd</sup> century and give it a quality look. When I go see a performance I won't have to sit into a stuffy cafeteria with a makeshift stage to see the performance I'm seeing. I'll be in a theater and it will be more comfortable and if the School Board and the administration does what they promised that they were going to do, they will make sure that that auditorium will be available for other venues. I will be supporting the warrant article.

Chairman Morin thanked Selectman Coutu. You saved me from doing a lot of talking because I agree with you. I think some of the things that they're using to sell the school they made that problem. I agree that it could have been done a heck of a lot cheaper than it was and they made some of the problems they're in. I've had these discussions within the School Board and the Principal, and the Superintendent. I agree with you. I will be supporting it too but I'll tell you what we have our issues that are continuing and I will make sure that they get addressed. Thank you.

Selectman Coutu noted we'll start that process tomorrow morning.

Chairman Morin said correct we will. The consensus will be 4 in favor and 1 against.

Warrant Article 2 operating budget. Selectman Martin read, "Shall the Hudson School District vote to raise and appropriate as an operating budget not including appropriations by special warrant article and other appropriations voted separately. The amount \$56,710,504. Should this article be defeated, the default operating budget will be \$55,613,146."

Selectman McGrath indicated this budget contains a line item for full-day kindergarten. I calculated the impact to the taxes. The estimate tax rate of this operating budget of \$56,710,504 is \$14.03 times \$250,000 home, it would be \$113 increase to their taxes. Of that \$113, \$80 of it is for kindergarten. I sat with KC this afternoon.

Selectman Coutu indicated there's a default tax rate of \$13.68. It's a difference between the default tax rate and what it is.

Kathy Carpentier indicated I'm not clear of your question.

Selectman Coutu stated there's an estimated tax rate this entire appropriation. There's an estimated tax rate of \$14.03 but there's a default tax rate of \$13.68 which they're already paying. It's only the difference of \$14.03 and \$13.68 is the impact of this budget. Steve Malizia indicated you're already paying a tax rate for this year. We're not adding another \$14 to the tax rate. Selectman Coutu asked where did she come up with \$130 out of...Ms. Carpentier stated if you were to pass what the proposed budget is the \$56,007,000, it would be an additional \$113 to the taxpayers because it is going up \$.45 per thousand of your assessed value. Selectman Coutu apologized. Selectman McGrath accepted the apology - \$250,000 home. That's the median price of homes. Of that \$113 increase for a \$250,000 home, \$80 of that \$113 is for the full-time kindergarten which was a petitioned warrant article that failed. So they buried in the budget.

Selectman Martin explained there was a lot of discussion with the Budget Committee about this. I want to be clear that there is offsetting revenue coming from the State to offset. The ongoing costs I think that we talked about will be covered in the future years.

Selectman McGrath noted its \$960,000 in this budget that the taxpayers of Hudson have to pay/absorb. They voted down the petitioned warrant article a year ago. For transparency sake or to put it out into the light as opposed to the shadows, this is what the impact is going to be to the taxpayer.

Diane LaMothe added Mr. Martin mentioned it initially. We are receiving additional funding from the State if we implement full-day kindergarten in the amount of \$347,503 for FY21. That's a portion of the full amount that we will ultimately receive so the following year we would expect to see a larger amount of revenue from the State. The aide coming from the State for part-time kindergarten is currently \$1,800 per student. The full-time aide will be \$3,800 per student. It's not all going to be funded by the taxpayers. The State will be a source.

Selectman McGrath noted we pay taxes to the State.

Chairman Morin indicated the money that the town is paying and the State is paying on top of that or is that money to take away some of the onto us. Ms. LaMothe said it takes away from the town appropriation. Chairman Morin asked how are we going to see that back. Are you guys going to give it back to the town or how are we going to do that and what are we going to see in future years? Are we going to see that amount decrease on your budget - what you get from the State since that's a revenue?

Steve Malizia indicated you have to gross appropriate. So if you have an expense of \$5 million but if your revenue comes in at \$3 million, you'd have a \$5 million gross and a \$3 million revenue with a net of \$2 million. That's the basics and I'm not sure if one number is going to increase more than the other. I don't know.

Chairman Morin asked if it does are we going to see that money back to the taxpayers. Diane said if everything else remains constant yeah. If the State aide goes up, then the town portion would go down if the bottom line stays the same and everything else was constant yes.

Selectman Roy didn't believe that anybody tried to bury full-time kindergarten into the budget. Every time I've heard a School Board member discuss the budget for this year, they've been very clear that full-time kindergarten is part of that number one. Number two, I would expect if not this year in the very near future that will become a requirement. That will become a State educational requirement. SO we pay for it now or we pay for it when we're forced to pay for it. Again it may be a bigger expense.

Selectman Coutu asked Diane and I want to make sure I heard correctly from the Superintendent of Schools because you were there at the Budget Committee meeting. Someone asked from the Budget Committee and I don't know if it had to do with the default budget but I think it did. If the school budget were to fail and the default which is \$1.1 million less than what the school is asking for because the school is asking for \$1.1 million more this year to operate the schools. If they go to a default budget, the Superintendent was asked so what are you going to do about kindergarten. He said, "It's gone." So the kindergarten is not a priority. Diane LaMothe stated I would say it's a priority. It's very important. Selectman Coutu said the Superintendent speaking on behalf of the school system said we go to a default budget and you know every year you have about - how much money do you have - last year you spent \$800,000 of surplus, right? That would have almost funded kindergarten. Now he's saying he's going to sacrifice all-day kindergarten. Ms. LaMothe indicated it's because that would be the add on to our regular budget. We need to still meet the needs of teacher's salaries and other expenses already in the budget and recurring. Selectman Coutu agreed. Ms. LaMothe said it doesn't reduce the importance of full-day kindergarten. I guess it would just have to change our timing with implementing it if it doesn't pass.

Selectman Coutu stated when I see the number for surplus, it seems extraordinary it's \$800,000 or \$880,000 last year. We're anticipating over \$1 million this coming year. Next year it's a 2.5. You could be as much as a million dollars in surplus. It's only a half a percent of the budget which is pretty good. If you can keep your budget within half a percent that's fine. The point is that you're going to accumulate - we all do. We accumulate revenues from our salary accounts. Teachers retire, teachers get sick, they can't work, they've expended their sick leave or whatever, or they injured and they're being paid workman's comp. so all you're paying for is a substitute to come in so we're accumulating money in revenues. Ninety percent of your budget is for wage and benefits. Only ten percent is for paper and supplies, equipment, and what not. I understand that.

Selectman Coutu noted the point is I'm having a difficult time supporting Warrant Article 2 only because its \$1.1 million which is what I estimate might be a surplus next year based on all the numbers and the percentage every year that you seem to have leftover at the end of the year. I'm saying all right let them live with 556 and still implement kindergarten. He made a statement. He said no. Kindergarten is gone. So to me it's not a priority. I could think of other things to go so that you can bring kindergarten in. Two years ago I don't know if you were sitting on the School Board two years ago. Two years ago they were talking about or maybe it was last year they were talking about implementing full-day kindergarten and they asked the Superintendent could you implement it now if you had to. He said oh yeah we're ready. At the end of the year they said no we're not ready for kindergarten. They completely reversed themselves and that's the messages we keep getting. Those kinds of messages are confusing. If kindergarten is a priority, and for me it is a priority. I campaigned for it last year and it failed. Now it's being put in the budget but if it doesn't pass and we go to a default budget, I guess the Superintendent is equating that to well the voters don't want kindergarten. No they don't want your entire budget is what they're saying no. There's not any specific items in there. I'm wondering why he says he doesn't want have kindergarten. That's what's bothering me.

Diane LaMothe noted he did not say that. Selectman Coutu stated I heard him. He said it at the budget meeting. Ms. LaMothe indicated the kindergarten cost is \$960,000. The default budget is \$1,099,000 lower than the budget in the warrant article. That kind of by process of elimination it looks like full-day kindergarten would not be possible if we're in default. We wouldn't be able to implement...Selectman Coutu said but if you accumulate \$800,000 or \$900,000 of surplus at the end of the year like you do every year that would cover it. Diane said I know that the goal is to have a one percent fund balance. If it goes any lower than that, it could be very concerning. So one percent of a \$56 million budget is \$560,000. The fund balance at the end of the year the unexpended fund balance can be returned to the taxpayer and there is a significant portion that is. It will help level the tax rate for the following year.

Point of order Mr. Chairman. Selectman McGrath stated we have a conversation going up here.

Just to conclude, Ms. LaMothe said every single board member - the Superintendent, the SAU office 100 percent are in support of full-day kindergarten. It is extremely important and we are being very transparent about it. That's also extremely important to us to be very clear this is in the budget. It's on the first page of the budget in the beginning section, in the elementary school section, and any presentation on it. On the operating budget its mentioned full-day kindergarten is in there. The part of your warrant article presented three different scenarios. I think it wasn't what taxpayers were looking for. This one plan is really the only option we have with the building that we have at the early learning center. It's definitely a final plan.

Selectman Coutu wanted Ms. LaMothe to know that I know on the basis of conversations that the School Board had, the School Board is fully in support of all-day kindergarten. I'm not so sure the administration is. Ms. LaMothe believed they are 100 percent. Selectman Coutu asked you have a default budget will you have kindergarten. Diane said I don't see how it would be possible. There wouldn't be funding for it. Selectman Coutu stated the answer is no. Diane said I suppose there's a way to explore that when we go down that road. I just don't see how.

Chairman Morin said I have the same concern for you. I can tell you, you guys have had a huge surplus for several years and let's look at the tennis court this year and the other things that you guys did. Do you know what I mean? If you can do that, you can certainly throw in this kindergarten and if you pass, you're going to end up with all that extra money again. That's what concerns me also.

Selectman Coutu said just so people out there are aware, the kindergarten is a \$900,000 expense. How much money did you spend on kindergarten last year? You had half a day kindergarten. We have an expense for that. This is for full day. It's not going to cost \$1 million to fund kindergarten. I will next year but we're already paying for kindergarten part time. We have salaries. We have kids going to kindergarten. We've been out there patrolling the streets watching them get off the bus and being escorted into school. We had an issue across the street so Chairman Morin and I went over and worked it out with the school and with the Police Department so none of the kids would get hurt and we're not blocking traffic across the street when they're coming into kindergarten. These are the things that we work on and we're on this side of the ledger. We're trying to work with the school system and get police involved when it's necessary and that was an issue that Selectman Morin and I dealt with.

Selectman Coutu noted kindergarten is being funded right now. There's an amount in the budget for that and that's not \$100,000. It's a lot more than \$100,000. So the full cost of kindergarten is not going to be - the full cost is going to be maybe \$900,000 but if we're already paying \$300,000, then the increase is only \$600,000. So how can you say you can't possibly fund kindergarten? That's all I have to say.

Chairman Morin noted that's where I was going because we did all this other stuff this year with extra money.

Selectman Roy asked do you know what the percentage increase it is from the default to this budget. Including the cost of full-day kindergarten, Diane LaMothe said the total budget is up 2.68 percent. Excluding the cost of full-day kindergarten, the budget is up .93 percent. Putting it in the budget, this was determined to be a great time for that because there were significant attempts to reduce the budget and that provides room for this increase for full-day kindergarten.

Selectman Coutu asked did the Budget Committee take any money out of the budget.

Selectman Martin noted we added and took out.

Diane LaMothe indicated they added \$2,850 for HMS radios to convert to digital so they work in the whole building and the School Board reduced it by \$4,990 because some new hearing screening equipment was purchased this year. HMS didn't realize that was going to happen in their budget. They had budgeted for hearing equipment. So we took that out of the budget. Selectman Coutu commented - pennies. Ms. LaMothe agreed. It's what we came up with.

Selectman Martin had a couple of things to piggyback off of that. It was determined they felt as the Budget Committee that they were going to do the radios that they have for communication at the school in two phases this year and next year. So we thought. Why not do it all at once and get it out of your way. It makes communication all around the school safer. Now my question is for KC. Can you not add to the default budget for something that's not budgeted yet? Not a recurring item in the budget. Kathy Carpentier said as long as it has a purpose and I can only speak for the town side. So we have a purpose called "police", we have a purpose called "fire", we have "recreation". The Board couldn't go put money towards a nursing home. So as long as kindergarten is rolling up as a purpose that they already have, then they could go use it. A default budget is based on prior year's approved operating budget plus contractual things minus one-time things get you this number. In the few years that we've had default budgets, the department heads would come up with recommendations for the Board on how to spend the money. So we might need to shuffle it around once we get the default budget but as long as we have the purposed lined out in the State forms, we could use that money.

Selectman Martin's question is it wouldn't be possible to fund full-day kindergarten in a default budget. Kathy Carpentier said it would be able to but that would be able to the Board on how they would want to spend it. The purpose is they already have kindergarten so if they wanted to make it full time they could. It would be up to the School Board.

Chairman Morin asked if there was any further discussion.

Consensus: Selectman Roy - yes; Selectman Martin - yes; Selectman Coutu - no; Selectman McGrath - no; Selectman Morin - no.

Selectman Martin said we're moving right on and we're not doing 3 and 4 because we don't have money involved in it yet. It wasn't presented at a Budget Committee. We'll now go back to Warrant Article 5 which is the fund balance retention. We just had a big discussion of that and I'd just like a consensus on what they would like me to support.

Chairman Morin asked does anybody else have any comments before we do a consensus.

Selectman McGrath reminded everyone that the town attorney is being consulted about this warrant article. I would like to either defer or vote no. One of the two. If they're getting legal advice, we can defer it.

Selectman Martin said we'll go on and we'll just come back to it in another meeting.

Diane LaMothe added prior to the request for legal advice, the Budget Committee did recommend 7 in favor, and none against, and 3 abstained.

Chairman Morin asked why are so many abstaining. Selectman Martin noted one of them is me because I didn't have a consensus. I'm voting on behalf of you. Chairman Morin noted this was just their straw vote is what we're seeing here. Selectman Martin answered pretty much.

Warrant Article #6 partial roof replacement at Hudson Memorial School. "Shall the Hudson School District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$300,000 to replace a section of the roof at Hudson Memorial School. Expected estimated tax rate impact of \$.10." It was 901500.

Chairman Morin asked if there was any discussion. If not, consensus.

Consensus: Selectman Martin - yes; Selectman Coutu - well knowing the condition of the school which they'll probably coming in in the next two years to rebuild most of that, I'm going to have to support it. The

roof is deteriorating. Selectman McGrath - yes but I want to add the calculation for this for a \$250,000 home, it's a \$25 hit on your tax bill. Selectman Roy - yes; Selectman Morin - yes. So it will be 5-0

Selectman Martin noted that's I have Mr. Chairman.

Selectman McGrath commented so I go back to this chart that the residents typically don't see. It's not in their tax bill but this the breakdown of the 2019 property tax bill. Municipal represents 27 percent of the tax rate. The County represents 6 percent and the educational component is 56 percent.

Just one last thing Mr. Chairman, Selectman Martin thanked our Finance Director Kathy Carpentier for assisting with getting the new document out to us so we had it all appropriated and in front of us. I really appreciate her hard work and efforts for the Board. Thank you.

#### L. Discussion on Town Volunteers

Chairman Morin noted this blows over from the last meeting and Selectman Martin you had asked that this get moved that night. Would you like to start the conversation?

Selectman Martin said I guess for me we made a decision that you don't have to wear them at a meeting. I do but I want people to know who I am. I really think that wholeheartedly if they're representing on town business in this business and they're coming to see somebody on town business about a function that they have on their board, then they should wear the ID absolutely. Just coming into Town Hall, I don't think it's appropriate to wear inside Town Hall.

Chairman Morin said you bring up a very good point before we get actually into the meat of the discussion. Going to several of my liaison meetings, they received the policy but none of the Chairmen decided to let the rest of the committee members know and go over the policy. The policy does say you don't have to wear it at the meetings because we all have name tags. The policy does say that when you're on town business you are to wear it but when they're just coming into Town Hall just to do their own stuff, they don't have to wear it. That message is not getting out there. I can tell you that because I've been to three committee meetings and nobody has talked about it. The Town Administrator did send it out as we requested. It just, again, I would ask the liaisons when you're with your committees to make sure that they review the policy so everybody knows.

Selectman McGrath stated I can speak for two boards that I attend - actually three - and I've relayed that information to all of them on at least one occasion and maybe a couple of occasions.

Chairman Morin said basically where we left off, and correct me if I'm wrong, we had two different ideas. We had the idea that we were taking these volunteers and like you just said when they're representing the town, they are part of the town, they should be following the rules. Then we had the discussion in reference to the Master Plan meetings that we were telling these people they can't go as representatives of the town. So are they always a representative of the town or do they have their right? That's what we need to just decide and move on.

Selectman Martin said they are citizens. They can go to those meetings. They don't have to go. If they want to wear this, God bless them. Come out Friday when we're doing the tree lighting ceremony and I will be wearing this. Chairman Morin indicated it had nothing to do with wearing the badge. Selectman Martin noted volunteer is a volunteer. I realize it's hard to find volunteers. Why are you penalizing them? Why would we penalize them? I have no reason to penalize them. To go to the extreme with these badges, it's just...you go to these visioning sessions for the Planning Board that the Town Planner put on. If you want to be there as a member of the committee, you're there as a member of the committee. You don't speak for the committee, you speak for yourself. You give your input. That's their privilege. To tell them no they can't go, absolutely not. I didn't go because I know I really can persuade talking to people and sometimes they'll change what their thinking and say oh that's what he told me. I stayed away from all those visioning sessions because it's going to be presented to this Board anyway. As well as keeping volunteers away, go get in there. If you need to be in there - this is our community and if you want to attend these visioning sessions and give your input, I'd like to see it 100 percent.

Selectman McGrath noted just a correction. They weren't told not to go. They were encouraged to have discussions at their board meetings the land use board members. They weren't told not to go but they were encouraged to have

the discussions at the land use board meetings and to forward that information to the visioning session. In any event, I think that that's a dead issue because the visioning sessions are done. I'll talk about that later.

Chairman Morin said thank you. You explained that very well on what you had meant and I believe that did a lot of clarification last week but I can tell you that before that clarification came out, people actually thought they were being told they could not go. That's why we ended up in the position we are. If nobody else had got anything, I'm good at this point if everybody else is. Thank you.

#### 9. REMARKS BY SCHOOL BOARD

Diane LaMothe wanted to mention our strategic plan. The Budget Committee posed a great question. They wanted to see how our strategic plan tied into our budget. So there was actually a crosswalk between the strategic plan and our budget prepared which would be available. I can't say if it's on the website now but we can certainly put it up there if people are interested in seeing how our long-term plan is determining our budgeting decisions.

Ms. LaMothe stated I'd like to just conclude with our mission. I'd like this to become something that everybody can say with memory. Our mission states, "Innovative, learning practices and empowered educators facilitate and inspire learners to achieve personal academic excellence in a safe and dynamic environment that elevates their engagement as valued, active community members." That is our mission. Our vision is "Hudson exemplifies excellence in education."

#### 10. OTHER BUSINESS/REMARKS BY THE SELECTMEN

Selectman McGrath - I have a few things. The Police Department is in the process of preparing a video that's going to be on HCTV I think mid-December. It's going to give a visual tour of the police department and the conditions that they're working under. When I saw that check being presented tonight, my first thought was that some of that money ought to go towards that project. For the people that are watching this meeting, keep an eye on HCTV. I don't know what channel it's going to be on. Do you Chief? Chief Avery indicated it will also be on our website. Selectman McGrath reiterated there will be a link on the Police Department's website as well so keep an eye out for that. It will give you a good indication of what the Police Department looks like and I think that people will be first of all impressed with the actual cleanliness and professionalism of that department but also the tight quarters. That's number one.

Number two, Selectman McGrath mentioned I heard about the last visioning session which occurred on Saturday. There was some misinterpretation or misstatements about the actual reason to have a Master Plan. I want to correct that tonight. For the people that are watching and the people that may have been part of that visioning session if they were overwhelmed by the comments by one person. The Master Plan update is a requirement by the State of New Hampshire RSA that governs the Planning Board. In order for the Town of Hudson and the Planning Board to collect impact fees for developments that are going to create a financial impact to the town, they have to have a Master Plan and they have to have a Capital Improvements Program (CIP) in place. This Master Plan update is not proposing is not being conducted in order to facilitate the expansion or the creation of the circumferential highway. That misinformation has been put out in the ethers and for people that are hearing that, it is not true. The Planning Board has to have a Master Plan update. It's required by law. It's required every few years. I forget if it's five years or ever so - 5 years for CIP. I think 10 years for Master Plan. In any event, that's the truth of the matter.

Number three, Selectman McGrath said I mentioned this at the last meeting for Chief Avery and Chief Buxton. There's a church at the south end of town called "The New Life Christian Church". I drive by it every time I drive up Lowell Road. They have a sign and for two or three weeks they had "Lord, please protect our police officers". Then they had the fire department. This week they have a prayer for the protection of our community. I think a letter ought to be sent to them thanking them for just - as people drive by that, I think that it probably makes them feel good about their...I don't go to that church. I've never been in it but it's a nice message that they're promoting for the town.

Selectman McGrath noted the last thing - Happy Thanksgiving to everyone and thank you to all of the first responders that are going to be working over the holiday and missing out on time with their families.

Selectman Coutu - Diane I want to thank you for your engagement with us this evening. I learned a lot and it's good to have somebody who can articulate such as you to keep us abreast to what's going on. I hope this line of

communication continues and expands. One of the best ways to appease me is to be serious about government day. This is my tenth year out of 12 requesting that we have a government day. Chairman Morin and I spent a good hour and a half with the entire civics teaching and department head. We were assured - this was last year - we would be hearing back from them. We're still waiting for that answer. This was last year. Not last semester, last year. Never a yes, or no, maybe, nothing. We tried to open the line of communication. We try to work with people. The Civics Department opened its doors to Chairman Morin and I to sit down with them and the entire staff. We had approximately - I didn't think you had that many teachers in civics. What were there 4 or 5 teachers in the class? Some might do half day civics and the other half something else that they might be engaged in. This is why it's important Diane.

Whether we like it or not on Election Day whether it's municipal election, State election, federal election - we have buses that bus some of our children from the school building to the voting booth. These kids don't know what they're voting for. They're voting for whoever in the school told them how to vote. That's how they're going to vote. If you were to see their ballots when they leave, and I don't see them but I guarantee you those are the pages they go to. We find a bunch of blanks on the town side ballots because they don't know how to vote on that. These kids don't even know anything about their government. Again I can't impress upon people enough. I know this is a Presidential year. We are going to have 18,000 people show up for the Presidential election. It's going to have little or no impact on how much you dish out locally in taxes. At the municipal election where you have serious control about how your money is being spent, only 3,000 or 4,000 show up. I'd like our kids to be better educated. I know that they were entertaining some of us to go and do civics classes with them at their advice and then they stopped doing that as well. Still I think it would be nice to have students engaged in what we actually do. Come to a meeting. Read our agenda. Prepare a fake agenda for them to be able to see how they would govern and listen to their deliberations. I still would like to pursue that. That's number one.

Selectman Coutu said number two, Mr. Chairman and Mr. Malizia there's been a problem recently. Several committees have new chair people I believe. For the most part, most of them are in place. It is imperative for the sake of being able to broadcast all of our meetings in a timely fashion and have our staff to come in and get all of the equipment on; they need access to this building one half hour before any committee meeting. It had always been the practice of the committee chair to assign someone to come here early. Some committees did it on an alternative basis. Next week Jim can you come at 6:30 to get the door open for the HCTV person to be able to unlock their door and get the cameras up and running. There has been occasion of late where people haven't shown up until 10 minutes of 7 and they're expected to do 20-25 minutes' worth of work in 10 minutes. Just as a courtesy to HCTV to be able to have the building access - if you want to sit down with Jim and see if you can work something else out with him, that would be appreciated.

Chairman Morin told Selectman Coutu it's a good thing I live close. I have been called several times. Selectman Coutu said it was good that you were close when you were a firefighter too. Again I want to wish everyone - my colleagues on the Board of Selectmen, and people in the room, and the viewing audience a blessed and a safe Thanksgiving. I hope you all have an opportunity to spend time with family and/or friends or both. Enjoy the holiday. I'll reiterate what the Chief said, please drive safely. Please do not consume alcohol and drive your vehicle. You might just be down the street but god forbid that someone else goes through a red light or a stop signs and hits you and they detect alcohol on your breath, you'll be at fault 50 percent regardless and you may still get arrested for DWI. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Selectman Roy - First I want to talk a little bit about the listening sessions. I went to all four of them. I want to give a lot of kudos to the Town Planner. He did an excellent job of facilitating those. I listened a lot and I don't want to say I was surprised but I was impressed by some of the things that the citizens came up to. I do want to clarify what Selectman McGrath said so that there's no misunderstanding. The person who expressed his belief that this was somehow associated to the circumferential highway was a citizen. He wasn't anybody that was a town employee. He was there as a citizen. That's not a message that was put out by this town - Mr. Groth or Mr. Minkarah. I would encourage everybody that the survey is closed but I would encourage everybody to go on the website. You can see the results and you can see some of the comments that folks made about where they think this town should go and again I think you can learn a lot from looking at those.

Other than that, Selectman Roy hoped everybody has a happy and safe Thanksgiving. It is my favorite day of the year.

Selectman Martin - For all of you that would like to watch, come participate next Wednesday the 4<sup>th</sup> of December. We will start viewing the Town's budget. I was advised to bring a big magnifying glass because we're going to review it. That's that. I don't have anything else except to say that I want to wish everybody a safe and happy Thanksgiving. I'd also like to send out a big shout out to the first responders - the Police Department, the Fire Department, and maybe the Public Works Department if some of that white stuff comes out of the sky. I'm waiting for it. I can't wait for it. Thank you for being out there for us when we don't want to be out there and looking out for our well-being. It's an undaunting task to keep up with these people sometimes. They do it very well. That's all I have.

Selectman Morin - So where shall I start. It's a long one. Ready? First I would like to echo Selectman Roy's words on the vision meetings. They went very well. Brian did an outstanding job with that. Second, I would like to thank the members of the Police Department. They had a very long weekend last week with two very serious incidents. No one got hurt and everything came out at the end so I appreciate that especially for our town. Two incidents like that right in a row is not common at all and they did an outstanding job.

You mentioned the Library Street School earlier. That started on Monday the new traffic pattern and I actually went over Monday and Tuesday. I got a chance to talk to some of the parents. Captain Bianchi was there both days. Between the staff at Library Street School if you could please pass on my grateful thanks because they worked very well with everybody. Captain Bianchi went between both sites. I went between both sites and talked with some parents. There were a few things that I adjusted actually while we were out there to make it better and it went very well. We had some concerned parents that we talked to and explained the situation. I actually got to talk to a couple of neighbors and they were very happy. So the whole plan I think overall is going to work well and everybody will be satisfied with the outcome.

Selectman Coutu asked was that the plan that we had recommended. Chairman Morin said yes that the Police Chief and the Fire Chief came together with.

Chairman Morin had a quick question for Selectman Coutu from the Benson Committee. Have you had a chance to get a hold of the Governor in reference to the roof? They were talking about that and they wanted to know where they should move forward. Thank you Sir.

Chairman Morin indicated the Board of Selectmen are all invited on December 14<sup>th</sup> at noon to participate in the Wreaths Across America. There will be a ceremonial wreath will be laid at noontime at the Hills Farm Cemetery and if everybody can make it. Once that ceremony is complete, they're going to fan out across the town placing wreaths at all the veterans' graves of cemeteries throughout town.

Chairman Morin commented Mrs. LaMothe, Patti Barry, and myself met last week and we came up with some voter public service announcements that we had talked about earlier. Patti sent us what 5 or 6. Anyway she did a real good job. She had her employees come up with the different posters and stuff like that. As soon as we can get together and finalize this stuff, we'll be bringing it to the Board and Diane will bringing it to the School Board that it's going to have some funds that are going to be needed for printing up posters and stuff to get out to the public. We talked about both boards sharing the expense. We had this long discussion we need to get voters out there so we're working on that.

Chairman Morin stated I was asked about the voting place. The Moderator will be here at the next meeting so that we can have that discussion so we can move forward with that.

On Friday, Santa is coming to the Town Common. I will be there. Everybody else is invited if they would like to be. Other than that, I wish everybody a happy thanksgiving.

Selectman Martin had one further thing to go back a little bit to Selectman Coutu's comment about students going and voting. I will tell you that my young lady will be 18 in January. I have already advised here she will go and register to vote with me and I will bring her to voting so she has a better understanding and go through everything so she understands the process. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Steve Malizia noted I have a couple of public service things if you want. I just wanted to let everybody know that town offices will be closed on Thursday and Friday for Thanksgiving. So offices are closed. Trash pickup will be delayed one day after Wednesday. So there will be no pickup on Thursday. If your day is Thursday, it will be Friday.

If yours is Friday, it will be Saturday. Dump day is on Saturday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, from 8 to noon at the West Road landfill. Our new Executive Assistant will be starting on Monday. So we all look forward to that. There will be a police swearing in and promotions award ceremony on Tuesday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, at the Community Center starting at 3 p.m.

Chairman Morin apologized to Selectman McGrath I had it written down and almost missed it. When we have our Selectmen's comments, we had a brief discussion Selectman McGrath and myself to maybe have the Town Administrator just give us an update on what's going on and what we've asked to have done and things like that. What would the Board like to do add that before Selectmen's comments? The Board said yes.

11. NONPUBLIC SESSION

Motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman Roy, to enter nonpublic session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (a) The dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a meeting and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted; and RSA 91-A:2 (a) Strategy or negotiations with respect to collective bargaining, carried 5-0 by roll call.

Chairman Morin entered Nonpublic Session at 9:49 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 Morin entered open session at 11:00 p.m.

Motion by Selectman McGrath, seconded by Selectman Martin, to approve the Town Administrator's request to buy back eighty (80) hours of his vacation time, carried 5-0.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to approve the Tentative Agreement with the Hudson Police Employees Association for a successor contract, carried 5-0.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to forward Warrant Article U for the Hudson Police Employees Association contract to the FY2021 Warrant, carried 5-0.

Motion by Selectman Roy, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to approve the Tentative Agreement with the Hudson Public Works Union, AFSCME Local 1801 for a successor contract, carried 5-0.

Motion by Selectman Roy, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to forward Warrant Article V for the Hudson Public Works Union, AFSCME Local 1801 contract to the FY 2021 Warrant, carried 5-0.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 11:03 p.m. by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Martin, carried 5-0.

Recorded by HCTV and transcribed by Donna Graham, transcriptionist.

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David S. Morin, Chairman

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Kara Roy, Vice-Chairman

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Roger E. Coutu, Selectman

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Marilyn E. McGrath, Selectman

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Norman G. Martin, Selectman