

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
Minutes of the October 20, 2015 Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER - by Chairman Maddox the meeting of October 20, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at Town Hall.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - led by Malcom Price.

3. ATTENDANCE

Board of Selectmen: Rick Maddox, Pat Nichols, Marilyn McGrath, Ted Luszey

Absent: Roger Coutu

Staff/Others: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator; Donna Graham, Executive Assistant; Kathy Carpentier, Finance Director; Charlie Matthews, Library Director

4. BUDGET PRESENTATIONS

Trustees of Trust Fund (5020)

Chairman Maddox understood their budget is down dramatically. Just so for everybody in case you forgot from last week, Ms. Carpentier is sitting in the corner. She'll be reading off page numbers. This budget is also on line if you would like to follow along. Riveting, riveting reading. Again the parameter was come in at zero and if you are above zero before you had some need other than if the voters voted a pay raise type thing which would increase the budget, you come in and make a presentation. With that, we are also doing "Ws" and "Cs" which is will and come back to that line item. Again so we don't have to go back through this entire book if we need to budgets downstream rather than doing it the night of the meeting we wait until the end because, again, in past years we have been generous in the first meeting, so-so in the last meeting, and panicked in the third. Let everybody make their presentation. I think it's fair to whatever department is coming in on the third night not getting - we already gave it away type of thing. Everybody gets to make their presentation and then we decide where we're going to go. If you've been following along, that's where we're headed.

Kathy Carpentier said we're starting in the tab Town Officers in the front of the book on page 1, Trustees of the Trust Fund, Department 5020. Chairman Maddox noted they're down significantly. Ms. Carpentier said they're down significantly because the voters approved a warrant to have the investment fees taken out of the capital reserve funds where before we used to appropriate the dollars. So there's an \$18,000 increase in the general fund, \$45,000 decrease in the sewer fund, and \$12,000 decrease in the water fund.

Steve Malizia said you can net the expenses now against the revenue. So if you're making money in those trust funds or capital reserve funds, the law allows you to net them out. Before we had to show an expense. Now we don't have to. The voters approved that.

Selectman Luszey asked what happens if we don't make money. Mr. Malizia said nothing it's a trust fund. It will still come out of the fund.

Chairman Maddox indicated they have been doing remarkably well. Steve Malizia said we anticipate that happening with the amount of money that they have invested.

Cemetery Trustees (5025), page 4

Chairman Maddox recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia said basically it's for Cemetery Trustees and elected body. It pretty much is a zero difference. They carry money in case they have to repair headstones or the like in the town owned cemeteries in which there are 4 or 5.

Chairman Maddox thought 90 percent of that is for repairs and maintenance. Board members any questions?

Supervisors of the Checklist (5042), page 16

Chairman Maddox recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia said salaries are set by the Town Meeting. That was several years ago. I believe they went to \$1,000 for each of them or something thereof. They also put money in when they do checklist sessions. I believe they have a very modest line for printing and office supplies - modest things that they need to make sure the checklists are up to date. Again a zero increase or a modest increase. I think they went up a couple of bucks on the elections because of the extra session and the Presidential Election. We'll have another checklist session.

Chairman Maddox asked are there any questions from Board members. These are all very low number accounts 1,200 here, 1,400 there. Again with the elections, it's driven by how many times they have to man the polls and do ballot lists.

Selectman McGrath said no changes to these budgets so they're the same as they were last year.

Steve Malizia said this one had a modest change. We have to run I think one more session because of the Presidential Election. They have to make sure they do that but that's...Selectman McGrath considered \$200 modest.

Treasurer (5050), page 19

Finance Director Kathy Carpentier said the total budget is \$8,074. The same as last year.

Chairman Maddox asked if there were any questions. Is it the same zero increase.

Sustainability Committee (5055), page 22

Kathy Carpentier said \$4,400. The same as last year. This also has a \$3,000 revenue budgeted.

Chairman Maddox recognized Vice-Chair Leo Bernard.

Leo said Linda was going to try to be here but she said if she couldn't I told her I'd be here for her. Chairman Maddox said you're a zero increase. Board members any questions? Again I think for the \$4,000, we get out monies worth out of and I'm hoping again with the new mission that that will increase citizen's awareness of what can be done with solar, and recycling, and all of the things the Sustainability. Again you did not go up. You're at the same number you were at last year. Do you expect to spend it all because in 2015 you only spent \$858?

Linda Kipnes said we probably will not spend it all. I believe we never spent all of the money but we do have some more goals and ambitions which we presented to you. Some of that may cost more money than what we have spent in the past.

Kathy Carpentier said a lot of this was for when you sold the - you'd have the expense here and the revenue on the other side when you sold kitchen pails, recycling bins and that type of thing. It's not only just a town expense, there's an offsetting revenue. Chairman Maddox asked are you going to do that again next year. Ms. Kipnes said we may. We have talked about it. We haven't planned for sure. Chairman Maddox said really that's a \$3,000 expense but there's an offsetting revenue. Again I'm just trying to say to the Board. Nobody is raising their hand. I guess we're moving on. Sorry to bring you in.

Benson (5063, 5563), page 24

Kathy Carpentier said \$1,200, a \$300 decrease. This was submitted by Chairman Barnes.

Chairman Maddox said seeing nobody any questions.

Kathy Carpentier noted page 26 is Benson Park operations 5563. I believe this was also submitted by Chairman Barnes.

Selectman McGrath asked if Mr. Barnes was going to be here to present. Chairman Maddox didn't know. I think we're going so fast that he may. Why don't we hold off on this because there is a \$3,000 increase from last year? Steve Malizia said it is predominantly in the port-o-toilets.

Chairman Maddox guessed the Chair's problem with that is we said zero unless we said otherwise number one. More than anything else, they just came in and said they have \$12,000 left over from their building fund to be able to fund this architect or engineer to go out and see what the utilities were going to cost. If they're not spending that on the line item, why should be keep funding. We'll put a "W" next to this and we'll get some answers. Maybe they'll be here later.

Budget Committee (5070), page 29

Kathy Carpentier said \$927. The same as last year.

Chairman Maddox recognized Chairman Malcom Price. Again you're at zero percent increase. Any Board member have any questions? Would you like to say anything in support of the budget?

Malcom Price said no. It's not going to chance. Looking forward to working with everybody in the budget season.

Chairman Maddox asked did you see anything you could cut out of this budget. Mr. Price said no.

Selectman Luszey noted publications.

Chairman Maddox said, again, \$927 to oversee \$70 million worth of - they probably go through that and all the books for paper.

Selectman Luszey asked to go electronic. Chairman Maddox thought that's something we need to take a look at. Having a tablet or something at the price of them today just, again, would we use them? Would it be a strain on IT to where it wouldn't be cost effective if you want to say? I know Selectman McGrath likes paper. You've said repeatedly you want something in your hand. If we went electronic, it would be nice to get rid of these but.

Ethics Committee (5080), page 31

Kathy Carpentier said it was a \$100 budget.

Chairman Maddox asked does anyone have any questions.

Selectman McGrath asked do you have a copy of that.

Chairman Maddox asked Steve Malizia can you tell us when the last time they met. Steve Malizia said no because I can't remember. Chairman Maddox said it's been one of those. They submitted this budget correct? Ms. Carpentier said no.

Selectman McGrath had a question. If they get any complaints and have to hold meetings, is this adequate to cover? They're only asking for \$100. Is it adequate if they get any complaints that they have to act on? Mr. Malizia imagined it is. At most they'd have to put something in the newspaper telling people they had a meeting. They don't get paid so they'd have the meeting here. Selectman McGrath said they wouldn't hire anybody to...Mr. Malizia wasn't aware that they would hire anybody for any...Selectman McGrath like we would advise her. Mr. Malizia said they would probably run that through the town. The town has a legal budget. Selectman McGrath said it's such a small amount. Chairman Maddox said they've spent \$10.46 in '14 and zero in '15. Steve Malizia said '13 is probably near the last meeting. They probably did some sort of notice.

Chairman Maddox asked so do we put money in that - if they needed money, they would come to us and say they need additional funds.

Selectman McGrath said this is the only budget that I've seen that's \$100.

Chairman Maddox asked wasn't Cemetery Trustees knocked down to something small. I thought they cut it in half to \$600. This is just kind of a placeholder more than anything else.

Selectman Luszey said if you look at the last three years, it was zero - \$10.46 in FY14.

Kathy Carpentier said that was probably one stamp that was miscoded.

Chairman Maddox thought they had to send something to the State right. Don't they have to report? Ms. Carpentier said I haven't seen them.

Planning & Planning Board (5571-5585)

Steve Malizia said I actually put these budgets together in consultation with the Planner so I can speak to it. The Planning budget is down. I believe it's 8.1 percent. Predominantly I took the gas out. We don't have a vehicle. No need to put gas in it. We have a new Administrative Aide that is a lesser salary than the previous Administrative Aide. Positive news - NRPC actually went down a couple of dollars but they did not go up. Overall this project is down.

Chairman Maddox asked to send a copy of that to Selectman Coutu. Questions?

Planning Board, page 6.

Steve Malizia said Planning Board was basically kept the same number. It's difficult sometimes to figure out how much you're going to get. Basically that budget is newspapers, postage, and professional services.

Chairman Maddox asked what professional services. Mr. Malizia said minutes. Chairman Maddox said we did \$793 in '15 and we're just waiting for someone. Steve Malizia said some of the minutes haven't been invoiced

because it takes some time to get through the minute taker.

Engineering (5585 & Warrant Article H, J, K, and L)

Chairman Maddox recognized Town Engineer Elvis Dhima. Good evening.

Good evening Mr. Chairman and members of the Board.

Kathy Carpentier said his actual department is on page 13. That's what you've been doing is going through his department and then going to his other requests. Chairman Maddox said just so everybody knows where we are if they're following at home.

Elvis Dhima noted I'm here in front of you tonight to present the budget, items outside the budget, and a few warrant articles. With that said per your request FY17 is presented in front of you with a 0.0 percent increase. With that said, I'm open to any questions you might have.

Selectman McGrath had a question. Line item 225 the engineering fees. That's gone up. I know overall you're at a zero increase. That line item has gone up by about \$12,000. Elvis Dhima said you're absolutely right. Basically what we did is we looked at the salaries or inspections for this year and what's projected for next year. We cut Gary's hours from 24 hours maximum to 16 a week maximum moving forward. We did that because of the hours we're using for inspections this year and the fact that most of the town projects will be done this year and I'll be able to be in the field more next year. With that said, we're carrying him for 16 hours a week. If we need to add additional hours, we can take that money from this account and move it over there. That's the only change we pretty much did. We took some of that salary and we put it under general services.

Selectman Luszey said if I got that right, you're saying that the workload in your department is decreasing dramatically that you're able to cut the part time Engineer from 29 to 16. Elvis Dhima said I'm not saying that. I'm just saying projecting for FY17 plus looking at the numbers for this year the billable hours and basically what Gary was doing between Town Engineer and me being here and planning to be out in the field even more next year, I see it feasible that 16 hours is more than adequate moving forward. If I need more inspection hours, I can definitely do that.

Chairman Maddox ask aren't those billed to the user. Mr. Dhima said yes to the developer, to people that need the inspections from us. So anyone who is doing sewer, water, any drainage or anything of that sort. We were busy at the beginning. We've been busy throughout but we're not 24 hours billable. I'll just put it that way. We usually typically looking at we vary from 4 hours a week to 12 hours a week. Basically we're looking at those numbers I said are adequate 16 hours a week is adequate plus I'm outside a lot myself doing the inspections so people don't have to wait to be done so people don't have to wait Thursday and Friday for Monday. I can go out there and do that. We don't have to have the part time Civil Engineer do that when he comes in next week. There's two people that can do those services.

Chairman Maddox asked what are we carrying for revenue coming in. Kathy Carpentier said FY15 \$13,980 and we've budgeted \$12,000.

Selectman McGrath just wanted to point out line item 102 the engineering salaries part time that's been reduced by about \$13,000 and I was questioning line item 225 that's gone up about \$12,000. It's kind of a wash.

Chairman Maddox asked you're planning on using outside rather than in house. Mr. Dhima said no. The \$30,000 for engineering fees are typically used for leak detection, GIS, anything but inspection services. We're not going to be subbing out the inspections. We'll be doing other things for that money.

Selectman Luszey said back on page 14, 225 outside engineering services/inspection is \$22,750. Elvis Dhima said that's just the language used and hasn't been changed. It doesn't mean that it's going to be \$22,700 for inspections. Selectman Luszey's point is if we have a part time that does that, why are we decreasing that and not eliminating that. Mr. Dhima said because I don't have billable hours. I don't have that right now. If I have my cue, I don't have 24 hours of billable hours so I can't carry that. Basically looking at the numbers that I have for inspection as of today and what I'm projecting for next year taking consideration and Library Street, Pelham Road, Zach's Field, Benson is going to be completed. There's going to be more time for me to be out there supporting Gary with services. I'm salary so I can do that.

Chairman Maddox thought the bottom line is the same. Whether there needs to be a transfer internally, that's something that they can do. If he feels that billable hours aren't there. Elvis Dhima said a perfect example Mr. Chairman. We were doing 16 hours for a couple of weeks because the work wasn't there, a couple of subdivisions were not done. Now we're getting a little bit busy again. Gary went up to 24 hours a week again. Why? Because he can cover three days for that. If we don't have anything and there's only 3 or 4 hours or 5 hours worth of work, I don't see the need as that department to carry for 24 hours. It says up to 24 hours if

needed.

Selectman Luszey was not all set with them. In '16 just under that one line item 225, he was at \$18,000 last year. He's going to \$30,750 for next year. So we're still collecting taxes to do that work even if he doesn't have billable hours. It's part of the budget now. It's the line item. So we're going to appropriate \$22,750 and the part time money. I'm having a hard time seeing where we're saving anything to her than you're cutting the part time hours yet we're appropriating money for consulting services somewhere else.

Elvis Dhima said it's not for inspection. It's for leak detection, GIS, for anything that...Selectman Luszey said that's one line item. You've got 3 items there. You've got the storm water program, on call consulting services which is the water, gas, dada, and then outside engineering services for inspection. If we're going to reduce that, reduce it. That's my point.

Mr. Dhima said the language there for consulting services for storm water program for \$4,000 doesn't mean we're going to have \$4,000. That kind of depends on what's coming up or what's going to be needed at the time. It doesn't mean we're going to have consulting services storm water \$4,000. We can have that new MS4 and we're going to get \$25,000 or even more. I'll be using more than \$4,000 out of that item. That is just a description that was there before my time on the budget. It's kind of the same thing year after year and it's the same language. It's just those numbers in. What I'm looking at when I do this is the bottom line. It was 18 and it's 30. How I use that 18 or how it's been used in the past it really has nothing to do with the 3 items. It's used based on the needs of the Town Engineer or the Engineering Department. It doesn't mean that 227 is going to go for inspections. I'm not going to hire anyone out there for things that I can do or Gary can do. This is for things that we can do in house - if I need an assessment done, if I need a study done, if someone comes in and says there's a safety issue over here Elvis. We think that a traffic study is needed and it's warranted for it, I can use that money to do that. For some reason, we get completely busy with all of a sudden with private development I can always go back to that and use that money back and forth or I can take money from an internship. I don't have to hire two. I can hire one. I'll move around. This is just saying this is what we're projecting. This is what we'll do. What actually happens next year is a different story. We got to go down to 8 hours. I might not even have to use any of this money. This is just a projection based on the numbers we have for inspections and based on where we're heading looking at the cue that we have in the works.

Chairman Maddox said since we have all those zeros at the end of that line, can you put 001 for inspections so that we could track how many inspections are done out of that 225? Is that your concern that we're just transferring money...Selectman Luszey said we're just transferring money around. If the goal is to reduce the inspection monies here - appropriation, then we should reduce in it. We didn't reduce it. He's reducing the number of hours of a part time employee and just sticking it in another place. If we really want to do that, reduce it to zero, put it all there, and call him as needed.

Chairman Maddox asked Kathy Carpentier could you track inspections separately from the other items - consulting service, engineering services so that we could get a handle on what that actually is.

Elvis Dhima said I can tell you that we haven't used since I've been here at least, we haven't used any engineering firm to do services for us as I know. We do keep the billable hours separate. We have that on track and how much we bill and how much money we make and the hours. So we have that already.

Selectman Luszey asked why did you increase that line 225 by 75 percent. Mr. Dhima said because I just moved money around. I projected...Selectman Luszey said that's my point. Okay never mind. I'm done.

Chairman Maddox noted we either need to strike the word "/inspections". Steve Malizia said it would seem appropriate. Chairman Maddox said we'll track it. One or the other so that they're not...Mr. Dhima said whatever is easier and whatever makes sense. Get rid of the inspections.

Kathy Carpentier said we're going back to page 8. Pages 8 through 12 is a request outside the budget that Mr. Dhima has requested.

Elvis Dhima pointed the Board to the television. The first and only item outside of the budget is not presented as a warrant article. It's improvements to Kimball Hill Road, Greeley Street and Route 111. (inaudible) study request using corridor money, 111. Not taxpayers money to do \$30,000 or up to \$30,000 a traffic study so that we can identify improvements at this corridor and get a cost estimate for construction related to the alternatives provided from this study. Things we'd be looking at is adding a second lane to Kimball Hill going towards Greeley, adding another lane to 111 so we can start process two vehicles at a time. Bottom line, it's kind of the same thing we're doing at the Library Street. Instead of one lane heading to Nashua, right now after the project will be completed will be two lanes. So that should be increasing the cue through that intersection.

Among other things that might come up from the study, Elvis Dhima indicated we're also looking at maybe improvements or changes to the intersection of the lights. Maybe adding another head light - trying to improve the

safety between traffic coming from Greeley and Kimball Hill. As they wait for each other facing there, I take that every day now. I come from Benson and playing a little bit of chicken there waiting and to see if they're going to let you or not or if you have enough time. It seems that there is some room for improvements at that intersection. It will not be a roundabout I promise you that if that gets through tonight.

Chairman Maddox asked wasn't it VHB that's already done a study of this intersection. Mr. Dhima said no but they did look at this for free for the town to provide us with an overall approach. I did reach out to VHB and they did not tell me that there's one in place already. Chairman Maddox though maybe it was another V something or another but there was a big study done of all the various intersections in town that needed to be upgraded. That's where we based our cap fees on years ago. Mr. Dhima was aware of the Sagamore Bridge improvement. Chairman Maddox said this was for this intersection. Again we're not looking to do this tonight. Again I think you're just saying that this is a project that you want to do above and beyond the budget. Mr. Dhima said yes. If the Board agrees to move forward and approve this or use the money for the corridor, I would initiate the study and then go from there. Again Chairman Maddox said that's not part of the budget. What I'm trying to drive at here is this is really not tied to tonight. This is something you're going to come in downstream with that says this is the dollar approach or whatever it's going to be. It's not in the budget so it's not something that we need to put onto a "W", "C" or anything else this evening, correct?

Steve Malizia said its corridor funds right. So I don't believe we've budgeted. Kathy Carpentier said if you know the project is there, you would just put it on both sides. You'd have an approved appropriation and a revenue stream from corridor funds. You can have unanticipated projects. Mr. Malizia said from a purest perspective if you know of something, you would plan for it and gross up both sides. You'd put a revenue from corridor accounts and you'd have the expense they'd wash. Chairman Maddox said we take stuff out of corridor accounts and you'd have the expense and they'd wash. Chairman Maddox said we take stuff out of corridor accounts all the time. It's not in the budget. Again I just don't see the need to do that. Steve Malizia said we can certainly do it that way. That's the practice. Kathy Carpentier said if it's a planned project, you should do it that way. If it's not planned at this point, it does not belong in the budget. Chairman Maddox said it's been 15 years in the making so I'm not sure it's a planned project.

Selectman McGrath was going to comment that it would be corridor funds that would be utilized and not taxpayer funds.

Selectman Luszey asked what brought this one to the table and not tell them in Lowell and County and Lowell. They're just as bad as this one if not worse. Chairman Maddox said if you keep reading. That's the next one.

Elvis Dhima said I wasn't planning to propose that...Selectman Luszey indicated I don't have that one - Belknap. I'm talking about Pelham Road and County. Selectman McGrath indicated that's in the warrant article section. Steve Malizia indicated Pelham got straightened out a couple of years ago. Belknap Road...Selectman Luszey said there's no light there. It's worse. Steve Malizia said that's correct there is no light. From a safety point of view, Selectman Luszey asked how does that tie into all this. Mr. Dhima said different project, different area. It hasn't even been identified as - you're not going to see IP project.

Chairman Maddox believed, and this is from years ago, that when they put the lights at Nottingham, that gives you a certain amount of window to get out of there now after the restructuring so it's not six lanes in and seven lanes out the way it used to be. It was just a wide open - it's been condensed as theoretically defined lanes and with the Nottingham Square, there's a break in the traffic so add a dedicated turn lane in as opposed to before. Again something that we can put on the list.

Elvis Dhima noted the second would be under Engineering would be item L - lining of the Central Street bridge.

Chairman Maddox said 3A Belknap Road projects. Mr. Dhima said that was part of - I had them look at two projects but I just wanted to present to you tonight only one project and it would be this one. That's in the cue also. We did our homework. Whenever the Board is ready or whenever you feel like we want to move forward, that's a \$2 million project so I didn't feel like I wanted to get into that one. It's much more intense.

Chairman Maddox said it needs something that needs to be done but I guess we're - Elvis Dhima asked would it be through a regular board meeting the other one then - this improvement would you want Mr. Chairman me to present this to a different after the budget goes through I guess. How would you like? Chairman Maddox would like to see where we're going to head with this. I think that that is a dangerous intersection with people trying to pull out at that strange angle with now traffic going in two different directions with people trying to turn into the two pizza places. It is a challenging intersection. I think this ties in personally with the drainage that goes under that whole - does this \$2 million encompass any of that drainage work that needs to be done? Mr. Dhima believed you're talking about Belknap and Lowell I believe now right the \$2 million. That would be the relocation of the pipe under the T-Bones Restaurant. It would be that entire project will be a traffic/environmental/drainage and that would be the massive project that will probably be presented in FY17/FY18. FY18 I would say because that's quite a bit - that's a 5-year project. It's very intense. I was hoping to present to you now something that could be

easily done up to 3 years versus something that could be 5 years. If that's something that you wanted to pursue, I can definitely look into that too as well. Chairman Maddox thought it's something that we need to look into and the sooner we start at least doing preliminary, the closer we'll get to being completed.

Selectman McGrath said that might be something that we can talk about and do a short term fix on that like closing off the end that comes out onto Lowell Road off of County - the south end of it and just having it come out at the north end of it. Chairman Maddox said that's just going to double the amount of traffic that's trying to make crazy turns to go south on Lowell Road. That I think would be more problematic to be honest with you. Elvis Dhima said that would have public hearings for that to see what the abutters would say. That's why I didn't present it to the Board tonight because that's a very complicated - there's a lot of issues over there and there's a lot of...Chairman Maddox said next time don't put it in the budget book. Some of us read it.

#### Warrant Article L - lining of Central Street Bridge Culvert

Elvis Dhima said we had DOT do inspection in December for this pipe and unfortunately we are on the red list. This particular structure - I have a picture to show real quick. This is an overall plan. The structure is on Central Street through First Brook. You really can't tell there's a bridge there when you drive by. I had to drive a couple of times but this is what it looks like at the street view. There's the house here with a moose. That's how I can always identify it. Basically what we have is a structure built in 1974. It's a combination of galvanized pipe and concrete. This is what it looks like and basically this entire section at the bottom here on both sides has erosion issues. We have some loss on this section of the pipe. Basically a close up would look like this. They've rated it 3 out of 10. What that means is they can come in every year and look into it. Merrimack next door, they had a similar situation. The State came in. Unfortunately they did not pass so they had to shut down I believe Bean Road and had a huge impact to the traffic. They had to do a detour. They're repairing it right now. Basically I reached out to VHP again. They looked at it. We think it's in good shape and this is a great candidate for lining it. Yes Mr. Chairman you were correct. I wasn't sure if this was going to be one of them but when they looked at the overall picture, basically the preliminary assessment came to. This is a good candidate bridge for that kind of approach. With that said, we looked at some numbers. We got some quotes and I'm asking this Board for \$160,000 for the design, construction, and oversight of lining the Central Street Bridge. This would be at no funds from the State. My approach would be we do this ourselves and then we go to the State if we have the design and hoping that they're going to cover 80 percent. If not, we'll do it ourselves. Option B would be we go to them, they tell us no you should replace the bridge and then we're spending \$1 million. \$980,000 that's what VHB came up with.

Chairman Maddox asked how much would we have to spend before we know what they're going to approve. As we found out on the Pelham Road dam bridge. Elvis Dhima said there is an e-mail that actually explains it. If you look at the package after the project location map, there is an e-mail sent out by VHB and then the second e-mail is by NH DOT. It states the engineering study also identified the preferred alternatives. This is the first paragraph. The design for perimeter plans for development is the preferred alternative to 60 percent completion. We are doing a report and then we're doing the designs. We're 60 percent into it. There's not really any going back and that's when they start getting engaged with the finances. It's quite a bit. My approach is we will do the study at our pace ourself. We'll prove to them that lining is the way to go. We will hire adequate staff. We will go through going out to bid. We'll prove all those to them and we come up with lining is the alternative to go. Would you like to be part of the success story and then let them make the decision yeah or nay hoping that they might be covering 80 percent of the 160? I reached out to the State. They seemed to be open to it but they will not obviously pull the trigger now. With that said any questions?

Chairman Maddox said this is a great bang for our buck. We just paved that road. Why not look to do the most cost effective. The rest of the structure is fine. It just is rusting at the bottom of the pipe. Why not reline the pipe and move forward rather than spending \$1 million to dig out of a perfectly good bridge to put in a new bridge. Elvis Dhima said this is what lining typically looks like. They go in with some kind of heavy equipment depending on the size and they just put this plastic or sometimes this combination of plastic and steel and they just line this. It's a pipe within a pipe. There's different ways. Sometimes it comes with something loose. They heat it up with steam. It becomes one. There's different ways to do it.

Selectman McGrath asked how long would that take. Elvis Dhima said no impact to the traffic, no impact to the pavement. That could take between I would say one to two weeks depending on how if they get a good handle on the machines and everything works. Steve Malizia noted the whole project takes longer than a week or two. Mr. Dhima agreed but just the lining itself. What they have to do is they have to dewater it first. They have to clean the pipe. They have to get to the bottom of it and make sure its dry. They probably have to do some kind of patching first to make sure everything is structurally sound and then they'll do the lining depending on what we're going to go with. Selectman McGrath said but no traffic impacts. Mr. Dhima said it shouldn't be expect just the staging. Just the equipment that's needed there on the side. This shouldn't need any detours or land closures. Based on what we've been told, Selectman McGrath said it needs to be done because it could easily turn into a critical item and the State could shut down that portion of the road. Steve Malizia indicated it's already on their red list which means they come in and inspect it every year. You could get to a year, I can't tell you when, and they

say that's it. Selectman McGrath indicated we don't want to get to that point. Mr. Malizia presumed we don't.

Chairman Maddox said for \$160,000 to not dig up the bridge we just paved and get this done makes a lot of sense. So everybody is in favor of forwarding this to the warrant.

Selectman Luszey said I can't believe we didn't do it when we paved the road if it's that low amount. This is on our "W" list so that we'll come back to this in the end.

Sewer Fund (5561, 5562, 5564 & Warrant Article B), page 1

Chairman Maddox to recognize Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Just so you know, Steve Malizia said that the sewer utility is all paid for by the sewer users. So the fees that get collected and get billed out to the sewer users are paying for this. So pretty much think of this as a separate little business of the Town of Hudson that basically serves the sewer users. If you look at the numbers here, you'll see this number has decreased. I believe more than likely due to funding for probably Nashua's side of the street. We have some basic expenses. We send our waste to a wastewater treatment plant in Nashua. We pay a flow for that. We have our own crews over here that do a lot of replacement, and upgrade, and keep everything running smoothly. That's the Highway crew that does that. Again looking at this particular utility, the number is down approximately \$83,000. This will also as the pattern, this will show up separately on the warrant as Warrant Article B. As you recall, we do the operating budget for the general fund. The sewer fund and the water fund we've separated those out. When we're done, this would be a separate warrant article this section.

Chairman Maddox said you've reduced the capital reserve fund. The two reasons these numbers went down was for the capital assessment and the reserve funds are both reduced down. Steve Malizia indicated you've also saved money as KC mentioned earlier because the investment fees were now being - sewer has quite an investment. They have quite a lot of money. Chairman Maddox said \$6 million. Mr. Malizia said more like \$8 million. They have quite an investment with the Trustees so all those investment funds have come out of 5561. So that's reduced by at least \$45,000 right there. That's a big piece of it.

Water Fund (5591-5594 & Warrant Article C)

Chairman Maddox recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia said, again, this utility is borne by the cost of the users. So we have a structure in place that the users pay for all of the water expenses. As you recall, the Town purchased the water utility in 1998, cut the rates 10 percent. Those rates have not changed in all those years. So this will be the 18<sup>th</sup> year - something along those lines. I think it's in pretty decent shape obviously. If you look at the expenses again, they are all basically to run the utility. We took, again, the investment monies out of 5591. We do have a contract with Pennichuck. It does have a cost of living escalator in it. We do also procure water particularly in the summer months when we need to have more flow coming across to service our customers. I think everything else is pretty much a function of how much water we produce itself. Basically the chemistry, chemicals, electricity, and all that to move the water around at the cistern. As you recall, I think a year or two ago we reduced the outstanding debt by refinancing. Once again, lower interest rates. Save \$1 million over the remaining life of this utility. We've managed to fund two capital reserves - one for repair which was about \$380,000 in it and we also have an expansion extension capital reserve that has over \$2 million. So we've got some pretty decent capital reserve funds that have never been tapped through the whole time we've had this.

Chairman Maddox commented we're about to fix that. Steve Malizia said you'll see also that I'm also recommending that we start another capital reserve fund for the plan replacement or upgrade of things like pipes, pumps, those kinds of things. I don't believe if you read the warrant article for the extension/expansion that covers replacing again existing pipe, existing pumps. Repair is more for when things break and you need to repair them as opposed to a plan replacement schedule. I think the utility is mature enough and I think we can easily fund it out of the surplus just to get a modest start of \$100,000. I think its Warrant Article H just to get that going because again I think from a prudent management perspective, that's an area where we're going to need to do pipe replacement. We're going to need to do pump station replacement upgrades. Elvis Dhima said chemical tanks, chemical feeds, anything of that stuff. Mr. Malizia said things go and we've been reactive in the past. I'd like to be more proactive and plan for that better.

Selectman Luszey said just like you're trying to be proactive on the water, why wouldn't we be proactive on the sewer side and establish a capital reserve for building some type of treatment facility given that we know Nashua's...Steve Malizia wasn't sure we'd get licensed on this side of the river. If we wanted to, I think we have \$8 - 9 million in a capital reserve fund that we could basically use for that purpose. We have an expansion for the sewer and I think it's got \$8 million in it. We have millions of dollars on that side of the house if you could get it permitted.



Selectman Luszey asked do we know - I know you think we can't on this side of the river but we also know that Nashua can't expand very easily any more. They told us that. Given that we are crunched for capacity, why wouldn't we be looking at how to increase that capacity? Steve Malizia said we've done things to try to increase the capacity by getting infiltration out of this system. As you recall, we've been spending money and continue to spend money to make sure that we're getting the maximum we can. I think that's run out a certain number. I'm not saying I don't know exactly the number. That's part one. Part two, I'm not entirely sure that Nashua can't do it. I don't think they want to do it.

Selectman Luszey indicated we're being held hostage by Nashua. Mr. Malizia said we are 12.5 percent owners of that plant. Selectman Luszey said if they don't build more, we don't get more. That to me is very black and white. What I keep hearing is we're limited by the amount of capacity we have we cannot afford to give industry a lot of capacity any more. Steve Malizia stated obviously this system has limits. You are correct. Selectman Luszey asked why wouldn't we be proactive to figure out how to solve that problem instead of waiting for d-day when we're done.

Elvis Dhima wanted to clarify a couple of things. We did meet with the current Mayor in Nashua and we did get the cold shoulder as you stated. What I'm planning is to approach the new Mayor whoever is going to be elected to see if that position might change or might not change. I think it will make our case easier to the State saying that we tried two different administrations in Nashua. We're not getting any feedback. What would you recommend us to do? It's not as easy as just going to the State and saying we're going to put in a wastewater treatment here deal with it. I think we have to prove to them that we don't have any other alternative. In addition to that, we know for a fact that we're only sending 1.3 to 1.4 million gallons a day versus we are up to 2.2. Our capacity is 2.2. So we're doing a two year study with CLD right now. We are right now working on that to identify where our system is, if we have any leaks or not, and just kind of determine how much sewer allocation we can put aside I guess compared to what we did in the past. I think when they did it in 2000-2002, they were saying that we were losing 600,000 gallons a day on infiltration and inflow. Obviously we've done a lot of work to that system now so we don't have those loses anymore. See if they come back and say oh there's only 300,000 that you're losing versus 600. That's going to give us some room. We know for a fact that we're only sending 1.3 - 1.4 million gallons a day. If someone comes in and says I need something, all we have to do is figure out what the properties have for sewer allocation. They're not obviously being used. We locked them in and they're not being used. We have some room to do things here. We're not that desperate I'd say. My suggestion would be we approach the new Mayor whoever is in and ask the same question we did with Mayor Lozeau. If we get the same answers, that's when we go and knock on the State's door.

Selectman McGrath said also you just instituted new procedure on the permitting policy upstairs the permits that are issued so that you're identifying what usage or what capacity the business coming in is going to need versus what that building already has in place. New tenants coming into the industrial park, those buildings may be allocated a certain capacity now but the new tenant coming in would need less or more. That's being identified which is helpful.

Elvis Dhima said we're trying to fine tune it who was there, whose old tenant, new tenant, and all that yes. That's currently in the works right now.

Chairman Maddox asked who is paid in all of this. In years gone by, they said well it's free we'll take 25,000 gallons worth of flow when they're using 800. Again I think that's something the Town Engineer should be working towards garnering as much of the unused flow as possible to again help that number. Help me out Mr. Dhima but as I understand it, the flow is considered an average over the entire year or what type of time frame does that encompass? Mr. Dhima believed we monitor it weekly. We have meters at the flume and also we have BAE they have a meter there as well. WE measure our flows and then Nashua measures their flows on their end and we kind of compare every year. Those are basically on an average weekly measurements typically. It's pretty good. I would say daily. That would be 1.22 - 1.4 I think we see. Mr. Malizia said there's weekly readings as you are well aware but back in the day when I was Finance director, the readings would approach 2.4, 2.5, 2.6, sometimes 3 million gallons a day. We had either a more industry or a more inflow infiltration. We're down to 1.2, 1.3, 1.4. Certain industries have left. Inflow infiltration has improved. We just have to be able to figure out how we can reallocate.

Chairman Maddox said a tick to the former green team - Sustainability people are putting in low flow water uses in toilets, shower heads, and all that. Again I think that it's a dire a problem if 10 industries want to come in and each needed 20,000 gallons I think we could probably make it happen. It's just a matter of a lot of paperwork and a lot of forms.

Selectman McGrath wanted to point out that the Town Engineer is the one that identified that need on the permit so that that could be identified easily and not be missed. Kudos to him.

Warrant Article H.

Steve Malizia indicated yes I'm the one that put this article together. I've given you some backup. Basically I outlined what the other two, and again there are two, existing capital reserves and water. This one, again, I thought was important that we start having conversation and start putting money aside for again planned replacement. If we have a pipe go, we know that pumps go, we know that chemical tanks and all kinds of other items start to fail. I think it's prudent to get a program in place where we have money when we need to do these things that we could appropriate money out of these capital reserve funds. As I read the purpose for the other two, I don't think it quite fits what I'm intending to propose.

Chairman Maddox asked why wouldn't we modify the capital repairs one. Steve Malizia said it takes 2/3 or 3/5 vote. It takes a super majority. It takes a greater than normal. I think its 2/3 majority to modify the language of a capital reserve fund at Town Meeting. We can certainly try it but. Chairman Maddox thought we'd try that first because if we have to do that thing where every year we have to go back and get all of our funding approved at the ballot. I don't disagree with your thinking but again I'm just trying to think ahead. I would think that if you combined them both together, it would give you a lot more flexibility to be able to make a repair or make a...Mr. Malizia said it's still not going to solve that problem that you just referenced though. If we have to go and put it on a separate ballot, it's not going to solve...Chairman Maddox said you'd have 2 instead of 3. Mr. Malizia said we're still going to have a mountain to climb.

Chairman Maddox asked Board members where would you like to go.

Seeing that this is my first time through for this - and I did read this carefully all 3, Selectman McGrath asked can you give me a brief overview so that I understand exactly. So we'd have 3 capital reserve...Steve Malizia said when we establish a reserve sometime after that in 2002, the Town thought it would be prudent at that point to start establishing some capital reserves. We had a few years of running the utility under our belt. Took it in 1998. We decided to have a capital reserve fund for repairs. If a pump station or something goes, we can get right on it. When I say something I'm not talking the garden \$5,000 type of thing. I'm talking a \$50,000 maybe a \$100,000 something goes and it absolutely paralyzes our water utility we need to fix it, we need to have the money to do it. So we did a repair one. A repair was, again, just what it says to repair things. We also at the same time did an extension expansion so if the Town chose to expand the system, extend the water because we have through the years we've done that. It's been pretty much done by development money. In other words somebody comes in and wants to hook their development in, we've basically required them to run the extension. That may change some day when we need to put in a water tank. We need to do something along those lines. I think that would come under the extension or expansion. What I'm talking about is a different purpose which is to start replacing - I'll use the term "upgrade" but things go. Pipes get old. It needs to be replaced. Right now we replace a pipe when it breaks. If it breaks, we go out and repair it in the middle of the night on overtime for somebody. I'd like to be able to have a program where for example on the pipe we can every year pick we need to do this many feet. You're not going to probably do miles it's expensive. Because this is the oldest section of pipe. Some of the pipe in this area is probably 100 years old. I'd rather get to it before it fails.

Steve Malizia said again same with some of our pump station equipment. We have booster stations and pumps that move water all around. It just doesn't flow on its own. As those things wear out, I'd like to be able to replace that and kind of keep the budget I use the word "smooth" so we don't have to appropriate all this money one year to upgrade the Windham Road booster station which I think is a conversation we'll have in a couple of minutes. That's all I'm saying is start putting the money away. It's a savings account that you can draw on later on. What Chairman Maddox is saying is well let's change the purpose of I'm assuming one of the two of them. Pick one.

Chairman Maddox said the capital reserve one for repairs. Steve Malizia said you can do. You have to get the voters approval and I believe its 2/3 you have to have. So you need to have 66 percent of the voters say yes. That can be a high standard.

Selectman McGrath noted if that's already been approved - one portion of it has already been approved by the voters and that continues to be funded. Mr. Malizia said that we have actually not put any monies into repair because we have a sufficient balance. We've never drawn out of it. We have what we believe is a sufficient balance right now. Should we ever have to dip into it, we could appropriate money but for the last few years we haven't.

Selectman McGrath was thinking about Mr. Maddox's idea of combining the two. If that capital reserve has already been approved by the voters and then we're going to change it which would then necessitate them reapproving it and I agree that's a high standard. They've already approved one portion of it. How much is it that you wanted to fund this? Steve Malizia was only suggesting \$100,000 just because it's a number to start with and it's not too high if a voter sees it. It's not like \$10,000 which is basically useless. It will be coming from the water utility surplus. The only other little twist might be that the repair capital reserve fund, the Board of Selectmen are agents to expend because you need to be able to do it right away. The other capital reserve fund I think requires the voters - so you'd have to I believe do it at - yes any expenditure out of that would have to be from approved Town Meeting. I don't know if the voters would give you the same leeway if you were to change the repair one. In other words, repair is meant to be an emergency. We got to get at it right away type of spending.

Selectman McGrath asked what would happen if we combined the two, went before the voters requiring a 2/3 majority to pass and it fails. Mr. Malizia said the language wouldn't change it would still be for repairs but we couldn't do the upgrades or the replacements. Selectman McGrath said what was already approved that wouldn't change. Mr. Malizia said you won't lose that. We went through an exercise with the sewer a few years back if you can recall. I believe it had to do with - again something to do with the expansion/extension of the system. There was some language that we looked to try to modify. I can't remember all the details but it required a super majority and I don't recall if it passed or not.

Selectman Luszey said I'm inclined to combine them because if we have to go in front of the voters for all of them to be reapproved, it's going to be many less because we'll need to figure out how to combine many or to change the way we do business. The voters will tend not to vote for a lot of things. They'll vote no on a lot of them. Steve Malizia agreed. Selectman Luszey thought the risk of this is minimal. We should try to combine it and try to get that and get it into one.

Selectman Nichols thought - I keep reading this over and over and still not 100 percent sure that if we've already got approval for one, there's nothing that can be done about that right? That stays as is, right? Selectman Luszey said as far as we know today. Selectman Nichols said if it hasn't been brought up again - if it's been approved - it is all set.

Steve Malizia noted the only way - you could or this Board could, somebody could do an article to rescind it or revoke it or whatever but that would actually take another vote or a positive motion. Selectman Nichols said if we just voted for the one for the \$100,000 for the repair or replacement, I like the idea of being able to repair or replace those ducts. Is that where the money would go? Mr. Malizia said it would go for water utility items. It wouldn't do a culvert like that. Selectman Nichols asked it would go to the pipes. Mr. Malizia said correct - pipes, booster stations, storage tanks, other infrastructure of the water utility. Selectman Nichols said if you come in some morning and one of these pipes had burst out here in front of the building. Steve Malizia said I have a repair fund I could actually draw on right now. This would be more for planned replacement.

Selectman Nichols asked emergency replacement would come from which fund. Steve Malizia said repair fund. If all of a sudden I lose some major water main and it's going to cost \$50,000, we could draw on the capital reserve fund for repairs. Selectman Nichols noted this would be for later. Mr. Malizia said what this was proposed to do was instead of being reactive to something that broke let's have a replacement program to prevent things hopefully from breaking because we know they're getting old. I think everyone is in agreement that we need to have that sort of program. It's just a question of how do we want to do it? Do we want to modify what we have or do we want to do something new? If we modify what we have, it would be one less article should we have to put them all on the ballot. I think we're going to fight it but that's my opinion. Selectman Nichols preferred that this would be alone then. That's how I look at it.

Chairman Maddox indicated I was just asking. I just wanted to know where you were coming from. You're awfully quiet there on the silent side today. Selectman Nichols said I'm being good.

Elvis Dhima stated also this kind of goes along the same lines that you were saying earlier. Let's just say the Highway Department is doing a road or a street and there's a main 2 1/2 inches or 3 inches that's in need of repair. It's an old one. We don't have to scramble now finding money for that. We can actually get money from this account - this warrant article to go towards replacing that line. We don't have to wait for that to break and then we can just remove a 5 foot section. We can actually go in and use this money to replace the entire section.

Chairman Maddox said Kevin's doing that now, right? He's not paving roads over bad pipes. It's culverts and...Steve Malizia said since I've been here they've always been very diligent with the sewer side. Because they haven't had as much experience with water if they saw something that was imminent but as a planned replacement no. They're not just going in to replace water pipe. They're going in if looks beyond a certain point and I guess you know it when you see it, they'll do that. As you recall, they've had a sewer project. He's trying to always tie it out with hey I'm going to be paving. Let's do the sewer. Let's make sure the drainage works. Certainly can make sure the water works. Again the intent is to try to be proactive. It's not just pipes. It's storage tanks; it's booster stations; it's all those mechanical parts that we have around town.

Chairman Maddox asked can we make this a "W" and can you get us if it was a single one what percentage it would have to be. Is it 66 or...Steve Malizia said if it's all by itself, it has to pass by one vote. So what is that 50.00001. It just has to get a majority. Just a simple majority to establish a new capital reserve fund. To change one, it has a different...Chairman Maddox asked if you could find out what that is. We'll wait until Selectman Coutu is back so we have a...

Selectman McGrath said and then modify the language if it's combined. If we go to a combined warrant article, it requires the two-thirds majority. I'd like to see the language so that the votes would know clearly that they've already approved say part one of that warrant article and part two is additional funds for planned replacement.

Steve Malizia said I'll check with the attorney. Basically all this language would probably be in the original language.

Selectman Luszey commented the warrant article is not going to say part one has already been approved by the voters. Mr. Malizia said no. It's going to have this and then it's going to modify it by adding this to it.

Chairman Maddox said we could tell people that's what's happening but you can't put that on the warrant.

Warrant Article J.

Elvis Dhima indicated Warrant Articles J and K are really one big project broken into two different warrant articles. Basically what we have looking at the screen we have the Gordon tank which has been in need of some kind of repairs, some kind of repainting job needed by DES based on some inspections done a while ago. A letter was sent to the Board of Selectmen in 2014. We addressed every single item on that list except the painting the interior and exterior. In addition to this, we have the existing booster station located on Windham Road adjacent pretty much to the intersection we talked a little bit earlier. As you know this was built in 1980. We have expanded our system a lot now. So basically what's happening is the pumps they are used for fire flows are kicking in just to keep up with the domestic demand. I went out to Weston & Sampson and told them to look at the booster tank and to see what would make more sense for the town. Will we need a new tank and we can abandon the old Gordon tank. Do we need to build a new booster station or can we rehab this. Can we use it somehow for a new project?

Basically what Elvis Dhima said we came up with is a new tank along Rangers Drive would be pretty much kind of below the power lines there. Windham Booster Station will be rehabbed to bring the water to the new tank and the Gordon tank can eventually be abandoned. We don't have to repair it or do anything. Basically what it comes down to is two projects. One of them is \$1.2 million and that's going to include the installation of a water line that's going to connect to different systems as shown on the picture. We have a 12 inch main along Rangers and Barretts Hill. The line in red is the proposed line and the line in green is what we already have in the system. Basically we're connecting Oliver Drive and Barretts Hill all the way down to Greeley and Barretts Hill. Also we'll be putting a line at the site where we're proposing a new Barretts Hill tank. That way we have an alternative. We don't have to spend money on an existing structure in replacing that with the new one. We can look into something that we need in this region of the town.

With that said, Elvis Dhima said Article J is for \$1,187,500 for the design, construction, and oversight. Article K is for the installation of 1 million new tank glass fused stand pipe and site work associated with that and the rehab of the booster station, including engineering services and miscellaneous services and contingencies - up to 15 percent. With that said, I'm open to questions.

Chairman Maddox said without some sort of overview, you have us all over the map here. I think we need some sort of - we have 2 million something in our water fund. Mr. Dhima said yes it's just over \$2 million. Chairman Maddox said I don't want to bond anything this year other than a fire station. I thought we were going to stay within the parameters of the monies we had. Elvis Dhima said that's why I broke it down to...Chairman Maddox said one's not good without the other. Mr. Dhima said this is going to be a multi-year project. We can start this year...Chairman Maddox commented one was no good without the other, correct? Mr. Dhima said you're right about that. Chairman Maddox said I don't see that as a viable option ladies and gentlemen. I think that we should be doing something that is going to either fix a problem with the monies we have or go out with a plan that's going to bond it downstream. I really thought we were going to do something that would spend money we had whether fix the booster station, replace Gordon Street. Now you've gone into better than \$3 million that we don't have. Again without some sort of overview and Mr. Dhima, again, I understand this is your first go around with budgets. It's just tough to follow this with what you have here in the packet.

Selectman Luszey said another concern is if I understood you, this is a Sampson & Weston proposal. Did you ask anybody else to look at it and give us guidance? Elvis Dhima indicated this is an assessment. They are a water vendor. Selectman Luszey asked did we go out and ask other consulting firms so we're taking their word on it again. Mr. Dhima said I assessed it and I looked at the overall numbers. I reduced some of the numbers. What I'm proposing to you is pretty much my assessment of what they submitted. We do have fire flow issues no matter what we do with Gordon tank. Even if we replace it, there's still going to be issues over there because we keep expanding, expanding. We can only do so much with pressure before there is a need for storage. That's what it comes down to. Basically what we're looking at is do we spend the money to rehab Gordon tank and the booster station and we still have a need now for those fire flows along 111. We don't have that tank. The Barretts Hill tank this project has been in the works for a long time now. It's been part of the Town CIP report for quite some time. Basically where I was coming from is Barretts Hill is kind of where we're heading. This is what's needed there no matter what you do with the Gordon tank. Why spend money on something that's existing that's not really going to address any fire flow issues when you can build something new. Kind of use the Windham booster station for that purpose versus trying to retrofit it and still going to have fire flow issues.

Elvis Dhima indicated what's happening is you get further and further out into the distribution system, you're still playing with that pressure but you're putting - you might be having issues with a building or the houses too close to that booster station. To add to that, the State is looking for something as where are we heading? We own this water. What are we doing and where are we going? Obviously something was sent to us. We haven't sent anything back to the State. They're okay with that right now but they all like to see a plan of attack. What are we going to do? If this Board decides to we'll replace Gordon tank and there's just an update with them. It could be an option but I'm not sure if you're still going to address the pressure issues and is it that the way to go maybe? When we looked at the overall everything - and that's what that 12 page report done by Weston & Sampson. He came down to you might be better off as a town putting the new tank in place. It's a long-term solution. It's going to address fire flows, commercial especially and you will be using that existing booster station to fill that tank. So you won't have to do anything.

Chairman Maddox said, again, my personal issue is I'm not asking for a bond and again the only bond I want to ask for is the fire station. Even though this is coming out of ratepayers, nobody sees that and I'm concerned that we'll be inflicting our own wounds here. Again I don't have a problem is this is the way we have to go and I'm still fuzzy on that with my Weston & Sampson goggles on. I think that maybe this is something that you need to talk to us more dedicated to. I'm looking at this and I'm going okay. This is a drastic change from what we were told we needed to do 5 years ago.

Elvis Dhima said trust me I've read like 1,000 different reports about this and this is why I went back. As a new Town Engineer, I want to look at the overall. There's been a lot of talks - we need to do this. We need to do that. I want to look at the overall. I don't want to spend money on something that five years from now I'd be like why did you do that? We had this. This is that time right now when we look at the overall picture and we're looking at 5, 10, 20 years and what we have now, and what would make sense, and what would be that capital improvement we need to do so we don't have to do anything for the next 20 to 30 years. I understand the money aspect. I totally do but I want to give you I guess the best option or what would make more sense to be done I guess when it comes to hydraulics and the model itself. We did put it at the finance aspect into it as well. We did do some comparison and to replace Gordon tank, you're looking at \$1.5 million for example. We had some numbers there.

Chairman Maddox asked where is that in this report - page 8. Elvis Dhima said yes Gordon Street rehab. It talks about what it would take to paint it, replace it with glass, and then replace it with the concrete. That's where that 1.5 is coming from. That would be just the cost of actually physically replacing it, side prep, and any of that sort would probably be additional engineering, going out to bid, and all that stuff that goes with the replacement versus if you go to page 9 if you're looking at Barretts Hill tank options, a new tank different location will be addressing the fire flows. Will be addressing the rehab for Windham Booster Station and it gives you four different options - glass, restressed, glass fused, and then elevated tank. Obviously the cheapest one would be the glass fused stain pipe and that's what I'm presenting for.

Chairman Maddox asked why would anybody put an elevated spheroid tank with  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a million gallons of water at twice the price. Again I think those are the questions we are kind of why did they put this in here at such a dramatic increase in price and reduction in volume. Mr. Dhima indicated that's for 1 million gallons. Steve Malizia thought it's to give you some sort of comparative data because there are different ways to do it may be based on the site's topography. If you put a concrete tank there, you might be looking at a 100 foot high tank. It might not be practical because you have to have certain elevations of your whole water tank system. Again I think they were just trying to say you might have a range. You're not going to do all of these. You're going to pick one. Chairman Maddox asked why would anyone pick that one that's...Mr. Malizia said it beats me. I wouldn't. Chairman Maddox commented that's what I'm saying. Again I think it's confusing brutally honest.

Mr. Dhima said there's different shapes and when they do the hydraulic modeling, what they do is they need to have the water at a certain elevation. So basically if you have a cylinder, you're not using the low portion of it. It's just standing that and you're using that high because you're using the pressure head pretty much. Basically what that stand pipe tank allows you is you're not using the bottom much. You're not really using - it's the volume at the top at that proper elevation. So that's when the volumes change a little bit and that's why they would be going with the glass fused stand pipe. Basically the tank there needs to be 90 feet high. It wouldn't make sense to put a concrete tank 90 feet high there especially if you're not using the bottom half. You should be using the top half. That's hydraulics I know. I got the same look when they were going over it. We're all in the same boat.

Chairman Maddox said the other thing that concerns me out there, they do blasting there every day. Again I just think that there's a lot of questions that we would have to answer to the voters. If we're struggling to where the placement of the fire station is, dealing with water and those kinds of questions I think we're a little skimming here on the top of it. Again I think this is something we need to have a master plan if you would for our water system. This is probably a good start but I'm not sure I want to put it on the ballot but that's just my position.

Selectman Luszey said I'm kind of where you're at. One is this is one consulting firm's opinion on what we need or don't need. We've had some issues and go arounds with that particular consulting firm in the past. Two I'm with you. We put this on the ballot as a bond and I don't think we're going to get it. It doesn't tie out to any long-

term plan or master plan given our Master Plan hasn't been updated in quite a few years. I don't see it growing the water district according to that master plan.

Elvis Dhima said it will be tied into different distributions. There's three distribution systems we have in place - Gordon tank, Marsh, and South. This particular proposed connection here from Barretts Hill, Oliver Drive, and Barretts Hill to Greeley will be connecting Marsh. This is the Marsh network line. This is actually the Gordon tank. We'll be helping a lot if we do expand the 102 area. That needs more water.

Chairman Maddox told Mr. Dhima you live this. You're asking people that have to put it on the warrant and explain it. I think that you need to do a water systems 101 for us. You're talking this is on the Gordon Street side. This is on the low pressure. I think you need to give us some 11 X 17 or something maps that breaks this down better for us to say - again you live it, you understand it, and we'd like to go along but it's tough for us to see where you're coming from here unless the rest of you get it and I'm not.

Selectman McGrath said I read this over this afternoon - page, by page, by painful page. Elvis Dhima said it's a lot for me. I can't imagine it. It's a lot of information and trying to make a decision based on that when you're looking at the overall. It's not but the longer we wait, the longer we put this off, the harder and more complicated it's going to get. Mr. Chairman you asked for 11 X 17. We got the entire town. I would have to print out 256 pages - every single title to show. We don't only have the 12 inch line and 16, we have the 6 inches fee from it, the 4 inch, the 2 inch. So the system itself its very intense. It's very complicated.

Chairman Maddox asked can you show us the town and show us the various districts.

Selectman Luszey said you're absolutely right. Complicated system. We have to sell this to the average voter. So how do you take that and bring it down to something that we can explain to them at Town Meeting that they're support. If we start giving them all the technical jumbo, we lost them.

Elvis Dhima agreed. I guess it comes down to a simple approach. We asked businesses and commercials to install fire extinguishers that need a certain fire flow capacity. We got Industrial Drive and Industrial Park. Someone comes in, you need to have a certain sprinkler system because you need to have certain water coming into it to put out a fire. We don't have the fire flows going into it so here you go. We're asking for something that we can provide.

Chairman Maddox said all the buildings don't have fires at the same time. As long as the system is able to...basically per Code, Mr. Dhima said you need 3,500 gallons per minute for 2 hours. Yes four years I did look at the design that was done at Barretts Hill. It was 30 feet high. I don't know if there was a design done for it. We did the hydraulic study. We did the hydraulic - it needs to be 90 feet high. It needs to be run at 3,500 gallons for two hours. Did I come up with those numbers? No. We checked with the Fire Department. The Fire Chief and Deputy O'Brien were great at helping me out with this. They put the calculations together. They took a random property. They did a random calculation and they met the requirements that Weston & Sampson started was providing.

Chairman Maddox told Mr. Dhima this is nothing against you Sir. You have to look at we're struggling to what we're going to put on a ballot, how much money we're going ask the citizens for and if were' struggling here, I think it's going to be a tough sell for us to sell it at Town Meeting.

Selectman McGrath said as I started to say, I did read this over and that was one of the areas that I really focused on were the tables. On page 3 of the report, it gives the flow rates for fire flows. On the next page, it says of the 8 locations of the fire flow assessment, 6 of the 7 has adequate flow right now. If it goes off line, then it's only 4 of the 7 have adequate flows. My question - and again I really have to admit my eyes glazed over several times as I was reading this and I had to go back and try to refocus. It wasn't easy. So after reading this, the Gordon Street tank needs painting on the outside as well as the inside, correct? Mr. Dhima said yes. Selectman McGrath said if I read this correctly, it doesn't need to be done immediately.

Elvis Dhima said it doesn't. They have asked for it since 1997 it needs to be done. Based on our assessment that was done, we don't think it's as critical as they thought it was. We have the State agreed to some degree that it's not as critical but it needs to be painted. The problem is that it's going to cost \$700,000 to do that and we still have to do it 20 years from now. Do you spend \$700,000 every 20 to 30 years or do you replace it with something new.

Selectman McGrath said it's making that judgment about whether or not to spend the money to do the painting that will only give us a certain life as opposed to putting in a new tank and getting a longer life at a little bit more cost. Elvis Dhima said it gets into do we put the new tank here then because we have a need for that over here. I

Chairman Maddox stated that's what I was going to say Mr. Dhima. It's nothing against the present Engineer, nothing against the former Engineer. I think that there is a struggle. We were told we need to get the Gordon

Street tank painted. It was only \$480,000 then. Now it's up to \$700,000 and it may have done us no good if we had painted it. I think that really what this Board needs to do is find the money in the budget. Maybe we put it in somewhere in here that we need to bring in an engineering firm and really tighten up what our master plan is. Again it has changed in the years that I've been sitting on this Board. Elvis Dhima said I don't know if I want to be spending more money on more studies though. It was painful as it was. Chairman Maddox said to take the studies that we have that said three different things and bring it down to one. Mr. Dhima said I did that and that 12 page report that you have in front of you that's exactly it. I read what they've done in the past. It was great and I said I want to know now what the situation is and what can we do now, and what the prices look now. That homework has been done. Can we go out and get some other? Yes but Weston & Sampson was hired recently by DES alone to assess \$80 million worth of work to be done in the State of New Hampshire. To go out and get a second opinion, yeah we can but I don't know. If the State is hiring them to do the assessment, I know that it's a...

Chairman Maddox said of the project for Barretts Hill tank project cost, a million of the 3.6 million is for engineering and contingency. That's as sloppy as you can get when you're trying to design something. Mr. Dhima said if you see my numbers, I only carry 10 percent. They carry 20 percent and I cut that down to 10 percent. It could be even less. It doesn't mean they're going to get the job. It just gives you an idea to what it might look like. We're going to go out to bid for this one. We're not going to give it to them. Chairman Maddox was just saying that out of a \$3.6 million, a million of it is in engineering fees and contingency. Mr. Dhima said I revised it. If you look at the memo, it was actually 3.2 I believe. I cut that down because I didn't think that was...

Selectman Luszey said if you look on page 3, and here's another concern and it really gets to the consulting stuff, in 2013 Weston & Sampson sent us a memo saying the tank is in better condition than previously reported. January 20, 2014 DES says Gordon tank is of concern. What are we to know? We went from good standing to your point we're going to descale, and paint, and do what I would call preventative maintenance work to that tank to all of a sudden you're coming here saying let's replace it. That's a concern.

Elvis Dhima noted you have to keep in mind the inspection was done prior to the letter being sent out. Originally the State sent someone. They looked at it and oh my god this is terrible. This is the end of the world. You're going to have to take this tank down. We're all going to die. Then we went out there and paid someone to do the inspection and found out it wasn't that bad. We sent it to the State and the State sent a letter saying you have all these deficiencies. You need the fence repaired, drainage, all these other things. We did all that. We just haven't provided that with are we going to paint the tank or not? Are we going to replace it? What are we going to do? We own as a municipality a great distribution system. What are we doing 5 years down the road. That's all that is. There's no conflict of information here.

Selectman Luszey said to me if I may there is a conflict because the very last memo of April 2015 there was a follow up by Weston & Sampson to DES acknowledging verbally no immediate need to repaint Gordon Street tank. We went from the tank is in good shape, to you need to replace it ASAP, to really don't need to do anything. Elvis Dhima noted we were the ones that went back and said it's not that bad. Weston & Sampson and I went to the State and said...Selectman Luszey indicated the State is agreeing with you. Mr. Dhima said it is now. It wasn't before. They were making a big deal. They were saying oh the federal the Act of Water Protection. We're going to shut it down and we went back and said it's not that bad. You're really not the expert here. Selectman Luszey's personal opinion is this is not ready for prime time.

Selectman McGrath was just going to say about that issue because you were before us what a month ago or a couple of months ago talking about the water tanks. I remember having that discussion. The State did initially say that there were some deficiencies or some problems with the Gordon Street tank and that then needed to be addressed but the last item was the repainting and they backed off on that requirement. Everything else had been taken care of thus this April 2015 acknowledging that there's no immediate need to repaint it. They're satisfied with all of the other repairs that took place. Mr. Dhima added and numerous discussions with the State trying to convince them it's not as bad as they're saying it is. It took a lot of convincing to get to that. It wasn't just magically they woke up one day and said oh we're okay now. They're on the bay now but they're still looking for a plan of attack. That's what it's coming down to. What do we do? Do we rehab this and move on? Do we replace it with a new one and don't do Barretts Hill? Do we just repair what we have and forget about the new or do we just look down the road and say this is what makes sense?

Again Chairman Maddox said I'm going to say that I think it's out of the realm of this meeting as it pertains to budget. I think this is the next year's project that we really delve into what we need to do on our water system. To try to do it now, again, I could see put \$50,000 in for whatever we need to study if that be where we want to go. I don't want to put a warrant article that I can't support. I don't want to put a warrant article that doesn't really - we don't have the time to get the information out to the voters. I think we're just setting ourselves up for failure and then it's going to fall by the wayside. I think it should be the Board's commitment whoever is here next year to really take the water and stop going around in circles with it and get something done.

Selectman McGrath said if we don't repaint the Gordon Street tower, does it have a lifespan right now of at least another year so that we don't have to make that decision and take that on. Mr. Dhima said we have some time. I

would say 5 to 7 years. The problem is trying to get the State to agree and not do anything else. Do we do now the Windham Booster Station? They want to see where we're heading.

Chairman Maddox told Mr. Dhima I think that if we commit to moving forward over the next year to come up with this plan, it's going to take a while to put it all together and get it into a financial package, a saleable package, whatever you want to call it. I think that if we're doing that and they can see that commitment then I think the State is fine but I've been wrong before. Somebody new can come in and all of a sudden it goes around. I don't think it's ready for this year's budget. Anybody wish to disagree with the Chair? Again it's a big issue. Mr. Dhima agreed. That will be it unless you have any more questions. Again Chairman Maddox thought what you've done has got us started. We got to start thinking about this. I just don't see us putting a warrant article on this year and without that, none of this flies. Thank you Sir.

Conservation Commission (5586)

Kathy Carpentier said the budget was put in with no increase for \$46,763.

Chairman Maddox recognized Chairman Ken Dickinson. The same with you, you're in at a zero dollar increase. We went around and around last meeting with you with the infamous dash, and chemicals, and that whole thing. We're not going up. You're not coming in for a warrant article to buy land as I understand it. It's nice to see you.

Ken Dickinson said the one thing I guess I could report and I have a thought. I did speak with Dominique of Aqualogic today after work. If you're interested having the State Limnologist come back in - I think she was before you maybe a year and a half ago - along with Aqualogic. They could set something up to answer some of your technical questions that you had at the last meeting and make a quick two-part presentation maybe when the agenda comes light.

Selectman McGrath noted that was something we talked about at the workshop. It has to do with Robinson Pond and Ottarnic Pond the invasive weeds remediation.

Chairman Maddox said it seems like from what you're budgeting, we believe that you've got that under control. Mr. Dickinson says yes. Like we had discussed, it's a little tough to tell what the funding is going to be next year and to what level the recommendation of the treatment or how much time of DASH versus money for treatment would be needed. The early indications are that we may not need a treatment at Robinson Pond next year. That would be a huge savings and we could put some money in the reclamation fund for future usage. Even the DASH unit - Aqualogic at this point in time is under budget. They're going to try to wrap up their work this week and then we'll have an opportunity to possibly end their season for the calendar year and possibly have them come back in the spring. They may recommend a three-part treatment - early spring, summer and fall.

Chairman Maddox asked doesn't it depend somewhat on the weather. What happens this winter - how much runoff there is, what type of covering. There's a lot of factors. Today there's nobody that's going to know the answer to. Ken Dickinson said they were just out at Ottarnic Pond again for the first time this fall today. The early indication is that you have a Fanwort problem that's going to need to be attacked next year. The gut feeling is that needs more attention. Robinson Pond I'd like to say is in a sustainable mode at this point in time where they're doing more maintenance versus a large treatment.

Again Chairman Maddox thought we covered a lot of this. I heard you were going to make some changes. No? Ms. Carpentier said not what the Engineer told us to. At this point, Chairman Maddox thought you're good unless the Board members have any questions. I think we do have some questions in regards to maybe waiting until the spring to bring those people in, see what happens over the winter, and then in the spring if they could come in and kind of give us where they think we're going to head. Mr. Dickinson thought we need to make a decision by March maybe. I just remember when I first became Chairman again back in February, this was something that came up right away. Chairman Maddox asked if you don't know what the conditions are, how can you make a plan. Mr. Dickinson said the Limnologist I believe will go out this fall and issue a report. Chairman Maddox said they're going to base it on what's there now. Mr. Dickinson thought the Limnologist has to wrap up their program for the year and go back and see what's been done and formulate recommendations over the winter to consider for next spring. Chairman Maddox said if you can find out if that is the case and when she's got her final reports for the two water bodies done, let's talk about having them come in. Ken said at that point too you'll know what the percentage is that we'll get whether it be 40 percent match or 25 percent match.

Library (5060)

Chairman Maddox recognized Chairman Robin Rodgers.

Good evening. I'm Robin Rodgers and I'm the Chairman of the Library Board of Trustees. This is Charlie Matthews. He's our Director currently. This is Arlene Creeden. She's the Treasurer. We also have Ellen Stokinger and Linda Kipnes in the back. The only one missing is Steve Middlemiss and he's excused. Thank you.



We respectfully submit our budget request for the FY17 for the Rodgers Memorial Library in consideration representing an .08 percent increase which is an offset of .5 percent by revenue over our FY16 budget. When Phil and Al Rodgers graced our Town of Hudson with a modern, attractive, inviting facility in the Rodgers Memorial Library. We're open 65 hours a week. The library offers residents abroad an up to date collection of materials, access to extensive digital collections and services, programs for all ages, and helpful and trained professional staff. The library serves as a community-wide resource for all ages and continues to provide free and open access to club information.

Ms. Rodgers said FY15 saw 96,897 visits to the library along with 300,000 website hits as more residents reserve and access our material remotely. The library has collaborated with Friends Lumber to provide the materials returned - the Big Blue Box -to benefit the residents on the south end. That's been very successful and received well over 500 books to date. We did open on Sundays for a trial period from January through May of 2015 as a response to our request for people who are having difficulty visiting us. The trial was hampered by inclement weather and it still had attracted an average of 80 visitors on Sunday afternoons. We're currently not looking at Sundays right now but that's always on our agenda.

Robin Rodgers said books and information remain important to the large majority of the users with circulation steady in some areas trending up, notably the young adult materials. Our patrons downloaded over 11,000 audio and e-books in FY15 and we anticipate offering more downloadable and streaming offering in multiple formats. Program attendance has been up with the children's musical and author programs particularly popular. For example tomorrow night on the 21<sup>st</sup> of October at 7 o'clock we're hosting the NH Humanities Council program with the NH Humorist and storyteller Rebecca Rule. If you've ever been to the Common Man, she talks in the bathroom.

Ms. Rodgers stated we have an energetic and creative staff and our children's room offers books, online resources and numerous programs from ages zero to 12, provide early literacy programs that are particularly important to readying children for school. We are participants of the NH 1,000 books before kindergarten program and offer a baby bag for new parents. We also offer exciting summer reading programs for all children of ages and instill and nourish a lifetime love of reading and counter act the summer slide. The reading level lost that occurs during summer vacations.

A growing number of teens visit the library and participate in after school and Saturday programs. Robin noted our proximity to Alvirne High School and Hills Garrison Schools offer opportunity to collaborate with both as a part of the educational campus and to work more closely with all Hudson schools. Community meeting rooms and study rooms used is also up. Digital literacy is an essential skill today and we offer Wi-Fi and access to desktop and mobile devices with tech. savvy staff to assist patrons so that all residents can access and use their digital skills in a successful and engaging way.

Robin Rodgers indicated some residents are unaware of what we have to offer and we must do a better job at promoting our services through the web, social media, community outreach and networking. A marketing intern from Rivier College is working with our staff this year and we will be increasing our community involvement to achieve these goals. She's a marketing student and she'll be here for 120 hours for free.

Finally, Ms. Rodger said the Library and the Board of Trustees are committed to collaborating with the town government and the School Board to preserve and utilize the historic Hills Memorial building. We submitted our budget and if you have any questions like I said, I have Charlie and Arlene here to answer any questions you have.

Selectman Luszey said you have about \$5,500 of offsetting revenue from the school for the use of the Hills. You offer that up for conference room space to anyone I believe. I don't see any revenue from anybody else. Arlene Creeden said we don't receive any revenue from anyone else. The only other revenue would be a \$50 janitorial fee that would be charged to some organizations. All town organizations that use it use it free. The school collects the janitorial fee for events that they book there that they need a fee for. So we don't charge anyone that books through us.

Robin Rodgers noted the booking is done through the SAU - Kathy Vaillancourt. She takes care of the schedule over at the Hills building and she puts us in where we need to be. We use it very rarely. They use it 4 or 5 times a week and they also put other people like the Fire Department does training, testing, and that sort of thing over at the building. Really there's no like baby showers or parties to that effect that really take up a lot of space and time that need to be paid for. So there's really nobody that pays. The Fire Department doesn't pay. School Board doesn't pay. We don't pay. Ms. Creeden said the School Board pays a proportion because they use it a lot more than we do. So they split the bill with us.

Selectman Luszey repeated all the booking goes through the SAU so you basically turn the management of that facility over to the SAU. Arlene Creeden said no. We share together. They use it a lot more so it was just easier to use their secretary to do the scheduling than to use one of our staff. We use it a few times a month and they

use it 4 or 5 times a week.

Chairman Maddox said its \$8,000 so guess on a million dollar budget it's not a lot but we asked everyone to come in at zero. We asked the Police Department, the Fire Department. I just don't understand why the Library couldn't do the same.

Charlie Matthews asked if I could answer your question hopefully. It was because of the voter approved increases - salary increases which added to the budget. Chairman Maddox said it's not reflected here so again we're just looking at the bottom line. So you're saying that the increase is...Arlene said it's up 2 percent. Chairman Maddox said it would have been nice if you had put that in there.

Selectman McGrath said I actually did a calculation and the salaries and benefits it's about a 7.5 percent increase. It could be rounded up to 8. I just did rough numbers overall. The overall increase to the budget is 8k bottom line. Chairman Maddox said if that's what the voters voted that's fine. Looking at this, Selectman McGrath stated they certainly increased certain line items, decreased others. It was a little hard to follow jumping around. Looking at the bottom line numbers and then comparing the taking out the salaries and benefits, it's pretty much a wash.

Kathy Carpentier directed people to the bottom of page 9. It does outline the salary and benefits and then operating expenses. The salary and benefits could go up if somebody changed their insurance. So it's not necessarily just the voted approved raises.

Arlene Creeden noted and the cost of insurance. Also the reason that some lines went down and some went up, this is the first time we have actually been able to move the money into the right line items because this is the first time the town budget actually passed I think in several years. We had monies stuck I the wrong line items for years. This year we actually tried to move it the line items where it belonged.

Chairman Maddox said that's where we're trying to hopefully get to this year. We're trying to be as cost conscious as we can. Again you know I've always been a big bugaboo if it's over \$1 million. Robin Rodgers said we tried really hard to get under that \$1 million and it just wouldn't stay down there. With the offsetting revenue, Arlene Creeden said we are below the offsetting revenue. Chairman Maddox noted you're taking money from my left pocket in Library and move it over. Ms. Creeden said well no we're taking it from fine money or equipment money - outside of taxpayers' dollars.

Selectman Maddox commented if that's the case, why don't you zero out what you charge the school instead of taking the money from the school which increases their tax rate to offset your tax rate. You're charging the school for the use of the facility. It's a taxpayer only facility. Ms. Creeden said we have an agreement where we pay a percentage and they pay a percentage. Whether we pay it all and they pay none or we share it because they use it more than we do. It's the same amount of money from taxpayers either direction. Robin Rodgers indicated they pay for utilities, electricity, and that sort of thing.

Selectman Luszey said right which if they weren't there you would decrease that. You maintain a certain level of environmental services there all the time. Do you charge the Fire Department when you go over? Ms. Creeden said no we do not. Selectman Luszey asked why not? Ms. Creeden said it's a town department and that's what the building is there for them to use as a meeting room. Technically speaking, Selectman Luszey said the school is a town department because it's a town service. Ms. Creeden said the school and the library have worked out an arrangement because they use it a lot more than just - the Fire Department might use it once a month at the most. I don't even know how often they use it. Selectman Luszey said all right. I'll take to the School Department.

Selectman McGrath thought we would want to indentify. If the School Department is using it and that's a separate budget. I understand its all taxpayer money. If you threw it all in a bucket you wouldn't know who was using it or was creating - if they're using it a lot more, I'd kind of like to know that. I think that that's something that we'd want to know. Selectman Luszey said we'd want to know who are all the users. Selectman McGrath said no because the Fire Department, Police Department, any other town department comes under this budget that we control. Selectman Luszey said well we don't control and that's my point. We don't control this budget they do.

Chairman Maddox noted they're just here to kind of give an overview. Until they get to the Budget Committee, they are kind of separate. Selectman McGrath said just like the school. The school is separate. Chairman Maddox said no. The school is not under our budget. This is in our budget. They are contained within - Steve correct me where I fall off the rails here. The school has its own independent controlling board. This board even though they're elected, they are under our budget. Really for \$8,000 talk about semantics probably. You said they took care of the utilities yet you have oil in here. Ms. Creeden said we split the cost - a percentage. Chairman Maddox said that building cost \$15,000 a year in oil. Arlene said they pay 65 percent of the total cost. The total cost is the line item there. What they reimburse us is 65 percent.

My name is Ellen Stokinger. This is not a verbal agreement we're talking about. This was a written agreement

that was made for five years when the library moved up the street to Rodgers building. Then all of a sudden the School Committee wanted to drop the funding of this agreement and the people had moved on that signed the original agreement so now we met together and worked it out. A new agreement has been signed by the people on the committees now. It's not just a verbal agreement. It's a written Memorandum of Understanding. Selectman Luszey note a Memorandum of Understanding is not a contract just like our Memorandum of Understanding with the Russians right now is not a contract.

Selectman McGrath said I know it's all taxpayer money but I think it should be - when the school who has a separate budget altogether is utilizing this building, I'd like to see what that usage is and if it exceeds what the town's use is.

Chairman Maddox asked Charlie Matthews can you tell me how many times that building is used a month. Mr. Matthews would say maybe 10 or 12 times a month at least on the calendar. Kathy Vaillancourt in the SAU actually keeps a calendar. We all get a copy every month. When we book library events at the Hills, I contact Kathy and she puts it on the calendar. So she's kind of the keeper of the calendar. There is a record of whose using the building. The Rotary Club uses it. The Fire Department does use it because I think they have space issues and its right across the street. It's convenient for them. They interview people over there. They have trainings over there. There is a record I just don't have it right here of who uses the building.

Robin Rodgers noted it's kept track of. Selectman McGrath understood that. I like it to be separated out. I like to know how much time the school is using it versus the town that's all. Ms. Rodgers said we can provide you with our schedule if you want to see it.

Charlie based on what you just said, Selectman Luszey asked given that do we still fall under the preview of RSA 210 of what constitutes a library or has that become a conference center. Robin Rodgers indicated they do a lot of teaching there. They do a lot of training there and that would go under the library of learning. Selectman Luszey knows the school there is not training. Those are staff meetings. That's not training. Ms. Rodgers said they do teacher...Selectman Luszey said no teach had been there. I checked. Robin Rodgers said, "Really?" Arlene Creeden commented goes to show what we know. Ms. Rodgers thought the teachers were there all the time.

Chairman Maddox noted the horse is dead. Selectman Luszey indicated we can still sell it. Chairman Maddox thought it's not within the realm of the library Statute myself but until we're willing to do something, we're just flapping our gums. They moved to the new library because they needed the space. Selectman Luszey said we're charging another taxpayer entity for the use. Robin Rodgers said it's the same amount of money. It's just they pay some and we pay some. It hasn't gone up. They don't pay on top of us. We see the same bill. They only pay a portion of our bill. Selectman Luszey said it gets out what your true cost of being a library and owning those facilities are. Let the taxpayers know what you truly are taxing them for that's all.

Chairman Maddox asked what does that building cost a year to maintain/operate - \$30,000? Arlene Creeden said oh no. It's below \$10,000 a year. Chairman Maddox said how can it be below \$10,000 if your oil bill is 7? Charlie Matthews thought it was maybe 20. Selectman McGrath said your actuals for Fiscal Year 2015 for electricity is \$24,000. Ms. Creeden said that's the new library. Chairman Maddox said the only reason we know that is there's oil at the old one and gas at the new one so that one stands out. I would just think it would be hard to...Ms. Rodgers said don't you have it broken out. Selectman Luszey said about 2160 it looks like for electricity. Chairman Maddox said you figure its \$15,000 to \$18,000 somewhere around there. Arlene said it's 200 for water...Charlie Matthews noted \$1,250 for electricity for Hills. Then there's \$500 for inspections, elevator and lift inspection \$325 a year.

Kathy Carpentier commented all the things you've identified as HML I've added up. It is \$9,820. If everything that just says HML is the only cost. Arlene Creeden said those are the only costs we have. They're at full cost. They're not at the cost less what the department gives us. Ms. Carpentier indicated you've gross appropriate which we corrected a few years back. So \$7,000 is how much you're paying for oil and then you get 65 percent of that which is \$4,550 from the school. So you are showing the true costs. I believe in the past the only cost that's not in here is insurance and that's in our big global insurance policy on the town side.

Chairman Maddox noted even if we closed it, we'd still have to insure it. So that's a cost that's going to stay there anyway. Thank you for coming in. Again always we're both trapped. I'm sure you would like to raise it more but you wouldn't want to have your own ballots. I guess it's kind of one of those tie ins that we both live with. Thank you. Again we are where we are.

BOS/Town Buildings (5110, 5120, 5125, 5135)

Chairman Maddox recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia said this would encompass Board of Selectmen, Administrator Office, Town Hall building,

Community Center building, the senior portion of the building and I think Town Poor is under this tab. I think overall all of that was down approximately 1.1 percent overall. So when you combine those. Again when I looked at these, I had to move a couple of bucks out of here because we had some electricity on one of the building but I reduced the professional services which is basically property management where we've taken deeded property and we have to deal with it. We have to keep it until we sell it. I don't think we need \$9,000 - \$5,000 would probably be accurate for that.

Town Poor (5151, page 13)

Town Administrator Steve Malizia said Town Poor is basically we have the local welfare assistance. We are required by law to provide assistance to Hudson residents should they qualify. As you know, there's a staff member in Kathy's office that basically handles that - Ms. Wilson. She does an excellent job of really staying on top of these matters. We've got \$100,900 in there. Should someone or should we run over that budget because of need, we are required to do that. We do try to be very judicious in the expenditures and I think she's done a very good job but the budget is the same.

Chairman Maddox noted we do have donation monies. Steve Malizia indicated there's a modest part of donation money if we needed to tap that. A few years ago we had actually trimmed this budget from \$120,000 down to this \$100,000 with the knowledge that we have some money in a donation account. We have not had to tap it so that's why it's okay to basically leave it at this level. It's pretty much out of our control what we're going to get for applicants but they are Hudson residents or were a Hudson resident and we're required to assist them.

Chairman Maddox indicated we've seen some places where we've collected money from five years ago. Mr. Malizia said yes we will put a lien on if there's a process on liens and there are occasions where we do recoup that money. Sometimes circumstances change for folks or maybe a property sells and we're able to get reimbursed for that. I think like I said it works fairly well.

Legal (5200)

Town Administrator Steve Malizia said I took a look at the legal fees. As you know we switched our attorney so I was able to do was basically get the same amount of hours for less money. That's why you see basically a reduction in the budget. We do carry money for labor issues and we carry money for collective bargaining. We can expect at least to contracts next year I believe - Police employees and Highway will be up so we will need to negotiate with them. We've basically kept money in the budget to do that along with the other labor issues that come up. Again we use a separate attorney for that.

Selectman Luszey asked does your thinking along the lines that the contracts that are due this year will make it and we won't need legal service for those next year. Steve Malizia said we may very well need legal services for that which I'll have to tap the big legal budget for. It all has to fit into this budget. That's a good question. If they don't pass, yes. Hopefully most of the framework is there so the negotiation part will not be as extensive.

Chairman Maddox noted it's been my history that we start all over again. Mr. Malizia said you do but you've already got kind of a good idea of what most of the groups what you're really looking at. Again they may not pass the voters. You're not going to come up with so much too much really radical differences in my experience. Chairman Maddox thought we would want to put a "W" here. I'm still having concerns that that may not be enough. That's just me. Steve Malizia indicated we also have contingency where if we had to tap it, again, you could do the contingency. I've also found that with the new attorney he's done a pretty good job of getting right to the heart of most of the matters. It seems like he's I don't want to say more efficient but he has an efficient style where I'm curious to see where we actually end up in the year with the expenditure. If you look, we do try to manage and last year we spent \$92,000. We do try to manage this very conservatively. I can take you back to days and probably the early '00s where we were spending \$200,000 - \$300,000 on legal. I think the systems we have in place that it has to come through me we try to utilize the services of NHMA's legal people if we can because that's a part of our membership. I don't want to say it's free because you're paying for membership. We do try to do that and I've done that on occasion where it's a generic type of question. Can you put money from one bucket to the other in that legal? You could.

Chairman Maddox was concerned about the collective bargaining. I think that it would be better to bump that up \$5,000 to \$6,000 but that's just my opinion.

Given that I've lowered the budget by \$16,000, Steve Malizia said you could probably easily put another 5 back in there if it made you comfortable. Again you're already down as it is.

Selectman Luszey said I would.

*Motion by Selectman Luszey, seconded by Selectman McGrath to increase line item 5200-251 from \$11,000 to \$16,000, carried 4-0.*

Finance (5310, 5320)

Chairman Maddox recognized Finance Director Kathy Carpentier.

Kathy Carpentier noted this has the copier machine and the audit in it. The operating expenses have remained flat. Just the increases - salary and benefit increases are in here.

Chairman Maddox asked if there were any questions.

Selectman Luszey asked to reduce line item 221 to zero. That will reduce our paper usage for the copier.

Chairman Maddox noted it's also a scanner. So if you were going to make electronic copies, you need that.

5320, page 4.

Kathy Carpentier noted operating expenses is zero percent. A 1.7 percent increase is salary and benefits. I just wouldn't want to be skipping one of mine.

Insurance (5910)

Finance Director Kathy Carpentier indicated there's three items here. This has increased based on what we currently are paying. It's up 3.9 percent or \$17,000.

Chairman Maddox asked and you feel that that is a number that has been...Steve Malizia said worker's comp. is predicated on your payroll. As you are well aware, contracts had passed. Payroll had increased. Worker's comp. is basically a function of your experience which we've always had a very good experience rate but it's also a function of your payroll. When payroll contracts pass, you do have a premium increase for that piece because our premiums are larger which is predicated on a big portion of that.

Selectman Luszey asked to go back to page 5 and it pertains to page 7 also. I'm going to ask a questions and it doesn't matter where you're at. On page 7 is where I see the IT line item for computer equipment and supplies which I believe is the toners, ink and stuff like that. Back on page 5, you have the accounting supplies. You've got the paper but then you also have office supplies. What is in that unique line item the 303 on page 5? Ms. Carpentier said that is the cartridges. Selectman Luszey asked what's on the IT supplies on page 7 which is 303.

Kathy Carpentier noted that's what I was answering. So page 7, 303, is cartridges controlled by the IT Director. Selectman Luszey also noted page 5 under the finance accounting 303 office supplies. Ms. Carpentier said folders, books, dividers, paper. Selectman Luszey said everything else that's not on the paper or the IT one. Ms. Carpentier said just for my department which would be the Welfare Department, the HR Department, the Accounts Payable Department.

Kathy Carpentier said the insurance - that's our current rates right now with no anticipated increases. There might be but we cover that from other areas if that's correct. We don't know what the increases would be.

Chairman Maddox said with insurance you don't believe that now that we're going to have that train station all done and renovated it's not going to increase our value out there. When was the last time you did an analysis of all of the...Steve Malizia said when we switched to Primex less than a year ago. They actually went around town with I think Gary escorted them. They physically looked at the buildings that we're insuring.

Selectman Luszey thought the insurance would go down because it's on a permanent foundation. Kathy Carpentier noted sometimes historic buildings are more.

Chairman Maddox asked why don't you send us a copy of that (appraisal report). You probably did.

Community Grants (5920), page 4.

Chairman Maddox recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia said Community Grants for those of you who are new to this are basically amounts of money that we send to area agencies and provide some sort of community service to the residents of Hudson ranging from the St. John Food Pantry over here on Library Street, to the Red Cross, to C.H.I.P.S. which is the group that runs Fright Night. There's a number on the first page department head request. Basically that is level funding but if you go to page 5 and you look, you'll see in the very far right hand column the actual additional requests that some of these submitted. When we looked at this particular budget, we kept it level funded but there are \$34,602 worth of additional requests for funding. What does that mean? Those agencies submitted something to the town saying we'd like you to consider giving us X amount of money. That X amount of money was the amount they've

already received last year plus whatever is in this column. It's clearly up to the Board to do what you'd like to do. It's your call. It's always been your call. Again these agencies a lot of them will be characterized as charitable. For example the Soup Kitchen, the Front Door Agency is another homeless type shelter. We work in conjunction with a lot of these when we're dealing with welfare. We will place people at a Soup Kitchen. We will place folks at the Front Door. I believe the Anne Marie House I'm not sure it's called Family Promise now. We will interact with them. So there is an interaction with some of these agencies in our Welfare Department. Again some of them like C.H.I.P.S. is local. That's for the Fright Night. That's the Children of Hudson Interacting with Police Services. The Food Pantry which used to be called St. Vincent de Paul is now the St. Blessed John. That's over here. These are monies that the town grants to these organizations to allow them or assist them in carrying out their charitable or their purpose. They get money from other towns I assume. I'm assuming they get money from federal sources. They'll probably get money from State sources.

Selectman Luszey asked do we get anything to say what they actually do for Hudson. Steve Malizia said there's a binder upstairs that has in alphabetical order all of these requests. The majority of them if not all of them - I believe all of them actually state what they do, how many people they might have provided a service to. I didn't think we wanted to add 50-60 more pages to your books. It's in the Selectmen's office just ask Susan it's on the cabinet. They will actually give you in most cases some sort of statistical information to tell you we serviced X amount of Hudson residents or we provided this service to this group of Hudson residents. The question is \$90,000 is what the original funding was. The question for the Board is do you wish to do anything different. That's what the \$34,000 is.

Selectman Luszey didn't think we need to up it. I think we may need to reallocate it given today's situation and what these different organizations do. I'll peruse it and I may come back with some specific recommendations.

Chairman Maddox said I would ask that Ms. Wilson give us her take on these and how much of these individual agencies she utilizes. This has always been the challenge in the budget. They all have good purposes just some of them are asking for \$8,000 more than they got last year and I'm sure they have needs. How much do we spend? Again I think that the last person who reallocated this was Selectman Massey probably 5 or 6 years ago.

Steve Malizia said again this has been a long-standing - folks have submitted stuff. Selectman Luszey said we did it when I was on the Board the last time. Mr. Malizia seemed to recall that there was some input from Ms. Wilson at one point not that long ago. Again these are requests. They will basically take what you give them. I don't mean to be curt about it but I'm just saying...Chairman Maddox said if we're sending a good number of people to the Soup Kitchen, I would want to put our money there. Considering that the Food Pantry came in a couple of years ago, Steve Malizia noted they didn't have any allocation. We reallocated for mothers to give to them and now they're a regular.

Selectman Luszey said I'll give you an example Harbor Homes. I'm very familiar with the work that they do and we did a thing last week called "Stand Down Day". Over last year there was almost a 3 to 1 increase in the number of people that we service here. There's a few others like the Child Advocacy Center. I know people very well that are into that and we're seeing an increase number of cases there. Again I would like to see how these charities are directly impacting people within our town to see if we got them correctly allocated. That's all.

As Steve Malizia said, they submit a package. An example is the Soup Kitchen. I don't think they've asked for anything more. I'm not saying they wouldn't take it but they have not asked for it.

Chairman Maddox said we'll come back to this. Selectman Luszey thought to have Kathy come in and give us her because she sees it day to day. Chairman Maddox said if she's sending people to 2 or 3 of these agencies that will take and get them housing or...Steve Malizia said I can tell you that right now who does that. I know we've communicated. It's basically the Soup Kitchen for temporary shelter. It's The Front Door Agency which is another which used to be the Nashua Pastoral Care. So that's the other agency that we use for homeless and the food pantry which used to be St. Vincent de Paul. It's now called the St. John Food Pantry. Those are the 3 that she has the most interaction with because those are really the first defense. Family Promise she'll use them but they're not a homeless shelter. They're more for transition for family. They certainly service Hudson people but she's not going to call up and say hey I need a shelter for the evening. That's not how that works. It's mostly the Soup Kitchen. It's mostly the Front Door Agency which is formerly the Nashua Pastoral Care and it's the St. John Food Pantry. Those are specifically the agencies she deals with in her network. She doesn't deal with the Southern NH HIV Task Force. That's not something that she interacts with.

Chairman Maddox said I'm just trying to get the most bang for our buck. If I want to give money to anyone of these groups, that's my personal decision. As the Town, I'm looking to say what services are we utilizing that we should support.

Selectman Luszey indicated that's where I'm coming from.

Chairman Maddox also saw that if we've cut our poor and she's using some of these of services, then we should

probably think about maybe bumping this a little bit. We pay one way or the other. I would like to put it to groups that assist the Town of Hudson in taking care of people that are having a problem. If you could take a look at that if you can get back with Kathy and make this a "W", we will come back to this one.

Kathy Carpentier suggested after you do look at the book if you want to meet with Kathy and I. Selectman Luszey noted it will be either Monday or Tuesday of next week I'll come in.

Patriotic Purposes (5930), page 6.

Chairman Maddox recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia said the town basically makes contributions to the American Legion for the Memorial Day Parade and observance, the Old Home Days, and the Old Home Days' fireworks. I think this number has been \$5,600 for quite a few years now. Chairman Maddox said probably the same amount as we've been getting paid the same fee as Selectmen but it's been 20 years. Mr. Malizia said it's been a long time. I think at one point it was \$5,300 but that was years ago.

Selectman Luszey said we need to up it.

Chairman Maddox said why. They haven't asked.

Selectman Luszey noted no wonder why our attendance at the parades are down.

Other Expenses (5940), page 8.

Chairman Maddox recognized Finance Director Kathy Carpentier.

Kathy Carpentier noted this is anything that doesn't fit into all the other departments. We left it level funded. I do want to point out that there is a \$25,000 gas and diesel contingency. Yours to leave or remove. The other two contingencies \$50,000 is for unplanned expenses and emergencies. We've also carried that \$50,000. About a year or two ago, you put in \$25,000 for EPA storm water permit.

Chairman Maddox asked Mr. Malizia what did he carry in his budget this year for that Steve. Mr. Malizia said \$4,000 for some sort of consulting service. Chairman Maddox noted we were told two years ago that this is coming down our throat and here it is rolling ever so slowly. I would rather we keep the \$25,000 in there because at some point the EPA is going to come down and say this needs to get done. We don't use it but at least we've...Steve Malizia said it's also your control. Just to point out, it's not in somebody else's budget. This is your budget.

Chairman Maddox noted they have to take it away from us. The same thing with diesel and gas. If we could predict what diesel and gas prices are going to be in 18 months, we could make a lot of money. I think that we have said to the Budget Committee as long as this has been set up that this is one account that if we don't need it, it will be returned. We've been pretty consistent with that. Again do we inflate our budgets for gas and fuel not knowing where they're going to go or do this? It seems to have worked.

Selectman Luszey said you actually hit upon a question that was asked of me and I couldn't answer it honestly. That particular \$25,000 do we return it back to the taxpayer the following year above and beyond whatever we take out of surplus? Steve Malizia said it goes back into...Selectman Luszey noted it goes unfunded and then normally we take a \$625,000. So are we really taking and giving this \$25,000 back. Steve Malizia stated it goes into the undesignated fund balance. So it goes into surplus. Basically it's either available for some other project if you want to appropriate it. You could bump up the number from 600 to 625 or you retain it and keep a better percentage of your retainage versus your expense. In other words, I think our number crept up this year if I'm not mistaken to something like 7.8 percent retained surplus and probably a low of 6 something. Selectman Luszey believed this is one penny. Mr. Malizia said this would be approximately a penny. It's actually \$26,000 nowadays but 25 is just easier to keep it in mind. Yes it would be approximately a penny on the tax rate.

Chairman Maddox noted since we're finally out of the default budget, I don't disagree that if we added that onto the \$600,000 next year when we know if we spent it or not and it looks like with gas prices being what they are we won't. They could plow. That was some of the reasons why we're \$150,000 in the hole last year is eating up fuel driving around plowing all that snow.

Kathy Carpentier said it's not just always the rate. If the Highway Department's usage goes up because it's snowing every single day of the year, then we're going to go through the money no matter what our rate is. Selectman Luszey stated I'm with you. Last winter I would say that we used that for gas and diesel. Ms. Carpentier said I just pulled it up and because it was a default year in '15, we did transfer the \$50,000 out. We didn't have the 25 for the EPA study. We didn't have a particular gas contingency even though it's there in '16. In

'15 we lost it because it was a default year. Selectman Luszey said I know we asked the school to help us out with almost that amount.

Chairman Maddox commented that's something to keep in mind for next year if we do not spend it this year. We should probably roll that into the 600. Mr. Malizia said you could. That way there Chairman Maddox indicated people can clearly see that we've returned it.

To Steve's point, Kathy Carpentier said they also approved a \$900,000 renovation that didn't cost any tax dollars because our fund balance was health enough because we keep putting the returning of surplus back into it.

Selectman Luszey stated for a different reason like unspent labor, salaries, and projects I think they've done is how the majority of that gets there. It's not from over appropriating. Because we appropriated that amount for a very specific reason if we didn't use it, it should go back. It shouldn't just go back to the general fund to be used for something else. That would be my...Kathy Carpentier said one correction is a lot of some of the undesignated fund balances from unanticipated revenues. It's not just...Steve Malizia noted we did very well in the automobiles this year. Selectman Luszey agreed. Things that we didn't plan on. This is a thing we planned on. Ms. Carpentier indicated you could increase the \$625,000 that's in the budget with revenue when you go over revenue.

Hydrant Rental (5960 & Warrant Article D), page 10.

Town Administrator Steve Malizia noted this is the cost of having the hydrant system fully charged and available. This basically revenue goes back to the water utility to cover their cost of maintaining the Town's hydrants.

Chairman Maddox said it's been pretty stable over the last several years. Mr. Malizia said it's been very stable because again the rates haven't changed so we have not had to increase the hydrant rental rate. It's again keeping everything the same.

Kathy Carpentier indicated there's one more warrant article - Warrant Article D. Steve Malizia said I did a proposed warrant article for an increase for the Town Clerk/Tax Collector. It's a 2 percent proposed increase. As you recall, she's an elected official. I've given you an article for a 2 percent raise. On the third page I've given you a salary history just so you can see particular incumbent just if it matters came into that job in 2008. She received an increase in 2015 that the voters approved and 2016 the voters approved. Just as a consideration, I've put this warrant article for you to consider. I want to relay that the salary for an elected position can change is by via warrant. I put it together and I submitted it for your consideration.

Selectman Luszey asked how does this stack up with surrounding towns. Steve Malizia said I can get information if you'd like. Not every town has a combined Town Clerk/Tax Collector. Some have separate positions. There might not be a huge universe of these people because there could actually be two different people in those communities.

Chairman Maddox said until we've decided what we're going to do with the other contracts, I think this is premature. Selectman Luszey noted that's why we need the other information too to find out where it stacks all up. Mr. Malizia said I didn't want it to not get...Chairman Maddox indicated it's got a placeholder. Mr. Malizia indicated you could certainly change the number. Again I just wanted to make sure you saw something. She didn't ask me to do it. I did it. Now we're done.

Selectman Luszey asked where's our warrant for an increase from \$6.47 a day. Steve Malizia said \$3,200 a year so feel free. Chairman Maddox said I don't think raising the salary of selectmen is going to get more or better candidates. I think you're either going to do it or not. I think it's been 28 years or something. So be it.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 9:34 p.m. by Selectman McGrath, seconded by Selectman Luszey, carried 4-0.



Recorded by HCTV and transcribed by Donna Graham, Recorder.

HUDSON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

\_\_\_\_\_  
Richard J. Maddox, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Pat Nichols, Selectman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Marilyn McGrath, Selectman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ted Luszey, Selectman