

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
Minutes of the March 22, 2016 Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER - by Chairman Coutu the meeting of March 22, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at Town Hall.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - led by Angela Saucier.
3. ATTENDANCE

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

Staff/Others: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator; Donna Graham, Executive Assistant; Police Chief Jason Lavoie; Kevin Burns, Road Agent; Chief Rob Buxton; Cptn. DiNapoli; Len Lathrop; Normand Martin; ACO Jana McMillan; Dave Morin; Maryellen Davis

4. PUBLIC INPUT

Chairman Coutu asked does anyone in the audience wish to address the Board on any issue which the Board has control of at this time. If so, please step forward and upon doing so state your name and address for the record.

Ted Trost, 63 Rangers Drive. Just to be clear, I'm not here representing anybody else but myself. I have a couple of points that I want to make. Some of them are suggestions and some of them are just kind of open ended and hopefully someone here with their great wisdom will have some answers now or down the road.

The first thing Mr. Trost wanted to talk about is Benson Park. Like most people in town, I think it's one of the town's greatest assets. On a recent visit, I noticed that more than half the licensed plates in the parking lot were from out of State. I certainly recognize the value of having a park that attracts good people. Some of whom may choose Hudson to live in. One of my concerns is the fact that Hudson taxpayers are spending so much money on a park used by so many outsiders that benefit from our tax dollars. I recognize that there are stipulations that limit our options as far as what you can do but I'm certainly hoping that something can be done so that everyone who uses the park helps split some of the bill. That's one of the ones that I don't have an answer for. I'm proud of how many of the improvements came about in the park not by spending taxpayer money entirely but through the hard work and fundraising efforts of our residents. I'm concerned that some of the improvements that have been mentioned for the future may serve to attract problems such as homeless people and drug users. I think the best way to do things smart in the future is to come up with a Benson Park master plan. Has something like this been discussed? I think we need to know what the vision for the park is and what we want it to look like. What does finish look like? We need a list of the changes that we need to achieve division. We have a wonderful dog park, a 9/11 Memorial, a museum, a gift shop, and the talk of restrooms in the future. I think each of those on their own are great but I'm kind of wondering where is the future going? How much more development of this park? I think some of the beauty of this park and the parks that are left undeveloped and I'm concerned how much farther we're going to go and how much more we can expect and of course the costs for all the changes that we're seeing in the future. Certainly I think a master plan would be great to look at.

Ted Trost noted the next thing I want to talk about is the fire station vote. Of course I'm disappointed with the vote of the new fire station. I'm of the opinion that the best course is to establish a capital reserve fund for building a new fire station. I'm fully aware that if we were to put two warrant articles in - one for building a fire station as the ones were written in the past at the same time as we have one in their established capital reserve fund probably contingent on the failure of the other, I think that probably would make it even more difficult for the original one to pass. I think though that unless something changes, any future votes are unlikely to pass and I think the best way forward is to make future warrant articles to build a fire station more likely if we can throw money that we've saved up over the next couple of years from a capital reserve fund into the mix. I think the right way to go forward is to establish a capital reserve fund for building a fire station. That's all I have.

Selectman Coutu wanted to first say that our representative to the Benson Park Committee is Selectman Nichols. I'm going to let you address it. I know that at the last meeting they had extensive discussion about out of State visitors and what we can and can't do. I have not and maybe you have and I'll let you elaborate heard anything about developing a master plan. I know that they're pecking away at it but I don't know that there's a master plan. I'll leave it to you to give an overview.

Selectman Nichols said as far as I know there was at the beginning a master plan of everything that was going to be happening in the park. They were talking the other night about all the vehicles in the park on the weekend. That happens on a nice day too so it's still crowded. They were talking about having two people at the gate collecting money to alleviate some of the cost. People come into the park and you have only two people working on a weekend, they're going to come in another day or another way. I know they said that they can't get in another way but yes they can. They've done it before. They even cut holes in fences - strips of fences to get in that way. They are going to discuss this in the future. Dick Empey did say that instead of trying to figure out

how more parking could be done in the park is once it's full, it's full. You can't get in there if it's full. He said people come in, stay a couple of hours, and leave and then other people come in and take those spots. Once it's striped, people will learn how to park again. Right now, they're just parking everywhere and anywhere. That's what's happening with the overcrowding right now. I don't know if we could stop anyone else from coming into our park. It's all well and good but you can't say it's only for Hudson because the State says it's for all people. What are you going to do say no you can't come in? This is Sunday and we're not allowing you in. I don't know what the answer is going to be to that. That's big discussions coming up and they're going to address this issue in the upcoming meetings. They also said that they will also look for another warrant article for more money because people said they were very generous this time and they want more money for the water, sewer, and bathrooms. They said where the people were so generous this time, next year they'll have another warrant article for that. I wish it could be more.

Ted Trost commented that's great to hear. Look I think obviously the issue is one without an easy answer for sure. However, I think having a master plan - of course I fully expected once the taxpayers give them some money, they're going to come back and ask for more. Without a master plan, I would be very much opposed to voting for something like that. I think we need to have a vision on where that park is going and I would encourage this Board to do what it can within its power to get the Benson Park Committee to put together a master plan before the next election.

Chairman Coutu said that was the first subject and I know that as Selectman Nichols has alluded to they have been having serious discussions about what to do with the overcrowding. I know in the last conversation they had relative to the parking, I think Kevin how many parking spaces are there when it's properly line - 220 something like that? Kevin Burns thought yes its right around that. Chairman Coutu noted the way people have been parking they can only get 150 cars in. Instead of going face to face, people are parking straight up in the middle. So that eliminates all of that parking which is considerable amount. How long does the striping last? Somebody said it had to be done 2 to 3 times a year? Kevin Burns said once we get a heavy rain it's gone. It's chalk. Chairman Coutu stated the cost of hot topping is I believe over \$100,000. Whether or not people would want to spend that kind of money to hot top a parking lot at Benson Park. However, I'm going to trust that the conversation has begun. I don't think there's been much discussion about a master plan and I think that perhaps Selectman Nichols or whoever the representative or the liaison is going to be after the committee assignments are made to Benson Park might want to take that message back to the Benson Park Committee. I'm sure I can speak for the Board we're all as concerned as you are. It's a beautiful park. It was voted one of the top 5 places to visit in the State of New Hampshire this year. That bodes very well for the beauty of the park and how it's been accepted by the general public.

With regard to the fire station, Selectman Coutu noted let me just say this. I thought very seriously about it. I've had no conversation with anybody. I haven't had a conversation with the Fire Chief about what our next step should be with regard to the fire station. What concerns me about it as a taxpayer is that I definitely see the need - one. Two - the longer we put this off, the more this is going to cost us. There's an automatic escalating clause when you put construction jobs off. How much money you want to put into a \$2 million project in escrow for a couple of years won't even put a dent in the figure. I think that I am personally as a member of the Board of Selectmen, I'm going to sit down with the Fire Chief and other members can do the same and express to him what my opinions are and then let him decide what course of action he wants to take and then let him come back to the Board and let us know which direction he would like to go into. Then the Board can decide whether or not we think it's worth proceeding any further.

Selectman Luszey said I actually have thought about this since the election and I've talked with the Fire Chief a little bit about it. I think the fire station should be on the agenda every month and not just a couple of weeks before the budget season. We're over \$3 million now based on we didn't make it last year. We didn't make it this year. You add 10 percent for both years conservatively we're over \$3 million now. If we can't get it passed on Lowell Road, then where do we build it? Where is it the right next place? Do we sell that piece of property to help fund the next piece of property? Those are the conversations I think that we should be having right along throughout this year to come to a proposal for this next budget pass.

Selectman Coutu didn't disagree. That might be a good approach. I know that I've been trying to think of more creative ways to sell it to deal and address the problem. I see it as a perceived problem of traffic. I didn't like the marketing efforts the past two years. I was very vocal about the one two years ago. I've said nothing about the one this year. I think it was, again, poorly marketed but I think that we need to be more involved if we're going to market it properly. The Board definitely has to be involved and as you stated, I think just bringing it up during budget season, and then we move onto other things, and then two weeks before an election we try to slam the voters with it on Hudson Cable TV is just not an effective approach. I agree with you. I think it's something that we need to discuss more thoroughly and we need to reassess the costs right now. I think that's a plan that you should be working on Chief trying to ascertain what is the new cost going to be as a result of having put this off two years. What would it be realistically next year? I think that's going to be a decision the Board is going to have to make whether or not we send them out. I don't want him going out on a fool's errand if the Board doesn't unanimously support a fire station whether it's there or somewhere else.

Chairman Coutu asked any other questions or comments. Ted I appreciate your coming forward and hopefully we'll get things going on both fronts. Thank you. Does anyone else wish to address the Board on matters that we have control? Name and address for the record please.

Donald Couillard 14 Fulton Street. The bottom of my driveway there's a pad of pavement probably 30 by 45 feet. I had a discussion with my neighbor and he said it might be his. It might be both of ours. It might be the town. Kevin came up today and looked at it and said it was ours. I've lived there 15 years and I've never touched it as far as anything. My neighbor has never touched it. It's caving in everywhere. I told him okay if it's ours, or if it's my neighbors, whoever it might be I said this town has torn it up, has made patches all over it. I got pictures. It's caved in everywhere where my driveway is starting to crack and slide because that part is smashed. I've got grandchildren going down my driveway. It's a total mess. There's huge potholes now and it's all concaved due to the town where they're cutting it up for the water department, gas department, whoever it might be. I asked him if it can be paved and he said it can't. It just so happens tonight that you guys were having your meeting so I said I'll come here and state my case. It's not just the end of the pavement. The rest of the road is kind of a mess too.

Good evening. Kevin Burns noted it's kind of a unique situation because his driveway at 14 ties into the driveway at 16 and then ties into the street. The area that's all broken up and sagging, the asphalt is extremely old but it is without doubt 100 percent on private property. I don't see any reason why the town should repair it.

Chairman Coutu asked is it outside of the 10 foot buffer. Kevin Burns said yes. It's out of the right way completely. Chairman Coutu asked they have adjoining driveways that slope. Mr. Burns said his driveway comes down the hill and ties into the driveway at 16. Then the area that they want repaired is outside of the right of way. Then there's a right of way paved into the street. The area he wants isn't just where you tie your driveway into the street. It's actually off our property.

Donald Couillard said you people had no problem coming in and cutting patches out of it all these years and makeshift and the patches and it's all caved in. Why should I have to pay for something that you people tore up to begin with?

Selectman Coutu wanted to ask Don a question relative to that because I want to make sure it's clear in my mind anyway. You said that the town went in - was it the town or was it utility companies went in and cut that up? Mr. Couillard said I have no idea. I've been there for 15 years. It's just been patches after patches. I don't know who cuts it up. I don't pay attention. All I know is that it ends up getting cut. The pictures that you see you can clearly see they cut lines over the years and are just falling apart.

Chairman Coutu asked do you have water and sewer. Do you have gas? You have all three? Don Couillard said yes. Chairman Coutu said typically Mr. Burns when we're within a right of way, we always have repaired it. I know that you have and I know that there's been a couple of problems lately and you've gone and you've addressed them. Mr. Burns is our Road Agent and he goes out and he assesses various complaints on a daily basis and he said he went out there and based on what he could see, it was clearly not on our property. If a utility company went in whether it's the water, or the sewer, or the gas if they went in and they cut it up and you don't know who it is, we have no way of knowing who it is and if he goes in onto private property and starts doing things like this, we're going to get calls from everybody saying well come and do mine. We can't go on private property and repair property that doesn't belong to us.

Chairman Coutu asked how long have you been the Road Agent. Kevin Burns said since 1998. Chairman Coutu said when we have to make a cut as a town on a person's driveway, we typically fix it don't we. Mr. Burns noted yes we do. Mr. Couillard said it's not that it wasn't fixed it's just that over the years it's just fallen apart again. I pay taxes here. I've never asked anybody for anything in this town - nothing. I'm asking for one thing to have that piece fixed. Chairman Coutu indicated there's liability issues when we send our town employees on private property. Mr. Couillard said I don't have any problems about having it fixed and I'm sure my neighbor doesn't have any problems either.

Selectman Luszey said its more than liabilities, it's unethical for us to be redoing private property period. We do not ask the taxpayers to appropriate money to fix private property driveways. That's not in our budget. We don't have permission to spend those funds to do that. That's the bottom line as far as I'm concerned. If it's outside our right of way, we're not responsible for it. I would love for Kevin to come in and pave my driveway. I know that's not happening. Mr. Couillard said I don't consider it my driveway. Selectman Luszey noted if it's outside of our easement, it's not ours and I would consider maybe you talking to your abutter whose driveway it sounds like it is.

Don Couillard asked how do I find out who's is it. Selectman Luszey said to check to your deed. You deed would have the covenants of who's responsible for what and if it's a shared driveway, unfortunately it's a shared cost between you and your neighbor.

Chairman Coutu asked is there anyone else who wishes to address the Board at this time. Seeing none.

5. RECOGNITIONS, NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

- a) Resignation of Patricia Dubay as a member of the Conservation Commission

Chairman Coutu stated if you looked at your packet this evening, you'll notice that there is a letter of resignation from Patricia Dubay. A letter of resignation from the Conservation Commission and I will entertain a motion.

*Motion by Selectman Nichols, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to accept the resignation of Patricia Dubay as a member of the Conservation Commission with the Board's thanks and appreciation, carried 5-0.*

6. CONSENT ITEMS

Chairman Coutu asked does anyone on Board member wish to remove any item for separate consideration.

Selectman McGrath asked to remove item C. 1.

Selectman Nichols noted under calendar 4/20 - Senior Affairs -they're going to move their meeting every three months. Instead of having it every month, they're going to move it to every 3 months. Selectman Luszey commented "wow". Chairman Coutu noted that's what I say too. We're not going to do a master plan with a meeting every 3 months. I watched the meeting when they decided now that you brought that my attention. They're more of an advisory and there's not much to advise when it's running smoothly. You're saying that this meeting will not be held? Selectman Nichols said no that one won't be.

Selectman Luszey said if it's going that smoothly because I was part of and so weren't you the establishment of this committee for the purpose of getting the senior center up and running. Given that we have a coordinator now, it maybe time that this committee really is no longer needed. You may want to bring that back at the next meeting and ask them that.

Selectman Nichols indicated that's up to you. You can let me know definitely what you want if I'm still there.

Selectman Luszey said I would look to get input from them. Given where we are and what's going on, it maybe time that its usefulness has run its course. Just like the Solid Waste Committee evolved into the Recycling Committee which evolved into the Sustainability Committee. Life is going on. It's changing.

Selectman Nichols noted I am the liaison and I will bring that back.

Chairman Coutu said the meeting on 4/20 will not be held. So we'll amend that immediately and just remove that item.

*Motion by Selectman Nichols, seconded by Selectman Saucier, to approve consent items A, B, C, 2, 3, and 4, D, E and F as noted or appropriate, carried 5-0.*

A. Assessing Items

- 1) 2015 Abatement - Map 106, Lot 6 - 5 Twin Meadow Drive, w/recommendation to approve
- 2) 2015 Abatement - Map 152, Lot 41 - 26 Copeland Drive, w/recommendation to deny
- 3) Requalification of Elderly Exemptions - Map 136, Lot 006 - 5 York Road; Map 156, Lot 008, Sub 012 - 26 Amanda Drive; Map 147, Lot 017, Sub 026 - 8 Lexington Court; Map 216, Lot 018, Sub 010 - 17A Holly Lane; Map 229, Lot 026 - 23 Rena Avenue, w/recommendation to approve re-qualifications
- 4) Requalification of Disabled Exemptions - Map 182, Lot 171 - 13 Second Street; Map 197, Lot 058 - 14 Winnhaven Drive; Map 111, Lot 047, Sub 002 - 158B Robinson Road, w/recommendation to approve re-qualifications
- 5) Elderly Exemptions - Map 147, Lot 017, Sub 007 - 37 Lexington Court; Map 147, Lot 017, Sub 001 - 49 Lexington Court; Map 136, Lot 009 - 3 McCrady Drive; Map 228, Lot 046 - 11 Rena Avenue; Map 204, Lot 006, Sub 941 - 941 Fox Hollow Drive; Map 156, Lot 005, Sub 007 - 11B Doveton Lane, w/recommendation to grant
- 6) Veteran Tax Credits - Map 191, Lot 170 - 3 Nevens Street; Map 149, Lot 001, Sub 091 - 29 Scottsdale Drive; Map 129, Lot 030 - 27 Adam Drive; Map 122, Lot 023 - 10 Circle Drive, w/recommendation to grant
- 7) Disabled Exemption - Map 175, Lot 034, Sub 024 - 3 Otter Way, w/recommendation to grant

B. Water/Sewer Items

- 1) Sewer Abatement - S-UTL-16-20 - 36 Executive Dr.

C. Licenses & Permits

- 1) License to Purchase Scrap Metals - Granite State Salvage Co., Inc.

Selectman McGrath said concerning the Granite State Salvage Company on Dracut Road. I'm questioning whether or not they have a site plan for that activity and I don't know the answer to that.

Selectman Luszey said wow. Comment.

Chairman Coutu said they've been doing it for years.

Selectman Luszey asked is there a limit of statutation on the site plans.

Selectman McGrath said not as far as I'm concerned. I don't know if they have a site plan. This popped up in our packet. I think it's an appropriate question to ask and whether they have one or not, we have plenty of code enforcement items throughout the town where they don't have permits. They just all of a sudden pop up. This isn't a business that I would - first of all, I've never been there. Even though I live in the south end of town, I've never utilized this business. I don't know. It's a question and I think it's appropriate to have it answered.

Chairman Coutu indicated let me ask you a question because you have the most expertise on this Board. A few years back he built a huge barn on the property and he had to go before the Planning Board. Would he need a site plan to build a huge barn and identify that there's a business there? Selectman McGrath said he would. I don't recall it coming before the Board. I don't. Now that doesn't mean that he didn't go but I don't recall that. I don't recall a site plan for this site. Now that doesn't mean it doesn't exist.

Chairman Coutu agreed. It's a legitimate question. If there's no objection, we will defer this item and I will ask the Fire Chief please would you look into that address - 31 Dracut Road and ascertain whether or not it has a site plan that includes the business.

Selectman Luszey asked if we don't approve this tonight, what does it do to his ability to continue doing business. Steve Malizia said I couldn't tell you when this expires so I don't know what it would do to his business. Selectman Luszey said if it's here tonight, I bet you it expires real soon. Essentially what we're doing is we'll be shutting this person down. Steve Malizia noted he wouldn't have a permit. Selectman McGrath said he might not have one now. Chairman Coutu said he does. We've granted it every year since I've been here. Selectman McGrath said this is the first time I've had to deal with it.

Chairman Coutu asked Donna Graham would you mind going upstairs right now to see about the expiration. In the meantime, I'll set this aside for now until Donna comes back and I'll have the Town Administrator go over the old business.

Chairman Coutu noted we have sufficient time. His license will expire on April 23, 2016. If we can ascertain Selectman McGrath specifically you want to know whether or not a site plan exists that allows for the existence of Granite State Salvage Company. That would be the request and as soon as you've ascertained that, you need something formally? Do we need a formal document? Selectman McGrath said no. I'll take them at their word. Chairman Coutu said you'll present that to Donna and hopefully we can put this on the next agenda as a consent item so we can take care of it. Thank you for that. That will be addressed.

- 2) Request to Solicit Funds - Teen Challenge New England, Inc.
- 3) Request to Solicit Funds - Girl Scouts
- 4) Brox Night Trucking Permit - 30 day extension to 4/23/2016

D. Donations - NONE

E. Acceptance of Minutes

- 1) Minutes of the January 12, 2016 Meeting
- 2) Minutes of the January 26, 2016 Meeting

F. Calendar

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| 3/23 | 7:00 | Planning Brd - Buxton CD Meeting Room      |
| 3/24 | 7:30 | Zoning Brd of Adjustment - CD Meeting Room |
| 3/28 | 7:00 | Sustainability Cte - BOS Meeting Room      |
| 4/05 | 7:00 | Board of Selectmen - BOS Meeting Room      |

4/07 6:30 Recreation Cte - BOS Meeting Room  
4/07 7:00 Benson Park Cte - HCTV Ctr.  
4/11 7:00 Conservation Cmsn - Buxton CD Meeting Room  
4/12 7:00 Board of Selectmen - BOS Meeting Room  
4/13 7:00 Planning Brd - Buxton CD Meeting Room  
4/19 7:00 Cable Utility Cte - HCTV Ctr.  
4/20 5:00 Municipal Utility Cte - BOS Meeting Room  
4/20 7:30 Senior Affairs Cte - Buxton CD Meeting Room - **CANCELLED**  
4/21 7:00 Benson Park Cte - BOS Meeting Room  
4/21 7:30 Budget Cte - Buxton CD Meeting Room  
4/25 7:00 Sustainability Cte - BOS Meeting Room  
4/26 7:00 Board of Selectmen - BOS Meeting Room  
4/27 7:00 Planning Brd - Buxton CD Meeting Room  
4/28 7:30 Zoning Brd of Adjustment - CD Meeting Room

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Votes taken after Nonpublic Session on March 7, 2016

- 1) *Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Luszey to appoint Michael Johnson temporarily to the position of HCTV Assistant at a rate of pay of \$15 per hour not to exceed 28 hours per week effective March 8, 2016, carried 5-0.*
- 2) *Motion by Selectman McGrath, seconded by Selectman Nichols, to reduce the interest on the support lien for Map 158, Lot 015, 180 Highland Street, in the amount of \$1,128.01, carried 4-1. Selectman Coutu opposed.*
- 3) *Motion by Selectman McGrath, seconded by Selectman Nichols, to terminate Rosemarie Brackett as a truck driver/laborer effective February 24, 2016, carried 3-0-2. Selectman Coutu and Selectman Luszey abstained.*
- 4) *Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Nichols, to terminate Captain Kevin Grebinar effective February 24, 2016, carried 4-0-1. Selectman Luszey abstained.*
- 5) *Motion to adjourn at 8:18 p.m. by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Nichols, carried 5-0.*

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Request to purchase a replacement truck for the Highway Department

Chairman Coutu recognized Road Agent Kevin Burns.

Good evening again. Kevin Burns said unfortunately I'm here tonight for an unanticipated purchase. I have a 2002 pickup truck. It's the oldest pickup truck in my fleet. It is just rotting away. To get it serviceable, I'd probably have to spend about \$5,000 just to get it to pass inspection. The engine has developed a rap. It won't make another plowing season with that engine. So we're probably looking at around \$11,000 to get a 2002 vehicle on the road and I would probably be coming to you in September when we do the budget asking for \$26,000 to replace it. Because of the season that we've had, I have substantial surplus. It would be my recommendation or suggestion that we just replace the vehicle now. It would be approximately \$26,000 using State bid. Even if you pass this tonight, I still anticipate ending the year with about \$150,000 surplus. If we you need me to get into line items where I think I'm going to have extra money, I'd be glad to. If you have any questions on the truck, I'd be glad to answer those as well.

Chairman Coutu said the only comment I want to make because we're liable to hear it, the only thing I did when I reviewed the packet, I made a note and I put on the front page the bid request and I do know because the information you provided us and thanks for the photos. It's pretty evident that it needs to be replaced. Because this meets the State bid list, we're probably not going to be able to get this any cheaper than what the State bid list provides us. I want to applaud you number one for running our vehicles right to the ground before you replace them and two, I want to applaud you for identifying monies that could be available in order to do this should the Board decide this evening to approve your request for the purchase. I'd rather you do something like this than have somebody sitting there that's not as conscientious as you just finding other ways to spend the money. I think this will serve a useful purpose. With that and because I heard no questions, I'll entertain a motion.

Motion by Selectman Nichols, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to allow the Road Agent to waive the bidding process and go through the State bid list to purchase a 2016 Ford F-250 regular cab 4X4 pickup truck for \$26,667. Funds will come from the Highway Department's budget.

Selectman Luszey asked are we going to match the Fire Department's color décor. Do you have the color? Kevin Burns said I'm going to stick with white. Chairman Coutu asked you're going to fit it with the radio and the seal. Kevin Burns indicated the radio, the seal, the fuel tank from the existing truck will be transferred into it. I'm even going to transfer the light bar off the old one onto the new one. Chairman Coutu said we do all that at no additional expense. Mr. Burns noted we do that in house yes.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0.

Chairman Coutu asked to go back to Granite State Salvage.

- B. Amendment to Town Code Chapter 188 "Dogs and Other Animals", Section 188-4 "Fines and Fees"; and Chapter 205 Fees, Section 205-9 "Animal control fees"

Chairman Coutu recognized Animal Control Officer Jana McMillan and Captain DiNapoli. Good evening and welcome.

Captain DiNapoli noted we're here regarding the request that was first made by the Town's Police Prosecutor Attorney Joe Tessier relating to the fines schedule for animal control fees and fines and what he is proposing which Jana is going to subsequently explain is modifications that will make the retrieval of these fees for the specific violations a little easier to obtain. Jana is going to give a little more detail on that.

Jana McMillan said it's a little bit confusing but I'll do my best. If you look at Chapter 188 which you have a copy of, all of the listings there if you'll notice where it says "editor's note". They refer to Section 205. This whole section is listed in 205. If you look down at 188-5, failure to pay fines and fines, it refers to the section that we're asking to delete because all the fees are listed in 205. We'd like to replace it with 205 so that we're referring to the proper fees.

Selectman McGrath said it's one for one. It's all the same.

Ms. McMillan said yes. We're not adding anything new. We're just rearranging it so that it makes sense when we prosecute and it's legal.

Chairman Coutu said we're going to eliminate basically 188-4 and everything will be under 205-9. Steve Malizia said 205 is our Code. As you can see, there is also reference to the State Code because there are some things that are articulated in the law that we do have to follow. It's in one area so when they prosecute, it's a lot easier for the Prosecutor to refer to that area.

Captain DiNapoli said it's streamlined for the attorney that's dealing with it.

Chairman Coutu asked are you saying that we've had problems. Jana McMillan said we don't want there to be problems legally when we take somebody to court based on their failure to pay one of these fees. This allows the Prosecutor to have it all in one place. It's not confusing. Chairman Coutu commented I'm not objecting to it. Have we had problems collecting fees? Ms. McMillan said no. We can't do that process because it's not listed correctly.

Motion by Selectman Nichols, seconded by Selectman Saucier, to post and hold a public hearing on Tuesday, April 12, 2016, relative to the amendments to Chapter 188 "Dogs and Other Animals", Section 188-4 "Fines and Fees", and Chapter 205 "Fees", Section 205-9 "Animal Control Fees", carried 5-0.

- C. Acceptance of the "Hudson STEP Patrols" grant through the NH Highway Safety Agency in the amount of \$9,941.25

Chairman Coutu recognized Captain Kevin DiNapoli.

Captain DiNapoli said this is a program through NH Highway Safety and it goes through September 30<sup>th</sup>. It was already approved through the Highway Safety. We just need the formal approval on this end. Once that's set, we would then go about scheduling the patrols for the officers to get started on that and we would spread them out over the time period from now through the end date of September 30<sup>th</sup>.

For clarity, Chairman Coutu asked Captain DiNapoli for a general overview of the STEP program. We have a new member of the Board of Selectmen and I'd like her to be appraised of what the STEP program does.

Captain DiNapoli said the standardized enforcement patrols what it does is it allows the ability for the officers to - it's more of a coverall for the different fines and the different violations that are out there. In the past we've learned specific say red light patrols, or stop sign patrols, or speeding patrols and they've all had different terminology. What the State did is they kind of brought it all under one umbrella. The STEP allows us to have those enforcement patrols as a cover all for the officers to get out there and anything listed in the motor vehicle code is enforceable. We would do it during the times based on our experience, the numerical data that we have of when most of these violations are occurring. That's when Captain Avery and I when we set up the schedule we'll do that accordingly to try to get the best bang for the buck if you would relative to the most enforcement activity. We're very particular and very stringent. Chief Lavoie expects results. He wants the guys to be out there. He wants solid enforcement. He wants to set the tone and to let the motoring public know that we're serious about these enforcement patrols and NH Highway Safety is very specific on the results that they require as far as when we submit the results back to them which we're required to do. They want to see that we did our job effectively and we take that very seriously.

Chairman Coutu asked Captain DiNapoli this is funded 100 percent by them. We have no matching funds correct? Captain DiNapoli agreed.

Selectman Nichols said I had seen the project cost is 80 percent federal funds, 20 percent applicant share. We don't have to pay a nickel? Chairman Coutu said the State is the applicant. Selectman Nichols said okay. I'm fine. I'm golden with that.

Selectman McGrath had a question on the scope. It says that it's to cover the cost of overtime for October 1, 2015. Captain DiNapoli said that's when it originally started. It runs in different tiers and we applied for the second tier. So that's why our time period is further on in this end. The State because they switched things around, it's what we already touched upon relative to the title and what not. They got things a little later for the approval to the different municipalities that applied for it. We were later on in the game anyway but we're well within the time period to meet what we're granted.

Selectman McGrath asked you don't have a problem with the timing of this. Captain DiNapoli said no we'll be fine. Captain Avery and I have already sat down and taken a look at the available man hours and how we would spread out what we would do for the blocks of time.

Selectman McGrath had one other little picky thing. On your letterhead, you have a Captain that's no longer with the department listed. Captain DiNapoli saw that and you'll be proud to know that the Chief is being fiscally responsible and the case of letterhead that he still has he didn't want to shred it. Selectman McGrath thought that was the case but I just wanted to mention it. Captain DiNapoli indicated we'll get through it and then we'll order new letterhead.

Chairman Coutu said you're going to have directed patrols for these violations through September 30<sup>th</sup> of this year. You'll start scheduling once...Captain DiNapoli said as soon as this approval is in place, then we have to physically bring the paperwork back up to the State for them to give the final approval which should be within a couple of days and we're hoping to have the patrols started within a week or so.

Selectman Saucier asked what happens if we don't meet their reporting protocol. Captain DiNapoli said as far as the amount of hours worked, then next year when we apply. So what happens is each year annually when we apply for the upcoming grants, you look for last year's totals and they take that in consideration. So what could very easily happen is either they scale way down what they're allowing us for available funds or they would outright deny us the ability to take part of the new grant. Selectman Saucier noted so nothing would have to go back to them on what we get this year. Chairman Coutu said no. There's no penalty clause to return any of the money. Captain DiNapoli said we'd pay in the long run and our ability to not - the communities in Hudson. Chairman Coutu said based on what we have all seen here in town every day, we can meet their goals and far exceed them as far as traffic violations.

Selectman McGrath stated I'm looking forward to the enforcement of the no hands policy because some guy in a big truck followed me all the way up Lowell Road tonight with his cell phone up in his face the entire ride. I was wishing there was a car with lights on behind him. It didn't work out.

*Motion by Selectman Nichols, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to authorize the Police Department to accept the "Hudson STEP Patrols" grant through the New Hampshire Highway Safety Agency in the amount of \$9,941.25, carried 5-0.*

Selectman Luszey asked about the letterhead. How many cases do you have? Captain DiNapoli thought it was just one case. Selectman Luszey was surprised when you said that given this should all be in a form document that's printed now. I didn't think we were doing letterheads anymore preprinted. Selectman McGrath thought it might save on ink for us. Selectman Luszey noted the cost of preprinting the letterhead is more expensive



than...do we have a lot of that in town Steve - preprinted letterhead. Steve Malizia wasn't aware of it. I still have some finance ones left if you want. I've never thrown them out.

- D. Acceptance of the "Hudson DWI Patrols" grant through the NH Highway Safety Agency in the amount of \$12,049.26

Chairman Coutu recognized Captain DiNapoli. Would you give a general overview as well Captain relative to the DWI Patrols?

Captain DiNapoli said sure. Similar to the other grant, the time period runs the same. This we were awarded a little more funding in this one based on available funds, the amount of people that applied for it, and based on the fact that we were able to provide data from last year of the success that our officers had and how aggressive they are with their DWI enforcement patrols. We were fortunate to be accepted with that amount. This is obvious specific to the time period that we most often would have our most impaired drivers out on the road.

*Motion by Selectman McGrath, seconded by Selectman Nichols, to authorize the Police Department to accept the "Hudson DWI Patrols" grant through the New Hampshire Highway Safety Agency in the amount of \$12,049.26, carried 5-0.*

- E. Recognizing May 21<sup>st</sup> as Kids to Parks Day

Chairman Coutu recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia believed we received some correspondence that the National Park service is encouraging our youth to use parks particularly in the State of New Hampshire and obviously through the rest of the country. To that affect, they've asked for a proclamation which I believe they prepared a template for. I think at this point the Board if they wish to participate would basically approve the proclamation for the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Kids Parks Day which would be on Saturday, May 21, 2016 to encourage people to go out to the parks. Obviously we have Benson Park and some other parks.

Chairman Coutu thought it was fruitful to have this in light of the fact that I know that Captain Morin is here. He and I have had the opportunity to meet with several kids from the school system come in with their teachers. I think your wife hosts some of them and they come to Benson Park and specifically they want to hear the history behind the 911 memorial and Captain Morin and I, your wife and the kids have been there, as have been other teachers. The kids are amazed at not just the beauty and the symbolism of the 911 Memorial but they're impressed with the park in general. I think that taking kids out for fresh air and bringing them to a park is a healthy environment. I'm going to be expressing quite often in the coming year about keeping kids minds occupied in order to keep them off drugs. I'll come up with some sort of a slogan so I'll remember it. I urge you to support the motion and I'll entertain a motion.

*Motion by Selectman Luszey, seconded by Selectman Nichols, to participate and proclaim the 6<sup>th</sup> annual Kids to Parks Day on Saturday, May 21, 2016.*

Selectman Luszey noted you mentioned my wife being part of that and she is. I'll tell you why the kids feel it's important to have to like yourself, Captain Morin, and a few other folks that actually participated in bringing that Memorial to the park. They see movies and news clips of the 911 event and they hear about memorials being built but it brings home, very close to home when they hear the people like yourself and Captain Morin that actually participated in erecting a memorial to 911 given we as this town have people that were directly impacted by that event on that day. It is quite moving I guess is the right word I'd use to see kids being moved when folks like you actually tell them a story. It's real important.

*Vote: Motion carried 5-0.*

- F. Sale of Town owned property - 17 Merrimack Street

Chairman Coutu recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia noted we've identified another piece of town property on 17 Merrimack Street. It actually abuts 19 Merrimack Street and it came to our attention that was a tax deeded piece of property. Its surplus to the town's needs. We don't have any strategic reason to retain it. Given the fact that we have the property listed at 19 Merrimack Street, it would seem like a good idea to sell this piece of property. I believe there may be actually somebody interested in the two parcels of land that we have for sale. One is at 19 and this potentially is at 17. I took a look at it with the Assistant Assessor. We reviewed it. I also reviewed it with our real estate agent Lisa DiBernardo and we believe it's eligible to be sold. What we're recommending is to actually list it for the same price that you're listing the abutting parcel. It's approximately the same size. It's in the same area. It would

seem to me to make common sense to list it for the same price. There's a motion here. If you'd like to sell the parcel for a listing price of \$79,900 and to hire DiBernardo Real Estate for the sale of this property.

Selectman McGrath asked did we sell the other adjoining property. Steve Malizia said it has not sold yet.

*Motion by Selectman Luszey, seconded by Selectman Nichols, to sell Town owned tax deeded property located at 17 Merrimack Street for a listing price of \$79,900 and to hire DiBernardo Real Estate for the sale of this property, carried 5-0.*

Chairman Coutu said there is now presently a permanent vacancy on the Planning Board. Selectman Maddox represented this Board. I don't know when their next meeting is. I don't know what the protocol is. It's been automatic renewal for Selectman Maddox over the years. What is the protocol to...Mr. Malizia believed there's a meeting tomorrow evening. I believe you have an alternate appointed to the Planning Board. I believe that upon the next Chairman's wishes or assignments, there will be an assignment for that position along with an alternate. I believe we have an alternate that will represent you at tomorrow's meeting.

Chairman Coutu didn't have a problem with that but maybe I was misinformed. The reason why I'm asking is because someone stated to me that it would require a motion of the Board. It is not a Chairman's appointment.

Steve Malizia believed the Board did vote on that if I'm not mistaken in the past.

Chairman Coutu asked would you research that. Selectman McGrath is the alternate and we'd be sitting in Selectman Maddox's seat tomorrow evening serving as our voting member to the Board. I want to confirm whether it's appointed by the Chair or it's an elected position by the full Board which I believe it is. Could you confirm that and then we could put that on the next agenda. If the Chairman makes the appointment, then it's whenever the Chair makes the appointment. If it's appointed by the Board, then we can vote on it on the next agenda.

Selectman Luszey know liaisons are appointed by the Chairman. Why wouldn't that be like any other seat that's in front of - when they come here? If there's a vacancy, they come here. Why is that different? Chairman Coutu was not saying it is. I'm saying that it is appointed by the full Board of Selectmen. We nominate one person on this Board. Nominations are put in for that position. Selectman Luszey stated no. We're saying two different things now. If I look at Planning Board the committees here right there was Maddox/McGrath. There was the primary and secondary liaison. That's a liaison position which is distinctly different than a Board appointed member to the Planning Board.

Steve Malizia said that was the Board appointed member to the Planning Board. That is the appointment to the Planning Board.

Selectman Luszey noted that's my point. If he's a Board appointed member...Steve Malizia said he was only appointed as the Selectmen's representative.

Chairman Coutu said the liaison assignments or the alternate assignments are appointed by the Chair.

Selectman McGrath asked to make a point. The Planning Board liaison which was Mr. Maddox and I was the alternate so that if he couldn't attend a meeting, I would attend in his place and I would vote. That's the only Board that a member of this Board as a liaison would vote on any items. I serve as liaison to the Zoning Board. I do not vote on anything that comes before the Zoning Board. I serve as a liaison. I can make comments but I don't have a vote. The same for I would assume the Benson's Park Committee, the Senior Affairs Committee, any other committee.

Selectman Luszey noted the Budget Committee the liaison of this Board is a voting member. So why is there an issue? Why wouldn't the Selectmen...

Chairman Coutu was under the impression, and she's going to research it, that historically the Planning Board representative was always voted by the full Board of Selectmen. I want to make sure that if that is the case that this Board has a say. There may only be one person who probably would want to go every Wednesday evening and attend the meetings and so be it or maybe the Chair can appoint somebody. I don't know. I'm of the opinion that it's elected by this Board. That is one position that is elected by this Board and has been historically for whatever reason. We can research that. I just wanted to bring that up. Are you fine with that? She'll research that.

Selectman Luszey found it odd that there's one position that's elected versus. Chairman Coutu was too. I was told that historically that - as I recall every three years, because if we went with Selectman Maddox's term, we just let him have it. We voted to elect him into that position. It was almost like a consent item because nobody challenged him to want to serve on the Planning Board.

Steve Malizia noted we've had other alternates.

Selectman Luszey noted the 4 years I've been here that's what happened.

Chairman Coutu wanted to make sure we continue but I'd like to understand where that came from.

G. Election of Officers

Chairman Coutu recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia noted it's that time of the year where you elect a new Chairman and a Vice-Chairman. At this point I believe you would accept nominations for the position of Chairman.

Chairman Coutu opened it up first to the Chair. Does anyone wish to nominate anyone for Chair?

Selectman Nichols elected Marilyn McGrath as Chair.

Chairman Coutu noted we have a nomination of Marilyn McGrath for Chair. Do I have any other nominations?

Chairman Coutu nominated Ted Luszey as Chair. Any other nominations? Seeing none, I'll close the nominations. All in favor of Marilyn McGrath please raise your hand - 2 - Nichols and McGrath. All in favor of Ted Luszey raise your hand - 3 - Coutu, Luszey and Saucier. Chairman Luszey congratulations.

Chairman Coutu was accepting nominations for Vice-Chair.

Selectman Nichols nominated Marilyn McGrath.

Selectman Luszey nominated Roger Coutu and I'll speak to it. Last year if you go back to when we were doing this particular process, I made statements back then that I felt it was a bad business practice to have two folks that were up for re-election be in those two chairs. The outcome of this particular voting cycle proved me only half right and that is that only half the dual was returned to this Board. Also over the last at least 4 years since I've been on this Board, the Chair and the Vice-Chair has only swapped between 3 different people. What that has caused is a very shallow depth of breath and strength to what I would call "the bench". I think it's good that we put someone new in there but I don't think it would be wise to have two novices from this Board sitting there. That is the reason why I nominated you as the Vice-Chair. Running the Board of Selectmen is very different than running any other board or committee in the government. There needs to be mentoring that goes through with it. I would also state that hopefully next year there is new blood in those two seats so that we begin developing the people that sit around this table so that as people leave the committee either through the wish of the voters or the wish of themselves, there is a continuation, a natural succession of knowledge that this Board can go forward with and operate effectively and efficiently.

Chairman Coutu indicated I'm going to make a statement. I didn't expect my name to be placed in nomination for either Chair or Vice-Chair. This is the first year I haven't gotten involved in the discussions of Chair or Vice-Chair. I've had two off the cuff sort of conversations but not really conversations. One was with you. I didn't solicit your vote. You didn't solicit mine. I think you made a statement about Chair just to rile me up and it worked. It was no solicitation by any means. I didn't take it as such. I didn't ask you to vote for me. I haven't called you Marilyn. I haven't called you Ted. You and I had one discussion which was what is going to take place the first evening. I told you how we elect Chair and Vice-Chair. I neither solicited or suggested to you that you should vote for me or support me if I were to be nominated Chair and that was the extent of my conversation.

Chairman Coutu said I have a lot of respect for Selectman McGrath. We may not always see eye to eye. I have a lot of respect for each and every one of you. You lend tremendously to the process by which I make my decisions. I have the utmost of confidence that Selectman McGrath would make a great Vice-Chair and I think that she could ascend to your position should for any reason you not be able to make a meeting. She has more years of experience that you and I combined have, and I'm not aging you in any sense, in town government. Anybody who could live through the old days of Town Meeting form of government - God bless you, God love you. I have the utmost of confidence that whoever ascends to this Chair whether it's as a Chairman or serving in the capacity as Chairman in the absence of the Vice-Chair has as a right-hand person as I raise out my left hand in the Town Administrator who could assist and does assist me often times and has assisted anyone who has sat in this position. I, therefore, though I am grateful that you have enough trust in me to want to, I will accept your withdrawing my nomination.

With that, Chairman Coutu asked the Board to vote by acclamation for Marilyn McGrath as Vice-Chair of this esteemed body.

Motion by Selectman Nichols, seconded by Selectman Saucier, to close the nominations and appoint Marilyn McGrath as Vice-Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, carried 5-0.

9. OTHER BUSINESS/REMARKS BY THE SELECTMEN

Selectman Luszey - I really don't have anything new to add other than my nonprofit is doing great and we wish well a group of 194 people out of the 192<sup>nd</sup> about 2 weeks ago. I also got involved with another nonprofit. It's called "Americas Care" which we are supporting those of fallen Veterans. It's unbelievable how many Veterans we have in this State that needs help. I just ask the folks out there to continue to support our Veterans any way they can. Thank you.

Selectman McGrath - I have a couple of things. The first is that I don't know if all of you or any of you are aware but Mr. Cashell was in a serious car accident last night. Thankfully God was with him and he is doing okay but he's quite sore and I expect that he will be out of work for the remainder of the week and that's what I encouraged him to do is to stay out for the remainder. It was a head on collision and not his fault. An SUV crossed the lines and it was a head on crash. He's very lucky that he's only got some aches and pains and nothing more serious. My prayers go out to him and I'm sure the rest of you feel the same.

There's two other things that Selectman McGrath would like to talk about. We talked about it briefly at our last meeting I believe or the meeting before. That was concerning exit interviews. We've had two Captains from the Fire Department that have retired and it was my understanding that either one or both of them wanted to have an exit interview with the Board of Selectmen. I wanted to raise that issue tonight so that we can at least address that at some point whether it's this evening or at our next meeting.

The third item is a purchase order that was placed in our in box upstairs and Selectman McGrath asked that it be held before a signature because I wanted to talk about it. It's for a temporary secretarial position that I don't recall approving. I don't recall us being asked to approve that position even though it's temporary. I was surprised when I walked into Town Hall last Friday. I went over to Community Development and there was a new person sitting in one of the outer office areas. I wanted to have a discussion about that whether or not that's something. I've got the purchase order in front of me and it's for \$2,500. It's not like it's megabucks but I'm concerned that we weren't asked to approve that before we actually saw a purchase order. It's my understanding that only the Chairperson of this Board would sign that purchase order so it wouldn't necessarily get in front of us. That's the third item.

Selectmen Luszey said on your first time on the exit interviews, can we have that added to either next weeks' or the fourth week's agenda because we need to do some homework in terms of what the policy book says.

Chairman Coutu said the policy book says they have a right to ask for an exit interview to the Board of Selectmen. It was going to be my recommendation to say to put it to bed this evening. By saying, and it's entirely up to this Board, you can overrule me. It is clearly defined in the policy manual. An employee may ask to be interviewed by this Board and I would suggest that we adhere to it and any time any employee who has left or plans on leaving our employment wishes to meet before this Board and we would do so in nonpublic, that that employee notify our Administrative Assistant and the Town Administrator and they be placed on a nonpublic agenda. It's a right that's accorded them in the handbook that is handed them upon their employment. I am surprised to discover that despite the fact that we all have the handbook somehow or another we missed that. I'm embarrassed that we missed that. It should be conducted and it's at the discretion of the employee. The employee doesn't have to - all employees are entitled except I would think that there should be an exception and that exception would be employees who have not been through the - is it everybody or is it?

Steve Malizia noted it's a personnel policy. It actually says me and a member of the Board of Selectmen. It does not say the Board of Selectmen. Selectman Luszey said exactly. That's why we need to review it. Mr. Malizia said the Board can certainly do what the Board wishes to do but the actual policy says the Town Administrator and a member of the Board. So in the past, I've done exit interviews for people who have requested them. That's the way it's been. It doesn't differentiate. It doesn't say I get to pick and choose. If they want an exit interview, I would grant them an exit interview. It doesn't say part time. It doesn't say full time. It just says "employees". So if an employee of the town wishes to have an exit interview...

Chairman Coutu asked if there were exceptions. Let's say we hired a seasonal employee. Mr. Malizia said I'm not interested in talking to every Rec. kid that worked here. Chairman Coutu asked what about someone that hasn't been through the probationary period. Mr. Malizia said it doesn't qualify that they don't have the ability to have an exit interview. It doesn't disqualify them. Chairman Coutu said it also doesn't disqualify kids who work in the summer program. Mr. Malizia said it does not specifically disqualify them. Again from a time perspective, it doesn't seem to...Chairman Coutu asked would the Board rather than - I think the thing that needs to be discussed is would the Board rather it be done by the Board and the Town Administrator or by a member of the Board and the Town Administrator.

Selectman Saucier noted if it current reads a member of the Board and the Town Administrator why change it.

Selectman Luszey was of the opinion, and this is just mine, that all employees can request an exit interview. Depending on where they are in the organization, where is the appropriate level of exit interview to occur? I don't think it's here. Some might stop at the department head. It's like usually one level above. That's why I think we should have it on the agenda, bring the policy in here, let us all read it over and think about the consequences and the unintended consequences of what it means to have an employee request an exit interview and how we want to go forward because we haven't been doing them in the past.

Selectman McGrath asked to make a point. I haven't had a discussion with any of the recent people that have resigned or retired. I haven't had any discussions with anyone. It occurred to me with the latest retirement that there should be exit interviews. I posed the question either at the last Board of Selectmen meeting or the time before that. Mr. Maddox was here so we had a brief discussion that evening about it. Nothing has come forward. In the interim after we had that discussion, I believe we all received, at least I know I did, an e-mail from one of the employees that had retired and he indicated in that e-mail that he was not offered an exit interview. Now I know that there were some extenuating circumstances. However it still raises the question and I think that my position would be that certainly senior level employees such as these individuals should be offered if they want to meet with the entire Board of Selectmen to have an exit interview, I think that they should be granted that opportunity. That's my opinion. If this Board doesn't want to do that, then a majority vote will be taken and we'll have to live by the majority vote. That's my position. I think that senior level employees that are leaving ought to be given that opportunity and they ought to be given the opportunity to meet with the entire Board. Maybe they don't want an exit interview at all and that's fine too.

Chairman Coutu thought that we ought to do what you suggested. Selectman Luszey you as Chair can put it on an agenda for future discussion and I believe we've all been provided a copy. Does everybody have their handbook on Personnel Policy? Have you been given on Angela? Selectman Saucier asked is that what I got tonight or do I need one?

Selectman McGrath didn't know that I have one.

Steve Malizia believed there's a copy in your office. It's also on the public drive that I think you all have access to.

Chairman Coutu asked why don't we get a copy at least of that for now and then if anybody wants a Personnel Policy handbook, I think that our personnel person has that available. We can make copies for all of the other members. I have a copy of it. I've always had it. I don't know if there's been any changes to it. So we'll let you put that on an agenda and that will be an item for discussion and then we can come to a resolution whether we want to change it and allow the full Board or at the discretion of the individual employee who is retiring, resigning, or being fired or whatever let them decide whether they want to meet with the whole Board. That would be the discussion we would have if you would change it to do that or maintain it at the level that it is which is Town Administrator and one member of the Board. Fair enough? Now we got caught up in this. What was the first thing?

Selectman McGrath noted the first one was John Cashell that I mentioned. The second thing was the temporary position, the purchase order. Chairman Coutu asked had I signed that. Selectman McGrath said you have not because I asked that it be withheld. Chairman Coutu believed that we didn't identify the position except to say that it was upstairs. I believe and the Fire Chief is here that we did have discussion about that and we gave the Fire Chief the discretion to bring in a temporary person as opposed to hiring a permanent temporary person on an as need basis. I believe that's the way this Board voted and if you want to elaborate on that.

Chief Buxton noted when I came in to move the Administrative Aide in Fire Administration to Executive Secretary temporarily we had the discussion that night about how to backfill that workload. Selectman McGrath noted I wasn't here that evening. Chief Buxton said that is what that PO was for. We've been picking up a little bit of backlog over in Inspectional Services in the afternoon only but she's been routinely (inaudible). Selectman McGrath indicated that primarily was my concern. Chief Buxton said there was a backlog in scanning with Engineer, Zoning, and Land Use Services. We filled up the last couple hours of her day a few days a week. She's been spending the bulk of her time in Fire Administration helping Helen out.

Selectman McGrath said that would be my expectation of this temporary position that they be over in the administration building because you had two over there and it concerned me when I walked into Community Development and saw an additional body.

Chief Buxton said we contracted this employee for a temporary amount of time for a certain number of hours per week. We had some drop off meaning we had some work. She got through the workload for the day. There was some backlog next door. We sent her over next door to finish up. So that's how that rotation happened.

Selectman Saucier - I have nothing other than everyone and every Department Head has been really nice and welcoming to me and all the Selectmen have been very, very welcoming to me. It's been a smooth first meeting.

Selectman Nichols - I think I told you everything about Benson's and the Senior Affairs. I did want to say a special thank you to Chairman Maddox for the years of service he gave this town. I hope that everyone will feel the same way. I do send out my condolences for his loss but I also congratulate him on his years of service to this community. I hope everybody appreciates the hours that he put in. Thank you.

Selectman Coutu - True. Selectman Maddox have served many years on the Planning Board probably 15 or 16. He served honorably for 12 years on a few occasions as Chair or Vice-Chair of this committee. He served with honor and with distinction. You always knew where Rick stood. Selectman Luszey added like or not. Selectman Coutu said you always knew where he stood. He was a man of his word. He stuck by his word. I am honored to have served with him. Rick and I, Eloise and Doris have become very good friends and I'm going to miss him deeply. At the same time, beauty wins over the beast and Angela you have joined us. I'm looking forward to your service. I had a great time with your husband. I got to know him not that well but we did have a good time on Election Day. We got to meet and we got to talk and it wasn't about politics which is a good thing. I'm looking forward to your service and congratulations. You did your homework. You got elected. It's not a smear campaign. You went out and you did the legwork that I except that someone who's running for public office should do. You went and you met with the right people. You volunteer in the schools and the school vote was as you said to me critical this year that got you elected and I applaud you for all the work that you did. You ran a good campaign. Unlike me, you got your signs down in time. I've been criticized and called certain names in the paper because - anyway my signs are now down. I remember where they were and I found them all - all 13 of them. You might have thought I put 200 signs in this town. I put up 13. I took 11 down and somebody stole 2. I'm happy with the 2 they stole. That's 2 less for me to pick up. I apologize for the delay. I had planned on going out one day and my leg was really, really bad and I couldn't get out. Finally I was able to get out and I got the rest of them down.

Chairman Coutu stated I just want to say that I want to congratulate as you know this coming Tuesday March 29<sup>th</sup> the Chamber will be holding their annual dinner at the Castleton in Windham, NH. This is a fundraiser. It's not only to honor people the excess funds that are collected after the expenses of the dinner at the Castleton I believe go to the scholarship. This one goes to the scholarships for the Chamber dinner. Len you're one of the major sponsors that's why I'm looking at you. I want to congratulate the Citizen of the Year Jeremy Griffus. I've know Jeremy for a long time. Great kid. I'm glad that he received the acclaim as Citizen of the Year. The Junior Citizen of the Year Julia Balukonis. She comes from a well-known family. The Business of the Year the Granite State Range. They're relative new and they won that honor and distinction. The Outstanding Community Partner the Hudson Lyons Club. The Hudson Lyons Club has done so much for our community and I'm so pleased that they're receiving that distinction. I understand that there are tickets still available. You can get a hold of the Chamber of Commerce on Lowell Road and let them know if you're interested. The tickets are \$50. The meal is excellent. The camaraderie is great. I've only missed I think one or two. You'll enjoy it. It's a great time.

Chairman Coutu had put down Benson Park so I don't have to discuss it thanks to you Ted for bringing it up. The other thing I'd like to bring up to the Board and I would like you to consider and I'd like if you would your consideration this evening unless you're inundated with a lot of questions because I want to facilitate the new Chair taking over the seat so that this decision can be made this evening. If you've listened to some of the things I've said in this campaign, one of the things that I felt very strongly about not just this year but in past years and I feel still very strongly if not more strongly in light of the fact that I did make a good friend in Shane - the kid who did the track campaign. He can't even vote and he went out and put all that effort into the park. Shane and I have had a lot of discussion as I have with other people on the school side. I strongly believe that this Board should have the Chair appoint a liaison to the School Board. Not that the liaison is going to sit and meet at every single School Board meeting but that on a monthly basis or every two months go and address any concerns that we might have with the school side and vice versa. I know that the school committee is appointing a liaison on their side to represent the schools. They're appointing somebody to serve as a liaison. Not tonight. That's going to be a committee assignment that they're putting on to their slate. We don't have a liaison to a School Board. It's never been a committee assignment. I'm asking that we create that committee assignment. Then we are going to ask the School Board on a periodic basis to come in and have a joint meeting with us. It might only be an hour just so that we're aware of things that we can do that we can work on together and try to maybe assist one another with cutting costs and addressing issues that might affect all of us. Regardless of their ability to do what they will when they will, we are all one community and we need to learn to start working together.

Chairman Coutu said I would like a consensus from this Board of whether or not we should ask the Chair to appoint a liaison or should we make that a vote.

Selectman Luszey indicated I have a vested interest in this particular item because I've talked to a number of School Board representatives and I fully agree with where you're headed with this. With that, I would like to make a motion while I'm still sitting on this side of the bench.

*Motion by Selectman Luszey, seconded by Selectman Saucier, to create a liaison position to the Hudson School Board SAU 81.*

Selectman Luszey said for those that know me, I've been on a campaign to get the Town and the School District to work together where it makes sense. Go back some 10 or 15 years ago, there was actually a joint technology committee and then a joint resource committee where we looked at ways that we could possibly join forces to help reduce the impact of taxes on the Hudson residents. When all is said and done, the tax bill is coming out of the same pocketbook. I believe there is a number of areas that if we were truly to combine forces, we could help each other and reduce the operating costs for the residents of Hudson. I hope that each and every one of you would support this creation of this liaison.

Selectman McGrath had a question. Do any other communities have the same type of setup where they have a liaison from the Board of Selectmen to the School Board and vice versa? Selectman Luszey wasn't aware of any townships. However when you take a look at city forms of government, there are because it is a different form of government. That has been our struggle is because the town is a district. The school is a district mandated by legislation. They don't have to meet in the middle where in a city form of government, they're met in the middle through the Mayor or a Town Manager. Given where we are today and the willingness of the current Board to even entertain this and want to go through this, I think it is an opportunity for us to truly begin breaking that wall down of the us and the them. When it comes to the tax bill, the School Department is not the one that's going to get the phone calls in December when people get their new tax bill. It's going to be us. I think it behooves us to help the school and us to figure out how to reduce that overall tax impact to the taxpayer.

Selectman McGrath didn't disagree with what you're proposing to do but I'd like to know what other communities are doing if they're doing something similar and that we could learn from what other communities are doing and incorporate that into our community. Any opportunity that we have to save taxpayers money is certainly that should be foremost in our thought process and it would be something that I'd be agreeable to but I'd like to find out what other communities are doing and whether or not we can either replicate it or improve on what they're doing before I agree to this.

Selectman Luszey guessed that's kind of where I'm different. I don't think we should be followers. We should be leaders. If there are other communities out there doing this, I think it's great that we go find them and maybe help us not reinvent the wheel in its entirety but I would not want to postpone this because like a lot of things if we postpone this, it will get dropped off to the wayside and we'll lose the opportunity to be able to cultivate the feeling of cooperation that is beginning to happen.

Selectman McGrath thought putting it off until our next meeting to give us an opportunity to look into other communities, I think that that's - I'm not suggesting that we wait a year. I'm not suggesting that we wait 6 months but I think that to look into what other communities are doing and if we can glean some information and improve on what you want to do, I think that that's appropriate.

Selectman Nichols was in favor of the School Board meeting with our Selectmen. Patti said she wanted to do and that sounded great - 2 or 3 times a year to get their input and whatever. The idea of liaison I haven't seen it in any of the other towns. The school comes under the State. We can't change that. We can go up there and talk to the State and they're going to say no we're leaving it like it is. We can't say okay we're going to ignore you saying this. We're going to do this ourselves, you can't do that. It's wrong. Just to me it is wrong. If you can explain to me how that can make it right.

Selectman Luszey said we're not changing any laws. We're not violating any laws. What we're opening is an open and honest dialog on an ongoing basis versus once a year or twice a year during budget time. It's having the dialog that allows us to figure out where there are opportunities to do things slightly different that would save the taxpayer a dollar. I'll give you an example. We don't have HVAC technicians. The School Department does. Instead of hiring and HVAC company to come out and recharge this AC unit, we might be able to work out where they come over and fix it for us at no charge.

Selectman Nichols stated that's kind of interfering what they're doing at the school. It can't interfere with our business. They can't come in and say to our girls in accounting no we want you to do it this way. You can't do it. Chairman Coutu said we're not talking about running the School Department. We're talking about liaison. Selectman Nichols noted that's what they're trying to do. Chairman Coutu said no we're not. No we're not. Mr. Chairman I agree with you. I think that we've had this discussion before. It gets put by the wayside and nothing ever gets done. Without exception, I'll call for a vote.

*Vote: Motion carried 3-2.* Selectman Nichols and Selectman McGrath opposed.

10. NONPUBLIC SESSION

Motion by Selectman Luszey, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to enter Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:2 I (a) Strategy or negotiations with respect to collective bargaining; RSA 91-A:3 II (a) The dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a meeting and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted; and (d) Consideration of the acquisition, sale, or lease of real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general community, carried 5-0 by roll call.

Chairman Coutu noted Nonpublic Session is being entered at 8:48 p.m. after a 10 minute recess, thus ending the televised portion of the meeting. Any votes taken upon entering open session will be listed on the Board's next agenda. The public is asked to leave the room.

Chairman Coutu entered open session at 9:44 p.m.

Motion by Selectman McGrath, seconded by Selectman Nichols, to promote Master Patrol Officer Michael Davis to the position of Sergeant at \$33.24 per hour (Step 5) according to the Hudson Police Employee Association Contract. This elevation in rank would be effective on Sunday, April 10, 2016, carried 5-0.

Motion by Selectman Nichols, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to temporarily assign Lieutenant Allan Dube and Lieutenant Sean Mamone to the position of Acting Captain at a rate of \$32.27 per hour for a period not to exceed six months as recommended by the Fire Chief, carried 5-0.

Motion by Selectman McGrath, seconded by Selectman Nichols, to temporarily assign Firefighter Marty Conlon and Firefighter Toby Provencal to the position of Acting Lieutenant at a rate of \$24.26 per hour for a period not to exceed six (6) months as recommended by the Fire Chief.

Motion by Selectman Luszey, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to list 4 Chestnut Street (Map 247, Lot 045) for \$297,000, 3 Chestnut Street (Map 247, Lot 051) for \$149,000 and 17R Eays Pond Road (Map 247, Lot 075) for \$149,000, carried 5-0.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 9:47 p.m. by Selectman Nichols, seconded by Selectman McGrath, carried 5-0.

Recorded by HCTV and transcribed by Donna Graham, Recorder.

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Ted Luszey, Chairman

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Marilyn McGrath, Vice-Chairman

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Roger E. Coutu, Selectman

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Pat Nichols, Selectman

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Angela Saucier, Selectman