

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Minutes of the May 10, 2016 Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER - by Chairman Luszey the meeting of May 10, 2016 at 6:48 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at Town Hall.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - led by Selectman Saucier.
3. ATTENDANCE

Board of Selectmen: Ted Luszey, Roger Coutu, Pat Nichols, Marilyn McGrath; Angela Saucier

Staff/Others: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator; Donna Graham, Executive Assistant; Kathy Carpentier, Finance Director; Kathy Wilson, Human Services Specialist; Elvis Dhima, Town Engineer; Lisa Nute, IT Director; Len Lathrop, Trustee; Jim Barnes, Chairman of Benson Park Cte.

4. NONPUBLIC SESSION

Motion by Selectman McGrath, seconded by Selectman Coutu, to enter Nonpublic Session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (c) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a fee, fine, or other levy, if based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant, carried 5-0 by roll call.

Chairman Luszey entered Nonpublic Session at 6:50 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 Luszey entered open session at 7:19 p.m.

5. 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.

Thank you Mr. Chairman and members of the Board. I'm Shawn Jasper 83 Old Derry Road. I see on your agenda tonight talking about the different possibilities for polling places and ideas. I am the only past Moderator who actually moderated meetings when we had multiple polling places. I wanted to tell you a little bit about that experience and encourage you to find a way to make the one polling place continue to work and I believe that can. If you noticed one of the biggest problems is and it seems statistically improbable but it happens everywhere is all the As and Bs will come in at the same time and then all the Cs and Ds will come in at the same time. That happens in every community and it's a real mystery. The same type of things happens when you have multiple polling places. Everybody will show up at one polling place and there will be nobody at the other polling place. You really don't solve the problem you just move it. When I was Moderator and we'd be swamped, I was always at Lyons Hall when I was Moderator for the day but I called the other polling places if we were swamped or dead and it would always seem to be the opposite. So now you've taken your resources being your voting booths and you staff, divided it up, and now you've created the same problem that you have now with those checklists. That really didn't solve anything. The other problem is that people never really figured out where they were supposed to vote. It was hard to get that mindset out that you vote at Lyons Hall at the time, the Community Center, so people would show up there, find out they were supposed to go half way across the town to another location and be very angry about that. You really don't solve the problem if you can make the location work in one place. I talked to you a little bit Mr. Chairman about some ideas on parking. I think there are ideas for the inside. It really just is not the solution that you might think it would be.

Mr. Jasper thought the other problem is we were talking was the idea that while we'd only do this once every four years, I think that would be a real problem in terms of not knowing where they were supposed to go because they'd be voting three years in a row in one place and then suddenly supposed to go someplace else. It just would not work. I would be glad to use my experience to help you. I started working the polls in this town when I was in my late teens. So we're going back to the 1970s. I think my first election I moderated was Ronald Regan's - I don't remember if it was his first term or his second term but I've been doing it a lot time and worked a lot of elections and seen it all. I would be glad to assist in that in trying to figure out how we deal with this problem which is essentially a once every four year problem that we have.

While we have you there, Chairman Luszey asked is there any Board member have any questions of the Speaker relative to multiple polling locations. My expectation is we do have the current Moderator here tonight. We'll go over it. We need to make a decision one way or the other. The first step is if we even want to put it to the voters. Based on that outcome if we should, I'm thinking either way we should have a small subcommittee formed to address the upcoming election. At least the Presidential Election given the primary turnout, I think we're going to have a pretty good turnout.

Selectman Coutu asked Mr. Speaker - no one doubts the history that you have with this community and you've been around for a lot of elections. You've seen the tumult and we've seen the lean elections where hardly anybody shows

usually municipal elections. Of late when we're dealing with anywhere from 10 - 12,000 people in a primary and 14 to 16,000 at a general election, would you agree that in order for us to make a decision that makes sense for our municipality that we've reached the bulging point at the Community Center and we need to look at a secondary location. Shawn Jasper said that was my point. I'm sorry you weren't in the room is that just like when you see the As and Bs come in together, the same type of thing happens in multiple polling places. One polling place will be swamped and the other will be empty. That was experience as Moderator when we had three polling places. It actually made the situation worse because you only have a finite number of resources for voting booths so you'd be filling up all the voting booths. The problem would be you wouldn't have enough voting booths. I suppose you could solve that by buying more voting booths but again this is a one in four year. I think that generally the problem has not been a long wait for the voting booths. It's been those As and Bs and I think for big elections there may be better ways to divide up the checklist. Remember if you have 10 at one place, maybe you're going to need 20 in total. If you just put 15 at one place.

Shawn Jasper indicated the traffic was a bigger problem I think this last time. Again we didn't have very good traffic control because of the layout. That's why I think the Chairman is right. A way of looking at this and looking at the flow within the building it may be too big. There's only 16,000 on the checklist. I think our biggest election has been around 12,500. We've had a real good turnout and that is a lot in that building. I think it can be handled. I'll tell you back in the '80s I saw it worse because I can remember actually the line going all the way out to Adelaide Street. Not the cars, the physical people out to Adelaide Street. There's probably no situation where you're going to have it where nobody is going to have to wait. You're going to have to wait a certain period of time unless you're willing to probably triple the Moderator's budget in those Presidential years to make it work.

Selectman Coutu said I left at 2:30 to go have a sandwich with my wife. Vehicular traffic was all the way down to Suzie's Diner. Back up. When I came back, it was the longest ride of my life starting at Suzie's Diner and that was an hour later to get back to the Community Center. As I approached Adelaide, vehicles were parked in front of the Kiwanis. People were trying to cross the road. A lot of vehicles were turning around and leaving out of frustration. Regardless of the traffic flow and I can understand there were some problems and I thought it was resolved with the way it was set up because then we wouldn't have people trying to jump down in front of the Community Center to come in the other way. We were trying to keep everything going into a U-shape - in, out and reserve just the handicapped and people were upset because we had barriers to keep the flow so that even the handicapped people would just have to go through the parking lot, come back out, and park in handicapped and back out and head out the designated exit area. If the traffic flow were better, we would have still had a backup because people were having a difficult time parking. There's not sufficient parking for 10 to 13,000 people.

Shawn Jasper asked to respond to that if I may. I gave up at dark but I was there a good part of the day. It was almost never a time when the parking as you're facing the building to the left-hand side was full. The problem was is we're bringing traffic in. They have to stop for all the cars backing in and out. If we were to essentially enter the traffic on the near side to Adelaide of the telephone poles and as you then went beyond the telephone poles if the police were able to direct people when the spaces were available have two solid rows this way and then nobody would have to wait. Have the third row be able to flow all the way around to the back of the building, I think you could probably move traffic and fill the parking spots. There were a lot of empty parking but it was waiting for people to back out. I would also suggest that when you do that you have that angled parking so that people could back out and move out that way and around. I think it's worth trying because obviously you're sort of stuck with the budgets you have now. That costs really no money and I think that would really help. You'd need a couple more police officers there. You'd certainly need one on the back side to let the first officer who'd be on the road with their communications hearing from the other ones - I can take cars, I can take cars so that they could direct whether it's all the way around or row a, row b. I really think that that traffic flow would really make a huge difference. Again will it solve the problem 100 percent, I think it's better than trying to say that we're going to have 2 polling places permanently because that is so confusing. I think it's worth a shot in September and see if that works.

Selectman Coutu said I remember you mentioning to me having 3 and I had a vision. We were standing right there when you were talking about it. I think that would alleviate some of the traffic flow and then if we were to keep the single polling place, then it's hit or miss for the general over there who's running the show of what alphabet to split up and how to do it. He's got some ideas I'm sure he'll want to share with us this evening. I appreciate your input Mr. Speaker.

Chairman Luszey asked if there was any other input. Seeing none, we'll move on.

6. RECOGNITIONS, NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

A. Recognition of Kathy Wilson - 20 years of service

At this point, Chairman Luszey said it is my pleasure to recognize Ms. Wilson. For the record, this is Ms. Kathy Wilson. She has been part of the Town of Hudson family for over 20 years. She is currently serving as the Human Services Specialist in the Finance Department. Her hours, her job titles and job responsibilities have drastically changed as the Town has developed over the last 20 years. Kathy began her employment with the Town of Hudson

as a part-time Secretary in the Finance department in April 1996. In June 2001, she was promoted to Administrative Aide. In March 2003, she was appointed to carry out the local welfare responsibilities. In October 2007, she was promoted to Human Services Specialist. In her current role, she is responsible for highly confidential and sensitive employee and client information. She administers employee benefits, assists citizens with welfare needs, records accounts receivables, and gives support to the Finance department. Her job is critical to insure compliance with policies, regulations and laws. She is always ready, willing, and able to assist employees and officials. Kathy executes her responsibilities with great compassion and sympathy.

Kathy continues to participate in education and training seminars through Primex, New Horizons, NHMA, and the State of New Hampshire to enhance her skill set.

Kathy and her husband Danny have been Hudson residents for almost 20 years where they raised their daughter Kristina. Kathy and Danny will be proud grandparents in October of this year.

The Town of Hudson would like to recognize Kathy Wilson for 20 years of dedicated public service to the Town of Hudson. Thank you. On behalf of the Board of Selectmen, I'd like to present you a Certificate of Appreciation for a job well done.

Selectman Coutu noted I was there the day you were born. A grandparent - oh my god!

B. Interviews

1) Recreation Committee - (1 vacancy, 1 alternate term to expire 4/30/19)

Tristam Wallace - 46 Quail Run Drive. Thank you for your time this evening. Chairman Luszey asked tell us a little bit about yourself and why you want to be on the Recreation Committee. Mr. Wallace stated I have two step-daughters. They are currently in 6 and 8th grade - Hudson Memorial School. They have participated in Hudson recreation activities since they were in second grade or so. I've really grown to admire what the Recreation Department does for this town. I want to be able to help improve that those offerings and really kind of just give back to the town to make sure that all of the children coming up as well as adults have the opportunity to continue to benefit from a great program.

Selectman Coutu asked Tristam have you ever been to or watched a Recreation Committee meeting. Mr. Wallace said I have not.

Selectman Coutu asked the Chairman to explain to him the difference between a permanent member as opposed to an alternate. Chairman Luszey explained a permanent member, and I'm not sure what the night is on this one, once a month and it's around 7. Selectman Coutu said its 6:30 at night on a Thursday and it's usually the first Thursday of the month. Chairman Luszey noted they last about an hour or two. That would be the responsibility of a full time. The alternate normally does go but they are not a voting member. They get appointed should someone need to step out, or are on vacation or what not. So you basically sit in for them while they're out and participate. Selectman Coutu said ask questions, participate actively.

Tristam Wallace said that's great. I really just want to be able to provide input and help wherever it's needed.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to suspend the rules and nominate and appoint Tristam Wallace as an alternate to the Recreation Committee with a term to expire 4/30/2019, carried 5-0.

7. CONSENT ITEMS

Before I ask if anybody wants to remove anything, Chairman Luszey noted that we had a late coming request under C. Licensing and Permits. Add Item 5 - Request to Solicit Funds from the Knights of Columbus Council 5162 and you should have a packet on the table. Selectman Coutu had no objection. With that, Chairman Luszey asked does any Board member wish to remove any item for separate consideration at this time.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Nichols, to approve consent items A, B, C, D, E and F as noted or appropriate, carried 5-0.

A. Assessing Items

- 1) Disabled Exemption - Map 183, Lot 031 - 43 Adelaide Street, w/recommendation to approve
- 2) 2016 Solar Exemptions - Map 186 Lot 12 - 1 Gates Lane; Map 230 Lot 22 - 9 - 14 James Way, w/recommendation to approve
- 3) Regular and Disabled Veteran Credit - Map 149, Lot 001, Sub 074 - 63 Glasgow Circle, we/recommendation to approve

- 4) Veteran Tax Credit and Solar Exemption - Map 253, Lot 045 - 3 Potter Road, w/recommendation to grant
- 5) Elderly Exemptions - Map 158, Lot 001, Sub 007 - 23 Bonnie Heights Lane; Map 144, Lot 018 - 60 Lawrence Road; Map 147, Lot 022, Sub 029 - 19 Westchester Court, w recommendation to grant
- 6) Requalification for Elderly Exemptions - Map 147, Lot 022, Sub 007 - 6 Westchester Court; Map 216, Lot 018, Sub 051 - 23B Holly Lane; Map 174, Lot 223 - 58 School Street; Map 117, Lot 003 - 101 Robinson Road; Map 197, Lot 110 - 9 Cedar Street; Map 168, Lot 002, Sub 023 - 27 Krystal Drive; Map 152, Lot 049 - 13 Dugout Road, w/recommendation to re-qualify

B. Water/Sewer Items - NONE

C. Licenses & Permits

- 1) Raffle Permit - Hudson Historical Society
- 2) Raffle Permit - Hudson Historical Society
- 3) Raffle Permit - Hudson Fish and Game Club
- 4) Night Trucking Permit (30 day extension) - Brox Industries
- 5) Request to Solicit Funds - Knights of Columbus Council 5162

D. Donations - NONE

E. Acceptance of Minutes

- 1) Minutes of the April 05, 2016 Meeting
- 2) Minutes of the April 12, 2016 Meeting

F. Calendar

- 5/11 7:00 Planning Brd - Buxton CD Meeting Room
5/12 3:00 Trustees of the Trust Fund - Buxton CD Meeting Room
5/17 7:00 Cable Utility Cte - HCTV Ctr.
5/17 7:00 Municipal Utility Cte - BOS Meeting Room
5/18 7:30 Senior Affairs Cte - Buxton CD Meeting Room
5/19 7:00 Benson Park Cte - BOS Meeting Room
5/23 7:00 Sustainability Cte - BOS Meeting Room
5/24 7:00 Board of Selectmen - BOS Meeting Room
5/25 7:00 Planning Brd - Buxton CD Meeting Room
5/26 7:30 Zoning Brd of Adjustment - CD Meeting Room
5/30 MEMORIAL DAY - TOWN HALL CLOSED

8. OLD BUSINESS

A. Votes taken after Nonpublic Session on April 26, 2016

- 1) *Motion by Selectman McGrath, seconded by Selectman Nichols, to hire Patrick Berrigan to Truck Driver/Laborer, Grade VII, Step Minimum at \$17.67 per hour per the Town of Hudson and Hudson Highway Department Local #1801 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Contract effective May 29, 2016, carried 5-0.*
- 2) *Motion by Selectmen Nichols, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to hire Tana Tufts and Jamie Martineau as Counselor I at \$9.75 per hour effective May 27, 2016, carried 5-0.*
- 3) *Motion by Selectmen McGrath, seconded by Selectman Nichols, to promote Brianne Fluery, Stephanie Case, and Joe Wedge from Counselors in Training to Counselor I at a rate of \$9.75 per hour effective May 27, 2016, carried 5-0.*
- 4) *Motion by Selectmen McGrath, seconded by Selectman Nichols, to promote Delaney Burns, Britton Doyle, and Alyson Lavery from Counselor I to Counselor II at a rate of \$10.25 per hour effective May 27, 2016, carried 5-0.*
- 5) *Motion by Selectmen Coutu, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to hire Nathan Roystan, Jack Mahoney, Taylor Lambert, and Jessica Finn as Substitute Counselors/Robinson Pond Attendants at \$9.75 per hour effective May 27, 2016, carried 5-0.*

- 6) *Motion by Selectmen McGrath, seconded by Selectman Nichols, to hire Jenna Bradish, Jessica Tolento, Hannah Fabano, and Kristin Rourke as Counselors in Training at a rate of pay of \$7.50 per hour effective June 1, 2016, carried 5-0.*
- 7) *Motion by Selectmen McGrath, seconded by Selectman Coutu, to hire Dave Yates as the Men's League Softball Coordinator for the fee of \$600 effective April 27, 2016, carried 5-0.*
- 8) *Motion by Selectmen McGrath, seconded by Selectman Coutu, to hire Quinn Mack as a Regular Special Shift Employee at a rate of \$11.00 per hour effective April 27, 2016, carried 5-0.*
- 9) *Motion to adjourn at 11:46 p.m. by Selectman McGrath, seconded by Selectman Nichols, carried 5-0.*

B. Polling Locations for upcoming Presidential Election

Chairman Luszey recognized Paul Inderbitzen. We've had numerous requests if you will to take a look at the possibilities of having multiple polling locations after the last Primary. We asked the Moderator to take a look at that possibility. In your packet the very last page of your packet on this item is a letter from the Moderator basically outlining all of our options. If you wouldn't mind Mr. Inderbitzen to just to kind of summarize what our options are at this point.

Paul Inderbitzen said the idea of creating a second polling place in order to divide up the voting population is a possibility under the authority of the Selectmen but the Selectmen has to seek the authority of Town Meeting. So there would have to be a Town Meeting vote to authorize you to authorize you to create additional polling places. Once you have that authority, you can use it at any time you wish. You don't have to have that number of places for every election. You can use it every four years for the Presidential, Primary and the Presidential Election if you so wish. In order to move a single polling place, you don't need Town Meeting approval for that. You can do that on your own. If you decided to use one of the schools or another building some place for a single polling place, you could do that. That's under your authority for a single place. You would have to have Town Meeting authorization. There is sufficient time if the Board decided to do that to create a special Town Meeting to coincide with the State Primary in September. We'd have time enough to do that to have a Deliberative Session, all the postings required, we'd have to do the back stating to find out what times and what the ranges would be. You could do that. You could have that special meeting. There would be no court requirement because it doesn't require any money to get the authorization and then we would just have a ballot at the Primary in September along with the Democrat and Republican ballots that they would have. Everybody would get one of those ballots and we'd be able to do that. If the Board decided that was the route they wanted to go, we could do that now.

In the meanwhile, Mr. Inderbitzen said you could be getting ready to create the second place if it was something you wanted to do. We'd be getting ready to do that. You don't have to designate where it is in the authorization. It just gets you the authorization and then you can go from there. If you do that, you'd have to establish - again you don't have to do that as part of the authorization but then the Board is required to establish the boundaries of the different locations and how you would do it. Whether you'd split 111 north, 111 south, you could do that. You can do that on your own. You would not have to do that once you have authorization. You could make those changes and as population changes if you did it by populations, you could make changes periodically as well. I think those were the ideas that I left open to you that you would have since you asked about that information.

Chairman Luszey asked the previous speaker talked about Hudson having three polling places in its past. Is that still authorizing us to have multiple locations? Paul Inderbitzen said that was under the Charter - that was under the Town Council form of government which was a Charter. I don't remember where the third one was Mr. Jasper. We had St. Kathryn's, the Community Center, where was the third one? Shawn Jasper indicated we were at the VFW at one time. We were also at Alvirne at one time. Chairman Luszey said because it was under the Town Council Charter, that's null and void.

Selectman Nichols said the additional costs would be for the Deliberative Session and the printing of ballots. Roughly how much would that cost us? Mr. Inderbitzen estimated potential costs for a second location. Printing of ballots - now typically the State Primary is a very low attended election. It's under 3,000 voters show up for that and that's been consistent over the last 6 or 8 years which is kind of unfortunate. We would be printing up single ballots unless we wanted to ask the State to allow us to put them on the Republican or Democratic ballots and we know how Nashua did with that and that was kind of a thing. We'd have a one-page ballot that we would say give me the authorization. I would still want it to go through the machines. I would not want to have to count those afterwards. That would be kind of a pain in the neck. We can make a small ballot to go through the machine.

Selectman McGrath asked Paul did you contact the schools to find out whether or not they'd be agreeable to us using one of their facilities and if so whether or not they'd close school for the day. Mr. Inderbitzen said I did not do that. I did contact the Superintendent way back when we first started talking. This was even before ours. They needed to

have their schedule set for their contract with the teachers and they needed to set their calendar for next year which they have done. This would require if the Board decided to use one of the schools, we would have to ask them to change that. Whether they would be willing to do that, I don't know how the School Board would feel about that. That's something that the boards would have to have some discussion about.

Out of the schools looking at the occupancy loads and the number of parking spots, Selectman McGrath indicated the only one - I guess there's two that would make sense to utilize and one would be Alvirne but the one that I think would be probably better would be Memorial. My personal opinion about whether or not we need additional spaces or just one space and moving it to one location and that might make more sense. There's not only a log jam in the parking lot and people not being able to park at Community Center. There isn't adequate parking and people coming in but also the log jam coming into the Community Center itself. There's one double door at the opening of the building and then when you come in, there's a little area and then it spreads out a little bit more. That's a real log jam there. I recall running into Ken Massey out in the parking lot during the first Obama successful run and the place was just mobbed. I went late in the day because I didn't want to run into crowds. I think that was right around 7 o'clock. The entire place outside in the parking lot and trying to get into the building, it was a mess. Ken said they were having a difficult time all day. I think that we need to do something. I know that Mr. Luszey and I got numerous complaints the day of the Primary this year. Some were pretty adamant that we had to change locations or at least add another spot. I think if we could use one of the schools.

Selectman McGrath said the other location that I suggested too was St. Kathryn's Church in the south end of town. I don't know whether or not they'd be agreeable to us using their facility. I know that they certainly have adequate parking. I don't know whether they would be agreeable to use using that.

Chairman Luszey noted the question for us tonight is whether or not we believe that we want to put this question to the voters. Really that's the purpose of tonight's item. Selectman McGrath agreed but if we decide that we only need one polling place - I'm all for getting the voters opinion on everything because they're the ones that we're working for. If we choose to only have one polling place, then we either use the Community Center or relocate the polling place to another facility whether it's the school or somewhere else then we don't have to have that on the ballot for September. I think we need to decide whether or not we want one or two. Chairman Luszey indicated that's what tonight is about. Do we want to ask the voters? What we're asking for is permission to have two if we believe it's necessary. I also think coming out of tonight is we need to establish a small committee to take a hard look at what we have today and how do we make it better. I'm not totally convinced yet we need to. I've run some different scenarios through my mind on how we could improve the flow through the Community Center. If you were to improve that flow, you'd decrease the number of people standing in line. We'd have to make traffic flow a little better but I'm not totally there yet but I do believe if we put this question to the voters, there's nothing that say they would deny that. For me the question is do we want to ask the voters and then the other piece is do we put a small team together to take a hard look at what we need to do come November. Any other comments?

Chairman Luszey called for a motion to place a question on the warrant and create a special meeting. Paul Inderbitzen said the Board of Selectmen would call for a special Town Meeting in September. You would need a vote to do that and then we'll establish the dates to meet that requirement.

Selectman McGrath said if we decide that we want to have two polling places, we have to get the authorization from the voters. I suppose it makes sense to have them vote on it and then if we decide that we don't need a second polling place, we don't have to use it. Chairman Luszey said if we don't get their permission, we can't do it.

Selectman Nichols asked do we have to wait until September. If you're going to utilize it, wouldn't you want that information ahead of time? Again if I'm not clear, Chairman Luszey said there's two parts to this problem. There's getting the voters permission to even act on multiple locations. A second part is putting together plans which we would start right now on how to fix the current location should the voters decide no they don't want multiple locations and then if we determine that we need two locations and the voters give us permission to do that, what would that plan look like so that once we get the okay in September how do we go and execute that plan.

Paul Inderbitzen explained if you wanted to have a quicker special Town Meeting, that would then require another set of balloting and well we have the September ballot coming up. It doesn't mean you can't get ready for the results of that if they should be approved and say okay we've got it all set for November. We just got to get the authorization. The idea of talking to the School Department if the thought is to use like Memorial if I had a preference for two locations, I'd say the Community Center and Memorial. Number one they're close enough together. If they go to the wrong place aren't going to have to drive across town. Thinking that you're dividing your voting public now. The space at Memorial and when you walk it its all one place the gym. If you use Alvirne for a single place, then you've got to get people upstairs to the gym. The cafeteria is not sufficient to hold an election. You'd have to get people upstairs and then you've got the handicapped. We have the elevators and we're okay there but it would be a little bit more logistics to do that even though that the parking is certainly much superior to what we have. If you're going to have two places and you wanted to use one of the schools, I'd say Memorial would be the best in conjunction with the Community Center.

Selectman McGrath said we used to use that for the Deliberative Sessions and that would be an all day event at Memorial School. Mr. Inderbitzen thought we paid rent for the use of the space and the custodial and all that. That will be an additional expense. Chairman Luszey said it all goes into the work that needs to be done as what it looks like.

Selectman Nichols indicated you were talking about the ballots dividing up and whatever. Would it be just as easy to have them all at each place and people come in. Paul Inderbitzen said the difficulty there is what if I go to one place and vote because they have all the check books there and then go to another place and vote a second time. They say vote early and vote often. Selectman Nichols said I wasn't thinking of that. Thank you very much.

Motion by Selectman Nichols, seconded by Selectman McGrath, that the Board of Selectmen hold a special election in September and request the voters to approve or deny a second polling place, carried 4-1. Selectman Coutu in opposition.

Selectman Coutu commented it's a waste of taxpayer's money.

Chairman Luszey asked for some volunteers to come together as a committee to take a look at improving the current polling location to see if there's anything we can do with parking and processing of voters through the physical location in preparation of November and also to put together a possible 1 or 2 different alternatives for multiple locations. If you're interested on working on that, let me know and I'll put that team together for our next meeting. It's for the public also and I'm looking for an odd number 5 or 7.

9. NEW BUSINESS

A. Leasing of 6 replacement copy machines

Chairman Luszey recognized Finance Director Kathy Carpentier and Human Services Specialist Kathy Wilson.

Good evening. Kathy Carpentier said we're here to ask the Board's approval for a 36 month lease for 6 of our copiers. It's been a goal of ours to get all the copiers in town on the same timeline. We're very close to doing that. Kathy's been diligently been working. These ones are all expired come December. The other 5 will expire so we'll be going out again and hopefully paralleling the timeline. We went out to bid. We mailed these packages to 9 vendors. We have a formal bid opening. We posted it in the HLN, on the Town's website, and cable TV. Of the four bidders that sent in bids, Ricoh was the lowest bidder. With that, we'd like to ask you to approve a 36 month lease with Ricoh.

Selectman Coutu noted the Senior Center has been open for two years and we're asking to replace that. How long was the lease for the senior center copier? Ms. Carpentier believed they just bought a \$300 one that they'll be giving to somebody else to use. They've been waiting for us to get into a lease. They are not currently in a lease.

Motion by Selectman Nichols, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to approve a 36 month lease with Ricoh, the lowest bidder, in the amount of \$10,904.04 per year for six (6) replacement copy machines as recommended by the Finance Director, carried 5-0.

B. Central Street Engineering Services Contract

Chairman Luszey recognized Town Engineer Elvis Dhima.

Good evening Mr. Chairman and members of the Board. As you are well aware, this project or Central Street Bridge is currently on the red list in NHDOT. In March 2016 the voters voted to approve a warrant article to rehab this bridge. Soon after that we went out seeking engineering services and construction services for this project. We received 7 applications. We shortlisted 5 of them. The committee consisted of Mr. Malizia, Mr. Webster, and myself who did the interviews. On the memo you have a list of 3 top consultants. As you can see, they were pretty close. Soon after that, we approached VHB to do the scope of work and services while pursuing State aide or breach State aide requirements. Unfortunately their number came too high so at that time we switched gears going back to the original plan which was to do this on our own. At that time, I asked the 3 top consultants that scored the highest to provide a scope of work and fee if we did not pursue the State aide bridge program and they provided us with those numbers. VHB's number was just shy of \$42,000. CMA was just a little bit over \$31,000. The third one Hoyle & Tanner did not submit a bid due to schedule issues they had and other projects at the time. With that said, I'm here in front of you tonight to ask you to approve the contract with CMA based on the fact that the scope of work between the two contracts that were submitted, the package was close to the same. The scope of the work is the same. The schedule is the same. The only thing it comes down to is the fee itself which was about \$11,000 in change. Based on those three factors, my recommendation would be to go forward with CMA Consultants. I'm open to any questions you may have at this time.

Selectman Coutu said the voters approved \$160,000 for this project. If we award this contract for \$31,200, who arrived at the \$160,000 to put on the ballot? Mr. Dhima said we had a consultant at the time - VHB that did this on

their own dime. They came in and assessed the project and came up with a quick estimate on what the engineering services would be if we did not pursue the State aide what would construction be and their number came close to 160. We took that number and we used that to move forward to the warrant article.

Selectman Coutu asked did they provide you with a document that outlined how they arrived at the \$160,000 line item. Mr. Dhima said no. They went out there and they looked at it. I was there at the time and they just said all right engineering services is going to be closer to \$35,000 and the construction services will be close to \$125,000. Selectman Coutu commented so there is no supporting document to justify the \$160,000 request is that what you're saying to me. Elvis Dhima said there was no contract to get those services. This was simply a favor that they did to us. Steve Malizia said we used it for support for the warrant article. There is a document what's in there from each bid that tells you engineering and then the construction of the lining phases. Selectman Coutu asked do we have that document. Mr. Dhima said yes we have it somewhere. I can provide it to the Board. Selectman Coutu was wondering what their line item estimate was for this particular phase of the project. Mr. Dhima said it was about \$35,000. Selectman Coutu stated but they bid \$41,000. This is the same company that estimated 35 but bid 41. Mr. Dhima noted keep in mind this was just a rough. When they looked at this, this was simply going in and getting a quick evaluation. As we know, engineering services...you know this better that I do that numbers change. Selectman Coutu said we made it 35 and bid almost 42. So they were off by 7,000 there. Mr. Malizia said it appeared that their number of \$7,000.

Selectman Coutu asked to proceed only because I don't want to see us get in trouble as a town. After we spend the \$31,200 there will be approximately \$129,000 left to do this project. What happens if they come in and its \$160,000? Are we going to start this project and hope that this Board of Selectmen will approve an additional \$40,000 to continue this project? What assurances do we have that it won't exceed \$129,000? Their guess? Steve Malizia said you'll have to go out and get bids. The construction phase of this will be bid out. You'll see the number and you have to award the number. If for some reason it comes out to be \$150,000, you can either award it and we have to find the money or you can not award it and we won't do the project until we get a further appropriation. Selectman Coutu said that we were out \$31,200. OCMA is going to refund us the money? Mr. Malizia said no but you'll have the whole scope in construction documents and everything ready to go out to bid again if you needed to. That's what they're providing you. Selectman Coutu commented déjà vu all over again. Mr. Malizia said it's better than using the State because right now if we use the State, we're at \$81,000 just for the engineering. So we already know like we're not going that route.

Selectman Coutu applauded the Town Engineer for not going that route and doing it on our own. That's a good move on your part. Elvis Dhima said that was the original plan but I was being a little greed in pursuing the State and once they gave us a number, I said no. We tried and it doesn't work. Steve Malizia said they are also are a year late too. It wouldn't be done this year. It would be done another year.

Chairman Luszey asked to help me understand. This is for lining a culvert, right? Mr. Dhima said its building the lining. Chairman Luszey said why can't we get a design build contract from these folks? Steve Malizia said because they don't build. Chairman Luszey said if not, then go find a design/build company. There's plenty of them around that do that. You get one number for design and build and you say thank you because it's all done just like I do buildings. Mr. Dhima said the firms that can do both of those for this kind of project I'm not sure they're out there. If you were doing the bridge street or Ferry and you can do design build, basically the way that would work based on my experience being part of one is that a big contractor would team up with an engineering firm and they will do it together. I am not sure if you can find a contractor who has a full staff - a geotechnical engineer, a structural engineer, a civil engineer, a wetland scientist, and all that. Chairman Luszey said when you presented this at budget time this was lining the culvert so that we didn't have to tear the road up. Mr. Dhima said we are not tearing the road up. Chairman Luszey understood that but I'm having difficulty why we have to have such an expensive engineering cost and we still don't know what the lining is going to cost. I'm missing something.

Elvis Dhima said you will know what the lining cost would be. You still have to go through the process and get it through DOT to approve that. You still have to the wetland impacts if any. You still have to go through the process. You still have to have a structural engineer assess it that that's adequate. You still have to do a study to make sure the hydraulic analysis remain the same. You still have to go through the same process it's just not taking 6 months to do it, it's only going to take 2 months because you telling the State here it is. We're doing this adequate. It's stamped by a structural engineer, by a geotechnical, by a wetland scientist. We're not waiting for you to approve it. We're just telling you this is what we're doing and we're going to pay for it 100 percent versus if we go through the State, you'd be like...Chairman Luszey got that. I'm having difficulty why I can't get a price on them running a liner also. You're breaking this up and what you're asking for is in my terms an architect to come in and design the project. This is how it needs to be engineered out and then what we're going to do is take that document that they provide and go out to bid to have the work done.

Elvis Dhima explained let's just say we got a contractor that can do that and they have to submit specs. and they still have to have a PE to stamp all this to make sure it's recorded. What if we don't do that? Chairman Luszey said its one bill. It's a total cost. It's not piecemeal. Mr. Dhima wasn't sure if you can get that for such a small project. I'm not sure about that. I haven't come across anything like that. I've seen it for big projects but usually big construction

companies don't have staff to do that. They usually sub all that out. They would go team up with the engineering firm to do that. It's almost like the Benson train station relocation. When you have a GC, and it was like kind of a design build. Like here it is and they find all those pieces that actually all right these guys are going to do the welding. This guy is going to do the carpeting. This guy is going to do that. What you're suggesting is go out and tell someone I need a lining. Okay not a problem. They still have to design it. They still have to find someone to do it. They still have to find a wetland scientist. Chairman Luszey got that but the difference is they're going to give us one bill of \$160,000 from start to finish and not \$31,000 or \$32,000 for the design and then we don't know what the build portion of this is going to be. It could be double of what we got left. Mr. Dhima said we will have an estimate and sometimes it is cheaper to break it down so you're not doing it all in the lump sum. You have what the engineering cost is. We will have an estimate when this process is done. We would know what the engineering estimate is going to tell us. It's going to be 110; it's going to be 120; it's going to be 130. What the actual number is when we go out to bid is different but we're doing that. Instead of having one, you're having two. I'm not sure what the success rate would be if we go out and say this is a design build and we want a contractor out there to do this all at once. This is simply what the industry is for something this small. It makes sense and that's what we pursued. I was involved with Route 3 design build. That's a \$20 million project. You go there and you can't wait. You have to get it done. The State okays it and that makes sense. Something this small, I'm not sure. You can do design build for as I said Bridge Street and Ferry. That would make sense maybe if you find someone big enough to come in and do that. Something this small you might not even get a bid because it's simply for them to put the resources together it would not be worth it. You can kind of see that on the third consultant company that didn't even put a bid in because there wasn't enough time or it wasn't even worth it for them to put the effort in for this. Elvis Dhima said if this was a \$160 million, or a \$60 million project, or \$1.6 million a different story. I understand what you're saying. I totally get it. It is applicable. I'm not sure for this size project.

Motion by Selectman Nichols, seconded by Selectman Saucier, to award the contract for repairs and engineering services for the Central Street Bridge to CMA Engineers, Inc., the lowest bidders, in an amount not to exceed \$31,200.

Chairman Luszey questioned "contract for repairs". What this says to me - this motion is they're going to design it and repair it. Elvis Dhima said we're designing a repair approach. Chairman Luszey said no. That's not what this motion says Mr. Dhima. Selectman McGrath indicated he didn't write up the motion. Chairman Luszey knew that I want to make sure we're clear what we're approving. Steve Malizia said strike the word "repairs".

Chairman Luszey reread the motion on how it should read.

Motion by Selectman Nichols, seconded by Selectman Saucier, to award the contract for engineering services for the Central Street Bridge to CMA Engineers, Inc., the lowest bidders, in an amount not to exceed \$31,200, carried 3-2.
Chairman Luszey and Selectman Coutu in opposition.

Selectman Coutu indicated this is a \$300,000 project. Chairman Luszey said that's where I'm at. I don't know what the final bill is going be. Mr. Dhima said we have total control of that. We will know what the number of the estimate will be and then we'll assess it from there. Chairman Luszey asked why don't we have that now so that we're presenting that to this Board now and making the motion to do that work now. Mr. Dhima explained it's a different approach. We started with just the design. I totally understand. I think it's a different project. It's a different scale project.

C. Warrant Articles - Discontinuance of six (6) Capital Reserve Funds

Chairman Luszey recognized Len Lathrop, Trustee, and Harry Schibanoff, Trustee.

Len Lathrop told the Chairman we as Trustees with Mr. Duchesne look at what we do on a regular basis. We thought it was prudent to get to you sooner than later about a warrant article for the March election that would remove 6 capital reserve funds from our balance. In removing them, they can either be given back to the general fund or they can be repurposed. These are all pretty old things and some of them are self evident. We have a cable access center. We have a senior center. Library expansion, we have a new library. The Lowell/River Road Capital Reserve Fund, that was for down by Pete's Gun Shop. Merrifield Park - it's such a little amount that maybe the people might say, and it does say, cleaning. So we might just want to authorize a town department to requisition that fund or request that fund for services at that park. The boat ramp has in before the Selectman many times and it seems in our remembrance to be something it won't happen because of the steep slopes of the river. That one does have some money in it. The cable access center has some money in it.

We listed the funds at a current level. Our request if this is approve that the motion when it goes to the voters in March would say balance of funds as of the end of March 2017. At that point, we close our books at the end of every month. We would just do those 6 funds and send them in whichever direction the Selectmen really want the funds to go. The funds aren't ours to tell you what to do with them. The funds are just ours to keep track of them for you and to make sure the wishes of the voters continue with those funds. We just wanted to get it out in front. We know that

March is quite a ways away but as we get closer after the summer, you lives get a little crazy and you don't need us with mishygush.

Chairman Luszey had a couple of questions. Do you know who the agents to expend all these are? Are they all voters or...Steve Malizia said the last page of this document if you look over it will tell you. Len Lathrop said the cable access center is Town Meeting vote. The Lowell Road is Town Meeting vote. The Board of Selectmen for Merrifield Park. The boat ramp is the Board of Selectmen. The Library Trustees is the Board of Selectmen.

Selectman Coutu asked don't they have to make their own motion. You'd have to remove that from ours. Mr. Lathrop said no because the Library is part of - it would all be on the same ballot. We're asking the voters...Steve Malizia said we created it and I'm sure we can undo it.

Chairman Luszey's last question was on cable access. It went from \$9,000 to \$30,000. Len Lathrop explained \$9,000 was a tabulation number. You have to remember that that fund was an over \$2 million fund. In negotiations with your Finance Director, the money sat with us even after the center was done because we could gain some interest on the money and we didn't pay for it until June of this year. So that \$2 million sat there and that accrues a bunch of interest over time. Yeah the 97 was when it was expended and stuff like that but because the money sat there, we made you \$21,000.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Saucier, to forward to the next ballot the warrant article to discontinue six (6) Capital Reserve Funds as recommended by the Trustees of the Trust Fund in their Memo dated April 25, 2016, carried 5-0.

D. Request by EcoSite to lease land for erection of wireless telecommunication facility

Chairman Luszey recognized Fire Chief Rob Buxton.

Good evening Mr. Chairman and members of the Board. Approximately three weeks ago John Terry approached the Department to see if the Town would have interest in leasing a piece of property at 52 Robinson Road for the purpose of erecting a wireless communication tower. Not having gone through this before, I had some brief conversation with the Town Administrator and thought that this was a discussion point to potentially get before the Board to see if there was any interest before we chase the rock down the brook a little bit here. If there isn't any interest in the Board, then I will inform them that there is no interest. It could be a potential revenue generator for the town. Certainly would be a negotiation to lease the property in the location that both the Police Department and the Fire Departments would be able to locate on the tower. I had a brief conversation with Chief Lavoie in regards to the location. He had asked the question if they were heart set on the Robinson Road area which they are for their strategic planning purposes that I guess is a lull for them. Basically throw it out there for discussion purposes. They're looking at an initial investment term of 10 years with a minimum commitment of 25. That's what they're looking to do. More discussion purposes than anything.

Selectman Saucier asked how big is the property at 52 Robinson. Chief Buxton said the town property backs up to the Rec. Department which abuts the Robinson Pond area. I think in total I think it's like 40 acres actually along the pond there. In the back which is mostly wooded at this purpose but they would have an access road that would come in off the fire department property at the location that's amendable. This certainly would have to go through site plan review, the Zoning Board of Adjustment, and those types of land use board regulations as this moved forward but that would be part of their process after we negotiated the agreement.

Selectman Coutu recommended that we have so little to go on and I can understand the Fire Chief not getting into an awful lot of detail if we have no interest. I'm certainly interested as a member of the Board of Selectmen and hearing a proposal and I think the best way to bring that to the floor would be for you to appoint a subcommittee to initiate negotiations to see what they're offering consisting of you, the Town Administrator, the Fire Chief and the Police Chief and come back to the Board with a recommendation that it's not worth it or it is worth it, and this is what they're offering, and this is what they're going to do at no cost to us obviously and what are they agreeing to pay us for rent. We have that 40 acres of land up there doing absolutely nothing if we can derive some income from it. A pole is not going to jeopardize the possibility of building a center up on the top of the hill where there's a flat space. That's the one spot I wouldn't want them to put it. Probably a little off of the beaten path a little bit. I'm sure they're going to want to take the highest point. There's some great altitude there. I think a pole there does make sense. If we can derive some income from it, why don't we see what they're willing to offer and we can look into what other towns are charging for pole locations on their properties.

Chairman Luszey said I know there are other businesses and establishments in town that derive income - Hudson First Baptist does.

Selectman McGrath asked why establish a small subcommittee. Why not just have them come in before us and tell us what they're willing to do to the property and what they're willing to pay for leasing the property. I don't think we need to establish a committee for that.

Chairman Luszey said I'm not on the page of having a committee but I do believe the Fire Chief and the Town Administrator should work out a first pass proposal with them. I don't think we would do justice to try to negotiate terms and conditions with a possible lease it here. There's a lot of questions that will come up. Site plans have to be developed and all that. To have that type of meeting here with the entire Board, I don't think it would be fruitful at the first pass.

Selectman McGrath stated a site plan would certainly have to be done. Whether or not they're going to be looking for any concessions where its town owned property, often times as the school will come in and they don't want to go through a full site plan review. This is going to be a for profit tower. They're only allowing the town to utilize that space for a number of years. That tower is going to be there in perpetuity I would think. Chairman Luszey said not necessarily. It will be the terms and conditions of the contract. Selectman McGrath said the tower is going to be there unless somebody tears it down. Chairman Luszey noted it could be them as far as the terms of the contract but that needs to happen during the negotiations about what it all needs to be. In any event, Selectman McGrath asked to say this. I wouldn't be willing to offer any concessions about site plan review. I would expect them to go for a full site plan review before the Planning Board.

Steve Malizia asked why just them. We could get a better deal from Fairpoint. I have no idea. Here's some guy the first guy that comes around and they we'll do this. Why are we negotiating with them? If that's what you want to do, wouldn't we sit there and say hey it's open for highest bid. Selectman McGrath said it's similar to the offer that we had to put solar panels up on West Road. Mr. Malizia said we got an estimate, an idea, but why just them? I have no idea what else is out there if we're inclined to do this.

Chief Buxton said one of the things from talking to the Fire Chief from Salem was in their agreement these companies developed a tower spot and then they lease out to the different cellular carriers. Their income is derived basically from the number of carriers on the pole. They have a base rate so if other carriers - so I agree with Steve. Why this company but they're going to sublease all that stuff and I think that's a conversation that gets had when we're meeting with them. I didn't want to flood with a whole bunch of information that's brining them along if we're not interested in having the conversation with them.

Steve Malizia indicated you may use them to get an idea to say oh this is worth \$3,000. I'm just making up a number. You may say why are we doing that or you may say oh if that's the case, let's go out and get bids to see who else is willing to give us \$4,000. I could see us getting information and bringing it back but I'm not sure we want to negotiate with anybody cuz we're not there yet. You might want a scope or an idea of what this kind of thing looks like I would guess.

Chairman Luszey asked are we okay with the Fire Chief having the conversations with them and coming back with a detail of what it is they want to do and what we might see.

Selectman Coutu was fine with it.

Selectman Nichols asked you're going to have just 2 people talk. Steve Malizia said no. What you're trying to do is figure out a scope of what you're doing. The first question is the Board against putting these kinds of things on town property. If you are against it, then you wouldn't do this at all. If you were to say we're open to the idea, show us details, then you'd start to develop the details. Right now we're kind of in the dark. We don't know if this is \$1,000 a year, if it's \$10,000 a year or what it is. Selectman Nichols said I'm open to the idea.

Chairman Luszey said all we're doing is sending the Chief off. Steve Malizia said we're looking at an idea of what this might lead to but we're not going to just give it to this company.

Selectman Saucier noted you said other businesses in town have them. So just a suggestion maybe we reach out to those other businesses because just being in cellular for years before they can be quite beneficial. Chief Buxton indicated I have a short list of municipalities that are doing this too that I think are going to provide us some insight. Selectman Saucier reiterated it can be pretty beneficial.

E. Request to advertise and post for Part-Time IT Position

Chairman Luszey recognized IT Director Lisa Nute.

Thank you Mr. Chairman. As you know last March the Town voters approved to hire a Part Time Technical, entry level technician. I'm looking for the Board's approve tonight to post that position at this time so that we'll be ready to hire near the start of FY17.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Saucier, to approve the posting and advertising of a Part-Time IT Technician, carried 5-0.

F. IT Dept. - Request for Capital Reserve Funds

Chairman Luszey recognized IT Director Lisa Nute.

As the agents to expend, Lisa Nute indicated the Information Technology Capital Reserve Fund I am requesting the necessary funds tonight for the latest licensing and the upgrade to Microsoft Office 2016. The document that was included in your packet is the capital reserve funds and I highlighted the line item we're talking about. That document is not 100 percent accurate. There will be less funds coming out of that once paperwork is completed and invoices are in. It's just slightly different but at this time, that is the only thing I will be able to afford. We will have some accumulated funds again of course in FY17 and I'll be coming back before you just before that time or right after in coordination with this upgrade will be exchanged on the heels of it. I do need to get Office upgraded first. It's not in our best interest to run unsupported software and we've been using this one for just about 10 years. It's done very well for us but we do need to get off. Extended support for this off starting October of this coming fall.

Selectman Coutu thought the capital reserve fund we were trying to build up enough money to finish the loop. Ms. Nute said yes the next piece of this will be when we get to Robinson Road. In the upcoming FY17 budget, we do have some money that we put aside to assist with that as well. So with your addition to the capital reserve, thank you very much for that. We do intend to get Robinson Road completed and out to the pond which will give us a little bit of return on investment too. Not quite as much as we got when we went down to police and other buildings but definitely some savings. We can bring them into our own phone system here and save some money there, etc. We are planning on doing that starting this summer.

Selectman Coutu had an additional question. Again I'm not an expert on computers and don't speak the lingo that both of you Mr. Chairman and our IT Director speak. I have Microsoft Office 2000 on my computer. Every time I bought a computer I download it on because I found it to meet all of my needs. Office 2007 has met this Town's needs and now we're going to go to 2016 because it's not supportable? What is there to support? It's basic functions like Microsoft Word, Excel. Why do we have to upgrade to 2016 if 2007 works.

Lisa Nute indicated it definitely has served us well and I tend to run software just for as long as possible. Trust me if I didn't have to move off I wouldn't. We start to get into a dangerous area with security when we don't keep up. Everything needs to kind of move along. You can't afford to get too far behind on any one thing. What we find is whether it's the State making us move ahead, whether it's a cloud vendor who says - a perfect example is our browsers. We just had two cloud vendors that we currently use. One is for our creditation software and or document signatures - PowerDMS is what it's called. They are of course trying to move everybody off of the unsupported Microsoft browsers of Version 9 and 10. Everybody has to be off of those at a certain time. Things like that happen and whether it's an agency we're interfacing with - we have a lot of different software that is working together and we need to keep things moving ahead before we get too far behind and then things don't work. That's basically what will eventually happen with this. You'll find funky things start not working with our e-mail servers. I remember when we were back in Office - I don't know what the version was we're going way back even before - I think it was '95. Quirky things started happening when they don't keep upgrading and they start to just not deal with it as far as giving us free updates and things like that. Quirky things do happen. We really can't afford to get to the point where things now aren't working because we're too far behind.

Motion by Selectman Nichols, seconded by Selectman Saucier, to approve the expenditure of up to \$40,800 for the purchase of Microsoft 2016 licenses to be taken from the Information Services Capital Reserve Fund with no impact to the tax rate, carried 5-0.

G. Benson Park - permitted parking

Chairman Luszey recognized Benson Park Chairman Jim Barnes.

Good evening. Jim Barnes indicated we've had a number of discussions in the Benson Park Committee about parking by the volunteers around the park. If you remember or think about the upper entrance to the park - it's near where the train station has been relocated and the office building is right across from that. Originally there were a few parking spaces outside that gate that people would be able to use but they were made into handicapped parking spaces for people to enter that section of the park. At that point, the volunteers and not only were working in committees on the Trails Committee and things like that, but also the Friends of Benson Park were working to renovate the elephant barn and establish their museum there. What they started to do would be to enter that gate, pull their cars around, and park on the pavement between the office building and the elephant barn and leave their cars parked there while they did work elsewhere in the park either in the elephant barn or working out on the trails. It was very limited. They weren't driving in the park per say except for that section where they came into the entrance in front of the office building and park down close to the elephant barn and the office building. So that's what they were doing and working on their various volunteer projects.

During discussions last year. Mr. Barnes indicated it became better known and there were some opinions stated that this was probably in violation of the deed to allow people to drive in and park even though they weren't going

elsewhere within the park. The deed has several references to motorized vehicles or non-motorized vehicles. In definitions there's a section on passive recreation that mean recreational activities that do not require use of motorized vehicles. Trails mean any and all dirt and gravel or paved corridors intended for use by pedestrians, animals, and non-motorized vehicles. There is a section in the purposes and objectives section that says they're providing for public, passive, recreational uses of the property exclusive of motor vehicles and mechanized access. The State conservation easement says "the State may traverse and travel the entire property at any time in any motor vehicle motorized or otherwise. The town conservation easement says that the town may use motor vehicles reasonably necessary for exercising any of the town's rights under the deed.

Jim Barnes said these volunteers obviously were not part of the State. They're not necessarily town authorized vehicles so the general consensus was that this probably should not be allowed to continue. What the volunteers are looking for is some use of those upper parking spaces. Currently there are 4 handicapped spaces - 2 spaces closest to the gate and the fence; the 2 spaces out by Kimball Hill Road are also handicapped parking spaces; and the 3 in between are not marked at this point so anyone can park there and people do. The volunteers are not unless they happen to be lucky and get into one of those spaces, they have to park down in the main parking lot and then walk up to the elephant barn or wherever else they're going in the park. So they're asking for the ability to be able to use some of these upper entrance parking spaces and in order to do that what we're proposing to do is to mark them for permit parking only. The Benson Park Committee would be responsible for taking any applications and authorizing placards to be given to the volunteers. They would put the placards on their dashboard of their car. We would do it on an annual basis so it wasn't like we would be giving something to somebody and they could park there in perpetuity. So we would take a look at making sure that these people were still active in the park and still active on The Friends of Benson Park and doing it that way. We understand that in order to do that, the Board of Selectmen need to put together a town Ordinance to define that permit parking and allow for enforcement of it. That's what the Benson Park Committee is requesting at this point.

Chairman Luszey indicated I have a couple of questions before I turn it over. The gate at the upper level do all volunteers have access to that? Mr. Barnes said not all volunteers. Some do. Chairman Luszey asked are you looking for all volunteers to be permitted because you said you would kind of figure that out. So what volunteers would you have the permits assigned to? Mr. Barnes said that would basically be up to the Benson Park Committee to judge but not all the volunteers would necessarily be interested in doing that number one. Chairman Luszey noted there's like a core group right that you have that does maintenance in there right. I'm assuming that's the people that you're looking to do permits for. Have you thought about giving them access to the gate and creating parking next to the elephant barn for when they're in the park and not consume those upper lot. Jim Barnes said that's exactly what they were doing and the opinion that was stated was that probably is not allowed by the deed to drive in and park.

Chairman Luszey asked so how is that the town can and given that a volunteer is a town - Selectman Coutu said they're private citizens. Mr. Malizia noted they're volunteers. Chairman Luszey explained they're covered under our liability when they're doing that. So either they're not part of the town when they're doing work and cleanup or they are. Would you help me through this?

For the record, Shawn Jasper, Vice Chairman, of the Benson Park Committee. As I think most of you know, I was instrumental in negotiating the deed when I was a member of the Board. I think the issue while you're correct to a degree I think personally they are covered under the liability. The problem is if they're using their personal car not related to doing anything to benefit the park and they're driving into that area which is really a pedestrian area doing something that we don't believe is allowed in the deed, then there would be a question of whether they would be covered under the liability. They might also have a problem with their own personal insurance if in fact they were using their vehicle in an area that motor vehicle traffic was not allowed because their vehicles are generally not being used for maintenance. Now there are several of them at times that are bringing their vehicles in and doing that and I think they've covered under that umbrella. When they're simply driving in and parking and their vehicle is playing no role in the ongoing maintenance, I think you have a liability problem.

Chairman Luszey said I'll tell you why I asked the question. Today I saw a vehicle in there today that had "Benson Park Maintenance" on it. A magnetic sign. Selectman Coutu indicated that was illegal. Chairman Luszey noted that's another whole story. If we were to legalize that as the permit process if you will, does that get us around that or do we still need to keep the vehicles outside? Shawn Jasper believed if the vehicle is not actively engaged in maintenance of the park then it is not permitted under the deed. If there's a trailer doing active maintenance but simply...Chairman Luszey said when you say "active maintenance" because what we we're asking here the permit - they're there because they're actively doing something in terms of maintenance. Mr. Jasper said they personally are and this is outside the gate which is a permitted parking area. The problem is people are filling that up and you've got volunteers. In many cases working at the barn or working trails and all the maintenance equipment is in that kitchen area and to ask them to park all the way down in the lower parking area and then have to walk up, they fell like what am I doing? I'm giving all my time but now the Town is saying well we won't even reserve four parking spaces for the people who are working right next to where they're working because we don't want to ask people who are non-handicapped to walk up. They have a feeling its second class. All that's being asked is to reserve those few spaces up there and say those are four people volunteering. Clearly an area allowed under the deed to park and I think it shows respect.

Selectman Coutu was a little confused based on what you just said. You just said you were asking to reserve four parking spaces but then you talk about the nonprofit group reserving it for them. What happens if four people who have adopt-a-spots park there and they're given permits to park there because they're also volunteers and they go down to the adopt-a-spots and then the Friends of Benson's the people who work in the barn come and they say well they took all our spaces.

Jim Barnes thought that's something that the Benson Park Committee is going to have to deal with. We don't want to have a whole lot of these permits available. There are going to be times when those spots are going to be filled and people will have to go down to the main parking lot and come up. Unless we have four spaces and we only give four permits, then we're going to run into those kinds of situations.

Selectman Coutu said I've had a couple of people approach me and say to me is this going to be just for the Friends of Benson or is this going to be for anybody who volunteers in the park? I said I'm really confused. I don't know. Jim Barnes didn't think it would be necessarily for anybody who is working in the park. People who are very frequently working in the park, we have a couple of groups that are in there during the week. They're spending a couple days a week in there. Those people I would think would have a strong argument for it. People who are in there once a month or - I don't see the Committee awarding permits for those kinds of things.

Selectman Saucier asked do you know how often the four handicapped spots are used to want to take away two of them potentially. Mr. Barnes said I haven't been measuring those. Fairly frequently there's at least 1 or 2 that are being used. I don't know if all four are being used at any particular time. There are I think 5 of 7 down in the main lot near the lower entrance there that are already there.

Selectman Nichols knows as I've been back and forth by the park a lot. There should be at least 2 handicapped spots. I can understand that but they have a lot of other spots that they could have. I can't understand how you can be selective and give a pass to certain few and then it goes for months and other people that need to get in there they can't do it. They have no place to go. If they don't have a handicapped, they're not going to be able to park up there if they don't have one of these passes that you're looking to hand out. There's too many volunteers. Granted the barn people which is a non-profit, they're there all the time but they can't tie up the spots either for other people who come in to do their adopt-of-spots, who come in to volunteer for one or two little things. I'd stay outside and park in the handicapped but other people have to get in, drop things off, and then they should come out but sometimes there's no place to park. Today there were two families and they weren't handicapped but they were parked in the handicapped spot with little children and were in the park. I don't know how that can be policed. I really don't know how you can judge. Do you close your eyes and have a drawing to give these passes out? I don't know how you would do that to be fair. That's my thought.

Jim Barnes indicated if we don't have some way of arranging or providing for permits for people to park there, then it's just going to be open for anybody to park there and the volunteers will not be able to park there because the parking spaces will always be full. So they will always be in the lower lot and there is not going to be any opportunity for them to park closer. Yes there are going to be cases where we're going to have more people than parking spaces but we'll have to kind of deal with that. Maybe that's one way that we're going to have to control the number of permits that we would award or provide to the volunteers. There's no rocket science with this. We're going to have to figure out how to hand these out and how many we can reasonably hand out but if we don't put some kind of control on it, spaces are not going to be available for any of the volunteers.

Shawn Jasper thought the fact is that even if there were only 4 permitted spots or 5 however it worked out and we gave out 100 permits, at least those people would think they have the opportunity. If they come in and they see 4 or 5 other volunteers there, they're going to say oh well those people are volunteering and I understand. I missed out on the time to go below. The fact is that if there's never any opportunity for them to do that, I think that's where a great deal of frustration and people will say why should I give up so much of my time because literally there are people giving up dozens of hours a week. My feeling is it's not very much to ask the town to say at least give us an opportunity to have a parking spot where we need to be working from.

Selectman Saucier asked how many volunteers have you currently had asked for a dedicated spot or have you had any? Mr. Barnes said the Friends of Benson Park have requested several. People on the Trails Committee have asked as well. So there's maybe 4 or 5 on the Trails Committee - half a dozen probably and the Friends of Benson Park. It isn't a large number. To a large degree, Mr. Jasper said they don't overlap. There are specific times that people are working on the barn or the store is open. There are specific times that they are working on the trails and very often those times don't overlap. For those intensive uses, it's probably not much of a problem.

Just for logistical purposes, Selectman Coutu assumed that the two spaces closest to the gate is what you want to reserve for handicapped. Mr. Barnes said yes. Selectman Coutu asked is that going to be van accessible because if it is which it should be, it would have to be designed like the other two in the back. It will be van accessible? Mr. Barnes said those two spaces are van accessible now. When they put in the train station, the Highway Department relayed out these spaces and those two that are there now are van accessible. On the basis of that and looking at

how the van accessible is at the further end near the road, Selectman Coutu asked would that allow you for 3 additional spaces up there then because you would get rid of the van access area. You could conceivably get 3 spaces there. So you could conceivably have 5 spaces and 2 handicapped. Mr. Barnes said yes. Selectman Coutu said I'm fine with that. Let them fight over the parking spaces.

Selectman Nichols indicated I was there today. You talked about overlapping. There were the two that are there every Tuesday no matter what they're there on Tuesday. Then there was someone at the barn and they were parked out at the barn and I had gone there to get help to try to open the door to the office building in case they had knew it. They had said they had parked there because they didn't want to walk. They had dropped some stuff off and they were busy working in the barn and a car was parked there right next to the barn. There was no spot which these people were up there. I had parked and like I said, I had the handicapped so I was lucky. I had a handicap but the other people were using those other spots. It's going to be a big problem. It's going to be a big problem. I feel bad because I don't know what else to do. If we had more room up there at the top of the hill.

Shawn Jasper said there actually is another spot that isn't marked. There's a gate before you get to the gate which is paved. Right now that's marked as "no parking" but there's plenty of room for a vehicle in there. If that was designated, that would give us one more permitted spot. I think you have 5 spaces you're probably - there's pretty much two on maintenance. There's usually maybe 3 people. Five or 6 people to have these spaces; I don't think we're going to have an issue.

Selectman Coutu had one final question and it relates to what Selectman Nichols said. I, too, wasn't going to say it. I've gone by there and I see cars parked next to the barn. It's an ongoing problem. Do they have the code to the gate? Do we have to put another lock and change the code again? Jim Barnes thought what we're going to have to do is start regularly changing that to make sure - because we are allowing some people in to go either to bring in equipment, drop it off and come back out, but the number gets shared.

Selectman Coutu asked are we not supposed to allow anybody to go in with a vehicle unless it's a municipal vehicle or a State vehicle going in to do work.

Selectman McGrath asked how polices. Selectman Coutu said nobody. Selectman McGrath said we're worried about parking for a park that there's no policing by the State who would revoke the lease on the land if they found...is that right? I mean isn't that what you told us the last time that if we didn't do certain things according to the lease agreement that they would revoke the lease? Shawn Jasper said it is possible but I think the fact is to use the interior is just wrong for parking. I don't think there is a problem potentially for somebody. They are actively going in, unloading at the barn, unloading equipment at the other area that's actively doing something. I don't think that's a problem. Potentially it is but certainly just to say all right I'm going to park and now you're parking and now - well I've been parked there for 5 hours and I leave and somebody backs up and runs over somebody, I think that becomes a bigger problem because while I think you can defend that you needed to go in there to actively unload, I don't think you can defend the fact that you've created that as simply a parking lot.

Selectman Saucier asked what is their loading and unloading consistently over and over. Jim Barnes noted there's a couple of things with the elephant barn. One is that they'll be bringing in equipment or materials during their renovation projects that are ongoing. The other is they do have the little store in there. So they'll be bringing in supplies, things that they're selling - water, snacks and things like that. Things that probably are fairly heavy. It's not going to be easy to lug them up the hill.

Selectman Saucier asked is any of it something that we can have there on a standard basis that will stop it so they don't have to consistently go in, bring the stuff in, and then it will stop them from being parked there. So whatever that's not like water and snacks that they have to bring in for their renovation projects depending on what it is. Jim Barnes said its equipment, lumber, and things like that. So they'll be needing things like that inside the building.

Chairman Luszey sensed that we're okay with the requests of doing this. Selectman Coutu said I don't have a problem with this. I have a problem with trying to get it enforced. Chairman Luszey's next question is do we need to create a town ordinance that allows us to enforce it because otherwise it's a Benson's sticker if you will and it's unenforceable. There's no teeth behind it because if we make it an ordinance then the penalties become part of the fine structure that they could be fined and if they're in violation. I would entertain a motion that we go ahead with the request and turn it into a town ordinance and have public hearings and all that.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to create a town ordinance that creates the permitted parking for Benson and the establishment of up to 5 spaces become permitted parking on the top lot, carried 5-0.

H. Benson Park - paving of parking lot

Chairman Luszey recognized Benson Park Chairman Jim Barnes.

Jim Barnes explained this was brought up at the last meeting that proposal to consider paving the main parking lot. Currently when you go in there on a busy Saturday or Sunday, what you'll find is rows of cars by each edge of the parking lot and then one row of cars in the middle. So it's just where people start parking and lining up. There's really enough room in there to have two rows of cars in the middle but there's nothing to guide people when they're coming in and parking there about where the parking spaces could be. In the past, we've done some things about using lime to mark parking spaces and so on. While it's not very expensive, it does require some time from the town employees, the Highway Department, are the ones that usually do the marking and the first rain storm it's gone. So it's not something that will last or be very long. What we're looking at is the possibility of paving and striping the pavement to give people hints about where the parking spaces are. By doing that, you can get probably a third more parking spaces than what is being effectively used there today on any random day. So there's about 150 cars that are getting in there right now at any one time and by having essentially the second row in the middle you could get another 30 to 40 cars in there.

Selectman Nichols asked how much would that cost please. Selectman Coutu said I have all the information. I'm sorry I don't have anything available for the packets. I had asked the Chairman to put this very ambitious project on the agenda. I've spoken at length over the past month or month and a half with Kevin Burns relative to the potential paving of the parking lot. If any of you have watched the meetings fine, you understand the information. If you haven't, I'm just going to rehash some of things that the Chair of the Benson Committee just presented to us is that there's no rhyme nor reason for the way a lot of the people are parking in the parking lot right now. They're scattered all over the place. What would be a contiguous face to face parking up the middle condenses the area so that there's more space on the outer perimeter for additional cars. Now people are not doing face to face. Some are pulling straight in. Some are pulling in at angles. There's a mish mosh of cars parked all over the place and like I said, there's no rhyme nor reason for the way people are parking. It's been an increasing problem because the park has still not - I'm sure that both Speaker Jasper and Mr. Barnes would attest to the fact that we probably haven't reached our peak potential for that park. It's becoming more and more popular as people go out there and praise the value of the park to them as a place that a family must go and see not just once or twice but on an infrequent basis.

Selectman Coutu said the total cost to pave the parking lot would be \$85,000. Now Kevin went in and looked at it and from top to bottom we're talking \$85,000 and that would include lining it and he would try to stretch out the paving to see if there are some corners of the area where they could expand the parking lot a little bit and add some additional spaces. Kevin said that he has \$20,000 available in his paving account and he would be willing to apply that towards the 85 would bring the cost down to \$65,000. The \$65,000 would provide us with approximately as Mr. Barnes stated a possibility for 180 or more visible spaces that would be available as opposed to the 120 to 150 is a more realistic depending on how neatly the cars are parked. I think it's time and I know Selectman McGrath you and I have had a discussion very recently about committing money and how much money would need to be committed to the park without getting into all the other stuff we talked about. We talked about Benson Park specifically. Personally I think this is a worthwhile investment. I think that it's time that if nothing else the entrance of that park should be cleaned up and I think having a well hot topped - and I trust Kevin and his crew will do an outstanding job. He would like to get it done sooner rather than later. As a matter of fact, he was hoping to get it done before school gets out. I suspect after especially reading the next item on the agenda which is the revenue and the expenditure account that we could certainly find the additional \$65,000 and get this done once and for all. That would be my recommendation and I may have another one next time we meet. This would be my first recommendation is that we make the commitment to get this done and Kevin maybe he and I maybe working on a plan on how we're going to police this area on weekends. I'm recommending that this Board of Selectmen approve the expenditure of \$85,000 to repave and reline the parking lot will be done in its entirety with \$20,000 coming from the monies that were available in his paving account and the additional \$65,000 to come from surplus.

Selectman McGrath said I'm not going to support this. I think that there are far too many other things that we should be spending money on rather than paving a parking lot at Benson's Park. If the Friends of Benson's or others want to get together and donate money and donate time to do that great but that's not all that we're being asked to do. We're being asked to commit town employees to do the work and that takes away from other functions that they can be doing and should be doing. That cost we don't know what that is because we don't have an estimate of the time that it's going to take, or the machines that they're going to be using, or any of the equipment or materials that they're going to be using. I'm not going to support this. Also I think that the voters if we want to spend close to \$100,000 just to pave the parking lot in addition to what was it a half a million dollars or so to move that train station, the work that's going to need to be done on the Haselton Barn that we even haven't started yet, I just think that this is - I'd rather have the voters take a whack at it. If they approve it, then I'd be willing to support it but not until then.

Selectman Nichols indicated I can't support it either for the simple reason of the money. I think our roads can use the extra money. They really can. I worry about the Haselton Barn because that is this Board's duty to keep that from getting any worse. I don't know what we can do but if we have the money, that's our responsibility. That is not

Benson Park responsibility. It is the town responsibility. That is going to be a horrendous amount of money. I can't see spending it to pave a parking lot so I can't support it either.

My two cents. Chairman Luszey said I do support this. I drive by there almost every day and the parking lot is usually full. I think we do owe balancing all of the needs of the town. This is one of those. We have been very fortunate at the level of volunteers and the hours that they spent in developing that park. We have not really invested town resources heavily into that park. I don't see us spending an exorbitant amount of resources in there either. Trying to get in and out of there at best sometimes when it's crowded is a trick. It is because people are parked in a very unorganized fashion. What happens at least what I've observed is people end up parking on the entrance road. They start parking up by the dog park. There is even some people parking in the senior center and then up along the road which I believe is contributing to a much larger issue and that is a safety problem. I think given the winter that we had and talking with Kevin about this, I think we should take the opportunities that are presented to us to do a little extra without any significant cost to the town. I think this is one that would greatly enhance that park and the asset of the town.

Selectman Nichols noted you mentioned volunteers. I've been a volunteer at that park since day one. I'm like everyone else. I love the park. I kept no qualms about doing things for it. I love everything about it but that money I can see going elsewhere. We have roads, we have some streets that need extra and I'd rather see the money go there. I don't know how the town would feel about us taking money from maybe paving their street then paving a parking lot at the park. I'm having a hard time with that. I really am. I volunteer so I can't say I don't. I go by there every day. I go in there every day. I go around there every day. I can't walk the park any more or very little. It does a little but not much but I am there pretty much every single day. I've gone down into the parking lot myself. Granted if it's striped, they learn because they did it last year. The striped it and people parked where the stripes were and then after that they came in and they parked that way even without the stripes gone in the rain. I just feel as though the town needs more things than they do a parking lot at Benson's.

Selectman Saucier stated I will say I don't know which way I would go at this time. I think I would need to know where the additional monies would come from and what we would potentially be taking from to put to this before I could make an educated decision on it.

Chairman Luszey indicated we'd take it out of surplus to start with right now. Steve Malizia asked what does that mean. You don't have an appropriation. You have to take it from some line item in the budget. So we haven't spent contingency so that's \$50,000 sitting right there. That's the biggest piece I can think of off the top of my head. Then it would probably be a bunch of smaller accounts. I think there's some money at Benson impact fees from Shepherds Hill. I'm not sure of the number. There might be a couple of thousand dollars. I think that could maybe be used but I've got to check what the rules say about that piece of money but you'd have to go to the Planning Board to get that released. So there's pieces you could cobble together with the biggest piece coming from contingency and then you have \$20,000 from Kevin. That's \$70,000 right there. You're getting close. You could find money here or there. Again I'd want to check the Benson Shepherd's Hill account because I think there's impact fees that you can use for the Benson Park.

Selectman Coutu asked would it be difficult to find \$65,000. Steve Malizia questioned is it difficult. It comes from monies you haven't expended this year. Appropriations that you're not spending. There is no other surplus for lack of - when he says surplus, you have to take it from money you haven't spent. Selectman Coutu noted school gets out in a month and Kevin would like to get this done in a month. (inaudible) Kevin says he'd like to get it done before school gets out and the park gets real crowded. He doesn't want to have to close the park to do the hot topping on a busy summer day. Mr. Malizia assumed he's going to have to close the park though at some point even if it's not a busy summer day. It's going to be maybe a busy day.

Chairman Luszey said I do know in our labor lines there will be some unspent monies because we've had people leave that we didn't have an employee right then and there. Steve Malizia noted but then people switch insurance. It's not always that simple. I'm looking at big chunks. I'm not trying to find 50 little pieces.

Selectman Saucier said it seems like there's big chunks that are available and it's not going to drastically affect other people. At the end of the year if we don't spend contingency, Mr. Malizia indicated it would revert to surplus. That's not earmarked from anything right now that I am aware of.

Selectman Nichols stated that money would even go to make the fence around the Haselton Barn where people won't be - that's our property. I don't care how you look at it, we own that. If something happens to that, it comes back to us from the State because we said we would take care of that. Well the Board did. So I'm a member of the Board. I'm thinking of that too. They said in order to protect it to put a fence around it. Well that money could maybe go to put a fence around it. I don't know. It just seems like it's an awful lot of money going to one area when there's too many other things. That Haselton Barn like I said is going to be horrendous when it comes down to it. It's going to need a new roof. It needs to be sured up. It needs windows. It needs siding. It needs everything. Poor little building, huge building actually, is a mess. I go by that every day too.

Chairman Luszey thought the Haselton Barn is a unique situation where I believe we won't do a whole lot with that based on the historical nature of that building. Is that correct? Given the cost of rehabbing it under the historical standards, we'll keep it from falling in. We'll keep it secured and that's pretty much it. Is that a correct statement?

Shawn Jasper thought there are probably limited options that you have. I don't think there are any uses beyond. When it was first discussed, there was talk of the very lower level being perhaps a museum for the old firefighting equipment that primarily belongs to the Relief Association - trucks, equipment. There was talk that there was talk of perhaps a farm museum and the rest of it collecting memorabilia from what's remaining of the farms around town and having things like that. Beyond that to actually put it to use for heat and all that, there probably is not a lot of potential for use like that. You are correct.

Not to speak for or against what's being proposed but to say one thing that hasn't been talked about, Mr. Jasper said there is an ongoing maintenance cost to that parking lot in its current condition because of the fact it's on a slope, it's subject to frequent washouts. The other thing like when I was a young man, there was a lot of gravel pits in town and young men with pickup trucks would go around in the gravel pits and do donuts. I see that has not become the favorite place for people to go and do donuts in the parking lot which tears it up and then has to be repaired every time that's done. That is a cost that you are incurring now by not paving it.

Selectman Saucier had a follow up question. It's only the washout thing. Is there going to be any secondary maintenance to the paving for washout? Will it cause any deterioration to it? Chairman Luszey said blacktop as far as surface at that point.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Saucier, to approve the paving at Benson Park existing lot for the amount not to exceed \$85,000 with \$20,000 coming from the 2015/2016 paving account and \$65,000 to come from unspent contingency money, carried 3-2. Selectman Nichols and Selectman McGrath opposed.

I. Revenues and Expenditures

Chairman Luszey recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia noted that's a segway to budget to revenues and expenditures. We are almost through the year. We have two months left. We should be at linear 83 percent spent. Not everything spends in a direct linear basis. When I looked at it on this report, it appears that we are still in pretty decent shape. Again we'll have some pockets of money which you've just committed the \$5,000 of that money to this effort. I don't see any other areas where I think in the end it will affect the bottom line and we overrun. That's just looking at it. Some percentages are high because we encumber money. We've encumbered all the paving. We encumbered all the trash. We make a commitment at the beginning of the year even if we haven't spent it. It shows up. It skews our percentage higher but bottom line we should be okay when I take a look at this. Water and sewer - they're separate funds so they have their own revenue line items. You can't argue with the revenue for the motor vehicles. I mean we're at 95.7 percent. We could be \$300,000 - \$400,000 over the budget. Now that reverts to surplus. You can't just spend that but it will be available for a future purpose, to reduce the tax rate, keep the town's finance sured up. That's been done really well there. Even ambulance we should turn up pretty well because this is 9 months not 10 months of the ambulance. We're always a month behind. We reconcile when we get to the audit so we should be a little bit over there. From a revenue perspective, the town has done well this year. From an expense perspective, we didn't have a harsh winter. We didn't have a major fuel increase. We're in decent shape in my opinion.

Selectman McGrath said we've got a month and a half left. Steve Malizia noted this is through the end of April so we have 2 months - May and June. Even Town Poor we still have a pretty decent balance left in it. So we're meeting our welfare obligations but it doesn't look like any danger of going over. Winter months are the toughest because of heat and that sort of thing. At this point, we'll probably be going over rental vouchers and what not. I don't anticipate that being an issue either with the remainder of the year. I think overall we're in decent shape this year.

Selectman Nichols didn't know we had pistol permits. Mr. Malizia said if you want to carry a concealed pistol, you have to get a permit and you pay for that permit. It's not a lot of money. Selectman Saucier noted its \$10 for 5 years. Mr. Malizia said but you still nonetheless get a permit.

10. OTHER BUSINESS/REMARKS BY THE SELECTMEN

Selectman Nichols - I went to the New Hampshire Municipal Association that was a hold day with the Right-To-Know Law. That was wonderful. I got more out of that. This is like a bible to me now. I'm constantly at it. I did find out one thing that I didn't know before. I guess I didn't know it. Jim Battis was at the meeting too. He said at the Conservation meeting last night that he didn't know. He had asked that if you do a walk around, it is considered a meeting and you have to post it and you have to take minutes. I didn't know this until I went to that meeting. To me that was enlightening. You have to have a quorum and they had so many different things. I mean we were all over the book but I had taken it home now and I'm highlighting all over the place. This is my latest reading material. I'm great for reading at night. I like it very much. I enjoyed the day. It kept me awake. I thought I might get a little tired. I think

toward the end I think we had an hour left and there were 24 of us. I'm writing are we crazy. Why are we here but we stayed and it was good. I enjoyed every second of it. I really did. It was way better than I thought it would be and I enjoyed my night last night at the Conservation Committee. I had never been to that one before. So that was a first. I enjoyed it. That's all I have right now. Thank you.

Selectman Saucier - I went to my first Budget Committee meeting the other night. Everyone was very nice to me and they were welcoming. I wanted to thank everyone for that. I went to the Right-To-Know day that NHMA put on as well. I learned a lot from it as well but it is not my new reading material. It is my reading material when I need to brush up on something or when someone asks a question. That is it.

Selectman Coutu - Nothing except to ask that you will please on the next agenda a discussion on the monies that are going to be realized as a result of the sale of town property. I want to make a couple of recommendations. If you'd put that on the agenda, I'd appreciate it and thank you.

Selectman McGrath - I don't have anything other than to inform the Board - Selectman Coutu knows about it. I attended Brad Seabury's funeral yesterday. They held a committal service on his birthday to commemorate his life. I attended that. That's all that I have to report.

Selectman Luszey - I just have a couple items. The Fire Department renovations - the bids are still out. I actually thought they would be back this week and I did check with the Fire Chief. They're due back June 4th. So we should see something at the June 10th meeting for approving the rest of the actual renovations. The demolition work is done and so that's actually moving along quite well. Again to the folks that are watching, the work is on the inside of the building. It's not going to be visible with the exception of the doors when they replace the doors on the outside of the building.

- Benson Park support attendant/park ranger to collect dues at entrance

I'd like to bring up Benson Park again one more time. In terms of having it become somewhat self-sustaining. It gets that to your point Selectman McGrath about putting town monies into it. I think there's a way that we can start having that park help support itself and that is through charging an annual fee for entrance to the park, or a daily rate, or a weekend rate something to that affect. Also I believe we're at the point in time where if we should do something like that, we're going to need personnel to manage that. I've been giving it some thought and Selectman Coutu you can bring it back. I'd like to know what the Benson Committee thinks about creating a park ranger/attendant. There's many ways that we can do that without actually hiring a full time staff to do that. I think someone like myself that we want to be snow birds, I think there's opportunities that we can hire a part time person that would be very willing to work what I would call the prime time season there - the spring, summer, and fall - and then we wouldn't need that person for the winter hours to collect the dues if we should establish some there but also to go through the park and manage what's going on within the park. I think we're at that point. Food for thought.

Selectman Coutu added that the Benson Park Committee has also been having that discussion and they have to weigh very carefully the cost versus what the income would be, how we would have to collect it, who's going to monitor it, who's going to enforce it, giving someone a weekly pass, an annual pass, reserve a parking spot for them. People might think well I paid a fee now I can't even get in. It's overcrowded. So there are a lot of logistical questions that need to be answered. However in terms of having a part time/park ranger/supervisor, Mr. Burns and I are in the process of having that discussion now. There is going to be a subcommittee of the Benson Park Committee which they just asked me if I would participate in to discuss that particular proposal.

Chairman Luszey looked forward to seeing that and hopefully for this budget process that we do that for next year.

Selectman Nichols didn't understand the charging. The town people pay enough in taxes. I can't see them paying to go into a free park. Selectman Coutu said it wouldn't be the town. We can't charge NH residents. Only out of State. Selectman Nichols asked how are you going to watch that. You have a guard who runs around and he's going to check little badges? When we first opened the park, Selectman at the time - the Speaker of the House - he had a fence put around the whole park. That night after it was done, people across the street went over and took a whole big section of the fence out and they went in that way. People went in and this is what's going to happen. You cannot keep people out. How can one person even two police that park and say you get out because you're not a member, or you didn't pay your dues get out? I don't know how they're going to do that. I find it very hard. You don't see the other parks. It's only State parks usually charge admission.

Chairman Luszey said State parks charge. They have the same issues we do. It's not insurmountable. For all intense and purposes, Selectman Coutu said we are a State park. Selectman Nichols said it doesn't say we're a State park. It is not written. Steve Malizia commented it's a national park at this point. Selectman Coutu said we are a State park. We're governed by all State park rules and regulations. Selectman Nichols agreed but it does not say that we are State park. Chairman Luszey said, again, that's something the Benson Committee is going to have to wrestle with on how we do this. I think we can do it. I'm not asking us to approve it tonight but I think it's something

that we should be working on as a Board on how we help offset that cost. It's going to get greater as time goes on. I don't see that becoming less.

Chairman Luszey said the second item is the 9/11 Memorial. I'm really going to be talking to you Selectman Coutu. You and there was a number of other people in the Fire Department that spearheaded that whole creation of that memorial. The middle school brings their class up there every year. I don't know if it's the whole class or bits and pieces of it and they go through how it got there and the whole story. I have a request that you do a video to tell that story up there. Selectman Coutu commented gladly. Chairman Luszey hoped you would answer that. I'll tell you that the kids that have gone through that with you and Captain Morin come away with a whole different sense of what it's all about. I think that if we could put that to video tape and offer that to the schools to be able to show to the kids that can't make it, it would be a great thing. That's my request of you and thank you.

Selectman Coutu said I'll talk to Captain Morin and we'll work on it.

11. NONPUBLIC SESSION

Motion by Selectman McGrath, seconded by Selectman Nichols, to enter Nonpublic Session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (c) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a fee, fine, or other levy, if based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant; and (d) Consideration of the acquisition, sale, or lease of real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general community, carried 5-0.

Chairman Luszey entered Nonpublic Session at 9:43 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 Luszey entered open session at 10:23 p.m.

Motion by Selectman Nichols, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to deny the hardship request for Map 182, Lot 39 - 5 Reed Street, carried 5-0.

Motion by Selectmen Coutu, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to sell 11 Summer Avenue to Robert Pace, Jr., in the amount of \$72,000, carried 5-0.

Motion by Selectmen Nichols, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to sell 17 and 19 Merrimack Street to Robert Pace, Jr., or his assigned company in the amount of \$138,000, carried 5-0.

Motion by Selectmen Coutu, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to sell 14 Adam Drive to Robert Pace, Jr., in the amount of \$71,000, carried 5-0.

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

12. ADJOURNMENT

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

Recorded by HCTV and transcribed by Donna Graham, Recorder.

Ted Luszey, Chairman

Marilyn McGrath, Vice-Chairman

Roger E. Coutu, Selectman

Pat Nichols, Selectman

Angela Saucier, Selectman