

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Minutes of the October 6, 2015 Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER - by Chairman Maddox the meeting of October 6, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at Town Hall.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - led by Harry Schibanoff.

3. ATTENDANCE

Board of Selectmen: Rick Maddox, Roger Coutu, Pat Nichols, Marilyn McGrath

Absent: Ted Luszey

Staff/Others: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator; Elvis Dhima, Town Engineer; Jim Barnes, Chairman of Benson Park Cte; Ken Dickinson, Chairman of Conservation Cmsn

4. PUBLIC INPUT

Chairman Maddox asked does anyone in the audience wish to bring an issue before the Board that they have control of. Seeing none.

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A) Library Park Lights - Change Order #2

Chairman Maddox recognized Town Engineer Elvis Dhima.

Good evening Mr. Chairman and members of the Board. Elvis Dhima said as you are well aware, we're working on the project across the street the library lights, Derry Road, and Ferry. During construction, we have identified a few items that call for a change order. As you can see from the Memo, there was a change order #1 associated with a construction schedule change at the zero dollar value. Now we're looking at a change order #2 for the amount of \$20,387. I do have a couple of pictures to show to you - the location of the items included in this if you need me to. Basically what this change order is about is horizontal drilling under Derry Road, new radio transmitter - a wireless one so the three traffic boxes can talk to each other, some hardware, a main switch, and a fiber optic wire from one of the traffic boxes to the IT Department. That would create then the opportunity for the Highway Department to get access to those boxes. If the Chairman wants me to turn on the TV and put an overall plan for any questions you might have, I can do that. With that said, Elvis Dhima said I'm here tonight to ask for the change order #2. The State has approved 80 percent of the amount and I'm here for the 20 percent of the amount which is \$4,077.40.

Chairman Maddox asked questions from Board members. Do you wish to see the dog and pony or are we fine with the Town Engineer's explanation?

Selectman Coutu asked Mr. Dhima CLD had no way of knowing that this was going to be a problem when they originally put this package together. Mr. Dhima said that's a great question. This particular underground drilling it was one of those things that there was a control box on one side. There was a control box on the other side. The intersection was working. There was no reason for them to believe that there was an issue whatsoever within the conduit itself. Once they start feeding the new wire, they found out that they cannot get a new wire through this conduit therefore you needed a new conduit. Based on my experience in Nashua when I was working on the Main Street, we assumed the same thing - the Highway Department did over there that all the old conduits it wouldn't be feasible for any new feeds within that. I would say no. They assumed that it was usable. No one looked into it. No one was asked to look into it therefore once we got into it, we found out we couldn't use it and that's why we needed a new access.

Selectman Coutu said I'm not going to support this because I think we need to start sending messages to CLD. You can't assume anything. They're making too many assumptions.

Chairman Maddox agreed with Selectman Coutu. If the State is picking up 80 percent, I think we should bring CLD in and ask them why out of \$35,000 that they have been - isn't that the number for engineering on this project? Mr. Dhima said no. Only 20 percent of that is covered by us or that 80 percent is covered by the State. It's required. We can't design it ourselves. We obviously need...Chairman Maddox asked how much would they pay for this project. Mr. Dhima believed the construction phase is \$35,000 if I look at the original. I want to say its \$35,000. In seven years, Chairman Maddox knew that this thing started with Mr. Sullivan. AS much as I agree that we need to send a message, we need to a) finish this and b) if we can get - and Mr. Dhima actually has contacted the State and got \$16,000 of it paid by the State. I don't think that this is the motion. I think we should ask the Town Engineer or the Town Administrator to have CLD explain why this has become an issue. I would think that if anybody is going to run wires from point a to point b, they would at least try to find out if that was doable.

Elvis Dhima said they would have to be asked by the owner which is us. They wouldn't come up with it and they wouldn't be able to do that kind of service - to go in with a snake and figure that out. That would be something that

would have to come from us. Chairman Maddox said we have to know what we need to ask people that have a PE after their name to do. Mr. Dhima said we need to have an understanding of our system and what we have available and what we can and cannot do or what we can or cannot get through. Again this is not a question for me. This is a question for the Town Engineer that was there at the time. What I'm trying to say is that I don't think we can pinpoint this 100 percent on CLD. It should have been like a team effort kind of thing that everyone got together, discussed what we have available, what we don't have available, what might work, what might not work, what's new, what's old, what's been an issue and go from there. I wouldn't say that oh its CLDs fault to do this. If no one asks the question, hey maybe someone should look into this. I don't think they would have been able to do it.

Selectman McGrath said I read this over. Isn't the issue that they couldn't get the wire out because there was some sort of a breach in the conduit at some point and to try and determine where that was. It was either going to require trenching or the boring. So it's like a sewer pipe that all of a sudden it sinks at a certain level and there's a break and you don't know it until all of a sudden you have sewer coming up out of the ground. My understanding of it is it wouldn't have been found until you went to actually pull the wire and to determine that now you have a problem.

Elvis Dhima said it's a tough one because you really can say. That could have gone and had it done 5 years ago when they started this project. Right as we started the project 5 years later, something could have happened in between. It's very hard to say especially with this concrete pipes. It's very hard to say. Selectman McGrath asked and they break easily don't they. Mr. Dhima said all the ones I encountered were all failed when I was working in Nashua and I was pretty much working from East Hollis all the way down to Peddler's Daughter.

Chairman Maddox asked aren't you supporting the theory that they should have not assumed that they worked. They should have assumed that they were broken. Mr. Dhima said unless they were advised or at least given some direction. It's a tough one Mr. Chairman because I wasn't here at the time. It's kind of hard. Would I have asked that now? Yes I would have. I just don't want to put it all. It's kind of hard trying to put something together that started 5 years ago. We assumed when I was working and I would have done this here now if this started yesterday. I would have assumed that it either didn't work or I would have confirmed it. We're past that now. Chairman Maddox thought we're asking the questions of the wrong Engineer. At this point I believe that we're getting 80 percent. Let's get the thing finished. I think it is a reasonable question to ask CLD. I believe they will be one of the vendors that you're coming in with that should be exempt from going out to bid. I think we have some questions that we want to ask them. Tonight I think that at this point the Chair would entertain a motion.

Motion by Selectman McGrath, seconded by Selectman Nichols, to approve the Library Park Lights Change Order #2 in the amount of \$20,387. The Town's 20% cost share is to come from the Route 111 Corridor Account #2070-086, carried 3-1. Selectman Coutu in opposition.

Chairman Maddox didn't think you're the candidate we should be questioning. I think it would be something that we bring up later. Elvis Dhima noted I will have a memo regarding that.

B) Benson Park Committee Review

Chairman recognized Chairman Jim Barnes. Welcome Sir. Good evening. You have come before us with a couple of items.

Jim Barnes said a couple of items and you had also invited us to attend this workshop.

Chairman Maddox said our goal is we've heard rumors that you want to do this project. We've heard rumors that you want to do X, Y, and Z. Rather than sitting at the budget much like the Conservation Committee, we don't want to shortchange you the time that's necessary to have a fruitful discussion during budget season where we're trying to cram \$20 million worth of review in three nights. We thought it would be a nice workshop item to be able to say come in and talk to us. If you would like to start, I think the first on is the Benson Park access.

Jim Barnes stated we've had a number of issues over time. I think you're mostly aware of them. People driving into the park when they probably shouldn't be. People coming in and out for things that may not necessarily be approved if they had asked to be done. What we're looking at right now is a couple of things. So what we're looking at right now is a couple of things. One is to change the combination on the gates. Those have become widely known and probably abused. I think that's one thing we should take a look at doing and over time, I'm sure it will be spread again more widely than what we would like and probably will have to be coming back on a regular basis and changing it and updating it. So there are two gates - the one up at the top where the handicapped parking is near the train station and the office and also the one lower down in the main parking lot. There's a gate there that goes into the back area where the materials are being stored. So there are two different places where people have observed people coming in with cars.

Chairman Maddox asked is the Road Agent the person who is handling that do you know. Jim Barnes believed so. I was not involved in originally getting it set up. I would believe that the Road Agent would be the one to make the

change and then we would have to provide the information obviously to police, and fire, and a few members of the committee, and probably the Friends of Benson Park.

Chairman Maddox asked the Board anybody see an issue.

Selectman McGrath had a question. So you punch in a number to get access. Would it be better to have badges like a badge reader that would open the gate for those people that are supposed to have access as opposed to giving a combination out that they seem to share with others? Jim Barnes said that might be an advantage to control it. I'm sure that would be more expensive than doing it by just changing the combination on a periodic basis. I have no idea how expensive putting in a card reader and making sure that only certain people had access to that. Selectman McGrath said it might be something that you'd want to look into if it certainly becomes a bigger problem and you have to change that coding more often. It might be worth looking into.

Chairman Maddox indicated it's the same code that it was the day we bought the park correct. You've had a lot of cleanups. You've had a lot of people through there. Let's see if that's an option we can look at. I think just changing it after 5 years...Steve Malizia said this one is free but we still need to change it.

Shawn Jasper said while I appreciate that suggestion, I think you have to think of the fact that every single police officer in town would have to have one or one would have to be specially mounted in the cruiser same as every fire apparatus and then all of the people who volunteer in there. I think that would become unwieldy in and of itself. I think it would be better probably to just change the code every year or so if it becomes a problem. In this case, it's been all of five years I think since the gate was installed.

Chairman Maddox said Board members we have no problem with this contacting Mr. Burns and making that happen. Okay.

Parking spaces. Jim Barnes indicated up at the top at the gated entrance there are seven handicapped spaces right now. Usually there's only a couple being used. There certain are needs for some handicapped parking spaces up there. However in general they're not totally used. What we would like to do is mark some of them for use by volunteers or people working in the park. Again including the Friends of Benson Park so that they have easier access to that area of the park. Now what we would want to do is control it somehow by providing some kind of placard or card or something you could put on your dashboard saying that you were allowed to park in one of those spots but certainly we don't want to have people start getting tickets for parking up there. Right now it's all handicapped so there is no parking allowed up there. It would provide say for people who were working in the elephant barn the Friends provide them with easier access while they're working. So I think that would be a useful thing to do.

Selectman Nichols noted it says the request is to reduce the number of handicapped parking spaces in this location to three and mark the remaining four spaces for volunteers. You don't see that many parking up there. Maybe two. I've seen two. I would prefer that to location to change it from three to two and the other to five because you have more volunteers that are bringing things down to the elephant barn that are bringing food to the other building. To me we don't see that many people up at the top any more. They go down to the lower gates because there's more spaces and they can get in it. It's flatter and they can go out flatter. It's not as hilly. I can do better lower than I can up at the top.

Chairman Maddox believed that when those were put in, the lower parking lot did not have designated handicapped parking. Mr. Barnes believed that's correct. There may have been a couple of places right next to the gate. Right now there most of that first row next to the fence is listed for handicapped parking. Chairman Maddox thought over time things have changed. I would only say that with the train station being completed I think three is the number I think we should stick with. I hope these are not going to become parking space - I thought they were going to be loading and unloading spaces. You wouldn't if you were working at the Friends of Benson store, that would not become your space. I thought they were meant to unload product that they needed to unload and if they were going to spend the day they would park down in the general parking lot. You're making it sound like these are going to be designated almost for their use. I'm just wondering where your thoughts are.

Jim Barnes said it's not necessarily designated for their use but certainly they would probably be using it on a fair frequency. Other people could be using it as well during our volunteer cleanup days or if somebody who is trying to work on their adopt a spot somewhere in that area of the park.

Chairman Maddox asked how would that be regulated I guess is my question. Mr. Barnes said they only thing we would have is some kind of identifier to put on your car. It will be first come first serve. If they're all being used, then you'd still have to park down lower in the main parking lot.

Selectman Nichols said occasionally but not often but occasionally I like to volunteer at the barn to help out when I can. If I can't get a handicapped spot, then I will go to one of those other volunteer things. To park all the way down and then have to come all the way, I can't do it. I really can't do the walking. I'd like to but unless somebody is willing to cart me up there.

Shawn Jasper appreciated what you're saying. I think if those were simply designated as permit parking and the Benson Park Committee got to hand out parking passes, then it would be first come first serve because otherwise if you're saying unloading zones only, that's probably only a few minutes out of a week and then you're going to have parking spots that aren't usable at all. So it would be better to allow the committee to regulate if there were people who were abusing it, the committee could say five people can't take over these spaces 24/7 which I don't think would be a problem but to say that just unloading - then the spots become useless 90 percent of the time and there are a lot of older people who do have issues. They may not be handicapped but if they're coming and going on a regular basis, it's a long walk from the lower parking lot.

Chairman Maddox asked how about a compromise of one unloading zone, 3 volunteer spaces, and 3 handicapped. I'm just afraid that if somebody volunteers and they're in the back of the pond and they've tied up all 4 spaces now the intent of what we were trying to do here is to make easy access for people to unload has also been compromised. Jim Barnes said we could give that a try certainly. Chairman Maddox said, again, if the first 4 people in grab the parking spaces and go off to do work at wherever and now somebody wants to unload ice or whatever they're trying to bring in to the Friends of Bensons, there's no now place for them to unload. So that's something you'll kick around but I think the Board in general doesn't have any issue with what you want to do. How you make it work I guess is probably fine.

Selectman Coutu said 3 and 4. Three handicapped, 4 volunteer spots.

Jim Barnes indicated we will work with the Highway Department. Chairman Maddox noted to do both of these projects because they're going to have to remove the blue paint for handicapped, and the signs, and whatever. You'll have something made up so that they can have signs for however you're going to do it with placards, decals, or whatever you're going to do. Mr. Barnes said we'll have to notify the police that if they come and check - I know I've seen them in there writing tickets for people parking in the handicapped lot. Chairman Maddox thought that's why it's important we got to remove that so that there is no concerns.

Selectman Coutu recommended that if someone is assigned to take this to the next step that someone consult with somebody at the Police Department where would be the best place for them to place either the sticker or the placard so that they're always looking at the same side of the windshield, or rear window, or however so that there is some consistency and they don't have to walk around the car looking to see how has permission and who doesn't and then have them agree on the size and perhaps even as much as the color so that they're all the same.

Chairman Maddox believed number 3 we've already taken care of. I was told that the address..Steve Malizia said when I saw this, we went and changed the web. Chairman Maddox said just for people that are using their GPS from out of town or whatever are being drawn to this handicapped spaces. Jim Barnes said I have not seen it but people who are in the park frequently see it where people come in, they're not familiar with the park and the gates are locked. The park is closed and they haven't seen the main parking lot or they come in and they just see the handicapped spaces well where can I park. That's what it was about.

Chairman Maddox indicated the next thing is going to bring us to proposed engineering services for the utilities. Jim Barnes said we've engaged with SFC and George and Dan are here in case you have any questions regarding this. What we're trying to do here is put together a design plan for what we had talked about earlier in the year which is bringing utilities into the park, bringing them down the hill in preparation for either permanent bathrooms in the park or providing utilities, electricity, gas, and so on to the elephant barn. Those are the main things that we're trying to do. The bringing in the utilities into the park is the key. This is part of putting together the warrant article that we had anticipated putting on the ballot for next spring and this design study would be the key to doing that so we could understand how expensive a project this would be so that we engage with SFC to put together the proposal and we're bringing it to you for your consideration. The Board at the last meeting recommended that you take this forward. It does put a significant hit on our budget for the year but this is something we need to do in order to go for the next part of this project which would be put in the proposal on the warrant article.

Selectman Coutu had the opportunity to view the meeting which gives me I guess a leg up on this particular project. I agree wholeheartedly with the proposal. I had an opportunity/occasion to speak to your Vice-Chair most recently and said that you had my wholehearted support. I think it's a sensible approach. I think it's time that - we brag about this being a jewel but we're not making much of a financial investment in the park. This is the first step in the right direction. However getting back to what I said having had the privilege of watching the meeting, I was left with a little bit of confusion. Near the end of the discussion and the gentleman was still there, there seemed to be a lot of alterations proposed to what was originally asked of the - I would assume they're an engineering firm. My favorite people outside of lawyers. Are you an engineering firm? Steve Malizia said yes. Selectman Coutu said that's what I thought. More paper shufflers. The engineering firm with all due respect - the engineering firm was asked or suggestions were made by committee members that well maybe we ought to look at this, and maybe we ought to look at that, and maybe if we brought the pipe down to here. They were given I would expect initially an overview of what their work product was going to be based on a certain criteria that was given to them. Now there have been alterations and I want to know whether or not those alterations are expected to be included and if so is this cost going to increase as a result of that. Do you understand what I'm saying?

Jim Barnes thought the major alteration that was discussed was including connections to the office building and the train depot as part of this overall design plan. Selectman Coutu commented correct. Mr. Barnes believes this is something that can be incorporated. I'll yield to the representatives for confirmation of that but I believe it's something that can be incorporated. As far as giving them guidance and so on, there were two instances where members of the committee - I was not part of that - members of the committee met with them in the park to walk through exactly where this is going to go and what the overall project was supposed to do.

While they may be addressing that, Selectman Coutu had one other question. It was brought to light this weekend while reviewing my packet for tonight's meeting and having seen what was just presented to us by our Engineer relative to this particular project. Perhaps broken conduits underground that carry wires. Have we at any time done a study of the sewer conduits that exist in the park or is it the intent to bring in new conduits along the lines of where the existing conduits are - the sewer system?

Jim Barnes said the sewer conduits are down near the lake - the pond as I recall.

Shawn Jasper interrupted and said there are actually two main lines which the town maintains. They were put in after Benson Park closed. They are functional. They are being used by the town at this time and we will merely be tying into it and is currently being used. Selectman Coutu didn't know if they had been idle for a while. Jim Barnes said these are new and either the Town Engineer or the Sewer Department should know exactly where those are. Selectman Coutu said we can always run a camera through the line too. Shawn Jasper said they are used and maintained lines. Selectman Coutu said great that answers that question. So now it's just whether or not we can incorporate the alterations that were recommended.

Shawn Jasper indicated Mr. Fredette can come up but we did have that discussion with him afterwards because the only two components are the train station and the office building. He'll correct me if I'm wrong. The design work for the train station is really already done so it would just be laying out the line from the office building. He indicated that they could do that within the existing contract.

Chairman Maddox always heard that there's a pipe that used to run between Mr. Benson's house and...Shawn Jasper said there is an old corrugated pipe that they ran wires through that was destroyed - one end of it was destroyed when they tore the house down. So it's not anything you would ever want to consider using. It was just a corrugated pipe. It's probably rusted out in many places. Jim Barnes said you can see one end. If you go into the basement of the office building, you can see in the end of it coming through the foundation. Mr. Jasper said you can also see that it's very full of debris.

Selectman McGrath had a couple of questions. First one is this is the only engineering firm that you consulted with about this. Jim Barnes said yes it is. Selectman McGrath asked can you explain why you didn't seek out more than one to give you an estimate. Mr. Barnes said we just approached this one engineering company because they've done work with the town. The firm was recommended to us. That's why we only did this.

Shawn Jasper asked to add to that. Not only have they done work, they have been doing work on Benson Park so they're already familiar with the project so they're not going to have to replicate much of what was there and frankly it's also a lot of volunteer hours getting out there and meeting with them. This was the recommendation of the Town Engineer. There were three on site meetings I believe that volunteers attended in addition to the meeting. Selectman McGrath said they have a history with the park.

Selectman McGrath indicated the other issue that I have with the estimate that's provided is the clause that it's an estimate only. It's an approximate. It says to be precise, "These estimates are approximate only." It's not a firm fixed price that we're getting. This is more like a cost plus. Jim Barnes said we would need to make sure that we capped the cost so that we didn't outspend our budget. Do you have that number available so that if we...Selectman Coutu indicated \$11,880. Selectman McGrath said that's the estimated budget. Selectman Coutu thought they're agreeing to do it at that price. An amount not to exceed that. I think I saw him nod in the affirmative. Selectman McGrath indicated that clause that I just read is below that. It is. It's the next paragraph. If you read the next paragraph, the second line down towards the end of that. It says, "These estimates are approximate only."

Shawn Jasper spoke with Mr. Fredette and he agreed that we could do a contract at a not to exceed the \$11,880.

Selectman McGrath indicated then I'm comfortable with that.

Selectman Coutu has one more thing. Mr. Barnes I don't recollect clearly. Perhaps you can refresh my memory. The \$11,880 this amount of money is not a budgeted item within your budget. As best I recollect that this money is going to come out of...Jim Barnes said correct. It is not a budgeted item in this year's budget. We had set aside some monies for doing some projects or starting to do some designs on the office building. So I think that this would probably come out of that. If it were to come out of the Benson Park budget if we could get some additional funding

from contingency funds as well to offset it in part, I think the committee would like that but we understand that setting priorities is important. If we have to take this out of our budget, it will pretty much eat up the entire budget.

Selectman Coutu asked to pursue on that line of questioning. Mr. Barnes I know that you had taken it upon yourself to study the office building and to come up with various proposals. To the best of your knowledge is there any portion of the office building that is less than structurally sound that we should concern ourselves with? Jim Barnes said certainly. I think the front sill of the building between the foundation and the front wall needs attention fairly soon.

Selectman Coutu recommended though I am going to support this, I was concerned that the money was coming out from the office building that if in the near future or in this budget year that does need attention that you would - I certainly would welcome you coming before this board and request whatever additional funding it would require to replace the sill so that somebody doesn't get hurt and it doesn't structurally affect that whole section of that building not that it's going to collapse but it is in the doorway. If you feel it needs attention, come before us for the funds necessary.

Shawn Jasper indicated that area is a concern. I think we could certainly do some temporary blocking there. There is a section of the sill that is essentially gone and so the pressure comes down on it and there's probably about this much area that it could compress and we could certainly put some temporary blocking and should put some temporary blocking under that. What we had talked about was essentially this is a bigger project then I think we can handle as volunteers. The next year's budget as we move forward would be to have some design work to have that done and get estimates for doing that section of the work. I believe that with a little bit of blocking it will be perfectly fine because it's not the whole sill that's gone. There's just a section that should be - and currently there are jacks underneath the main beams there but the front wall has got a little bit of sponginess to it because there's a section where it's just flooring and studs.

Chairman Maddox expounded on that. You came into us with a budget that said you were going to be working on the caretaker's house. What redirected you to now move to this rather than taking care of the caretaker's house? Jim Barnes said they're both long-term projects. This one with the possibility of getting this onto the warrant articles - the town ballot in the spring, I think this one was taking our attention as the priority so that's why we went down this route instead of focusing on the office at this time.

Shawn Jasper said frankly I think a large portion of it as well was when the Friends of Benson Park rented the building; there was the expectation of having the utilities there. Frankly now they're to the point where they've got a very small electric service in there. They have done an incredible job of doing the inside of the building and it's time to get the water there, the sewer there, and the electric as was indicated. It just seems that this is the right time to do it. Additionally I think you also know that there is a constant washout problem on Benson Park Boulevard on the steep part. Until we run the utilities through there, there's no way of doing a long term solution to that without doing work and then digging it up. It seemed to be the logical way to proceed where there was no real short term plan and no real danger for the office building. That would be what I would anticipate as I said the next effort that we make but getting these utilities in place for the Friends of Benson Park and what is expected by them. You will note I think on that too the Friends of Benson Park have gone above and beyond because they were not responsible for the exterior of the building but recognizing the town's limited resources in that area there taking over the exterior of the building. They're very much saying when are we going to get what was promised.

Selectman Coutu said they've done an outstanding job. I don't know if you've seen it. It's beautiful.

Chairman Maddox said that brings me my next question. You have local water, gas, and electric. Is it your intention to bring in fire service? Shawn Jasper asked to address that. When we had the initial discussion, the water main that would be brought in our anticipation is that the initial run in would be large enough to have a hydrant. We expect that the Fire Department would want to have a fire hydrant within that area. There's nothing right outside the building area so that it is anticipated not sprinkler system but a fire hydrant there. Chairman Maddox thought if they're ever going to have the collection inside that barn I would think they would want some sort of fire protection. As long as you're making provisions that it's coming in. Mr. Jasper was sure when they get to that point there will be certainly an alarm system in the building but sprinkler systems as you know are very expensive and sometimes can do more damage to certain things than they protect.

Chairman Maddox indicated they came all the way out here. Do they have some drawings that they would like to show us or is the Board interested? What's the Board's pleasure? Can we get the Reader's Digest version? While they're getting ready, I heard two different scenarios. One for bathrooms down more towards the A-frame and then bathrooms at the gorilla house. Do you have an inclination of where this is going?

Jim Barnes noted at this point I don't think we've made a decision on where that would be. I think most of the sentiment at this point would be to move it farther down towards the A-frame. There is a section back there where the old entrance to the park used to be that probably would be a good area. It gets it away from the congestion at the playground and the gorilla cage right there. It's still close by to the heavily traffic areas in the park.

Selectman Nichols was just thinking that from reading this and watching and being at the other meeting, this will be done in stages. Is that right? Electric and water will be in small stages to a point where you can add and keep adding and keep adding. Am I right on that? Shawn Jasper indicated the design work would be done to allow sufficient sizing of gas piping, water, and electric to potentially get electric as far down as the amphitheater if that was desired. The gas and the water - everything for now probably either dead end at the gorilla cage or just before the gorilla cage so it would get it out of the area where we need to maintain Benson Boulevard and it wouldn't be necessary to even put in the actual electric service as long as the conduit was there. Same as the water, things could be run and dead ended. Water is obviously something you just turn a valve but we've talked about having hydration stations in the park along the playground so that kids would be able to have water when they're there. It would go no further than the gorilla cage for sure. As far as the issue of the bathroom, of course originally I was thinking that the gorilla cage might be ideal for a retrofitted bathroom. There have been some differences of opinion on there and I think I probably share them. It would probably be more expensive to retrofit that building as a bathroom than it would be to build a small one. We're not talking a huge building anyhow. We're talking probably half a dozen stalls on each side or something like that. It's not a big building but it would probably be much more efficient to design it and build it rather than try to jackhammer floors and do all that when you looked at the interior of the building. That's not decided by any means but there is a consensus that if we were to put a building in another place, it would be down in that area where the sewer line is already. So essentially we'd be placing it right next to the sewer line.

Dan Flores stated just to give you a quick overview of the plan, here's Benson Park. We have Kimball Hill Road coming in this area and then Bush Hill Road coming down this location. The train depot is here that will be moved to this location. The office building is here. The elephant barn is here, playground, gorilla house, and the amphitheater down here. The intent is to first and foremost get utilities to the elephant barn. Currently there is water and gas running along here and down Bush Hill. There's also overhead electric coming along. There is an existing sewer line and an easement that comes through the park here and goes off. As part of the permitting for the movement of the train depot, some utilities were already shown. For instance this water line was proposed coming across. This sewer line was proposed coming down the hill and tying into the existing structure. We will be expanding upon that. So for instance you can see the proposed water line coming off going into the elephant barn. We would maintain the sewer line as originally proposed coming down to the existing structure. We would branch off of that to hook up the elephant barn. The gas and electric would come off Kimball Hill Road come around and into the elephant barn. For the future connections, right now we're showing a proposed toilet facility here. We would bring all those utilities down the hill along the existing sewer line to that location. The idea would be for the electric in particular would be size such that we could continue it down to the amphitheater in the future. To expand upon your question, Dan Flores said this would be laid out in such a way that we could phase it so that if you wanted to do this now, the elephant barn, that would be fine and hold off on the rest.

Selectman Nichols noted I had also asked the other night and they explained it to me that I wanted to make sure that no one bothered the playground and everything is on this side not on the playground side. It's away from the playground side. Am I correct in that? Yes. I just wanted people to know this that the playground will not be affected.

Chairman Maddox asked is that box the historic zone. So you'll be working outside of the historic zone on all of these utilities so we don't have to have an archeologist sitting there watching you dig. Mr. Flores said yes. Chairman Maddox said that's a big savings and a lot less paperwork.

Shawn Jasper said it would be designed in such a way as if we ever get to the point where we decide it's necessary to hook either of those two buildings up while we'd have to get the archeologist at that time, this would be designed to allow for that capacity and for that connection. So we would be doing some preplanning on that.

Selectman Coutu asked Mr. Jasper at one point when we talked about the train station being relocated there was some mention of maintaining a bathroom facility there. Has that idea been abandoned? Mr. Jasper said it's not currently under the discussion. If in the what I would say probably in the distant future, there was a use for that. There would probably be a bathroom in the building and that would be why the sewer connection is planned there. I would say that would be off in the distant future and that would be only if that building were designed so that it might be used as an educational facility with a classroom or something. There would be a bathroom there but nobody is talking about any plans at this point.

Selectman Coutu asked what about the elephant barn. Shawn Jasper said the elephant barn will have a handicapped bathroom in it. Selectman Coutu saw a need there especially if we have people there all day long working. If somebody has to go, I'd hate to see them run all the way down that hill and then have to climb back up. They should have a facility available. Mr. Jasper indicated there is a port-o-potty there but this will eliminate the need for the port-o-potty there.

Selectman McGrath told the Chairman I thought you were joking when you said archeologist but then Mr. Jasper seemed to concur. Can you explain? Chairman Maddox said the historic district, and Mr. Barnes if you would like to carry this. Jim Barnes indicated that portion of the property has restrictions on it. If we do any kind of ground disturbance, we have to bring in somebody from DOT or the State Archeologist to take a look at it because it was determined historic in nature. It's part of the deed restrictions for the property. So we have to abide by it and that's

one of the reasons why there's been so much trouble with the relocation of the train station. We've had to coordinate with the State to get somebody there to witness any kind of digging or excavation that's going on. Selectman McGrath asked is it because they think that they're going to find artifacts buried or just an added step in the process. Mr. Barnes said I can't speak to the intent. All I know is what's in the deed. Chairman Maddox said the last time we had this time we got a shoebox full of nails, bottle caps.

Selectman Coutu asked Shawn Jasper did you bring it to the Governor. Shawn Jasper indicated I did.

Chairman Maddox said it was insignificant I guess is the word I will use. It has to be done because it's in the deed.

Jim Barnes noted when digging for the train station foundation, I understand they found some broken dishes and things like that but that's...

At this point, Chairman Maddox said you're looking for us to approve this contract. Mr. Barnes said correct.

Motion by Selectman Nichols, seconded by Selectman Coutu, to approve an engineering services contract with SFC Engineering for the Benson Park utilities plan in the not to exceed amount of \$11,880, carried 4-0.

Chairman Maddox said I know I'm putting you on the spot but if this is going to be a bond issue if you're going to put it on the warrant, you think it's going to be that kind of money. Jim Barnes stated I don't know at this point. That's part of what we're doing. Because of the separation, Shawn Jasper said there's significant trenching. Once we get the design, we'll be able to come back to you and talk with Kevin about what the Highway Department is able to do, and what you'd approve them of doing, and then we'll have to formulate a plan from there. It could be significant because the separation between the water and the sewer is 10 feet. Then you have the utilities so you could be doing a 10 foot trench down there just one trench or several. The pipe has been purchased or much of it was purchased a while ago and is stockpiled by the Highway Department. Now we'll have to get the gas company to figure it out, Pennichuck and all these things but we have to have the design and then we'll figure out where we go with it. Maybe we'll go a short distance with some of it for now but I can't imagine that we would want to not run all the conduit and pipes down there again so that we can take care of that constant erosion problem on Benson Park Boulevard which is just a maintenance nightmare.

Chairman Maddox asked are you planning on running an empty spare conduit. Mr. Jasper said yes. I believe we had talked about that. Chairman Maddox noted in the future if we needed to put in call stations for medical or whatever we have an empty pipe so we don't have to go through this again. Conduit is cheap. Again at this point, let's see what the numbers come up to be.

Selectman Coutu believed not this most recent meeting but at a previous meeting someone suggested that we look at an inventory that we may have relative to some conduit. Has that been done? I'm not interested in the numbers but. Jim Barnes didn't think that inventory has been performed yet. We still need to contact...Selectman Coutu commented but we do have some inventory. Mr. Barnes said from a couple of years ago there was an expenditure from Benson Park funds for that in anticipation.

Chairman Maddox said where we have to spend the money and that's when we bought...Shawn Jasper indicated when we were much younger and more naïve.

Chairman Maddox indicated the next item is your budget for next year. I have heard through the grapevine that there's consternation about the cost of port-o-potties. Again as you're trying to make up your budget, we're just trying to see do you think your budget is going to go up substantially next year. Jim Barnes said it is going to go up. The draft that we submitted last week, the draft request shows it going up by \$2,880. The bulk of that is for the expenses of the port-o-potties. I think we've probably seen out there this year is adding the two extra units has really alleviated a lot of the complaints. Chairman Maddox has not heard anybody call since the 4th of July. But I've heard that there's some consternation about how much you're spending. If its \$2,800 more a year...Mr. Jasper commented we had one negative vote on the committee for recommending this.

Selectman Coutu said he's a tightwad and I appreciate that. You know what's it's like to be a tightwad. He's very conservative and he was the only negative vote.

Again Chairman Maddox said what I'm trying to do here not put all of us under the gun at budget season. If you're saying that your budget is only going to go up \$2,800, it is going up beyond the zero percent. Selectman Coutu said I will support it. Chairman Maddox didn't know if there was anything else. This is really the estimate that you're coming up with may or may not make the ballot depending upon what you find. Are they doing any borings do you know? Shawn Jasper indicated the borings have been done. Chairman Maddox said I'm trying to stop all of us from having to try to deal with it on budget night. If that's the only increase, then we will make a decision at that point.

Jim Barnes indicated there were a couple of other smaller items and some things we've moved around a little bit. The bottom line was \$2,880 was the requested increase.

C) Conservation Commission Review

Chairman recognized Chairman Ken Dickinson. Good evening.

Ken Dickinson hoped you had a limited amount of boring information for you this evening.

Chairman Maddox knows that you have a number of balls up in the air. Rather than trying to cover this at budget season - I'm talking about the infamous chemical versus DASH unit, and land buying, or whatever it may be. I don't want you to be under the gun as we get to budget season. We asked you here tonight to try to get some information from you I think.

Ken Dickinson said I have some information not that prepared. I have a few things I got from Doreena on the ponds program. I can speak in generality about them.

Chairman Maddox asked is your budget submitted. Mr. Dickinson thought it was based on our last meeting. It was going to be submitted as a flat proposed budget. Basically it was going to echo last year's budget. Chairman Maddox said again the DASH is going to be the same as it is this year. You're doing limited in both locations based on the amount of invasive species that they find. Ken Dickinson said if I go based on the recommendation of Aqua Logic which was the new DASH contractor, their goal this year is to try to do an excellent job so that there may be an opportunity to do one less treatment on one of the ponds next year. Robinson Pond is cleaning up pretty well although they did harvest a substantial amount of weeds. I actually think they pulled - they're not done with their services. They're probably only half way through. They have to truncate their services due to the bacteria problem that they had back I think in August at Robinson Pond. So they had to delay the services and also it was so dry that they were having trouble getting their craft into certain locations that they wanted to get into. Instead of getting them literally stuck in the mud, they delayed their services to October. I'm not sure if they picked back up again yet. To date they've harvested thousands of pounds of weeds in both ponds. Robinson they did it in three days. It seems like they're very efficient and effective. They communicate well and I think their goal is a nice goal to have. He's not the decision maker. I think Amy Smagula is going to be the one that provides the recommendation as to which ponds get treated as to what's the balance of the DASH versus the treatments. We'll have to wait for that. That is the unknown factor.

Selectman Coutu asked Ken have you heard anything relative to funding from the State next year. Have they said anything about it will stay the same? It may be cut? There's going to be an increase? Do you know? Ken Dickinson said I have not heard anything myself. I just know that we had 40 percent for several years as a match. It was reduced to 25 percent last year. So we actually had to pull more money from another account to cover that. I think there was maybe - well there's this pond reclamation fund. I'm not exactly sure how that works. That's the last item in the budget. I think we're utilizing that this year and we will not have from what Jim told me, that we will not have that money available next year to spend. However to balance it out, we may have one less treatment. For instance if we didn't do the treatment at Robinson Pond for the budget or that was awarded last year, it was approximately \$18,000 for Robinson Pond. There's a way of making it reasonable even if the match isn't what it was previously for some reason. Hopefully it goes back up to 40 percent.

Jim Battis said we don't have any definitive information on the rebate level. Of course you're actually talking about the rebate for this budget is not next year but the next year. When Amy talked to me about the reduction from 40 to 25 percent this year, my understanding of what she said was it was a budget glitch in the way they did the budget. The funding from this comes from the registration fees for boats. It was a budget glitch and as I understood it, neither she nor I would promise this, she felt that it would be corrected and we might go back maybe not to 40 percent in out years but maybe 35 or something. One of the problems is that more and more ponds in the State are now receiving treatment. So there's more applicants who are applying for this refund also. Over time, that rebate is going to probably drop unless boat registrations go up drastically. I think there's some hope for recovery but we don't know until we get there.

Selectman Coutu noted relative to the reclamation, at one point as I recollect Mr. Battis during your tenure as Chairman of the Conservation Commission, Robinson Pond was listed at I believe in the top 20 worst ponds...Mr. Battis said number one in the State. In terms of it was the vector which was infecting all the other ponds in the State. Selectman Coutu said I was correct; it's in the top 20. So over the last three years anyway, we've made tremendous in roads especially at Robinson Pond. As a matter of fact we had some areas that last year they estimated we're almost completely clear and other areas needed more attention because they had a difficult time getting to them and you alluded to that Ken this year they had a hard time because they water was so low. They didn't want to get stuck out there. Has the bacteria - because I'm going to hear this question posed to me - the bacteria that we suffered in August has nothing to do with can we say definitively that that bacteria is a separate issue from what we're doing in terms of reclamation?

Jim Battis said I might leave this to Ken. The herbicide treatments do not directly impact those bacteria. So the herbicide treatments won't generate the Cyanobacteria. On the other hand, Ken brought up an interesting point in a conversation we had that because the DASH operations can't get into some of these lower areas, there might be

dead plants in the water from the herbicide treatment which the harvesters can't get out which could then generate some fertilizer basically for the Cyanobacteria. There's probably an indirect relation but it depends on whether they can get in and remove the dead plants from the system.

To your knowledge Mr. Battis, Selectman Coutu indicated another point that was made was that the residents of the Robinson Pond area, especially those immediately abutting the waterway have they taken care to alleviate some of the problem by not putting contaminants on their lawns, things that would flow into the water or is that just a moot point and it's just going to continue and we're going to have to live with it. Mr. Battis thought there are certainly some in that area who probably don't fertilize close to the pond. What does close mean? I'm sure there are some who do and maybe not aware of the fact that that fertilizer gets into the pond. Selectman Coutu didn't know if there was a concerted effort among the neighbors to educate. Mr. Battis indicated there is a group the Friends of Robinson Pond that I think does try to educate the neighbors but some people like to be educated and some people resist.

For budgetary purposes for next year relative to the herbicide treatment, Selectman Coutu said you're budgeting the same amount of money yet they may cut back on one treatment. Ken Dickinson said that's what the aim is. Selectman Coutu noted they're making significant inroads by only having - what do they have 3 treatments now per pond? Jim Battis indicated the original plan that we started two years ago was two treatments per pond. Amy Smagula the State Limnologist recommended that we do a third treatment at Robinson Pond somewhat smaller scale this year. I don't know if you've seen the results. The results of her surveys of the pond look very good and also the surveys of the DASH operators. As Ken mentioned, their goal is that next year there would not have to be any further herbicide treatment at Robinson Pond. The control would all be done with the DASH operations. We would have to do the treatment at Ottarnic Pond and that also the surveys that I've seen look pretty good for that. Hopefully, again, that might need a third year of treatment. It might not. The idea on the capital reserve fund that Ken was mentioning, this year we had budgeted originally to put about \$12,000 into the capital reserve fund assuming we didn't have that third treatment at Robinson Pond. We probably will not have the funds available to add to the capital reserve fund so we won't do it. Next year we still have budgeted \$12,000 for the capital reserve fund. Hopefully we won't have the treatment at Robinson Pond and it really will go into the capital reserve for some out year hopefully 8 or 9 years from now when maybe a treatment will be required.

Ken Dickinson had one thing to add if I could. I think that it's real important to try to - and I think the Limnologist is going to take a good look at this - I see the need to have to do a limited treatment on each pond actually to try to maintain the work that we've done already. You don't want to lose that. You don't want to just not do a treatment and then all of a sudden there's a spike in growth the following year and you have to treat it heavier two years from now. I would think that would be an unfortunate scenario if that were to happen. It would be nice to be able to do a reduced treatment. I do as others sometimes cringe at how much we spend and how much this particular program dominates our budget as a whole. Obviously it's like 95 to 98 percent of the budget. It doesn't allow us to take on very many other projects when we have such a big focus on the ponds. They are some of our best features that we have in this town, and to protect the environment, and protect the property values, and so on and so forth.

Chairman Maddox said if you do a smaller treatment are we falling into the same thing we're doing with ourselves is if you keep putting in the antiseptic at some point the germs become resistant to it. Are you better off waiting a year seeing where you are and then giving a heavy treatment if it so needs rather than trying to dilute I guess that's the word you're using the amount of chemical you're putting into the ponds. Mr. Dickinson said I'll defer to the Limnologist since I'm not one myself. I don't think it would affect I guess is that we've been using the same chemical now for only a couple of years. I don't think any of the plants in there have built up antibodies against it.

Jim Battis pointed out on that that while they've been using Clipper the chemical that we use here only a couple of years, it has been used in Florida for I don't know the exact number of years but substantially longer period of time. I do not believe they've seen any sort of resistance built up in the herbicide.

Chairman Maddox said just the questions as we sit here as laymen trying to figure out where this is going. Are they using our DASH unit? Ken Dickinson said no. I believe they use their own. They actually inquired to see if we'd be willing to sell it. We had the further conversation with one of the Robinson Pond Association people and it didn't seem like that made sense at this point in time to do. That was the end result of the conversation so I didn't pursue it any further. Chairman Maddox asked at what point does this DASH unit become worthless if we're not using it because we're hiring somebody that uses their own. Again just asking what did we spend on that thing \$10,000? Mr. Battis said a little less than that. Steve Malizia thought \$8,000. Chairman Maddox said again if you can find out at some point if this thing has a life span. They no longer use that model. That whole thing that if it has value now and it doesn't in 5 years why keep it for 5 years.

Chairman Maddox noted your budget is going to be flat. You really don't know what your income is going to be so whatever shortfalls you're going to have is going to come out of your conservation fund. Ken Dickinson said which is also somewhat unfortunate because that's not really the best use of the money or the intended use of the fund.

Selectman Coutu stated they have a donation account for the ponds don't you. Jim Battis said we have 3 donation funds and we also have a small reclamation account which to be quite honest with you it's sort of my failing. Because

we have to come through the Board to get that money, we've never really taken that step. It's been so complex trying to figure out what the actual charge is. As I've said every time I came before you, the grant program run by the State runs on the calendar year and our funding runs on - so figuring out what we spent this year, it's almost easier to just let it filter through the conservation fund. So we've never actually come in and requested to use those but we should.

Chairman Maddox asked how much is in there. Mr. Battis didn't have the number with me but I think the number is about \$6,000. There's a pond reclamation fund. There's an Ottarnic donation fund, a Robinson donation fund, and a Hudson ponds donation fund. Those are all \$1,000, \$700 something like that. The pond reclamation fund is the largest of the items. Chairman Maddox thought again you've answered a lot of questions in regards to the budget which, again, because of you're absolutely right. The State is on the calendar; we're on our fiscal and it just makes it so convoluted. Selectman McGrath we're hopefully going to avoid that this year. It sounds like you've got it under control finally because again you came in with a spreadsheet that showed one year and adding this and subtracting that. Historically you always come in the last night and it's not a pretty sight. I think that again as much as I know Selectman Coutu was just so happy to come here tonight.

Selectman Coutu said KC has it under control. She had worked it out with Mr. Battis.

Chairman Maddox said the other question that is roaming around is how are you making out with any land purchase that you may be interested in. Is that going anywhere in the next fiscal year? Ken Dickinson said we have been looking at the Mills property as we discussed last year. I believe that the recommendation or the task at hand back in November was to come up with 3 estimates to appraise the property. We have those 3 estimates now. Kind of jumping ahead. Earlier in the spring we were looking at the possibility of applying for an LCHP grant application because this property would definitely fall within it. It would be a good candidate site. It was a lot of effort to do that in the short period of time. It's a large application. I think there were some other concerns as well. We held off on doing that in hopes that we'd be better prepared to perform that application work for I think towards the end of the next fiscal year. We have a deadline to submit that LCHP application and hopefully get some funding to lessen the cost of having to do the survey work and all the work that would be necessary to make it town conservation land ultimately.

Chairman Maddox reiterated so you're saying that you're actually applying to the LCHP not to buy the property but to do the survey and estimate of the price of the property. Ken Dickinson said correct. Then there's a whole list of other activities too. Jim did a lot of research on it.

Jim Battis indicated LCHP not only supports the funding for the purchase but as part of your application, you can submit the cost of appraisals, survey work. There's things like hazardous materials. Has any hazardous materials been deposited on the property. Those sorts of surveys can be included in the cost of the LCHP. We need to get the appraisal, make sure we know exactly what it is that we're purchasing - the easement, the property, what part of the property depending on how Mr. Mills wants to subdivide it and everything before we can really submit the application. Over the next year, we have to get the package together and get the appraisals done and everything and put...Chairman Maddox said there will be nothing for this year's warrant article. Mr. Battis doubted it. This year's definitely not. Chairman Maddox indicated that will make your visit to the budget cycle very short. That's what the intent of this was. I just didn't want us to get bogged down into if you were planning on doing something, we had more time to do some research ourselves rather than trying to last night do the budget and see where we're going.

Selectman McGrath had a question about the appraisal costs. Did Mr. Mills submit his proposal for what exactly he's looking for and what he's proposing to do? I thought that that was a motion that was made at the Conservation Commission meeting 2 months ago perhaps. It was voted on by a majority of the Board that he was to provide that information and then you would seek out appraisals. How can you do an appraisal if you don't know what it is that he's proposing? Did you get anything from Mr. Mills?

Ken Dickinson didn't believe he submitted anything further at this point. I think that's not going to affect the quotations that we got to be able to perform the appraisal work. I don't have them in front of me tonight. We were due to discuss it. We had a pretty agenda on our last meeting. We voted to defer that subject until we put it first on the agenda to the next meeting if we could. Selectman McGrath said I'll be there. Mr. Dickinson noted with that said, I had a quick question. Did you want me to actually bring those appraisals or the recommended appraisal to you at some point in time to present before the Board or can we simply - they're pretty close in price. They're within \$1,000 of each other.

Chairman Maddox asked and you're funding that out of the conservation funds or out of your budget. Mr. Dickinson indicated it would be out of the conservation funds. Chairman Maddox said the Conservation Commission can issue the purchase order directly from your commission. I got the Town Administrator nodding next to me. So I'm right. Steve Malizia said they have the right to spend their funds. They just have to give an order to the Treasurer. Chairman Maddox indicated if you were going to try to use budgetary numbers for monies, then you'd have to come to us. So if its \$1,000 and we are all comfortable with X then so be it. Ken Dickinson said if I recall the range is somewhere between - well it's less than \$5,000. For the highest one it might be closer to \$3,000 for the low bidders but they took 3 different approaches. It wasn't totally apples to apples. The acreage was apples to apples but the approach was different.

Selectman Coutu said money is money. Whether it comes out of the conservation fund or whether it comes out of our budget, I think what needs to be said here is that as just one individual who serves on this board who had the opportunity to or who watches meetings as lengthy as they may become or as boring as they may be to other people, I watch because I want to have an idea of what's going on in town. I see this property as being totally convoluted. The proposal was convoluted. The presentation was convoluted. I think you hit on it Jim when you just said a little while ago a lot is going to depend on what he wants to subdivide, how he's going to subdivide, what he's willing to pay for it, not willing to pay for. The impression I got from him, he's not going to spend a dime. He wants this thing in conservatorship for years. It's so convoluted it doesn't make sense from my perspective, from either as a businessman's decision making or as a politician making decisions on behalf of the taxpayers that we should spend money for something we're not sure we even want. If there's no support from this Board, why would you want to go ahead? I can't speak for the entire Board but why would you want to spend whether its \$3,000, \$10,000, or whatever it's going to cost to do estimates on how much the value is. Number one, we don't know how much land he's willing to relinquish. Number two; we don't know what he's dividing out of the property. Number three, we're not even sure he wants to sell it to us. He wants to sit on it until the day he dies and then it transfers to us. That's going to create thousands of documents, and papers, and a trail, and lawyers. Do we really want to get into this mess?

Ken Dickinson said that's a good question. No if it was presented more - we were trying to get him - encourage him. I did encourage him to come in with a plan. The last meeting that we had, he did actually did come in with a plan. It was not as defined - there wasn't as much detail on it as I may had hoped to see. I believe that he could put a little bit more effort into it and come before you again.

Selectman Coutu said what makes sense to me Ken is X number of acres, no strings attached. That's what I'm releasing. That's what I'm interested in selling. Clean cut, sign on the dotted line, and move on. This business about you know I got a cemetery here. I got to tie this in. I got this. I got that. I want to be buried there. How many acres? Do you have to sell, and how much do you want for it, and where are those acres - point a, point b, point c, point d. There's a square in there somewhere. We have 168 acres of Benson Park we can clearly define. I just want to be able to see clearly defined what he wants to sell not tie our hands with well we're actually going to keep it in the family for so long. We've heard all this. It's convoluted. If he can't come in with a clear cut plan for what he wants to sell, why would we want to spend a dime - not even one cent on determining the value when we don't even know what the hell he's willing to sell us.

Ken Dickinson said duly noted. I do not want to waste any money - not even a cent if I can possibly avoid it. That's why we've taken such a ginger effort towards this. At the moment, we're tiptoeing around a little bit. I haven't expended a lot of energy on it myself. We did go out there and walked the site with our new members and take a few photos. They're prepared to possibly do an LCHP application but we stopped because of the questions that we had. If you'd like to have him come before you again with a clearer plan before we go any further, I would do that. I'd contact them and have him put something together.

Selectman Coutu told Ken you made me feel a lot better tonight by saying we're not going to exert a lot more time and effort on it. You know where I'm coming from. You made me feel comfortable tonight.

Selectman McGrath repeated what I've said to you before in conversations. This whole proposal not only is it convoluted but it's a term I used to use when I was working. It's like trying to nail Jello to a wall to try and get exactly what he's looking for, exactly what he's proposing. You can't get it. He hasn't provided it yet. I wasn't here when he was before this Board before. It was no different when he was before the Conservation Commission. I'm not in favor of this project not in the least because it's not precise. We have no idea exactly what he's proposing to do and what he wants and what the town is going to end up getting. I'm with Selectman Coutu. Spending any money on this - until you get exactly what he's proposing to do and what he's proposing to sell just is a waste of time in my opinion.

Chairman Maddox indicated I missed the meeting that he was here. I didn't hear all of the details but I did hear some of them. Again until we know what we're trying to buy, I think it is questionable. Again you at the Conservation Commission have that right. So be it.

All right with that, thank you very much and we'll hope to see you in a couple of weeks at budget.

Jim Battis asked to make a comment. When I came before you on September 14th to discuss this property, the information that you just gave me tonight was exactly the information that I was hoping to get at that time. I think you've provided valuable input tonight but I wish you had done it - obviously some of the members weren't here at the time but that's what I was looking for when we made the presentation. I'm glad people have started to develop a feeling and are willing to give us the input.

Jim Battis said the other thing is for Mr. Maddox's edification, I have almost completed a spreadsheet of all of the expenses for the pond reclamation fund since 2002. Very close but there's still a couple of items I need to route out I guess. You'll get it. It's been a while.

Chairman Maddox thought it's a program that has unfortunately sometimes been driven by the seat of the pants. At first it was let's do the chemicals and then maybe a year and a half, two years later it's got to buy the DASH and then we went back to the chemicals. It didn't seem like we had a long-term plan. It appears now that there seems to be some amount of history, some data that supports the use of both. Again I can tell you that this Selectman was totally confused with between the monies that we were trying to put away and the safe money that would come in later, it just became convoluted to be able to know where we were in the budget program. I look forward to seeing it.

Selectman Coutu indicated whatever we're doing Mr. Chairman is working.

Chairman Maddox asked about the Lake Host system. Jim Battis indicated that is part of the same program. It is operating I guess. Ken you've talked to the people. Ken Dickinson thought we had consistency with the Lake Hosts over the last couple of years. So we're benefitting from having some tenured staff out there sort to say. They know what they're looking for. They know how to do the job. The only maybe change is that Mr. Kegley who has helped administer the program has informed us that there was an increase. I believe somewhere in the range of \$1,000 to \$1,500. So that actual cost did go up there as well. Right now it's costing us the projection for 2016 is approximately \$7,000 and that's if I'm reading that correctly in total. We're awarded 2250 as a deduction so it's actually less than \$5,000 for actual costs to the town. I think it's an important program. Even if they aren't finding as many weeds as they had in the past maybe that's a good thing. The total is way down. I think last year they may not have had any or less than 10. When they first started, they had hundreds. It was something beyond hundreds. It seems like the people that are going in there are more responsible. The Lake Hosts are doing their job. The chemicals are working. We're headed in the right direction and that's like the feedback I'm getting right now as well. We'll just have to be careful about what that balance is between the DASH and the treatment.

Selectman Coutu said I'd rather be proactive on that reactive.

Chairman Maddox noted as I keep saying, we're driving some of this by the seat of our pants. Now that you have some data to go from it makes it a lot easier. It was chemical - DASH, chemical - no, no DASH, DASH, chemical. You've worked it out. Thank you very much gentlemen and we look forward to seeing you in a couple of weeks just breeze in and out.

6. NONPUBLIC SESSION

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman McGrath to enter Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (a) The dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a meeting and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted, carried 4-0 by roll call.

Chairman Maddox indicated Nonpublic Session is being entered at 8:40 p.m., thus ending the televised portion of the meeting. Any votes taken upon entering open session will be listed on the Board's next agenda. The public is asked to leave the room. Open session was entered into at 9:34 p.m.

7. ADJOURNMENT

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

Recorded by HCTV and transcribed by Donna Graham, Recorder.

HUDSON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Richard J. Maddox, Chairman

Roger E. Coutu, Selectman

Pat Nichols, Selectman

Marilyn McGrath, Selectman