

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Minutes of the February 14, 2017 Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER - by Chairman Luszey the meeting of February 14, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at Town Hall. Happy Valentine's Day everybody.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - led by Selectman Routsis.

Chairman Luszey asked before we sit down, could we have a moment of silence of prayer for Matt Keller's son for a speedy recovery. Thank you.

3. ATTENDANCE

Board of Selectmen: Ted Luszey, Roger Coutu, Angela Routsis

Absent: Marilyn McGrath, Pat Nichols

Staff/Others: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator; Donna Graham, Executive Assistant; Elvis Dhima, Town Engineer; Fire Chief Rob Buxton

4. PUBLIC INPUT

Chairman Luszey 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. NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

- a) Conservation Commission - (4 vacancies - 1 member terms to expire 12/31/19; 1 alternate term to expire 12/31/17; 1 alternate term to expire 12/31/18; 1 alternate term to expire 12/31/19)

Michael Tsu - 30 David Drive, Hudson, New Hampshire.

Chairman Luszey asked Mr. Tsu to give us a little bit of background about yourself and why you are interested in this position.

Michael Tsu noted I've always been an outdoors person. I've been fly fishing since I was 12 years old. I love hiking, camping, anything outdoors. I frequently work with a scout troop within my church organization. My wife is a Cub Master which involves the youth Cub Scouts. I'm interested in that position on the Conservation Commission because I feel that preserving the natural resources and the beauty that we have here in New Hampshire is an opportunity that we have to take charge of and we have to be active in it and not just letting nature kind of run its course and letting people that don't have the best interest of maybe our resources their first priority. I think the trails around here are great. The ponds are great. I come from a place where there's not a lot of water. I grew up in Elko, Nevada, so there's more cows than people when I was growing up in that town. Having water and trees is pretty exciting to me.

Chairman Luszey asked if there were any questions from the Board.

Selectman Coutu thank Michael for applying to want to serve your community. What I'm most impressed with was your reason for applying and I'm going to quote you. "I would like to make a difference in the community my daughter will be raised in." That's the proper attitude. What you just told us in terms of where you came from and your particular vision for our town which is something we have strived through the years to try to maintain that town flavor. Conservation is an important and critical part of being able to protect some of the lands from being - for the lack of better terms "slaughtered". It's shameful sometimes when you see the amount of development that goes on. I understand that there is a tremendous number of people which caused the influx into our State. I know that some parcels need to be developed but we have some pristine parcels of land in our community. One of them happens to be a forest. We have delegated the Conservation Commission - we've relegated to them the care and the upkeep of that forest.

Selectman Coutu indicated they have enough money and we're willing to provide whatever resources are necessary in order for them to maintain that and to be on the lookout for some lands that we could conceivably buy. We have now Mr. Malizia approximately half a million dollars in that account if we were to buy some large tracts of land. So we have quite a bit of money that comes under the control of the

Conservation Commission to use for that purpose. Of late I don't know if you've attended - I'll ask you have you ever attended a Conservation Commission meeting. Mr. Tsu said I haven't attended a Conservation Commission meeting. Selectman Coutu asked have you ever watched one on television. Mr. Tsu said I have not. We don't really watch a lot of television in our home. Selectman Coutu stated your daughter might when they see you on television and might want to seize on that opportunity. Dad could become a star. I am particularly thrilled Michael. I don't have a lot of questions but I'm particularly thrilled because I've been a strong advocate of trying to get the younger generation involved in our community, and its affairs, and its management. You present an opportunity for this town because you are young. You're going to have a different vision. You're going to want to make some recommendations and you want to put some hiking boots on and go out and take a look at what we have and what we're trying to preserve and perhaps be one of the cornerstones that we'll add to the preservation of the pristine land that we have. I'm thanking you for your application and you certainly I believe will have our vote and support this evening.

Selectman Routsis indicated I don't have anything. Selectman Coutu covered most of it.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Routsis, to suspend the rules and nominate and appoint Michael Tsu as a member to the Conservation Commission with a term to expire 12/31/19, carried 3-0.

Selectman Coutu noted you have to be sworn in. So you can between now and the next meeting go to the Town Clerk's office and they will swear you into your position.

Chairman Luszey noted this week would be a good time to go get sworn in. The lines will be short because the registration system is down so there will be no car registering going on.

Chairman Luszey had a public input before we get too far because I should have brought it up during Public Input. Kevin Houle couldn't be here tonight but he did ask me to bring a concern and a request to the table. That is if you're familiar with Musquash Pond, there's a little river that goes underneath Musquash Road. That is a turtle crossing. Every year there's I would say quite a few - I won't say hundreds because he said hundreds but I don't know - a number of turtles are hit by cars there. He would like to put up turtle crossing signs - one facing each direction. He has the signs as you see. What he's looking for is permission to have them put up. If there's no objection, it's probably not a bad idea because cars are slamming their brakes on all the time down there. I do live down there and picking turtles up off the road and moving them. I think it's not a bad little idea. Comments from the Board.

Selectman Coutu asked is he going to provide posts for those. Chairman Luszey said he will provide posts if we don't. His suggestion is he would get the steel poles at Home Depot but I said if we agreed to it here, I would ask the Road Agent to get like the stop sign poles to put them in on a permanent basis. Selectman Coutu noted that was what I was going to suggest. Perhaps the Road Agent should be given his phone number so that they can meet and pick an ideal spot. I'm sure the Road Agent doesn't have the familiarity with the turtles as much as Kevin does. Kevin if you're watching, I'm not laughing at you. It's not often we get somebody here advocating for turtles or other small creatures. I'm in accord with it.

Selectman Routsis was fine with it.

Chairman Luszey said I'll get the other sign to him and we'll get Kevin to meet with him.

6. CONSENT ITEMS

Chairman Luszey wanted to bring your attention to Item C. 3. - Outdoor Gathering Permit for the Kiwanis Club ice finishing tournament. I has been cancelled and removed. That is the only change right now unless someone else has any other.

Selectman Coutu told Donna on the calendar 2/21 Cable Utility Committee has cancelled the meeting for February. They will be meeting in March.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Routsis, to approve consent items A, B, C, D, E and F as noted, or appropriate, and amended, carried 3-0.

A. Assessing Items

- 1) BTLA Decision - Blind Exemption - Map 203, Lot 109 - 23 Cottonwood Drive, w/recommendation to approve
- 2) Veteran's Tax Credit - Map 174, Lot 005 - 18 Derry Street; Map 182, Lot 154, Sub 002 - 56 Central Street; Map 156, Lot 006, Sub 015 - 31 Cricketfield Lane; Map 156, Lot 006, Sub 070 - 24 Leybridge Drive; Map 184, Lot 032, Sub 087 - 4 Tiffany Circle, w/recommendation to grant
- 3) Tax Deferral - Map 145, Lot 011, Sub 002 - 12 Sullivan Road, w/recommendation to grant
- 4) Requalification of Elderly Exemptions - Map 168, Lot 002, Sub 003 - 34 Krystal Drive; Map 165, Lot 141, Sub 328 - 328 Abbott Farm Lane; Map 178, Lot 013, Sub 077 - 72 Mobile Drive; Map 145, Lot 011, Sub 002 - 12 Sullivan Road; Map 198, Lot 035 - 2 B Street; Map 142, Lot 007, Sub 021 - 22 Oliver Drive; Map 175, Lot 034, Sub 012 - 14 Pond View Drive; Map 191, Lot 010 - 10 Regina Street; Map 191, Lot 008 - 8 Ricky Drive, w/recommendation to re-qualify
- 5) Disabled Exemption - Map 177, Lot 005, Sub 075 - 13A Intervale Court, w/recommendation to grant
- 6) Elderly Exemption - Map 158, Lot 001, Sub 013 - 41 Bonnie Heights Drive, w/recommendation to grant
- 7) Certification of Yield Taxes Assessed/Timber Tax Warrant - Map 211, Lots 065 and 067, w/recommendation to approve

B. Water/Sewer Items - None

C. Licenses & Permits

- 1) Request to Solicit Funds - Teen Challenge New Hampshire
- 2) Outdoor Gathering Permit - Antique British Car Show
- ~~3) Outdoor Gathering Permit - Kiwanis Club of Hudson - Ice Fishing Tournament~~
- 4) Raffle Permit - British Cars of New Hampshire (BCNH)
- 5) Raffle Permit - Hudson Republican Committee

D. Donations - None

E. Acceptance of Minutes

- 1) Minutes of the January 24, 2017 meeting

F. Calendar

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| 02/15 | 7:00 | Planning Brd - Buxton CD Meeting Room |
| 02/16 | 7:00 | Benson Park Cte - HCTV Meeting Room |
| 02/20 | | TOWN HALL CLOSED - PRESIDENTS DAY |
| 02/21 | 7:00 | Cable Utility Cte - HCTV Ctr. |
| 02/21 | 7:00 | Municipal Utility Cte - BOS Meeting Room |
| 02/22 | 7:00 | Planning Brd - Buxton CD Meeting Room |
| 02/23 | 7:00 | Conservation Comsn - BOS Meeting Room |
| 02/23 | 7:30 | Zoning Brd of Adjustment - Buxton CD Meeting Room |
| 02/27 | 7:00 | Sustainability Cte - Buxton CD Meeting Room |
| 02/28 | 7:00 | Board of Selectmen - BOS Meeting Room |

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Votes taken after Nonpublic Session on January 24, 2017

- 1) *Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Nichols, to approve the Employment Agreement between the Town of Hudson and Town Administrator Steve Malizia effective July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2022, carried 5-0.*

- 2) *Motion to adjourn at 8:25 p.m. by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Routsis, carried 5-0.*

B. Lowell Road and Pelham Road Intersection Project Update

Chairman Luszey recognized Town Engineer Elvis Dhima. Welcome.

Good evening Mr. Chairman and members of the Board. Elvis Dhima noted not too long ago we discussed about a need at this intersection for a traffic light. We had our consultant look into the traffic counts during peak hours and non-peak hours during school session. Basically in a nutshell the summary states that if we do want to put a light there, we do have the necessary ones to do that. In addition while they say that, they also caution us to be aware of any delays that this might cause on Lowell Road due to a traffic light now that will help Pelham Road traffic get into Lowell Road. With that said, I've prepared two motions for you tonight. Option A is to move forward with the traffic light and Option B is not to do anything and I have attached three attachments. The first one is an overall picture of the corridor from New Hampshire Drive to Birch. It shows five intersections right now. The second one is pretty much an overall picture of Lowell and Pelham Road and a third one is the actual assessment traffic counts. With that said, I'll take any questions you might have.

Selectman Routsis asked do we know the peak hours for this particular road so we only have it a solid during those times and then have it flashing the rest. Mr. Dhima said usually flashing is only when like a light is not working. Basically this light will not be activated if there's no cars on Pelham Road. Simply it's going to keep it green on Lowell Road. Also one thing we can do to make it easier on Lowell Road is not have any loops on the right turn only on the left. Basically the light will not be activated on Pelham Road if it's a right turn because right turns are pretty easy. It's the left turn that's the biggest concern. So we can have it set up so the light will get triggered only if it's a left turn. That way we'll minimize any delays on Lowell Road. So there are things we can do to minimize that light being activated to help Pelham Road and at the same time make it not as stressful on Lowell Road. I'll probably ask the Board if we move forward with this to spend a little extra time on the design phase to make sure that this won't create havoc over there. Those are the two things we can do there.

Selectman Coutu said you're making this a lot easier on me than I thought you would Mr. Dhima. I read your report thoroughly over the weekend. When we asked the Road Agent - and I'm sure you'll remember this Mr. Malizia - to widen that intersection and he agreed to do it. It saved us a considerable amount of money and then the Planning Board approved the construction of the storage buildings on that intersection. We didn't have or we had decided at that time we would put off eventually putting a light at that intersection. It wasn't something that they felt was a priority and wanted to see how it would affect traffic. I've had discussions with you Mr. Chairman and I've told you that I've had residents come to me that live and are affected by that intersection. I can tell you that I'm one of those people and it happened this evening and not because this was on the agenda. My natural way of driving - when I pull out to intersections like County Road which is just a little down the road, Pelham Road and there are people waiting there to take if I'm coming northerly and someone wants to go southerly, I will stop my car, flash my lights, and let them through the intersection. If it doesn't happen, they're going to sit there and wait, and wait, and wait. I don't know what's happened with this country but we're not courteous anymore. Somebody will go 40 mph to get one car length ahead of you and you're at a light and he's sitting right in front of you. You took your life in your hands just to pass me so you can get one car length. Courtesy barely exists today. I get people beep their horn at me all the time because I constantly do it. I feel bad.

Selectman Coutu noted another intersection is where the coffee shack is. People are trying to pull out there and nobody will let them out. I have spent a lot of time as I've said to the Chairman earlier at the light at Valentino's and I mean a lot of time - many days watching that light. I don't see the purpose of that light being there at all except for a left-hand turn. Even that is mitigated by the fact that the light down by T-Bones when that's activated and cars are coming out or going right or left, that gives space where people from Fox Hollow or from Valentino's could make those turns. I've looked at it at peak morning hours and I've sat there at 5 o'clock and 6 o'clock at night. Tonight I was telling the Chairman as I was coming down, it was coincidental and I got to Pelham Road I thought about stopping and I said I wanted to see how far I get where I lose vision of Pelham Road. Two other cars are stacked up behind that vehicle. I got down almost to County Road - I could see out of my rearview mirror - and those 3 cars were still sitting there.

Nobody would let them out. I felt bad but I did it on purpose tonight because I wanted to see what the impact is on the traffic. That was only 3 cars. I don't know if there more. By the time I got to County Road, it might have stacked up behind them. I can imagine what it's like during school hours. It must be even worse for cars to get out of that intersection.

Selectman Coutu stated people have been after me ever since we widened that road to please do something so that they can have easy access to Lowell Road. I noted that in its summation in the analysis that you did, you certainly leaned towards not doing it.

Elvis Dhima said when you look at Option A and Option B, the pros and cons, I wouldn't say that. My job as the Town Engineer is to make sure that I provide you with all the information that's available so you are aware of the pros and cons for every decision that you make. That was stated on the report submitted to me and that's what was provided to me by our consultant. My job as your Town Engineer is to make sure that you have all the information that you need to make a decision. I don't want you to be stuck in the middle and the same thing with me is we have 5 people now that are very happy with the intersection and we have 100 people on Lowell Road that are complaining why they need to stop there because it's only one car or two cars taking a left turn and they have to wait 20 to 30 seconds for that now.

The other thing too for this particular project, Mr. Dhima said we have money available to get this done but when this is completed and another group comes in and says we need another light further down the road and we don't have that money, we want to make sure we're treating everyone the same way. We can say well we did this because it's needed there and we had the money too versus now we don't have the money and we can't do it. We can all agree if you look at every new session during peak hours in town, anything that intercepts one of our main corridors - 111, 102, and Lowell Road, you can use a traffic light for a left turn. You can. I see that every morning. I see that at night as well. That's just how it is.

Selectman Coutu thought personally Mr. Dhima one of the problems with Lowell Road is that we don't control all of the lights. If we did as a member of the Board of Selectmen that has an ounce of intelligence, every light in this town would flash at 11 o'clock at night and not be running. I can't tell you how many times I go down Lowell Road and I get a red light at 11 o'clock at night leaving this meeting and there are no cars coming the other way and they just change. The State will do nothing about it. So we don't control a lot of the lights and the signals. Mr. Dhima agreed. Selectman Coutu asked are we going to own and control this light. Mr. Dhima said yes. We will synchronize this with Valentino's. That's why it says we're going to be on maintenance. We're going to synchronize everything and design it. We'll still have to go into the traffic bureau to make sure they're okay with it.

Selectman Coutu asked are we going to synchronize it a little better than the lights over here were synchronized. Elvis Dhima noted that's in the works as well. Selectman Coutu said it shouldn't be in the works. It should be fixed by now. Mr. Dhima said we fixed it as much as we could based on the manual setup. We're going to try to synchronize it now on a how it made to set up. So this is software where cameras are running versus the sequence we put in manually. That's what we're working on. You're going to have something very shortly as well. I'm working to make sure we get the best for our buck right now. I want to do it a little different than it was done before. As you know, that project started before I got here. I'm trying to do it my way now, get a very good deal for the town and for us and make sure that the money is spent correctly. The same thing with this one. If we move forward with the traffic, I want to make sure that everything works the proper way and is done the right way, and not rushed, and that I'm happy with it.

Selectman Coutu said what I'm reminded of Mr. Dhima when I hear people say I don't want lights. We have too many lights. If they're synchronized, we can get it to work. The best example of the need for a light that took forever to be installed and I'm glad it's installed and I'm glad it works properly is right down the street here at the corner of School Street and where the former Mayor of Hudson fought for a light forever. We widened the intersection. Initially you couldn't get a plow through. It was engineered all wrong. Steve Malizia noted Library and Central. Selectman Coutu said that's serving us well. If they're synchronized properly and the amount of traffic that we have, of course a lot more traffic here than it would be on Pelham but I feel for those residents and I think it's going to be money well spent. I think these people are going to be happy and they're going to see a light at the end of the tunnel. When they're ready to turn, they know that they're going to get a light and they're going to be able to turn undeterred.

Selectman Routsis asked real quick because you said it was going to be - I'm just going to use my terms - "waited" so it knows that someone is there to turn the lights so they can go or you're going to synch it with the Valentino's one so they go at the same time. Elvis Dhima said when they say "synch it", it means that they're not working against each other. They're pretty within range and we have to see if we have a Wi-Fi connection between them so we know to have a red and -basically you kind of look at it is he going down Lowell Road. You want to have that green light and then within 20 seconds you want to have the other one. At the same time you want to take into consideration that you want to have that green light and you don't want to change that sequence if you only have 1 car or 2. If you have now a camera that says there's 5 or 6 cars then you could go it will change. They'll work together. They will have a camera. We'll have to see what we can fit within the budget. This is not wicked complex intersection. This is just Lowell and Pelham. This is not the Library Commons that we have there. We'll go out there and make sure we have a solid design, solid numbers, and I think we can make it work with the money that we have available.

Selectman Coutu had one last question. If this were to be approved this evening Mr. Dhima, I know there's still some prep work you have to do, when do you think construction will start on installing that? Elvis Dhima wanted to make sure the design is all set. We have about 6 projects right now in the queue. If you approve this tonight and you give me the okay to go out to bid for the engineering services, I can get the engineering design done probably within the next 3 to 4 months and have the construction scheduled for that. Selectman Coutu said we can do it tonight. It's just pen and paper. Mr. Dhima said if yes if you give me the okay tonight, I'll go out to advertise.

Steve Malizia said we have approximately \$200,000 in the account for this. Selectman Coutu noted the engineers will eat up half of it. Mr. Malizia said when you're not dealing with the DOT putting it in, it does make a difference. Selectman Coutu noted I'll trust Mr. Dhima to get it done. I'll make a motion. I didn't know if you had anything you wanted to add because it personally affects you sometimes.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Routsis, to proceed with Option A, installing a traffic light at Lowell and Pelham Road intersection, using funds from Corridor Account 2070-000-090 as recommended by the Town Engineer in his Memo dated February 7, 2017.

Chairman Luszey noted the only thing I would say I think this is an excellent choice.

Vote: Motion carried 3-0.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Grant Application - Fire Dept. - EMS in the Warm Zone Equipment Grant Program in the amount of \$6,000

Chairman Luszey recognize Fire Chief Rob Buxton. You have a bunch of grants here.

Good evening Mr. Chairman and members of the Board. Chief Buxton noted the first agenda item for us this evening is to apply for an EMS in the Warm Zone Equipment Grant through the Department of Homeland Security. The purpose of this grant is to provide local fire departments with the appropriate protective clothing in the event that we were to participate in either an active shooter or critical mass casualty event. They're looking at funding us at \$6,000 over the next two years. So \$6,000 this year, \$6,000 next year. It's on a first come, first serve basis which I'll get into in a minute where there is no match.

Starting last year, Chief Buxton indicated this became one of the top priorities for the Department of Homeland Security was to push out to the fire service and EMS providers in the community the ability to provide protective clothing to first responders who may find themselves in an active shooter situation. We've been working with Chief Lavoie and the staff up to the Police Department regarding training, policies and procedures and how that would work. I want to emphasize this evening that we're strictly talking about EMS work. This is not actual hands on. It's work that takes place in the hot zone that the Police Department takes care of securing and those types of things. This is a lighter duty garment that provides some protection if an accident was to take place within what they would consider to be the warm zone while we're providing EMS training. What we've learned in history over time is as they were securing facilities, you had injured folks that were not getting cared for within the warm zone after a section had been cleared and were perishing. They needed to address how that was to be done and how that was going to be provided. They

needed to reach out to the fire side of the house and the EMS side of the house for some assistance and that is where we come to this evening.

Selectman Routsis stated I know you said it would be the \$6,000 over the two years. Do we know how much the equipment costs? Chief Buxton said we would be eligible for \$6,000 this year and \$6,000 next year. There will be two different grant applications so I would be back next year. That will outfit approximately four sets of gear each grant.

Chairman Luszey asked what is your goal to outfit all ambulance and squad trucks or...? Chief Buxton said that is a goal. We run 9 folks on duty 24/7. My goal over the next 2 years is to get up to cover that 9 and then from that point forward we would probably expand that. This would be a rapid event if we were ever faced with this. Chairman Luszey said this is general purpose clothing. It's not unique to the person. It's not assigned to the person it's assigned to the squad. Chief Buxton indicated the way we're approaching this is a general purpose and no different than ice water rescue equipment and those sorts of things.

Selectman Coutu told the Chief I'm a layman. This doesn't tell me much. It doesn't tell me what it protects. What is it that's going to change? Is it a bullet proof vest? Chief Buxton said they would basically get a vest and helmet and we would get the ability to set up a trauma bag to be able to work within the zone to provide a better, faster EMS within that warm zone and get in and get out, would identify the first responders as first responders and not as police. There would be a separation so it would probably be a red vest or a blue vest versus a black vest or a camouflage piece of equipment so it would provide some identification for the fire service folks on the scene and we would provide them some basically body mask protection meaning chest, and back, and helmet and go down that path. Selectman Coutu noted that satisfactorily answers my question.

Motion by Selectman Routsis, seconded by Selectman Coutu, to authorize the Fire Chief to apply for the EMS in the Warm Zone Equipment Grant Program and accept the award of up to \$6,000 for the purchase of equipment used in response to active shooter events, carried 3-0.

- B. Fire Dept. - Request to waive the bidding procedure and purchase 4,600' of 4" Mercedes Textile supply hose from Harrison Shrader Enterprises for a purchase price of \$26,212

Chairman Luszey recognized Fire Chief Rob Buxton.

Chief Buxton stated the second agenda item this evening is regarding the Assistance to Firefighters Grant that we receive earlier this year for the fire hose. We've gone out and we've researched how we would like to spend those funds. After discussion with the Finance Director, we felt that it would be good business practice to come to you this evening and basically ask you to waive the bid procedure although our investment as a local community is \$3,200. Because we will be getting a refund from the federal government on the remainder. The project itself is \$26,000 for the 4" hose. We will be writing an amendment to our grant to go after the remaining \$9,700 for a 2 1/2" hose. We researched out three different vendors: Fire Tech and Safety, Firematic Supply, and Harrison Shrader. Harrison Shrader provides a Mercedes hose that we've purchased last year for our 1 1/2" hose and we're basically looking at purchasing 4,200' of 4" hose, 200' at 50' cut lengths, and then 200' at 25' lengths. The purpose for the different lengths is our water system is a lower pressure water system so we have to pump the water so the smaller hose is actually connected to a hydrant assist valve which sits on the front of the hydrant so we can increase the pressure. So that's the purpose for the shorter lengths versus the 100' at a whack.

Selectman Routsis questioned 4,200 or 4,600. Chief Buxton said 4,200.

Selectman Coutu ask the Chief we just recently bought some hose I believe last year. Chief Buxton agreed. We bought some 1 3/4 hose last year. We did buy some replacement 4" hose last year and this would complete our 4" replacement program which we applied for the grant under. We were unaware of the grant award prior to the 4" hose so that's why we're going to be able to increase our purchase of 2 1/2" hose with the remainder of the money.

Selectman Coutu asked about the life expectancy of this particular product. Chief Buxton indicated this product is under the NFPA Standard and has a 20 year life span. It carries a lifetime warranty on delamination meaning that the rubber coating on the inside of the hose does not come delaminated from

the jacket. So there's a lifetime warranty on it there. There's a 10 year warranty on manufacturing and they'll actually within the first couple of years provide you catastrophic failure for something was to break at any incidence. Considering that we just purchased half of our need last year and then this will complete it, Selectman Coutu said we should be good for 10 years. Chief Buxton agreed. The purpose of the AFG Grant is everything that we do we have to identify a maintenance program. What happens at our budget is we now go under that maintenance program and we'll budget for a couple hundred feet a year for catastrophic failure if something failed the pump test, the hose test, or something like that. Under warranty for the next two years, you should be clear but if somebody was to drive over a piece of hose, obviously the manufacturer is not going to warranty that.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Routsis, to waive Chapter 98-7 Bidding Procedure of the Hudson Town Code for the purpose of purchasing 4" supply hose for the Hudson Fire Department, carried 3-0.

Chairman Luszey asked is it 46 or 42. Chief Buxton noted 46 total. It's 4,200 in hundred foot lengths and then there's 200 feet...Chairman Luszey said its 4,600 is the right number.

Motion by Selectman Routsis, seconded by Selectman Coutu, to authorize the Town of Hudson Fire Department to purchase 4,600' of 4" Mercedes Textile supply hose from Harrison Shrader Enterprises of Lewiston, Maine, for a purchase price of \$26,212, carried 3-0.

- C. Fire Dept. - Request to waive the bidding procedure and purchase auto extrication equipment from Industrial Protection Services for a purchase price of \$37,534

Chairman Luszey recognized Fire Chief Rob Buxton.

Chief Buxton indicated the final proposal I bring you tonight is regarding our extrication equipment. In 2016 believe it or not, the Hudson Fire Department responded to 267 motor vehicle accidents in the Town of Hudson. This is a piece of equipment that gets used quite frequently. It could be a simple extrication from what we consider a popping of a door because you had a t-bone accident and you just needed to open up the door itself to get the victim out or a full extrication where we're actually cutting the roof off. The current equipment that we utilize is well over 20 years old. For those of you that have seen it, it is a gas powered pump that attaches by hose. There are two hoses and if you get a break in one side of the hose, the tool is out of service. After our risk assessment and looking at our needs, Lieutenant Conlon and his committee made the recommendation that we should replace it. We reached out to four what we consider to be products within the industry that are at the top of the field and available within this region. Amkus extrication equipment, Genesis extrication equipment, Holmatro, and Hurst. Instead of putting out a clear bid and going out to RFP, we wanted to invite the vendors in so we could do a day long evaluation. We're making a major change in our extrication equipment. We're actually going to battery operated extrication equipment which means no hose, no hydraulic leaks, no inability to move equipment around. If we had an incident out in the woods, you actually can throw it in the quad unit that we have and carry it out there.

Chief Buxton noted what we're looking to do this evening is purchase 5 pieces of equipment: 2 combination tools, 1 large cutter, 1 large spreader, and 1 hydraulic ram. The large set of equipment will be kept on the squad vehicle and the combination tool actually will be stored on each of the ambulances in the two sub districts. Meaning one at Robinson Road and one at Burns Hill Station. I did bring you a couple of examples tonight and I didn't want to bog down the presentation but if somebody had a question in regards to I have a cutter and I have a combination tool. One of the things that impressed me about the work that the committee did and I made a point as to attaching the documentation that members of the committee provided. If you look at the names of the people that did the evaluation, Brian Clarenback, Brian Patterson, Brane - these are all folks that are less than 10 years with the Fire Department. These are the younger folks that are getting involved in what we're doing. Dennis Haerincck who's now a new Lieutenant for us, Marty Conlon. These are folks that are invested in what we're doing. This isn't a decision that's made in my office. This is made by the front line user and what they want to utilize in the field.

Probably if you read any of the comments that stuck with me, Chief Buxton indicated was regarding the ergonomics that they're seeing out of the equipment and the ease of being able to pass equipment around and the angles that they can utilize. Again I'm asking you to use the capital reserve fund to fund this project for \$37,000. It is your capital reserve fund to expend. The purpose of the capital reserve fund is for fire

equipment. So we're asking you again to work with us regarding waiving the bidding process and allowing us to purchase the equipment from Industrial Protection Services out of Wilmington, Massachusetts, for a price of \$37,534.

Selectman Routsis asked what's the life expectancy on the new ones. Chief Buxton stated the equipment we have currently is 25 years old. The expectancy would be another 10 to 20 year mark. Selectman Routsis noted you said they're battery operated. Rechargeable or replaced. Chief Buxton said rechargeable. The charging unit would actually sit in the apparatus because it operates off a shore cord and the requirement under the NFPA Standards, they actually have to have a backup so you can remove the battery on this unit and actually plug it into a 120 volt receptacle off of a generator or the inverter on a piece of apparatus and to get continue operation.

Selectman Routsis asked do we get any trade in. I'm only asking because I saw on one of the pages it said "trade in". Do we get any trade in granted it's served its purpose but do we get a trade in? Chief Buxton said yes. So several of the vendors what they're going to do is they offered to take it and scrap it for us and then basically the \$37,000 is inclusive of a \$9,000 trade in that they're awarding us. That was on I think page 2 of the Memo.

Selectman Coutu asked Chief Buxton you said you're going to get one spreader - Chief Buxton noted one large spreader. Selectman Coutu said the combination tool provides for...Chief Buxton said spreading and cutting on a smaller basis. Selectman Coutu said something like in between the doors the smaller one might be angled. The big one would be used for roof extrication and then we have the tool that folds it over. Chief Buxton noted the purpose of the combination tool is to provide the first responders who get there first and then the sub district with a tool to get started. Then the squad comes in on the back side to be able to get out the larger equipment. Obviously the larger equipment has a better foot pound pressure, although the combination tool, the cutting tool is like 80,000 pounds per square foot or something like that. Selectman Coutu asked but you would agree that in some instances the starter tool can also be the finishing tool. It's enough to get it open and extricate. Chief Buxton said absolutely. You know I've seen a lot over the years. The combination tool is great as silly as it may sound. You have a kid who sticks his head through a fence post and gets his head stuck in there. The tool is not just for auto extrication. We use it for a lot of different things. Kids get their body parts in very tough spots some times. As simple as an exercise as that may be is just walk up with the combination tool, spread the fence apart, and away they go. It provides us a lot of versatility across town.

In terms of training, Selectman Coutu asked does everybody get trained on how to use the tools. Chief Buxton said yes. That would be a requirement of the purchase is that they come in and provide each of the groups with a training on all of the equipment. Selectman Coutu asked if that was inclusive in the package. Chief Buxton said yes.

Motion by Selectman Routsis, seconded by Selectman Coutu, to waive Chapter 98-7 Bidding Procedure of the Hudson Town Code for the purpose of purchasing auto extrication equipment for the Hudson Fire Department, carried 3-0.

Motion by Selectman Routsis, seconded by Selectman Coutu, to authorize the Town of Hudson Fire Department to purchase auto extrication equipment from Industrial Protection Services in Wilmington, MA, for a purchase price of \$37,534 with funding to be taken from the Fire Department Fire Equipment Capital Reserve Fund, carried 3-0.

D. Town Planner Vacancy

Chairman Luszey recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia said well as we are all aware, Mr. Cashell resigned his position as Town Planner to take another opportunity in Massachusetts. So we are without a Town Planner right now. I tried to look at some of the options of what may be available. I did reach out to MRI. For those of you who know MRI - Municipal Resources - they do provide service. Unfortunately this is a senior position. This is not a learning rookie position in the Town of Hudson. The person that they would place here is on vacation in Florida or is on leave in Florida until the end of March. I looked at some other options. NRPC is a possibility but the other possibility is to have Mr. Cashell come in on an interim basis. Mr. Cashell will be working four days a week

down in Massachusetts. He is available and willing to work Fridays. He's also available and willing to come in for the Planning Board meetings. I'm of the opinion that that might be the best option right now for us. We've got the job ads out. They're out in the Lowell Sun. They're out in the Union Leader. They're on the UNH Alumni bulletin board. I've got them out in a bunch of different places - Massachusetts Municipal Association and NHMA. That posting closes at the end of the month of February - close of business on the 28th. We're probably looking at late March early April if it's optimistic. I'm just looking at how do we keep moving along and keep our needs satisfied. I think the best option to try would be Mr. Cashell. He's willing to do it at his previous hourly rate. It would be interim part time so there are no benefits. Again he'd be available every Friday. He'd also be available for Planning Board meetings. I think that's the way we ought to at least try to go. Again there are not a lot of people out there sitting around doing temporary planning work.

Selectman Coutu asked we're talking about an 8 hour day on Friday. Mr. Malizia thought that would probably be realistic 8 hours yes. Selectman Coutu asked the Planning Board meets twice a month. There's no doubt in my mind that there's a gap. Until we get somebody on board, this might serve us well for the time being. You're looking towards the end of March perhaps beginning of April before we could have somebody on board. Steve Malizia thought optimistically when you look at it because we're going to have to go through a process of vetting people. We're going to have to go through - my recommendation is some sort of subcommittee interviews depending on how many candidates we get, and then at some point the full Board I would assume you'd want to interview this person, and I would presume also they have to give perhaps a two-week notice if they're working somewhere. So yeah I think realistically you're looking at the end of March early April.

Chairman Luszey thought it's further than that because April would be for me optimistic when you have a person on board. You then need a transition period for Mr. Cashell to transfer knowledge to that person. You're not going to bring someone in cold. There needs to be some. Mr. Malizia said some. Chairman Luszey said right. I'm thinking May - through the end of May.

Selectman Coutu asked you're saying that if anything God forbid were to happen to Mr. Cashell we couldn't hire a planner. Chairman Luszey said no I'm not saying that. Selectman Coutu wants to see a Planner that's ready to take it off. Steve Malizia said we're not going to hire a rookie. We can't afford to do that but right now I don't know who we're going to attract.

Chairman Luszey stated let me be real clear. I'm assuming this doesn't mean Mr. Cashell would be here every Friday once either someone from MRI or we hire someone. Mr. Malizia said I didn't assume anything. I'm looking at somebody to come in for at least the next month and a half to two months to do the planning function for the Town of Hudson. That's the John Cashell position.

Selectman Coutu said I don't have a problem with that and I'd like to put that to bed.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Routsis, to retain the services of John Cashell as a part-time Interim Town Planner at the rate of \$43.62 per hour until such time as a new Town Planner is hired, carried 3-0.

Selectman Coutu questioned the Town Administrator. Could you repeat again where has this position been advertised? Mr. Malizia stated: The Lowell Sun, the Union Leader, the New Hampshire Municipal Association website, the Massachusetts Municipal website, obviously on our Town webpage, and our Facebook page. I've also got it advertised out at the UNH Alumni page. There's a master of government program that they have. It's now advertised out there. I'm assuming any bulletin boards or job boards that are affiliated with the Union Leader and the The Lowell Sun. They just don't put it in the print section. They put it electronic and they put it out on the web, the internet, and whatever. That's where it's advertised right now.

Selectman Coutu asked have you had an opportunity to look at what other municipal Planners are paid. Steve Malizia indicated I have not done a survey of what other municipal Planners are paid. I have only gone to the contract because this is covered by a collective bargaining agreement and I put the minimum pay in for this position. I don't even think I identified the range. I just put the minimal pay. Selectman Coutu asked the salary that's quoted in the Town Planner job summary is the base...Mr. Malizia said is the minimal, step 1, for this position. I did not put a range because obviously there is a range. I believe it's the 6th step

range. I only put the first step. I don't want to sit there and have people come running in here saying I want to make \$90,000 on day one. You of course have the ability to negotiate a different step with someone if you had a qualified candidate but that is not what's being promised.

Motion by Selectman Coutu to form a Town Planner interview committee consisting of two (2) Selectmen, the Planning Board Chairman, and the Town Administrator.

Chairman Luszey asked to would hold it right there if I may. Selectman Coutu said that's fine with me. I was going to put a period there but then I thought I could extend it. I think let's leave it there. Chairman Luszey thought we should because the composition of this board changes in a couple of weeks and we can put the Selectmen's names in our first meeting of March. Mr. Malizia indicated you will have to do it I'm presuming March 15th because you're having a meeting the day after the election. Chairman Luszey said right after the March vote. The Board will come together and we can do it then. Mr. Malizia didn't know if you wanted to add any other personnel. Do you want to add any department heads? Selectman Coutu asked can we deal with this motion right now. Wait a minute that's what we're doing. We have the Town Planner, the Planning Board Chairman, which is good, two Selectmen, the Town Administrator. Steve Malizia said you could either pick the Fire Chief. You could pick the Engineer. You could pick someone that has...Selectman Coutu asked well interacts...Mr. Malizia said well the Fire Department interacts a lot with Planning too - Inspectional Services. Selectman Coutu noted that's after John is done with it. That's after the fact. Chairman Luszey indicated Planning ties a lot of the land use regulations and stuff like that.

Quite frankly, Selectman Coutu said I wouldn't mind having the Fire Chief and the Engineer and call it a day. That's enough people. Steve Malizia said that's certainly enough. What we're trying to do is vet the resumes. In other words, let's assume we get a handful or a bunch of resumes. What we're more than likely do is everyone is going to take a look at the resumes, take their leading candidates, whittle that down, then interview as a group collectively those candidates. Selectman Coutu said I don't want to just whittle down. I want a proper background check done on every single one of them. I don't want to be in the situation the School Department found themselves in where they had a bunch of candidates for Superintendent and they narrowed it down to three, then they cut itself to two, and then of the two one got fired, and they treated it like we were stuck with this guy let's go with it. Mr. Malizia indicated it's amazing what you can find on people. What the intention is is to have a cross section of the folks that either are getting involved with this position, i.e. Planning Board Chair, the other two departments, the Selectmen so that you're assured that when you bring it forward candidates to the Board, you've basically whittled it down to folks that you think would be able to do the job. That's what we're trying to get to.

Selectman Coutu thought that with the composition now we have a quality group of people. I don't know if Glen is still going to be Chairman of the Planning Board. Steve Malizia noted we didn't name his name. We said Chairman. Selectman Coutu said he's an outstanding candidate for something like that. He's very thorough and deliberate. Mr. Malizia was not aware that the composition of their board would change because I think they're December appointments. I'm assuming they've already elected their officers and I'm presuming he would still be there until at least December. Selectman Coutu stated he's an outstanding choice. I have the utmost of respect for him. Mr. Malizia said I did have a conversation briefly with him and he would be more than willing to serve in that capacity. I asked him. Selectman Coutu noted he would be very good for our community. Okay we'll leave it at that Mr. Chairman. Thank you. It would end with the Town Administrator, the Fire Chief, and the Town Engineer.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Routsis, to form a Town Planner interview committee consisting of two (2) Selectmen, the Planning Board Chairman, and the Town Administrator, Fire Chief, and Town Engineer, carried 3-0.

Selectman Coutu thought there's a consensus that the Chairman which would still be you at that meeting will chose two Selectmen and make that appointment. Chairman Luszey indicated we'll deal with it the first one in March.

E. Sale of Tax Deeded Property - 405 Elmwood Drive

Chairman Luszey recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia said we have a condominium type of ownership at Elmwood Village. It's in fairly rough shape. We had to evict the tenants. We've had to clean - I say clean it out. I got a marketing analysis from our realtor Lisa DiBernardo who had done a good job for these types of properties for us. She's recommending a listing price of \$99,900 which puts us in a sweet spot in the market. We only will get about \$31,000 because this is within three years. We could list it for \$1 million. We're only going to make \$31,000. I think \$99,900 is a reasonable decent price. I recommend that we list it with Lisa DiBernardo who's gotten decent at selling these properties. They're challenged at best. We need to get it going.

Selectman Coutu said we should charge her for the training that we're giving her. Mr. Malizia indicated I got training too. I'm telling you I'm learning a lot. There's a lot there. These are not easy. Selectman Coutu thought we've done well. I read this thoroughly. It's going to be a good bargain for somebody that wants to buy something just to be able to get it cheap, put a few thousand in it, and really fix it up. I really think this property purchase price of \$20,000 you make this look really beautiful. Mr. Malizia said it's going to be a home for somebody. We might even get a bidding war. You never know. We've had them before.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Routsis, to sell Town owned tax deeded property located at 405 Elmwood Drive for a listing price of \$99,900 and to hire DiBernardo Real Estate for the sale of this property, carried 3-0.

F. Sale of Tax Deeded Property - 4 Bridle Bridge Road

Chairman Luszey recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia said Bridle Bridge Road if you recall we took that property three years ago. It's out by the Great Eagle Motel. It's a challenged piece of property in that it had a lot of equipment on it. It had liens on it and at the time the Board came this close to listing it and decided to defer until we got to the three years. Well the three years are up. All the lienholder, all the equipment operators, had been noticed with UCC filings. Some of it is still there. What Attorney LeFevre recommends is let's attempt to sell it as is where is. In other words, buyer assumes all this stuff. A few years ago we had selected through a competitive process a realtor to sell this. I think it was Shay Commercial Properties. Given that it's been a few years and the market has probably changed - in other words I'm not sure what the market value is anymore. I'd like to go back through the process of soliciting bids from commercial realtors. I think this could be a value piece of property. We've had some inquiries. I'm sure some of them are bottom feeders. I also think given the location on Route 111, I think we may have a winner here. I'd like to go out to a competitive commercial bid process. Obviously DiBernardo Real Estate I think she's welcome to bid on it but I want to see some sort of marketing plan, a market value, and somebody that has the reach to get this property the maximum we can get. We will get to keep all the money on this one.

Selectman Coutu indicated I can't believe that three years have gone by. I remember getting threatening phone calls at midnight about this piece of property. Steve Malizia stated I will say this is the most unusual property. I've literally had I think 5 or 6 and it's come through our attorney from an attorney saying she's ready to redeem the property. The former owner is ready to redeem it at the last minute. Like Charlie Brown and the football, he pulls it away. It's past the three years comfortably. We've done all the notifications. It's going to be a challenge because, again, God knows what other entanglements are going to be on this thing. We're going to try to sell it.

Selectman Coutu thought the phone call I got I think listed your phone number. Then you called me or I called you it's like midnight. Did you just call me about some property threatening me?

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Routsis, to authorize the Town Administrator to solicit bids from real estate professionals to sell tax deeded property located at 4 Bridle Bridge Road.

Steve Malizia noted that will come back to the Board obviously once the proposals are in, then the Board will evaluate and determine who you think is in the best interests of the Town. Selectman Coutu asked why can't he do that. Mr. Malizia stated because it's an award of a bid and I'd rather have you do it.

Vote: Motion carried 3-0.

9. OTHER BUSINESS/REMARKS BY THE SELECTMEN

Selectman Routsis - I just want to like in the beginning with your moment of silence with the Keller's let them know that everyone is thinking of them. We're all giving them our prayers and as they are very well aware if they need anything, I am just a phone call away as is everyone here.

Selectman Coutu - I'll get to Matt and his family in a moment. I want to thank the Road Agent. I want to thank the Highway Department crews. I want to thank our Police Department, our Fire Department. We've seen more severe storms in the Town of Hudson and we've seen more frequency of snow but this has been a challenging year in that we have three brand new drivers. They've all had to be trained. I think that they are to be commended. I watched one of the newer drivers. He didn't know I was watching him in a section of town not anywhere near my home and I pulled over and I watched he go up and down a few streets. I was favorably impressed. He did so with caution. I don't think he wanted to get reamed out because he knocked over any mailboxes and he certainly didn't know who I was. I didn't reach out and waive to him so it would be obvious I was there. I was just curious I wasn't there to be critical. I was there to observe. They've done an outstanding job. Once again you knew when you were outside of Hudson. This last storm was particularly challenging. We had a lot of traffic on the roads as it was coming down. That creates traffic congestion and not always the most favorable climate for these trucks to be operating in. I think they've done an outstanding job as usual and our fire and police officers, EMT staff were kept on the busy all through this. As you know certainly the Fire Department we have them working on 24 hours. The Police Department after about 10 - 15 calls on a snowy, wintery day it's exhausting. They held themselves together well and they've done an outstanding job.

Matt and the family of course they're in Washington right now. They're in our thoughts and prayers. My wife has been praying fervently for him. He's just an outstanding kid. You know the family. Outstanding kids. God willing he will pull through and the family will survive this as they survived other things. We'll continue to keep them in our thoughts and prayers and certainly ask as you did Mr. Chairman that the onset of this meeting that everybody just take a moment of silence and think about the Keller family and say a prayer that all will turn out okay. Amen. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Selectman Luszey - The only comment I have is I'll echo what you both said about these last couple storms. Just to give folks a heads up, it has been tough on the Highway equipment. Not only the people but the equipment. Last meeting Kevin Burns was in talking about cracked frames. I got e-mails talking about blown rear ends and engines on this one. This snow has been a heavy snow around even though it seems fluffy. When you get all that salt and sand in it, it's tough on the equipment.

Other than that, I do want to echo your concerns about the Keller family and we will keep them in our prayers.

10. NONPUBLIC SESSION - None

11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 8:05 p.m. by Selectman Routsis, seconded by Selectman Coutu, carried 3-0.

Recorded by HCTV and transcribed by Donna Graham, Recorder.

Ted Luszey, Chairman

Roger E. Coutu, Selectman

Angela Routsis, Selectman