

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
Minutes of the October 21, 2014 Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER - by Chairman Coutu the meeting of October 21, 2014 at 7:05 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at Town Hall.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - led by the Finance Director Kathy Carpentier.
3. ATTENDANCE

Board of Selectmen: Roger Coutu, Ben Nadeau, Rick Maddox, Nancy Brucker (arrived at 7:12 p.m.), Pat Nichols

Staff/Others: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator; Donna Graham, Executive Assistant; Kathy Carpentier, Finance Director; Paul Inderbitzen, Moderator; Patti Barry, TC/TC; Chief Rob Buxton

Chairman Coutu noted that this evening we're going to resume with budget deliberations. The first thing I want to bring to your attention and for those of you at home who are following the budget process, there is another additional warrant article that was placed in front of you this evening. It's Warrant Article L. It establishes a Hudson Community Television Revolving Fund. That will be placed in your folder under L and we will get to that I believe on Thursday evening when we go through that budget. This evening we will proceed.

4. BUDGET PRESENTATIONS

Planning & Planning Board (5571-5572)

Chairman Coutu recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia stated there are two cost centers that make up Planning. The first one is entitled "Planning". The second one is entitled "Planning Board". In the Planning Department, we have the Town Planner and it's the residents, it's the home, it's the budgeted department for one of the two Administrative Aides in this group. As you can see if you look at the bottom line, I think the lion's share if not all of the increases is due to the contractual salaries that were negotiated with the five unions. There's two different unions involved here not that that's a big deal. You'll look to see that the actual operating budget part is reduced. I basically tried to do the budget. I did work with the Planner but I basically did the budget with him. So, again, if you look at it overall its 7/10 and one percent. So that takes into account the labor but it does cut some of the other expenses.

Chairman Coutu asked if there were any questions or comments.

Selectman Maddox asked in this line item we have a full time Administrative Aide. Again we're putting it in this budget as long as this Board is going to discuss how that is going to play out. You see later in the book that the Fire Department is looking for a part time person in that room. I don't know how we can say that the Planning Department needs a full time Admin. Chairman Coutu did not disagree. I find it very difficult to justify a full time position under Planning. I agree with you. I ask you to reserve that when we get to the Fire Department and then if we need to talk about realignment, we can do it then. Selectman Maddox said we'll just put a "W" next to that so we will come back to that Sir. Chairman Coutu said that would be line item 5571-101.

Planning Board (5572)

Steve Malizia said if you look, there's no labor budget in here. This is instead the cost to do Planning Board activities like notices, newspaper ads, postage, professional services. You'll see that I tried to take a look at where they've been running for the last three years. Even though we're in a default budget, it goes up. I do try to put it back to something more reasonable based on what you've been doing. That's where the \$10,000 comes in.

Chairman Coutu noted this would be a cut of 31 percent. Any questions on that? I didn't think so.

Steve Malizia said the Zoning and Planning activities, they used to be budgeted in Land Use but because of the shift to the Fire Department, they've been zeroed out. When you look at the department head request, you see zero. Obviously that reflects that they're now under the Fire Department's jurisdiction. Not to make you flip too much but you have to flip through a few pages to get to Engineering. Engineering would be located on page 18.

Engineering (5585)

Again, Steve Malizia said the one of the key differences here, again, in the salaries we had approved contracts that does get reflected up in the salary lines. We do budget two interns. I believe they come in at \$12.50 an hour. They're engineering students usually at UNH or that program. I believe they're in there for 13 weeks at 40 hours a week. They do a lot of miscellaneous tasks. They've mapped out all of our out falls, all of our sewer, a lot of our ties, a lot of our drainage. They've been a very valuable resource for us. Just to point out that they're in there again. They're only temporary. They're not full time as far as benefits or anything. They're just in there for a short duration. The other key increase there was in the water quality monitoring. You'll see line 264 was zero. We took that out of the solid waste monitoring budget that used to be residing in Mr. Burns in the Highway Department budget. Mr. Burns has never been responsible for that program. It's always been under the purview of the Engineer. What it does it is monitors our two landfills that have been closed - Burns Hill Road and West Road. We are required to monitor those and to submit reports and keep on top of those. As you recall, we have I think one of our testing stations we had to replace within the past year. What I tried to do here is looked at the average expenditure over the three years of actuals. Again it's put here but it was zeroed out somewhere else. That's why you see it. It looks like it's creating a large percentage but in reality that's what the average has been in the other cost center.

Chairman Coutu asked why would we need \$2,000 (inaudible). Steve Malizia indicated we have two vehicles in the Engineering Department. We obviously have Mr. Webster is still doing inspections. We also have the Engineer. We also have the Engineering interns are frequently out in the field. I believe the budget is 625 gallons for the two vehicles for \$3.20 an hour. There's actually two vehicles assigned to Engineering for use by the part time Civil Engineer, the Engineer, and the two Engineering interns for their field work. We used to lump it all under "Land Use" before. We've now broken it out because this department is responsible for their gas and some gas went over to Inspection Services people. It used to be one pool. Chairman Coutu said it's directly charged as opposed to be a one pool. Okay.

Steve Malizia said we have the ability on the new pump on out there if you look we have I think 100 cards out there. Before we were limited so we used to charge it all to Planning. Now we have multitudes of cards. I can give everybody their own card. Hence I can track it better which is what we're doing.

Selectman Nadeau asked in the Engineering Department I didn't see any money for repairs of vehicles. Is there a reason for that? Steve Malizia said the vehicles are fairly new and we're going to take a risk. If we have to fix them, we'll have to transfer from somewhere else. Quite honestly, I'm not aware that their vehicles are as old as the hand me downs that we got from the Police Department. I think their vehicles are a little bit newer compared to Assessing whose getting a little bit long on the tooth. Selectman Nadeau asked what happens...Mr. Malizia said we'll have to fix it and get the money from somewhere. Selectman Nadeau asked where do we have them fixed usually. Do they go to the Highway Department? Mr. Malizia said that's usually the first course of action. If they can't fix it there if it's something beyond something the guys can do there, I think we take it to the local guy - Pole's Auto Body. Chairman Coutu noticed that's one of the vendors we use. Again, Mr. Malizia said we try to fix it at the Highway. We try to do the brakes, the routine stuff but if we can't, that's where it would get farmed out.

Selectman Nadeau said the reason I ask that is I noticed the amount in the Assessing budget was rather high and looking through the budget book, I don't see it in any of our other departments. Steve Malizia thought his vehicles are getting - he expressed the mileage too. Chairman Coutu mentioned that they're out every day.

Selectman Nadeau asked to find out what the mileage is on those vehicles and the years on those vehicles - the Assessing ones. Steve Malizia said he told us but we can look in the minutes. Chairman Coutu asked for the year and mileage on every vehicle that we own just to have it. A piece of information.

Steve Malizia pointed out it's not in the budget but again we had this discussion last year. We're going to have it again this year. We know the storm water permit is changing. The Federal EPA is changing the requirements. This year we've put \$25,000 into the Selectmen's contingency fund. Should we have to go finance Engineering, I'm raising the specter again. If you look on page 23, again it's just a simple recitation of we don't know what it is but we know it is. It's something to think about. Whether you choose to do it or not, I will tell you you put \$25,000 in this year in contingency. We moved money when we were moving all the money. We kept \$25,000 in for this activity. If it hits us, we are a storm water community. We will be mandated to do certain things whether I like them or not. Chairman Coutu asked if this was in his bottom line. Mr. Malizia said no. It's separate. That's why I identified it separately. It's not in the bottom line. Chairman Coutu asked if it was a "W". We're going to review this right?

Selectman Maddox said I'm going to gamble another year. We put \$25,000 additional into our contingency. Let's throw the dice. Maybe with a new Town Engineer on board he will be able to give us a better handle on this as we come in next year. I don't want to add another \$25,000 to this line item.

Selectman Nadeau indicated I'm not going to. Chairman Coutu asked how far do you want to stretch that rubber band. Selectman Nadeau said we'll see how it snaps. Chairman Coutu wanted to review this. Let's have a

discussion. Are there any other questions on Engineering? Selectman Nadeau asked that maybe somebody from the EPA should come down to talk to us.

Chairman Coutu wanted to make note that Selectman Brucker is here. She arrived a few minutes ago - 7:12 p.m.

Moderator (5041)

Chairman Coutu noted as you can see there's a decrease of \$4,000. Do we need to discuss this budget?

Selectman Maddox asked how many elections are going on in 2016. Paul Inderbitzen said two. There's a town election and a Presidential primary. I have it as February but it will probably in January from what I understand plus the Deliberative Session.

Chairman Coutu indicated it's a cut of \$4,000. I don't see where we're going to have a problem with your budget Mr. Inderbitzen. Mr. Inderbitzen said I was lucky in the fact that we keep defaulting back. What is this the third default year? That year that we default to was my biggest year 2012 which was the Presidential election when we had all those elections. That's in the four year cycle. That's my largest year. So I always look pretty good when you look at that big number but it's really not. I'm very seasonal. We'll have one year where we'll have just one meeting, a town meeting, and then we have the State primary, and election, and then we the Presidential primary. So it varies quite a bit. It's up and down. It's not something that can be consistent but we have the two elections in this proposed budget and was actually looking at the real last interim budget was 2010. 2012 was the Presidential and that was really an unusually circumstance. So 2010 would have been a reasonable comparison. This is comparable to that. I am asking for the replacement of two sets of voting booths which I'm going to do over a period of years to try to replace the old beat up ones and retire them.

Selectman Nadeau asked how are our voting machines going to be holding up for the next Presidential election. Is it something that we should be thinking of now? Paul Inderbitzen said well we have a fifth voting machine that we purchased from the Town of Bedford when they were getting rid of some of theirs. It's all been refurbished. We have new batteries this year. There's maintenance done on them every year by the LHS. I think we're going to be in good shape. We didn't have any bad jamming problems this last election. We didn't have that many ballots. We'll see. I anticipate - our last general was about 7,200 or a little more than that in November of 2010. I anticipate a little bit more than that this year because of some of the keen interest in the senatorial and the Governor's race. I think we'll do okay. They're the long ballots which actually go into the machine better than the shorter ones because the shorter ones kind of have a tendency to flip over and do things and go in better. I don't think we're going to have a problem. We keep the machines up. LHS does them every year. If we have a problem with one - like we had that jam. That was a paper jam. There wasn't anything we could do about that but we had the backup and we were able to bring the backup into play and we had no problem. So we'll do the same thing.

Chairman Coutu asked if there were any further questions or comments for Mr. Inderbitzen. Seeing none, thank you Mr. Moderator.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector (5030 & Warrant Article F)

Chairman Coutu said if you notice the bottom line, again, this is a budget that was cut by I believe \$9,000. Do we have any questions or comments relative to this budget? It's a cut. It's in the right direction as far as we're concerned. You're all set Mrs. Barry. Thank you very much. It's an easy night.

Steve Malizia noted that I took the liberty of preparing a warrant article for the Board's consideration for a salary increase. It's under letter F. It's a 2 percent. As you are well aware, Ms. Barry has had the job since 2007. I think last year was the first increase she was voted on. I put it out here for your consideration. You don't have to do it tonight but just so you know it's a 2 percent and the backup is back here. Just so you're aware of it.

Supervisors of the Checklist (5042)

Chairman Coutu recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia noted bumped them up I think \$17 for postage. Other than that, they're a \$4,000 budget. There's 4 Supervisors. They attend all the elections.

Fire Department (5710 to 5770 & Warrant Articles H, I, J & K)

Chairman Coutu recognized Fire Chief Rob Buxton.

Good evening Mr. Chairman and members of the Board. Chief Buxton thanked them for giving me the opportunity to present the FY16 budget for the Fire Department. I'd be remiss if I didn't thank the members of the Hudson Fire Department and the administrative staff that participated in this budgetary process. The goals for this FY16 budget remain consistent with our FY15 request, provide cost effective and efficient services to the Town of Hudson. We're going to accomplish this through preparing our personnel, enforcing a consistent risk reduction program, and being prepared to deliver emergency services to the public. Our secondary goal is to maintain the functionality of our infrastructure and keep our equipment at its every ready state of readiness. The FY16 budget request reflects a 13.18 percent increase. This request is also coupled with an 11.31 percent increase in revenue. This will be the first year that we actually overlay the Zoning, Code Enforcement, Health and Building end of the budget. Tonight you will also see this overlays Building, Zoning, Code Enforcement, and Health. Last year we attempted to move the Building Department into the budget. With the default budget, that was stripped out. So that shows as a 100 percent impact in the budget this year.

Chief Buxton explained that we have three items that we've also requested in consideration for outside of the budget - a radio transmission site at the police station on Constitution Drive, an increase to our savings account for ambulance, capital reserve, and an increase in fire equipment capital reserve. We've also offered 4 warrant articles for the Board's consideration - construction of a new fire station in the south end of town, replacement of an ambulance, a renovation to Central Fire Station, and a part time office assistant for Inspectional Services. I'm assuming you'd like to move through the operating budget first and then go to the warrant article second Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Coutu said we will go through the operating budget at the point that we get to the office assistant, let's take that up. Let's put that to bed one way or another.

Chief Buxton noted that 5710 Administration, this section of the budget covers the Fire Department Administration. Its salary, benefits, associated operational costs. Under this year's submission, you'll actually show that this has a 9 percent reduction from the FY14 budget. This shows an 11 percent reduction in salary. This is due to the relocation of the Captain of Training and Safety to the Operational line 5730 which assisted us with the opening of the Robinson Road station, a reduction in publication and subscriptions, paper, medical expenses, and uniform purchases. Lines that show an increase in this section of the budget are meals, mileage, postage, printing, office supplies, gasoline, and furniture. This is all inclusive now meaning that Zoning, Code Enforcement, and all those areas move in underneath this budget and we've coupled all those areas under one section of the budget. Past year's expenditures also lead to increases in the following lines: towing, newspaper ads, and service recognition. Our goal with the administrative lines and all other lines for that matter of fact were to evaluate our needs and realign funds as we were reflecting our expenditures over the last 3 years. Increases that you see in the lines were built off of history and a reflection of where we were over the last 3 years. Once again, we're in our third default budget in the last 5 years. So we're reflecting those numbers and haven't been able to keep up to speed with the changes. That is the introduction to 5710 Mr. Chairman.

Selectman Maddox asked either the Chief or the Town Administrator - 122 insurance. Look at thing. It jumps from 77, to 61, to 25, to 16, to 41. Is that just because of the personnel changes? Mr. Malizia stated that line reflects the insurance actions of the people in that department. For example you had a Chief before that took a full medical package. He's no longer here so his would have come out. You have other people that change their insurance depending on...Chief Buxton said right. We have one Deputy that is on flex and one Deputy that is on full insurance family plan. That was not consistent prior to Chief Murray's retirement. Chief Murray was on insurance and both Deputy O'Brien and myself were on a flex plan at that point in time. Selectman Maddox noted its huge jumps in either direction. Chief Buxton said when Deputy Carter was here, he was an insurance guy. I've been on flex and off of flex over the years depending on employment of my wife.

#### Facilities (5715)

Chief Buxton stated that 5715 Mr. Chairman is consistent as our facilities line. Probably our biggest question usually comes up on 5715-224 Building Maintenance. This increase in this area is due to our routine maintenance, our heating system, our aging facilities for Robinson Road, our HVAC systems. You were gracious enough to give us a new HVAC system at Central Fire which is under a two year contract for its services. We put in setback thermostats in all facilities. We're starting with the upgrading of the insulation, our overhead door program, water system maintenance. If you remember correctly this year, we invested water filtration update at the Robinson Road station. That came in under failure earlier this year. The water system at Burns Hill Fire currently is about the same age is testing appropriately but that is also reflective in here. Regarding projects for the infrastructures next year, we've added \$6,000 to that line and that will take into account some window repairs at Station 1 and building envelope issues at Station 1. We did not highlight any additional projects at the Burns Hill Station or Central Fire Station pending the two warrant articles.

Chairman Coutu asked to take some of these singularly. 5715 building maintenance. We're pumping money every

year and I'm wondering why - of course we're dealing with a default budget. I understand that. Can you give me the rationale for requesting \$38,000 for building maintenance for next year? Chief Buxton explained that we are increasing by \$6,000 to complete projects at Station 1 which are inclusive of some window repairs that we haven't been able to budget under the default budgets the last two years. Building envelope issues meaning exterior doors and our routine issues - the furnace cleanings, buildings and grounds keep up, water filtration systems, and all around building maintenance items. I have 4 facilities to maintain at this point in time: the Fire Administration building and 3 fire stations all of which are seeing their age. We did not propose any renovation or updates to either Central Fire Station or the Burns Hill Station this year pending the two warrant articles.

Chairman Coutu questioned there's problems with the doors and windows at Robinson Road. Chief Buxton said we have windows that were put in in the early '90s that we were replacing windows at that time. There were some of the original vinyl replacement windows and it has come time to replace some of them.

On heating oil, Chairman Coutu asked why do we need \$22,000. Chief Buxton stated the heating oil is built off of a review of the last 3 year history for all the facilities and that is reflective of what we've been spending. Chairman Coutu noted in 2014 you spent \$18,000. Chief Buxton said when you take the average over the last 3 years, that's where that came up. Chairman Coutu didn't see why we're going to be needing \$22,000 in that line item. Chief Buxton said last year my utility costs came in in the negative \$6,400. That was inclusive all the way around the board meaning gasoline, electrical, water, and sewer, heating oil, natural gas. Chairman Coutu asked what were you operating with. What was the amount allocated to that line? For heating oil last year, Chief Buxton indicated was \$18,000 and we were overspent by \$5,000. Chairman Coutu reiterated you spent \$23,000 on heating oil. Chief Buxton said we overspent that line by \$5,000. Chairman Coutu said the year before we spent \$14,400. Why did it go up \$10,000 cost in one year? Are we lacking in efficiency? If you spent \$14,000 in one year and it went up. I understand oil prices went up but \$10,000? Chief Buxton had two points. Yes we addressed some of the efficiency issues at Central Fire with a new HVAC system. I have no history on that as we sit here today what the heating cost will be for that. That is natural gas. I'm hopeful that that's going to save us some money but when we talk about building envelope issues and you talk about window replacement at the Robinson Road station and those types of things, we have leakage every day that's taking place.

Selectman Maddox said the other thing Mr. Chairman is now Robinson Road is open 24/7. So you're going to have more usage because it was probably maintained at a lower temperature when it was in an unoccupied station. Chief Buxton stated we've had a setback thermostat out there since we started staffing that facility in 2007 so when the building was open and closed, we were trying to bring those rates down. You may be up a percentage point but I'm not predicting that we're going to be up that much further.

Chairman Coutu thought it was a significant increase in my opinion. We're going from \$110,000 - granted it's a default budget, to \$131,000. Any other questions? We're getting nowhere let's move on. A big "W". I'm going to be looking at. I may come back with some recommendations.

#### Communications (5720)

Chief Buxton explained the communication budget is utilized to support the Fire Department dispatch center. Our system is inclusive of 3 transmission sites and a total of 5 receiver sites which are fully licensed through the FCC. We are submitting a 14 percent increase in this line this year. The increase to cost centers include 5720-203 shows an increase of \$.50 for the replacement of software support for our radio system which is going from XP to a Windows based system as we're trying to phase out the XP program. You also will see that we are moving 208 shows an increase of \$912. This covers telephone lines to report back to Central Fire and external to the phone company's charges from our radio system sites.

Chairman Coutu said everybody keeps telling me we're saving money on phones and every year the line items go up on telephone. Why is the Fire Department going up \$900 on phones again? Chief Buxton told the Chairman you have several different pieces of the phones. I think we need to potentially have some conversations on. Our radio system is supported by copper telephone lines that run on the radio system which has nothing to do with the town's phone system at all. They basically are the connection line between the dispatch center to the transmission sites in the field. That is separate from the IT's phone system. Those lines are leased on a month basis in our communication budget and that's the increase that (inaudible) push forward. If you remember correctly when we had some combined dispatch conversation last year and the year before, we talked about the potential of some different technologies. Maybe more fiber optic, maybe microwaves. So we own those pieces.

Chairman Coutu indicated so what you're telling me is that line item 208 is as a result of Fairpoint increase. Chief Buxton said yes. Chairman Coutu said that's fair. I understand. I just wanted to understand it.

Chief Buxton noted we also in 252 Mr. Chairman this year you'll see a \$4,000 increase, a \$4,600 increase and that is

to support a maintenance contract with our radio vendor. As you will hear on Thursday night from the Police Chief, we've reached the end of the support for our dispatch center consoles. For the last few years under the default budget, we've been under a maintenance agreement with two way communication. This is the piece of that supporting mechanism. What do we get out of that? We get emergency response back, they maintain equipment so if we have a broken piece of equipment they put a loaner piece of equipment in to get us back operational which is putting some of the burden of maintaining that outdated system on them and not on us. So I don't need to have parts and pieces on hand. They have those parts. They come in on loan and they purchase new, bring them in, and take their parts out.

Chairman Coutu said this particular item could you on the top of your head tell me - you may not be able to because we don't ask for this kind of information, how many times you might have called for service last year? Chief Buxton said off the top of my head I will tell you that we call for service about 10 to 12 times over the last year. That would be usually storm related items. So if we have a lightning hit - in just recent time we took a lightning hit at 2 of the stations. The radio vendor was not in. We have a communication line that we need to communicate between Fairpoint communication and our radio system. We need to bring in the radio vendor and Fairpoint. We're paying for Fairpoint where we don't pay for their service call but we have to have a radio technician in to deal with those interface pieces. That also brings into account overlays for frequency changes that have to happen each year as different departments and FCC licensing takes place. Chairman Coutu asked and that's what that fee is, it's an insurance policy. Chief Buxton said yes.

#### Suppression (5730)

Chief Buxton said that 5730 is the suppression area. That's the largest area of the budget. This year we show a 10 percent increase in that budget. Chairman Coutu asked how much of that is reflective of the contracts. Chief Buxton believed the contracts were - Kathy's digging out that information. Chairman Coutu thought it was unfair I think that when someone says my budget come in - it's fair to say my budget came in at a percent of increase but some of that is as a result of actions of the voters and the raises were the actions of the voters. I'm looking for a true reflection of the increase over and above contractual obligations. Kathy Carpenter said \$309,000 is in the 100 line item which is 9 percent. Chief Buxton indicated in that specific section. Overall budget Mr. Chairman, we had - Kathy correct me if I'm wrong - \$663,000 worth of labor and benefit changes this year. Ms. Carpentier didn't have that number. Yes, about that number. Chief Buxton noted right around there was the change. Ms. Carpentier noted his expenses are only up \$131,000 and that's all in the departments including the new...Chief Buxton said Zoning, Code Enforcement, Health and those types of things.

Chairman Coutu indicated \$131,000 once you factor out the contractual obligations correct. Kathy Carpentier said correct. Chairman Coutu said \$131,000 is the increase and that is as a result of what? Chief Buxton said some of that is because of the overlay of Zoning, Code Enforcement, and Building into the Fire Department budget. Ms. Carpentier said \$31,000 is Zoning and Zoning Board Adjustment. Chairman Coutu said I can't find which section these are in. Mr. Malizia explained that what she's talking about and what the Chief is talking about is the overall Fire Department. When you take all of his cost centers including the now inclusion of Inspectional Services, Zoning, and Zoning Board, I think the number was \$131,000 over all of this section. Chairman Coutu stated that his overall budget is up \$131,000 - everything that's related to fire. Ms. Carpentier said operating expenses not salary and benefit items. Chairman Coutu reiterated that everything he has control over he's up \$131,000; 131 represents what of his total budget before contractual obligations. Chief Buxton said 6 percent. I will whittle that number down a little bit even more Mr. Chairman. The number was \$132,000. Operationally we're looking at approximately \$50,000 worth of changes. The other changes are reflective of Zoning, Code Enforcement, Building coming into our budget. I've asked for an increase operationally for equipment of \$56,000 black and white.

Steve Malizia indicated we zeroed him on the Land Use section and put them in his section. Chairman Coutu noted that should not factor into the increase. It's an obligation that we had. It's a previous obligation. We're just transferring it from one department to another. So now take that number of the 132 or have you already with the 132? Chief Buxton indicated its \$56,000. I'm asking for an increase of \$56,000. Chairman Coutu asked we're down to 2. What percent. Chief Buxton said I didn't narrow it down that tightly. I apologize.

Chairman Coutu noted it's a matter of fairness so that people know what it is. It's being fair. It looks like you're asking for \$132,000 more. You've taken on other obligations that were financed elsewhere that are being factored in. You had no say on whether or not the voters were going to allow the warrant articles for pay raises to pass. They did fortunately. That has to be factored in. You're actually asking for \$56,000 give or take more for your entire operation. Okay. That's full disclosure. I just needed to know that. That's very important to know.

Selectman Maddox questioned 404 - trucks. Going down the old command vehicle trail. Chief Buxton said we're requesting year one of four for a lease purchase of a new vehicle. We're overlaying our program and reducing down trading in two vehicles. We're trading in the Crown Victoria and the 2004 Tahoe outback. We looked at overlaying a

complete lease purchase and trying to reduce the size of our fleet from large Tahoe vehicles to a smaller. To make that shift, it didn't come in cost effective to me. I was up at almost \$100,000 to shift those numbers around and I wasn't willing to bring that to you. We went down with a move to bring in one new vehicle this year instead of getting rid of multiple Tahoes at the same time. We're relaying the program now that we have one Deputy that is not driving a vehicle home because he lives out of State. We're overlaying that program and reducing two vehicles because that goes to the general pool each day that he uses. We're reducing two vehicles and we're asking for one.

Selectman Maddox had a follow up question. I hate getting into the Tahoe but you have presently 4 Tahoes and a Crown Victoria and you're saying you're going to get rid of a Crown Victoria and a Tahoe and get a new one. Chief Buxton didn't say we were getting a new Tahoe. I said we were asking for a lease purchase of a \$8,000 lease purchase. I didn't commit to what type of vehicle we were getting. Selectman Maddox wanted to see the mileage. I mean some of those vehicle spend a lot of time in your parking lot so before we go and start - I know we're going to be looking at mileages and trading in vehicles because my ankles hurt from getting kicked about turning in vehicles with 54,000 miles on them. I want to know where we are Sir. Chief Buxton indicated vehicle 34 which is going to be the Crown Victoria is a 2006 and has 100,576 miles. That was a Police Department trade down. Vehicle 25 which is the 2004 Tahoe - white one in the back parking lot - is 83,490 miles. That has four wheel drive issues and transmission issues. That's why we're looking to get rid of that one. That's how that one was picked out of the litter because we still have the red 2004 Tahoe that is in the mix. We're overlaying how the vehicles are utilized. With the new Inspectional Services model and the way folks are changing in and changing out, there are multiple inspectors in the field at a time and multiple inspectors in the office doing plan review. What we're finding is that they're sharing vehicles and getting in and out. So what you may see in the yard sitting in the back maybe just because they're in the office doing plan review pending inspections in the afternoon. Zoning brings on another vehicle for us this year and we don't know what the overlay or where that's going to round in.

Selectman Maddox said when this is over, you'll still have 4 Tahoes remaining. Chief Buxton stated I will have 4 Tahoes remaining. Selectman Maddox noted and then this car that you want to get. Again, it's not going to be a command car which is what you're calling it. Chief Buxton indicated that was the title in the budget when the budget was written the last time and I didn't change the title of it. Selectman Maddox said for \$32,000 I think we need to take a look at...again, I think we just need to take a look at where we're going with - if you're going to build a pool of cars where we're going with this but not for tonight.

Kathy Carpentier inquired if that was a "W". Selectman Maddox said we'll put it there and see where we take it.

#### Inspectional Services (5740)

Chief Buxton noted that the next couple sections of the budget have been completely meshed into the Fire Department meaning there's pieces of Zoning, Building, and Code Enforcement and the old fire prevention lines make up this line. This year as we merge those areas together, you notice the telephone lines. This covers the mobile devices for the Deputy Fire Chief. It's assigned to that area, the inspectors, the Fire Prevention Officer, and Fire Inspector. Some of the cost saving items that we looked at as we examined the budgets, we reduced publications and subscriptions. We were sharing subscriptions and that's not just magazines. I'm talking about code compliance type stuff, NFPA memberships, ICC memberships are now filtered under one town membership for both departments where they were budgeted in separately before. Training shows an increase and this is basically if you remember correctly, we're cross training the entire staff upstairs. Even the new Zoning Administrator was brought in. We're cross training him as a building inspector along with the zoning functions. Those dollar figures are where those increases are. Uniforms are up and that's because we're now merging all those pieces/parts in there. You will not in 5743-49 a 41 percent decrease in our public education material. That doesn't mean because we're doing less public education, it just means that we're doing it differently. We're getting a lot more electronic technology type things out to the schools so they can pass along to the parents through e-mail and things up on either HCTV or up on the web and websites.

Chairman Coutu has a request in for how many cell phones we have in town. We didn't forget that somewhere right? Ms. Carpentier indicated we have the list. The list has been created. I've sent it out to department heads for review and hope to have it back to you Thursday or Tuesday night next week.

Chairman Coutu asked if there were any questions on Inspectional Services. Zoning.

#### Zoning & Zoning Board (5747 & 5748)

Chief Buxton said 5747 and 5748 Zoning and Zoning Board show as a 100 percent increase to our budget because it was never budgeted there before. We've been over that. All costs were based on where we felt we needed to come in off of activity the last 3 years. We worked diligently to move posters, supplies, and paper to make sure we weren't over purchasing things and we were falling underneath one budget.

As compared to the previous year, Chairman Coutu asked do you have...Steve Malizia looked at last year's actuals. We spent \$150,975 in the actual line. The default budget this year was \$215,755. The year before that \$222,122 and the year before that \$248,484. The Zoning Board, the last actual in 2014 was \$6,004; 2013 was \$6,400; 2012 was \$7,275. This year's default is \$11,500 and he's asking for \$5,000. Chairman Coutu asked who put in this request. Chief Buxton stated I did. I reviewed the budget with the Chairman of the ZBA in my office prior and asked him what he was going to have for budget requests because I was in the process of writing of the budget. We worked off of history and we reduced. They had a mileage line in there that we zeroed out that wasn't being used the last few years. Chairman Coutu appreciated you meeting with him. That's the way to do it.

Selectman Brucker asked to go back to Zoning professional services the \$20,000. What's that for? Chief Buxton indicated that's your mosquito control, EEE. Steve Malizia indicated we larvicide. Basically we identify the pools that we think are most likely to contain the hits. There's a program where we try to prevent those pools from getting to the stage past the larvicide stage. It also I think allows - we didn't have to do it this year. We did it last year and the year before, we did some spraying of Benson Park. Chairman Coutu thought we did some this year. Chief Buxton stated we have not needed to do any spraying. We get a weekly report from them and we've had no...Chairman Coutu thought we received a notice because I had sent them an inquiry and I thought he said some spraying was done. Chief Buxton said no. There's been spraying in Derry and Windham but there's been no spraying in Hudson.

Selectman Maddox said there wouldn't be any POs because you cut one at the beginning of the year for the service right. Chief Buxton said right but we would get put on notice so that we could post for mosquito spraying. Selectman Maddox said but we wouldn't see a PO. It's part of it. Steve Malizia indicated we got a notice last year and we did not any this year.

Just an explanation for Mrs. Brucker, Chief Buxton stated that Zoning is where that's been budgeted over the time into that professional services. There's no health section to the budget. So that's where that's been...Chairman Coutu asked it's been that amount. Chief Buxton said it's been that amount for the last several years.

#### Ambulance (5750)

Chief Buxton indicated that this section covers the EMS program and our part time EMS Supervisor. Currently this comes at 9 percent over. This moves along with the Board's support last year for the paramedic tuition. I've put that in here at \$9,500. An increase you'll see in there for our field tablet and technology basically which is a correlation if I can make it to an MDT in the police cruiser. The guys work with tablet technology instead of mounted devices based on a couple of different reasons. One it's portable. They can bring it in to the homes, gather information, electric report writing which has actually increased our collection data for EMS billing. So that's the increases that you see there.

Chairman Coutu asked about the telephones. Could you explain this one why we're up to \$4,560 on telephones. Chief Buxton indicated that is our tablet technology. We have a Deputy Fire Chief, an EMS underneath there, and the IPADS for all of the ambulances and their stuff. Chairman Coutu said ladies and gentlemen, technology is going to be 50 percent of budget very shortly. Explain the ambulance training again 237. If you note Mr. Chairman, Chief Buxton said you have \$9,560 for that increase for paramedic school. One up from the bottom you have an AED trainer and then you have the paramedic school tuition cost that correlates to that. You encumbered tuition for one last year. You've asked me to scrape the budget as we get later in the year for a second and the third is in here for the share.

Chairman Coutu asked if there was any further questions on that portion.

#### Fire Alarm (5765)

Chief Buxton indicated that 5765 comes in at a negative 42 percent. Basically just to remind the Board under the default budget, I keep getting the money back for the bucket truck, bucket truck maintenance, and those types of things. It has been transferred to the Highway Department's budget. The 1971 vehicle was sold and we transitioned the money for boom testing and maintenance of that vehicle from our budget to the Highway Department's budget. So that's taken place.

#### Emergency Management (5770)

Chief Buxton noted that this remains consistent with a negative 16 percent increase this year. We're doing a lot more electronically for report writing and report updating with the State of New Hampshire. That's why some of our printing costs are down, and paper, and those types of things. We're seeing that efficiency pay off with the State of New Hampshire and they're providing us a lot more support in that realm.



IT Fire (5777)

Chief Buxton said this year comes in at a 14 percent increase. I'm not sure if the IT Director did it the other evening or not regarding the IT budget. I'll note we have a 100 percent increase for software subscription. That's for the pervasive and the security type software. We have an increase software maintenance cost. She's held firm on office cartridges, small equipment, and then the IT Director suggested increasing the 5 year replacement plan for the PCs and the CPUs and push us up to \$6,100.

Chairman Coutu inquired do you want to go to your warrant articles.

Chief Buxton asked the Chairman last year if you remember we came in for the '15 budget. We had proposed moving a transmission site out to Constitution Drive on the 111 corridor to try to get better coverage in the Sullivan Road section of town for portable radios. Unfortunately Chief Lavoie and I had a misstep. If you remember correctly last year he didn't put in the tower improvement they needed to be done at PD. I've petitioned for both of those changes this year underneath the Fire Department budget which is a total of \$100,520. That's going to replace the 40 foot tower that's at PD, put both Fire and Police equipment onto the new tower and give us a new transmission receiver site on that section.

Chairman Coutu asked how much the request was for. Chief Buxton reiterated \$100,520. Chairman Coutu asked if he had an estimate on that. Chief Buxton said yes I do.

Selectman Maddox asked would this in the Board's opinion fall under the IT. We've had a warrant article for a capital reserve fund for software and equipment. Steve Malizia indicated I'd have to hear more of what he has to say. I'm assuming you're installing a radio tower. A physical tower. It might be a stretch. In Chairman Coutu's opinion, it's infrastructure. It's a major investment in our infrastructure. Chief Buxton thought the capital reserve account that Mr. Maddox is referring to is a communication equipment in infrastructure capital reserve account. I'm trying to think of the one that we put in place for this purpose. Chief Buxton noted that's the one. You passed that with \$10,000 in the bucket last year.

Selectman Maddox asked to follow up. I thought we were going to look to unload some properties that would fund that account. Chairman Coutu indicated we haven't gotten there. Selectman Nadeau said they're working on it. Selectman Maddox thought that the Town Administrator needs to light a flare. Chairman Coutu said we've been waiting for those numbers of what properties are available. A lot of people are looking at them I understand. Steve Malizia said the short answer is yes. Chairman Coutu said I know that because I'm having a meeting tomorrow night about somebody who's looking at properties that we have for sale and might want to buy some. Steve Malizia stated it doesn't mean they're all for sale.

For clarification, Kathy Carpentier stated in 2013 we did put \$10,000. In '15 we're putting \$10,000 and we're budgeted to put another \$10,000. At the end of this fiscal '16 budget you would have in excess of \$30,000 saved. I just wanted to roll it forward for you.

Selectman Maddox was just trying to put a "W" next to this one because again there's only so many dollars there. I'm trying to find a creative way to accomplish the mission without attacking the tax rate.

Chairman Coutu stated the thing is is that I want to remind you that I know that between the three of us, we've mentioned several times - Selectman Nadeau, you and myself - many times about selling property to fund various accounts. So we can't expect that any one given property is going to fund any one given project. We need to look at the whole package expeditiously. Budget season is soon upon us. If we need to get some of this done, let's get it done this year rather than wait to having to put it on the ballot and have the voters say no and then we won't be able to do it. No means no.

Selectman Brucker had a question about this tower. Now several years ago when I was part of the combined dispatch discussion, there was talk of microwave towers. Is this something that...Chief Buxton indicated the replacement of the tower at the police station on Constitution Drive was something that has been on the books since we had that conversation regarding combined dispatch. When the original facility was built out at the police station, they put a 40 foot tower in. What is basically happened is that the trees around the facility have grown now and they can't even get out of their own building. Selectman Brucker asked will this solve the issue for combined dispatch. Chief Buxton said absolutely not. This is a piece of radio infrastructure that needs to be looked at and there are a lot of pieces/parts that go into combined dispatch and not just the radio infrastructure. Selectman Brucker said but this will solve some. Chief Buxton noted it's a piece of the puzzle.

Chairman Coutu thought that this was - only because we had the discussion the other night with IT - I thought this was going to be the solution to losing transmission in certain areas of the Town. Now I'm hearing we need all new

equipment to solve that problem. Chief Buxton said unfortunately didn't see the IT presentation. Chairman Coutu said you were involved in the discussion about the tower. Wasn't this going to solve the blackout area? Chief Buxton said it was going to take care of some of these transmission areas for the Police Department. Chairman Coutu stated now we're being told that we need to buy new antennas and new software for the cruisers to solve that problem plus the antenna. Chief Buxton wasn't exactly sure what she talked about. Chairman Coutu said next year we're going to need new tires to make it all work. I don't know. The problem gets compounded every year. We just keep throwing money at it and it's not getting solved. Okay a "W" unless there's further questions on that item.

Chief Buxton said the next two outside the budget requests were basically conversation pieces regarding our savings accounts and our capital reserves for the Fire Department. One was for the ambulance capital reserve and the second one is for the fire equipment capital reserve. We are currently being outpaced with the cost of an ambulance in regards to our capital reserve. We're not putting enough money away. We're putting away \$45,000 per year currently in the system. We buy a new ambulance every 3 years. We're looking at upwards of a warrant article that we'll discuss a little later for \$200,000 is the estimate for a new ambulance. When I came back to the Town of Hudson in 2007, we purchased an ambulance for \$168,000. Then the next ambulance was \$178,000 and we've continued to escalate. Chairman Coutu asked what's our turnover on an ambulance. Chief Buxton said 8 years. We move 8 years on an ambulance. The life span of an ambulance is 8 years. We're buying a new ambulance every 3 years. I'm asking you to put away a total of \$65,000 per year into the capital reserve to get us closer to that number. It's not going to solve all the problems but I'm asking you to put some money into the savings account to basically fund this program.

Chairman Coutu indicated we'll look at that. Chief Buxton said basically the same sales pitch for the fire equipment capital reserve. These are capital equipment items that come out of there - self contained breathing apparatus, thermal imaging cameras, portable pumps, stretcher, defibrillators, IV, IV pumps, cardiac thumpers, and those types of equipment. If you remember correctly, last year we lost a stretcher that had been with us for 20 plus years. When Striker came in to replace it, they were like this isn't even supposed to be on the street any more. The average lifespan for a stretcher through certification is 7 to 10 years depending on the condition. The purchase of a new stretcher is \$18,000. Last year we bought one but we also had a vacant position Mr. Chairman. So we had some ability to go and find the monies to get those things accomplished. Being fully staffed, we won't be able to do that again this year.

Chairman Coutu asked what do we have in our capital reserves. We have other donation accounts and things like that. What do we have in those accounts? I'm not asking to give specifics. I'm just saying I know there's donation accounts that we can pull money from to do things like this. Chief Buxton said we don't have - like the bullet proof vests donation line, we don't have a line like that. We have a donation line that goes in for specific projects. I think they were collecting at one point for thermal imaging. We routinely get money for community CPR. It goes into the donation line but we don't have a donation line that's established for equipment. We're looking at a reserve balance as of 10/1/14 was \$50,000. Chairman Coutu asked what capital reserve fund. Chief Buxton indicated fire equipment which covers fire...Chairman Coutu noted we didn't have one for capital equipment. Chief Buxton said donation line. I have a capital reserve account. I'm asking you to put another 20 into the account per year. When you start adding up all these pieces/parts...Chairman Coutu asked how much are we putting in a year now? Chief Buxton said 40. Chairman Coutu said and you want us to give you \$60,000 a year in that account. Kathy Carpentier said 20. You put 20 in the apparatus and you 20 in equipment. Chief Buxton said my mistake. I'm asking you to put \$40,000 aside.

Mr. Chairman just to run down the list here. Chief Buxton indicated the self contained breathing apparatus today new is \$5,500 per unit. Thermal imaging camera is \$14,000. Portable pump is \$10,000. A stretcher is \$18,000. A defibrillator is \$20,000. IV pumps at \$5,000 and a cardiac thumper is \$14,000. All of which that we house more than one unit within the town. When you look at setting up some sort of replacement plan to keep the equipment serviceable, we're falling behind.

The nonprofit agency Chairman Coutu talked to the other day who has thousands of dollars to give away; they may be interested in finding a new source to give the money to. I'd recommend the Fire Department. I know some people watch the Selectmen's meeting who are in that nonprofit that I had the discussion with. Chief Buxton said I'd love to talk with them. Chairman Coutu said we may open that door. I'm not saying we're not going to do it. I think that's another "W". We just have to look at these things because we're only going to have so much money. Ms. Carpentier said Fire only has less than \$5,000 in all of its miscellaneous donation accounts.

Chairman Coutu knows on the federal side, a lot of money has dried up for grants. Nothing on the State. I'm sure you're researching it. Chief Buxton indicated I'm researching grants pretty much daily. We try to go after as much as we can. As they come up, we go after them. A lot of plan writing grants right now and looking at preparedness. Equipment grants have dried up. They haven't opened this year's Assistance to Firefighter Grant program. My intention is to look at potential for a hose grant this year. I think we've talked a little about that at least with my liaison and look at our supply hose. A new standard came out last year that put a life expectancy of hose of over 20 years.

Ever piece of supply hose that I own is well over 20 years old. As standards change, we're due for certain things. Back to where we started, three default budgets in the last 5 years, our equipment has taken some of that brunt of that replacement. The replacement plans are falling behind and we need to start working on some of them. Chairman Coutu said for people who say we don't have enough fires to warrant it, it isn't fires that age hoses. Its years that age hoses. Hoses get old and dry. You want them coming to your house and hook them up and find that they start tearing. We need to replace hoses on a periodic basis whatever that might be. A "W" on that item.

To warrant articles. Warrant Article H is the part time office assistant. Chief Buxton said we're requesting \$24,770 to hire a part time office assistant to support both the Inspectional Services Division and the Finance Department. The Finance Director and myself have sat down and looked at a possibility of sharing a part time position to support both of our needs. We felt it was a project that warranted bringing forward for your consideration. 29 ½ hours per week. The position would act as a customer service agent, telephone, assist the Permit Technician, provide clerical support to Zoning, Code Enforcement, and Health, provide clerical support to the Finance Department for budget preparation, audit preparation, and purchasing support.

Chairman Coutu said I love being hit with these surprises. What happened to our floater? Is that in the budget anywhere? Do we still have a floater? Steve Malizia said she's retired. We have not had anybody that's floating to my knowledge. Am I correct? Kathy Carpentier said I have somebody who helps out. Over the summer, somebody helps out. She also works for the Trustees of the Trust Fund. Chairman Coutu asked where is that line item. Ms. Carpentier noted I pay her out of 252 but I have a budget under 103 which is temporary help. Chairman Coutu asked where is the money for that floater that we had in Town Hall. Ms. Carpentier said there was no money. That would be like overtime and whatever department she covered. If she covered for Steve, it would be in Steve's budget. If she covered for Sewer, it would be in Sewer's budget. Chairman Coutu said we don't have that anywhere. Ms. Carpentier said her head and salary is not in the budget anywhere.

As Chairman Coutu understands this presentation, this is to be a 29 ½ hour a week person shared between you and he. What is your need? I don't even understand his but what's your need? Kathy Carpentier said there's some areas I think that this town could do better at. Granted administration being one of them. I think we're very decentralized on our grants so to have one person to help do the clerical part not the sourcing of grants. Purchasing - I think that we could consolidate some of the purchasing in this town. I'm the purchasing agent according to Town Code. With all the hats I wear, I don't believe that I can do an efficient job going out making sure that our paper project saved us \$1,200 but there's probably more of that. As the budget process gets a little more detailed with electronic stuff, I'm tapping into resources in the Town Administrator's office because I don't have a clerk to help me pull together this and the electronic. I'm only looking for 2 hours per day for the 5 days was my piece of the person.

Chairman Coutu question you're looking for 2 hours a day. Kathy Carpentier said 2 hours a day but some of the work could be done up in the office. Chief can speak to that. Up in the up corner where he's trying to look for counter support. Chief Buxton said we're looking for 4 hours a day to make that 6.

Chairman Coutu said I'm going to make an observation. I never thought I'd get to say this but I'm going to say it. I think we have a person in Town Hall that we could spare 4 hours a day and I think it's in our office - the Selectmen's office. Steve Malizia asked so you want me to put her over at the counter for 4 hours. Chairman Coutu said she has to be at a counter for 4 hours. Mr. Malizia stated that's part of what he's asking. Chairman Coutu wasn't asking for him. I'm talking for her. Mr. Malizia said we've taken some of the work from other departments and put it in. Ms. Carpentier said I am tapping into that resource. Chairman Coutu said I'm making an observation based on what I've seen. Of course I haven't been in the building the past couple of months. Ms. Carpentier stated I do tap into that resource. That's a new resource for me. In fact the telephone project that you handed out last Thursday, she is the one who pulled all that data for me together. I am using her. Chairman Coutu thought that position has possibilities. Ms. Carpentier said that person has the skill sets to assist. We are tapping into that. His need is different. He needs a body in a different part of the building. Chairman Coutu said he needs a part time body and I think we have a full time body that may have some part time hours available. I think that was your point. I don't disagree. I don't for the life of me understand, and I'm sure Selectman Maddox would agree because he's bringing it up, that the Town Planner needs a full time secretary - 40 hours a week. I don't know what the workload is that the Town Planner would need a full time secretary. I can't understand why that can't become a shared position. I know I'll hear about it maybe tomorrow or the day after. I don't see the need for a full time person doing that job. Is that your observation? You make frequent visits to that office. Not necessarily frequent, more infrequent than they were in the past. I'm sure you have observation.

Selectman Maddox indicated Mr. Chairman if you're asking me, I'm saying that as a Planning Board member we're now down to one meeting a month as opposed to three meetings a month that sometimes went to 1 a.m. I guess I'm going to fall back to the Town Administrator to give us some sort of synopsis as to what is being done by that person 40 hours a week? I don't want to bring in Selectman Luszey but I think we need to do some sort of analysis here to say why is that a full time position for one meeting a month. I know there's other things. There's no doubt about it. I

know that she's not sitting around drinking coffee. Can we better utilize that person before we just go and hire somebody because we're just running out of money here?

Chairman Coutu said you asked a question of the Town Administrator and he's ready to answer. In the Zoning budget last year, Steve Malizia believed the number was \$248,000. I think we looked at it earlier. This year it's \$107,000 primarily because we don't have a body in Zoning any more. We have two people that are up in that office. One's under the Engineering budget and one's under the Planning budget but they're also covering the Zoning and ZBA work too and helping with Code Enforcement Office. That's where you've saved. If you look at that ZBA budget, you've cut it. You've cut it by \$100,000 I believe between last year and this year. Last year because you're in a default and it kind of messes things up. Those people are filling those gaps and you don't have a Zoning person up there anymore. You have a secretary in Planning and a secretary in Engineering. That's where they are assigned but they are sharing that area of Code and Zoning. You don't have anybody else doing it. He has a Permit Tech. She's over here. She's not doing any of that work.

Chairman Coutu asked what does she do as a Permit Tech. Chief Buxton stated she handles all of the permit activity for Inspectional Services. Chairman Coutu asked how many permits are pulled in a given day. They're all form letters aren't they? Chief Buxton said not necessarily Mr. Chairman. When we looked at how we were handling the Permit Technician and those responsibilities, that responsibility came along with sharing the counter work. I'm just going to give you a simple example. We were 5 deep at the counter the other day and didn't have enough clerical staff to support the need at the counter. One Permit Technician and an Inspector can't function 5 different applications at the same time. We're holding back an Inspector every day trying to support that counter for permitting activity because our permit activity is through the roof. We continue to grow. We're issuing over 200 permits per month out of that Division. That number has held firm over the last 12 months and continues to grow. Our revenue in that area was up last year and doubled. The activity is up. That means the foot traffic and the work flow is up. Chairman Coutu said that's 12 a day. How long does it take? Chief Buxton stated it depends on what the permit is. If it's a building permit and they come in and know - if it's one of our contractors we deal with ever time, they come in with the permit taken out. If a homeowner comes in and needs assistance either looking up history within the doc server, or they need a 101 time for filling out the permit. That could take an individual well over an hour just to deal with somebody at the counter to get them through the permitting process. That's not on the employee. That's trying to assist the public and get them the services that they need. Get them to the right inspector. Get them to the right information. Make sure that process is taken care of so we're not at the end for CO and find out that they missed a step in the middle because they put a bathroom in and they didn't know they needed to get a plumbing permit. Make sure all the steps are followed across the board. So that activity is there. Seasonally, Chairman Coutu said a lot of people are applying for sheds. They're applying for decks. Those are minutes. There may be 10 a day but 8 of them might take 10 minutes. Chief Buxton wanted to be clear that what we're asking for is a part time individual to cover through the lunch time hours. From 10 a.m. through 2 p.m. to basically bridge scanning and storage of our permitting along with the lunch hours to give support so people could take a lunch. Chairman Coutu asked we don't have 4 hours of lunch do we. Chief Buxton indicated you have your 3 office assistants up there. You have a Permit Technician and two Administrative Aides. There's 3 hours that they're spinning around doing lunch. Our last employee out of Inspectional Services gets lunch from 1 to 2 in the afternoon. We're getting fairly late in the day.

Selectman Brucker stated when I went in greet the new Engineer, we were talking and while he was describing the difference that he's noticing here in Hudson and that is that so much new activity, so much new building, so much activity that's going on that is not going on over in Nashua that he's aware of. I saw a whole rack full of plans sitting there. I think that when you say one meeting a month for Planning, that's not all that Planning is doing. There's a lot more to it than that. There's a lot more office time. Chairman Coutu indicated that would be the Planner. Selectman Brucker said but you were saying why does the Planner need a full time secretary. Chairman Coutu stated that's what I was saying. Why does the Planner - the Planner has ongoing activities. He entertains people. He talks to people that are potential investors in the community. I understand that. Selectman Brucker said but you don't think that he needs anybody else to help him with...Chairman Coutu stated I didn't say he doesn't need anybody to help him. I said I don't understand why he needs a full time secretary. That's what I said and I still hold to that. Selectman Brucker noted the thing is is that he doesn't have a full time secretary. She helps out with Inspectional Services - going to the counter. I think that perhaps in your mind minimizing the amount of work that's getting work. Chairman Coutu was trying to justify asking the voters to hire another body when we're tight on the budget. Selectman Brucker knows we're tight on the budget but we've reduced that whole area two administrative assistants in the past two years. Chairman Coutu said it was my intent and I thought it was the intent of this Board when we reorganized that department that we were going to make it more efficient and a faster process for people to get permits. Now I'm hearing that we're understaffed and we can't get them out fast enough. I guess that's what I'm hearing so I guess we screwed up once again.

Chief Buxton said in 2012 we issued 777 permits. In 2014 1,039. In 2014 we're up to 1,170. We're seeing incremental increase in our permitting activity. Some of that has shifted. You get big projects that come in and what I mean by that is you have the Comcast center that went in. That was permitting through the roof. What I've seen in a

shift is we're now back to renovations and those types of things. I believe that is the seasonal work that you're talking about. Fall and this time of the year we have a lot of homeowners coming in who are putting money into their homes preparing for winter, maybe doing the window project that they put off all summer, and generators, and those types of things. Joe Bourque's activity is through the roof right now and those types of events. What we'll see through the winter time is the Planning side of the house. If history holds form, we'll see some bigger projects starting to come in for that springtime piece. We also see what I consider the rush or the Sousa Realty types, the Etchstone types as they're finishing up phases in their project and they want to get cellar holes in the ground so they can keep their workforce working. We now see that activity coming in. Manny is working on Phase IV of the Belknap Road project. The activity is steady and although it changes, it has been remaining consistent.

Chairman Coutu asked what happened to applying for permits on line. Chief Buxton indicated that is available. We push that. They can legitimately go on line, fill out a permit, and bring it in with their check. Chairman Coutu asked if people know that. Chief Buxton said yes. I can tell you I last week took a customer at the counter myself, walked them through the process, and showed the on line capability because it happened to be a builder that is frequent to our office. Chairman Coutu asked if he was aware of it. Chief Buxton said he had never done it before. I think some of that is technology scares people sometimes. I walked him through the process. I let him watch right on the monitor. Whether he continues to do that or not, I don't know. Chairman Coutu hoped we're making that service available. Chief Buxton hoped that he does. I hope he does pick up on it. We're trying to push that out there because when you come to the counter and then you need to sit down and fill out a permit, it doesn't work. It gets backed up in there, we need people to be bringing them in filled out, and then they get estimated out and go from there.

Selectman Maddox had two things after that discussion. I think that here's a perfect opportunity for cable to be able to do kind of a walk through so that people know that this is available, get them up to speed on at least making them aware that that service is out there. Mr. Chairman as far as this being a warrant article, I would be much more comfortable putting in \$20,000 into professional services so that the Chief could hire a temp. as opposed to making a warrant article for an employee.

Chairman Coutu indicated I'm not comfortable with either but I'll listen to the arguments. Thank you for mentioning cable. I just saw Joe Triolo and Steve Dube a pretty good segment. I think Joe needs to get a little more personality. He's a great guy and Steve tries to pump him up a little. I could tell when he was in the process. That would not be a bad idea to see if we could have Cable TV - I'm sure Jim or somebody come in with a camera, walk him through it, explain the process, and then actually show it on film.

As part of our prevention program, Chief Buxton indicated we've actually started meeting with Jim and Mike in talking about monthly segments with Joe and Steve or whoever else - different sections of the department to make sure we're getting our risk reduction program out to the public. I think we can throw that on the agenda and that's not a lot of heavy lifting to get that accomplished.

On this part time office assistant, Chairman Coutu asked do you want to discuss it further or do you want to discuss it later. We have three options. One we can can it; two we can submit it for a warrant article which is his request; or three we can talk about professional service line item adding \$20,000 to that.

Selectman Maddox also said I would ask that the Town Administrator give us some sort of scope of what is actually being done in there. I will say and I haven't been in a lot because I've been working a lot but I only see inspectors and the Permit Tech. at the counter. I never caught the Fire Chief or any of the other admin. support at the counter. Chief Buxton said feel fortunate. Chairman Coutu mentioned the few times that I've gone in there, there's been nobody at the counter. I just go right in. There's nobody at the counter. It's just a matter of when you go in and who's there. I'm sure there are days they are 5 deep. I understand that. That happens. We're either going to discuss this later or we're going to put this to bed right now. We're going to take an action. We're going to do one of three things from what I can see. We're going to either put it on a warrant article, we're going to create a \$20,000 for professional services, or we're not going to support it. Personally at this point I will not support it. I just can't see burdening the taxpayers with another 30 hour employee.

Selectman Brucker asked how many of you who have ever done clerical work. Chairman Coutu said I've done clerical work all of my life. I'm not afraid to do clerical work. I did it when I was the Director of CEDAR. I did clerical work. Selectman Brucker said you found that it took no time at all. You could just whisk it right off. Chairman Coutu indicated I needed it done I got it done. The Town Administrator I'm sure he is honest will tell you he does clerical work. I know he does. I've seen him. Selectman Brucker was talking about pulling out copies of invoices. Chairman Coutu respected where you're going. We have 3 choices here. I'm not going to make the motions. We're can set this whole thing aside and have a lengthy discussion on it later or while our minds are fresh make a decision right now what to do with it. I personally will not burden the taxpayer with an additional position. I don't think it's necessary based on my observations. I respect where you're going. I'm not angry with you. Don't get angry with me.

Selectman Brucker said maybe I feel like it. Chairman Coutu never considered myself an hourly employee when I was an administrator. If it took 60 hours to do my job and I had to type 10 letters and start researching numbers, that's how I did my work. Other people I guess look at it typical municipal work, I work 9 to 5 and that's it. I don't work a minute over that and I get my hour for lunch, and I get my vacations. I operate different than other people. I don't expect other people to operate like I do. Selectman Brucker asked were you an hourly employee. Chairman Coutu said not I was not. I was a salary employee. Selectman Brucker indicated that's the difference. Chairman Coutu asked most of our people are salaried aren't they? Steve Malizia said no. Chairman Coutu said that's the problem with the municipal system.

Selectman Nichols was an hourly employee and the work would be maybe this high. You get added all the time but if someone came to you to ask a favor or whatever, you stopped what you were doing because that was policy. You helped whoever was there and then you went back to your work. Sometimes you were working a little overtime. Chairman Coutu asked are you talking the job that I think you're talking about. Selectman Nichols said yes where I used to work. You did what you had to do. Granted sometimes you were up to here and you worked through your lunch maybe rather than - right because somebody needed something. I see this happening here. A lot of people are doing more than what...well I'm sorry but I see it. Chairman Coutu asked if they were working through lunch. Selectman Nichols indicated sometimes they work late through their lunch and then only come back a little earlier to get their work done. I've seen not everybody but I have seen it. I just feel as though a part time person that can cover for lunch and can cover some of the other work...

Chairman Coutu asked to pose this question because the two of you have engaged in the conversation. How do either of you and you may have different responses to the question, how do either of you propose we do this? What is your recommendation? I'm looking for a motion. I'm ready to vote. Do you want to have a line item for professional services and throw whatever amount of money into it or do you want to create a position for whatever number of hours per week and have him put it in his budget. Well no I would rather that it become a warrant article, which would be another warrant article that when we're looking for important things the voters are going to see 20 warrant articles and say I'm voting no on everything so factor that in when you're talking about warrant articles. How do you propose we do this? How do we handle this? I want to put this to bed.

Selectman Brucker said I would prefer not to have it in a warrant article. I'd prefer to have it put in the professional budget because it's needed. I don't think we should wait for a warrant article. Chairman Coutu said are you saying you would support putting it into a line item for professional services. Selectman Brucker said yes. So we're going to be creating a position but we're not really creating a position. We're putting money in case we need it but we know we're going to have somebody using up all that money. That's circumventing the intent of letting the voters decide who creates positions in my opinion. Selectman Brucker thought that part time positions did not have to be up to the voters. Chairman Coutu said they do not have to be. That was Selectman Brucker's feelings.

Selectman Nichols would have to go along with Selectman Brucker as a part time and not full time. Chairman Coutu asked which money would you want to throw in the professional line. The cost would be how much? According to you, \$24,770, that's wages and FICA, and all that. Ms. Carpentier said just wages and FICA. Selectman Nichols said that would be about it. No more than that. Chairman Coutu reiterated no more than \$24,770. Selectman Nichols asked if that would cover everything. Chief Buxton said yes. Selectman Nichols indicated that's what I would do. That's my opinion.

Selectman Nadeau said definitely not being transparent.

Chairman Coutu said we are being transparent. We're discussing it but I'm certainly not going to support it.

Selectman Maddox stated it is being transparent. We are talking about it. We do this with interns. We do it with all kinds of things. It's a part time position. I said \$20,000. Bring it under because I agree with the Chairman that we can find other avenues to take care of the finance issue. That's why I took out the \$4,000. I thought that bringing in somebody however he wants to do it, whatever, is again theoretically you're not going to need this person between Christmas and New Year's. There's going to be times when you're not going to need this person at the counter. I came up with \$20,000 thinking that that was a reasonable number and we will find another resource for the finance end of it.

Chairman Coutu wanted to ask a question. Based on what you just said, is this going to be a person that's going to be on call from day to day or are they going to be pre-scheduled? Selectman Maddox said they would be pre-scheduled and whatever...Chairman Coutu said if you schedule them on the week of December 23<sup>rd</sup> Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, Thursday and Friday they are to come in from 10 to 2 and we have a severe blizzard all that week, we inherited that person for 20 hours that has no work to do. Selectman Maddox believed that the Fire Chief would be cognizant enough of the atmospheric conditions to not have that person scheduled. I would think that they wouldn't be there in December. I thought it would be quiet enough. The idea of this is to take that rush if you would

during the busy seasons. Again, how he makes it work that's up to him.

Selectman Brucker said we do have the experience of having a temp. who was in there part time that was a very good worker. I think Chief you were supervising at the time when she was there. Chief Buxton indicated right when the merger took place, you had a temporary employee that was hired to cover the counter. When the merger took place and Inspectional Services was created, that position went away. That individual did work out at that point in time and we have not had that since we've been with Inspectional Services. Selectman Brucker asked do you know if that person came every day. It was Chief Buxton's understanding that individual was there every day. I didn't negotiate her terms. I believe the Town Planner actually worked that process up at that point in time. Ms. Carpentier noted it was full time at that point. Selectman Brucker thought she was very useful. They really hated to lose her. Now we have another opportunity.

Selectman Nadeau would be willing to put \$15,000 in the professional line item to cover the lunch time. I think \$15,000 would be a sufficient amount and knowing that in the winter it's slow that this person would be just like we have over a Rec. Department - doesn't work during the summer. I think there's some things that we can do to be creative. I just don't want to set up a position and have it 10 to 2 Monday through Friday.

Chairman Coutu asked for a motion. I'm hearing \$20,000, \$15,000.

Motion by Selectman Nadeau to put \$15,000 into line item 5710-252 Professional Services.

Chairman Coutu asked that's to cover FICA and everything. Kathy Carpentier indicated if it's a temp. it would just be a flat rate through the agency. We wouldn't be hiring anybody. Chairman Coutu asked you want to hire a temporary person. We're going to go through a temp. agency for this so we're going to pay more money? Selectman Nadeau said however the Chief wants to do it. Ms. Carpentier apologized. That was my interpretation. Chief Buxton would have to ask for clarification if that was for a part time position that we would hire on board or if it was from a temp. service. I'm not sure what the intent of the Board is.

Selectman Maddox said my intent was to go through a temporary agency so that you could jettison if you didn't want them, you didn't need them...Steve Malizia indicated you don't pay them when they don't show up. When they're not here, they don't get paid. There's no guaranteed hours. Selectman Maddox said if they're part time, then they have to go into the part time 102 line and not into 252. Steve Malizia said correct. They would not be an employee.

Chairman Coutu asked we want to put \$15,000 to pay a temporary agency. So we're going to pay the fee of the employee, plus the fee of the management from the temporary agency. So we're really going to end up paying \$10,000 is going to be left to cover an employee after you pay the agency. They charge you an hourly rate for the employee. The employee may only get \$10 an hour but they're going to charge you \$12 or \$14 an hour. Selectman Maddox stated but they handle all of the payroll administration. They take care of all of that. Chairman Coutu was sure that would break our payroll department to add a part time employee on. I just don't understand why we're bringing in a third party to hire people when we're an employing agency ourselves.

Motion by Selectman Nadeau, seconded by Selectman Maddox, to put \$15,000 into line item 5710-252 Fire Admin. Professional Services.

Selectman Maddox thought it was a low number but I'm trying to get something started here. I'm trying to get some traction. I don't want to put another warrant article Mr. Chairman and I think this at least gives us and the Chief something. It will at least give us some history to see how it goes. We all know that if this department goes the way it is going, we're going to have to put somebody in there full time. I'm trying to find a way to make this as slow as possible so that we can do other things.

Chairman Coutu indicated I'm not going to support it for two reasons. One I'm not convinced of the need - not without looking...if I had a couple of days, I could spend up there a couple of days maybe I could be convinced. Right now based on my limited observation, I am not convinced number one. Number two, to set aside \$15,000 of which an employment agency is going to profit from does not make any sense whatsoever. If this passes, I would beg, beg the Budget Committee to remove this item from the budget. If we're going to start putting lump sums here and there and here and there, all of these other project are going to go by the wayside. I will not support them. Based on what I'm hearing out there, I'm not ready to raise the tax rate. I'm at a point where I'm going to bring the budget down to a balanced budget - balancing the budget with last year's default. I will go through this ceremony one more time if we have to and I hope people are prepared to do that. I've been talking to people who don't want to hear about another increase. They approved the raises. That's a significant increase for them next year. Wait until they see the bill for the school side next year - significant increase over with the raises. It just compounds the steps and everything year after year in insurance cost. I will not be supporting the motion for that reason. I don't want to burden the taxpayers. We're making due. We're going into a season where it's not going to be that busy October, November, December.

We're getting through the rough period right now. We don't need to burden the taxpayers with another employee. This is for next year. We're talking about next July. Please people let's not throw \$15,000 to the wind.

Vote: Motion failed 2-3. Selectman Maddox and Nadeau in favor.

Chairman Coutu asked if there was an alternate motion. Is this it? We're dead?

Selectman Brucker said I don't know how to word it. Chairman Coutu said just tell me. We'll help you. I'll guide you. I'll try. Just tell me what you want to do. We'll put it in the form of a motion. Selectman Brucker wasn't even sure that it's even possible to do. I think that we need someone. I don't think we need to wait until next July. I know you have an aversion to temps. So you don't want me to create a position I guess. Chairman Coutu indicated I didn't say you couldn't. You can do whatever you wish. Please I render my opinion. You have your opinion right, wrong, or indifferent either one of us. It doesn't matter. It's the majority of the Board. You have to articulate your position. If you strongly believe that you feel we should create a part time position. We can't sit here and create a position today. I guess we could try to convince the Town Administrator and find some money and say give him another body right now. I don't know where we're going to find the money. We're on a shoe string budget right now. Steve Malizia indicated we are on a default now and you've just taken all the money and moved it around. Chairman Coutu said right. There isn't anything for at least another month or two until we see where we're going. Mr. Malizia said we're still fairly new into this year. Chairman Coutu said it's kind of tough to say we can do it right now.

Chief Buxton indicated you have a professional services line that was cut because this warrant article was prepared out of this year's budget and Inspectional Services. You have a 252 line in this year's budget. In 2015 budget you have a professional services line that in theory you could fund a temp. position out of. Chairman Coutu said but we don't have the money. Chief Buxton indicated that's what I'm saying under the professional services line, I believe we have...Kathy Carpentier said you had a secretary position that was funded and because of default it came back. So that money has been moved over to him without any authorization to use at this point because it was for the secretary head that was in Community Development/Land Use but you moved all the heads away so there's no heads but there is salary dollars in the 252 line.

Chairman Coutu asked that's in professional services line the temp. agency. Kathy Carpentier said that's just where we put it because when we did the transfer, you didn't authorize him to get...Chairman Coutu asked how much money is in there. I could think about 20 departments that could use that money. Chief Buxton said there was least \$20,000 in there. We had a similar conversation last year with Selectman Luszey who actually created the line in Inspectional Services for the temporary position from a temp. agency in professional services. I believe the amount was \$16,000 or \$20,000 whatever it was. When the budget did not pass, we rolled back to default. That was one of the things in the transfers that ended up there. I have no authorization to spend that money at this point in time without coming before you but trying to answer Selectman Brucker's question as where is the money today. How do we get something accomplished today? You do have a professional services line in 5745 I think it is Kathy but I don't have that with me unfortunately.

Chairman Coutu asked in light of what you heard what would you want to do. Selectman Brucker asked to make a motion.

Motion by Selectman Brucker to hire a temp. for this position for up to \$20,000.

Selectman Maddox asked are we in this year. Where are we now? I'm lost. Chairman Coutu said this year. We're taking \$20,000 that we might need at the end of the year that we had no intention of spending and now we want to spend it. She would like to make a motion to spend it. Selectman Brucker indicated it will give us an opportunity to see what we need in that position, how much we need, and we can go from there.

Motion by Selectman Brucker, seconded by Selectman Nichols, to hire a part time temp. for this position for up to \$20,000 in FY15 budget not to exceed 20 hours a week.

Selectman Nichols asked to hire a temp. from a company or a part time worker. Selectman Brucker indicated I don't think we can get a part time position from that professional services line item can we? Chairman Coutu said she can technically. She can make a motion to create a part time position. You can do one of two things. It's not against the law. There's no restrictions on us creating part time positions. You want to make a motion to create a part time position with a limited number of hours per week, I wouldn't say money I would say hours and then we can figure out the money or we could authorize the use of the money for a temp. agency, whichever way you want to go with your motion.

Selectman Brucker said I would prefer to go with the part time position and Chief you were suggesting 4 hours a day. Chairman Coutu indicated he was suggesting 29 ½. Chief Buxton said we were suggesting under the warrant article



it was 29 ½ hours per week, 1,534 hours per year. Selectman Brucker asked that was with sharing with the Finance Department and that was \$25,000.

Selectman Brucker asked another question. That professional services line item is that only for Inspectional Services or would the person also be able to work for you. Kathy Carpentier said it depends. His hours were primary to cover the counter. If they can do some clerical work up there for me, I mean I would tap the resources but if you're only giving him 4 hours, then I will be looking elsewhere for assistance. Selectman Brucker would guess 20 hours a week. Chief Buxton agreed. Chairman Coutu indicated the motion is to create a part time position not to exceed 20 hours per week.

Selectman Maddox indicated we're working on the FY16 budget here and now we're getting mired into something that I think the Chief wasn't prepare for; we're not prepared for. I think we need to do our homework. This is a good thing for our first meeting. He can come back and see what those numbers add up to. I think he had a dollar amount in there of \$15 an hour. Chief Buxton said yes. Selectman Maddox asked does that cover the 52 weeks. Again, we don't know any of these details. We're kind of shoe stringing this. Again, we're in the '15 budget when we should be in '16 Mr. Chairman. I'm going to vote no because quite honestly I'm confused.

Selectman Brucker did think it has to do with the FY16 budget just because it would be a warrant article in the FY16 budget if it was brought up as a warrant article and if we eliminate it, it's not longer part of the FY16. We've reduced it.

Selectman Maddox indicated now I'm really confused.

Chairman Coutu heard what she's saying. What's she saying, and please correct me if I'm wrong. She's proposing that this warrant article go away for next year's budget. In this year's budget, we're going to create with that \$20,000 - this is where the complexity comes in - create a position. So somehow or another he's going to have to build it, come back to his budget, and build it into the budget. So it's going to show up in next year's budget one way or another. We're going to create the position but technically if he doesn't put it in this budget, it disappears the following year.

Vote: Motion failed 2-3. Selectmen Brucker and Nichols in favor.

Motion by Selectman Maddox, seconded by Selectman Nadeau, not to send Warrant Article H to the warrant.

Chairman Coutu said I plead with you to do away with this warrant article because we're going to have too many warrant articles on the ballot and I want the important matters before the voters so we can articulate why we need to invest in our infrastructure and not hiring more bodies. That's the problem with government - too many bodies. Right now we just can't afford it. Suck it up. Get the work done. We're getting it done. Let's suck it up and continue doing it.

Vote: Motion failed 2-2. Selectmen Brucker and Coutu in favor. Selectman Nichols didn't vote.

Kathy Carpentier said for my clarification it's on the "W" list. As far as Chairman Coutu was concerned, I'm not discussing it again. Whoever brings it up, I will certainly respect that and bring it up.

#### Warrant Article I

Chief Buxton indicate Warrant Article I is the first of two infrastructure projects for the Fire Department proposal. This is for the replacement of the Burns Hill Road Fire Station. A little historical background. The station was built in 1981 as a substation originally staffed by call department fire personnel. In 2001, we began to staff the station 24 hours a day. We haven't seen many major updates to the facility since that time. Mostly done by grant funding, station generator, exhaust system, town wide lighting program which we did funded through the Public Service electrical bill process, and then last year we put the auxiliary heating system in which was funded through the operating budget.

Chief Buxton indicated we're proposing the construction of a new 7,500 square foot building on Lowell Road. Basically just to give you a couple of facts and then I'll go to a couple of picture boards here, currently out of the facility we have today we're covering town 60 percent of the time within the 4 minute response time which is covered by NFPA 1710 and also referenced in the ISO rating now. By moving to Lowell Road with the expansion of where our residents are living down on the Dracut Road and River Road areas of town, we actually increase our response time in the 4 minute percentage to 70 percent. So we see a 10 percent increase in the 4 minute response time. Bonuses to this site is we're looking at a piece of town owned land. We don't have to purchase the land. We're on water, sewer, and natural gas. We have an updated facility with separated bathing facilities, exercise room, day room, modern gear storage, and apparatus layout.

If you would give me a second, Chief Buxton said I'll show you a couple of story boards up here. This is a visualization of what the station would look like from the elevation standpoints. Probably the bigger of the two is the flow. What you see here is your apparatus floor two deep within the station. You see dormitories, kitchen, fitness facility, bathing facility, and then our infrastructure around. That's the core center location. This is the same design that Londonderry built for their two substations - one in the north and one in the south but what we did is we changed it to come in from the side to fit the site. Basically it will be a side entrance instead of a front entrance. Their property lines lead them more to a front entrance. This comes in from the side and shows the firematic support around the facility.

On the right hand side Chief, Chairman Coutu asked if that's the parking. Chief Buxton said yes. I do have one more. This is a very simple site plan. Basically this is Lowell Road in the lower section. You have public parking on this side where you would enter the structure on this side. You would have staff parking. Your apparatus facing out coming out onto Lowell Road directly. You would close this off was my suggestion and to get away from impacting the Hardy Road which is a private roadway to support the condo development in the back. We would access our utilities - natural gas, water, and sewer which actually is off of Hardy Road. I checked with the Engineering Department. That is delivering that across and bring that into the building.

Chairman Coutu asked what about the access - Hardy Road is an access. The road is wide enough. Chief Buxton indicated Hardy Road wouldn't be impacted by the Fire Department. We're going to leave that. Chairman Coutu asked we're not going to use that to access the condos in the back. Chief Buxton said that's built for access today but it's privately owned by the condo association. So basically that access road we can come around and there's a gate at the end that leads into Quail Run and that development in the back. Chairman Coutu asked that's what we would use to get to Quail Run providing they would agree otherwise we're going to have to go up Wason. It behooves them to agree. Chief Buxton agreed. It behooves them to have us down there. Chairman Coutu asked if that was paved. Chief Buxton said no that is dirt. What you see across the back is a piece of - right now you have storm water that comes across the back side of the lot that we would work with Kevin. I've talked with the Road Agent on this and carry that across the back side of the lot, and piping, and then dumped out into the swale on the other side of the property to take care of that.

Selectman Brucker asked how does it work with the traffic lights. Chief Buxton explained you have a traffic light at Hampshire Drive that was put in when Oblate Retreat was redeveloped. I'm not 100 percent sure of the status of the project on Lowell Road with Market Basket, Haffner's, and Fairview. That intersection will come and then we would control both. We would build it to be able to control both the intersections so we'll be able to clear the traffic over in front or we're leaving for an emergency. Coming back from an emergency, you would enter in this driveway, come across, and not impact the traffic on Lowell Road and back into the apparatus floor.

Selectman Nichols asked is there room for two vehicles in there. Chief Buxton indicated they're two deep. So what I mean by that is there's room for four pieces of apparatus on the apparatus floor. There's also built ins to this. You'll note that we're proposing to build in an EMS storage and maintenance facility here to make sure we can keep track of what's going on. They're combined into one building. Chairman Coutu asked you'll have a decontamination area too. Chief Buxton said yes. We have a decontamination area up so if we have a structural fire, the guys have dirty equipment. No more does it need to come through the building. It can come in through a decontamination area where the extractor would be located to wash the equipment and the protective clothing right there. Gear storage is down in here to go to the apparatus floor where it's stored for their shift and brought back in and not brought through the living facility anymore.

Selectman Brucker asked how do you coordinate if you got them too deep. Chief Buxton indicated basically what we'd put is the primary response vehicles in the front. What would flow out of the back would be utility vehicles meaning a forestry unit, or maybe a plow truck in the winter time, or it could be a storage spot for a spare piece of equipment. Chairman Coutu mentioned it may be where we might want to put the boat for closer access to the river.

Chief Buxton noted that bond article came in at a \$2.1 million project. The building that you see before you was built by the Town of Londonderry on town owned land for \$2,000,040. We basically add a 1 percent escalator in there for construction costs and that's where that came up. They built that facility for \$2,000,040 in Londonderry.

Selectman Nichols said you also have access to electricity, water, sewerage, gas, etc., etc. on that piece of property and if the property is owned by the Town so this isn't something we have to go out and purchase right. Chief Buxton indicated that is correct. We wouldn't have any oil storage on site based on the fact that we would tap into natural gas.

Selectman Maddox asked what do they carry for a contingency in their budget. Chief Buxton said that was true construction costs. I didn't get into the contingency with the Fire Chief. Selectman Maddox indicated you'd have a 5 percent contingency with this 2.1. Are you going to be making a revenue source to be able to sell parking spaces?

You have like 35 parking spaces. Chief Buxton indicated when I sent the architect out we attempted to meet all the requirements of the Planning and Zoning requirements as much as possible. With 3 employees, Selectman Maddox thought we might be able to save some money and not paving parking spaces. Chief Buxton didn't disagree with you Selectman Maddox but what we were trying to do is make sure that our firematic support to get around the building was built into the project and we had what we needed. If you had an open house, we certainly don't want to overflow traffic either onto Lowell Road or impact the neighborhood through Hardy Road which is a private way.

Based on what Chairman Coutu saw and I know we have for land, we're going to do a lot less paving than they did in Londonderry. There's quite a bit of paving out there. A lot more than we're going to need even with all of our parking spaces, I just think we got - they use two-thirds more than what we - they have paving all over the place up there at that fire station. Chief Buxton agreed. They don't have a lot of green space up there. No much lawn mowing going on.

Chairman Coutu asked if there were any further questions. We'll move all the warrant articles at the end. We may not move them.

#### Warrant Article J - renovation of the Lenny Smith Fire Station

Chief Buxton indicated the second infrastructure project that you asked me to look at was a potential renovation for the Lenny Smith Central Fire Station. I came in with a renovation cost of \$1.1 million. That included a new 100 foot radio tower on that site because right now the radio tower is mounted to the roof. We want to get that off of there and built onto a modern tower and get that off of our infrastructure and onto the ground. The original building was built in 1952. The two bay addition was built in 1978. If you remember correctly when we did the Pacheco Ross facility review, we did a review of all the codes. Since that time what have we done for improvement to that facility? We have a new generator on site which was built into the renovation costs. That has been in there for the last 3 years and feeds not only the fire station by the Town Hall complex. That is a natural gas generator fed off of Library Street.

Chief Buxton noted the second project that you did this year is we put the HVAC upgrade into Central Fire at \$80,000. Then there was a boiler replacement 4 years ago where we replaced the hot water heating system for the station. Just to be 100 percent clear, the boiler is required for the hot water within the facility and the heating system on the first floor in the apparatus bay. The rest of the building is forced hot air meaning the dispatch center, the administrative area on the first floor, and the second floor is all forced hot air cooling and heating.

Goals of the renovation. Chief Buxton stated to address the overhead restriction on the one story addition, address the second means of egress to the second floor, address the potential lack of compliance with the ADA requirements, address the lack of an automatic fire suppression system in the facility, create a secured facility, create a work flow that will support the second floor training room/kitchen area, separate bathing facilities and locker room area, fitness and dormitory support, and EMS and shift commander support for office space, and to extend the life cycle of the building 10 to 15 years. In compliance with NFPA 101 which is the life safety code which meets the secondary means of egress and meet the International Building Code. Requirement upon review by staff and by Port One Architecture in regards to not only the Pacheco Ross review but then their own co-compliance review. We do have a mandate to meet the automatic sprinkler requirement. We do have a mandate to bring the building up to ADA compliance and then we need to make sure that we're meeting all State and local facilities, including a cubic foot per person of 5 cubic feet per person air exchange which is one of the big things that we just did with the HVAC upgrade. Prior to the HVAC upgrade, we had no air exchange in that facility at all. It just all filter on itself. We now bring in fresh air interjected into the facility each day.

Basically Chief Buxton indicated what you're seeing here in this rendition is this would be Library Street. You have an ADA compliant entrance into the facility. You have a 12 foot overhead door opening on the addition to the building. If you remember correctly when we started talking about ladder trucks, tanker trucks, and those pieces of equipment, right they are 10 foot openings. We're going to go to a full 12 foot opening with a rollup door. The doors at Central Station - the envelope as I call it or the exterior of the building we want to winterize that. We want to increase our efficiency. We talked about heating fuel earlier. We talked about removing this tower, re-shingling of the roof, windows, doors, entry doors, and those types of events that take place. You see the ADA compliance, handicapped ramp on the side of the building, this rendition here is what covers up our HVAC equipment in the rear parking lot. Basically what you have on the first floor if you remember in the back of the fire station, we have an overhead door that's here and then you have a bunch of quasi storage slots that have been taken up and chewed up the apparatus floor not only across the back of the building but also taking up apparatus space with the first floor fitness facility. That becomes removed. We open up with a stairwell that gets put into the main fire station in the back side of the building to give us that means of egress to the second floor. We have that decon area, mechanic, EMS area that we had in the substation where the extractor gets relocated. Gear storage goes into a dedicated space for gear storage. You end up with a handicapped ramp and an increase in lobby size here to open this up for dispatch and an office on the first floor. We also meet the requirements with the installation of the elevator which goes to the second floor.

Then you look at a new firematic design on the second floor.

Secure facility. So when Chief Buxton talks about secure facility, you talk about the stair wells and the door ways to keep the public out of the dormitory section of the building, the fitness area so when we run into liability issues of kids on tours and that type of thing and the fitness room getting injured. You have a training room here for 25 people. You have a kitchen, the day room, and the stair well that is brought up in the back corner of the building to give that second means of egress to the second floor.

Chairman Coutu said here's a problem that I'm having. This is a two story facility for the same amount of people that we're going to have at Robinson and on main street. Why do we need the two end bays - the addition? Why do we need that anymore? Chief Buxton said we need this to house our tanker truck and our ladder truck. Chairman Coutu thought we were going to raise the doors in the front. I thought there was room in the crawl space to raise those doors. Chief Buxton said you cannot. There is a steel beam across the section 4 feet in the bay doors. Somebody actually crawled up there to do the examination up top and that's where we came up with this. Chairman Coutu asked then why can't we put that equipment in the new fire station. Chief Buxton said because from the response model it doesn't meet our needs for service modeling putting the ladder truck in the south end of town. We want the ladder truck centralized so we can go both directions in town. The same with the tanker truck.

Chairman Coutu stated what we're saying is I have to convince the voters now. Even though we have a building that's only going to house 3 firefighters at any given time plus a dispatcher and we're going to also continue to pay for the administration building to keep that going, we're going to have a fire station that's 3 times the size of the new fire station occupied by the same amount of people. We're going to have 5 bays and we got to continue to pay for this monstrosity. Chief Buxton said Central Fire Station although size wise, this is 10,000 square feet. The station that we're proposing on Lowell Road is 7,500. So when we talk about the...Chairman Coutu said both floors in those two bays come to 7,500 square feet? Chief Buxton said no. The south end station is 7,500...10,000 square feet. Chairman Coutu noted you got me fooled. So those doors can't be lifted. Chief Buxton said no. These doors in here. What we looked at is there's 37 inches between the top of the door and the bottom of the floor here. When they crawl up there to do their code compliance and structural review, they found a major eye beam that comes across 4 feet within the inside of these doors that won't allow it to be brought up because there's not enough height to create the door height. You basically could go in 4 feet at 10 feet but then you're stuck.

Chairman Coutu asked how do I convince people that we should spend \$100,000 for a building that's way too big for 3 firefighters. Chief Buxton said you don't just do 3 firefighter out of there though Mr. Chairman. You have the dispatch center on the first floor. You have the EMS office that is done here. This is our training facility which is centralized to town. When you took a look at the schematic design here, you're looking at about the same space that you're creating in the south end station. This is a renovation that was done on the second floor of this building. That leads to some challenges with the AVA. I don't necessarily like it any more than you like what we need to do for the second means of egress, the elevator, and those types of things. Those are the answers that have come back from the State. Those are things that are lead on us. That is because we are a municipal building not a private sector building.

Selectman Maddox thought if you didn't spend more than 50 percent of the value of the building you did not have to go to ADA. Chief Buxton said that is on private industry and not on a municipal building. Being a public building, they're going to force us to come within compliance. Selectman Maddox said so we're going to have to put an elevator in. I'm done. It's done. I'm not going to spend \$1 million - because we're taking this out of savings. I thought this was a touchy thing to begin with is taking it out of savings which is our reserve and now we're up over \$1 million. That killed it for me but now we're going to have to do all this other stuff that - I always thought we were just going to upgrade the electrical, upgrade the doors, do whatever but if we're trapped, we're trapped. I guess we wait to build a new station. Chairman Coutu said it's not his fault. Chief Buxton said that doesn't take the need for Central Fire Station off the topic. There is a need to something to be done with Central Fire Station. I know where you're going but \$6 million was the cost of putting the fire administration, fire dispatch center, and everybody underneath one roof. That wasn't palatable. We tried to come up with a solution that gets us half way there. Chairman Coutu said it doesn't get us half way there. Chief Buxton indicated we're extending the life of Central Fire Station 10 to 15 years which was the goal that was set when I was asked to go look at this project.

Selectman Brucker asked what equipment is going to be there. Chief Buxton said you'll have an ambulance, the ladder, the tanker, and an engine company out of that building. Selectman Brucker asked so you'll be using all the bays. Chief Buxton said yes. The squad runs out of there. The ambulance runs out of there. There is an engine out of that facility with the ladder and the tanker across the front.

Chairman Coutu said from a layman's perspective, forgive me Chief it's not you. It's a layman out there says to me so you have 3 people working there 24 hours a day and you have 5 doors. How do 3 people drive 5 pieces of equipment? No there's going to be more than 5 in there because we can double up on some of those doors. So how

do 3 people drive 7 pieces of equipment let alone 5? Chief Buxton's answer to that individual is that the Hudson Fire Department is very efficient in how we deploy our resources. We cross staff both fire and EMS every day of the week. We may when the call comes in have to take the engine, need to take the forestry unit, the tanker, the ladder, or the ambulance. That happens every day of the week whether there's 3 individuals at Central Station or 5 individuals at Central Station. We are very efficient at how we deliver service. That would be my answer.

To go to another route, Selectman Maddox said - and Chief it's just bureaucracy at its best - I thought we were going to upgrade the electrical. You already did the heat, the fire alarm if you would or whatever. At what point does it cross over that we need to spend \$1.1 million if we upgraded the electrical, the doors...is there some point there that again we go from zero doing nothing which is not what I want to do to spending \$1.1 million. Chief Buxton said it was a \$100,000 alone for the radio tower. We know that. We pitched that for the police station site. That was something that was added onto the renovation was to get the tower off the building. That's \$100,000 project. So now we're down to \$1 million. When we looked at renovating that building, we met as a board with my office. It was a renovation of approximately \$1 million. This is where we're at. We want to get 10 to 15 years out of this project and we want to create an environment where our employees can work. The security is there. Our facilities are updated and those types of things. I know that the elevator is an issue. I know that coming in here tonight but I don't charge those rules.

Chairman Coutu wanted to ask a question which may border on where Selectman Maddox is going. Based on what I've heard about our electrical in that building, it's in dire need of repairs. Wouldn't that be a problem for us to spend all of this money and not have money to redo our wiring which needs to be done? Chief Buxton said this cost upgrades the kitchen which was flagged by the State electrical inspector. Chairman Coutu thought we did the kitchen not too long ago. Chief Buxton said the kitchen hasn't been done. We had 3 default budgets in the last 5 years.

Selectman Nadeau noted we put it in the budget 3 years ago. On our first default budget, that was the first thing. Chairman Coutu thought 3 or 4 years ago there was a problem with the stove or something. The electricity was all wrong. Chief Buxton said I came back in 2007 and since 2007, we have not had a renovation to the kitchen in the budget. So that's 7 years now. Chairman Coutu asked didn't we spend money to do something up there. Selectman Nadeau said we did. I think we got a new stove. Chief Buxton stated we bought a new range for upstairs. The cook top let go. There used to be a cook top that was put in by the Relief up on the second floor back when the station was built. Those cook tops have far exceeded the life expectancy. We needed to create something that was reasonable.

Chairman Coutu didn't know where to go. Selectman Maddox said I'll tell you where I want to go Mr. Chairman. I want to fix some of the deficiencies. Maybe we have to do it over several - I'm just going to have a tough time saying to people we're going to spend over \$1 million. I always thought the number would be \$950,000 - under \$1 million. We're asking to take this out of savings which we have never done in the 10 years that I've been here. This is a need and we don't disagree with the Chief that is a need. This is once again the creep of all of these various agencies. I'm surprised the historic agency hasn't come down on us saying it's a historic building. I want to fix the problem. Where do we go Chief that we can at least fix the kitchen, the electrical, and the roof? Does that satisfy some of the need and doesn't get us into over \$1 million?

Selectman Brucker was wondering if we put it off now it's going to cost more in the future. I don't see that we're saving anything by doing it piecemeal. It's nice not to have to spend a large sum initially but if it all has to be done anyway. Chairman Coutu said it was a good point.

Selectman Nichols still liked the idea of the addition that we can put in regular fire trucks or whatever because if we need to replace anything, they're not going to fit in the garage. We have to pay extra money to have them custom made. Is that true? Chief Buxton said on the addition section of that building with the doors unaddressed if we go to replace the ladder truck, you're buying another low profile vehicle which escalates the price. Selectman Nichols noted so it costs more money to have it custom made. That's how I'm looking at that down the road. You never know when these things are going to break down or their life is not going to last if it's been used so much. I don't know. That's my thought.

Selectman Nadeau really hated taking \$1 million out of our surplus. I'd be interested in seeing if the Board would be interested in combining the two projects and going out and getting a bond for \$3 million and getting everything all done. How much would that...Steve Malizia said adding 50 percent to that bond schedule for every year. Chairman Coutu indicated if we combined the two it would be \$.12. So it was \$.08 so it would be \$.12. That's what I thought. It would be \$.12 per \$1,000 valuation. That's for a 20 year or 30 year? Kathy Carpentier said 20 year. Chairman Coutu said for that amount of money, I wouldn't want to go more than 20 years. Too much interest.

Selectman Brucker asked what kind of interest does this \$1 million making that's in our savings. Is it making anything or just sitting there? Ms. Carpentier said just sitting there. Mr. Malizia thought we made \$1,400 in interest on millions. Chairman Coutu thought this year if we're generating a little more income. We're up to \$3,000. We're getting there.

Buy a door knob for the fire station with the interest that we get this year. Last year all we could buy is a peep hole. This year we get a door knob. Selectman Brucker asked we can't invest it anything that makes more money. Chairman Coutu said we're hiring a company to do that. The Trustees take care of that and not us. Steve Malizia indicated the general fund is constrained by State law. You can only invest in certain vehicles of the safety of the principle. The Trustees have trust fund money which they have more latitude. In short to answer your question, we have an investment policy. We must conform with State law which does not allow us to make the same type of investments that the investment company would recommend for the Trustees.

Chief Buxton said we've had this conversation in this room. Selectman Maddox is certainly knowledgeable to this. The bucket list for infrastructure needs for the fire department overflows. When we talk about facilities, we talk about some fleet exchange and those types of things, at some point we need to put a plan together on how we're going to address these. I'm not saying that they all need to be done in one year but we need to come up with a plan and a commitment that we're going to continue to move them forward. I had said when we started talking about the two stations that if it doesn't pass at the warrant, that becomes a number one goal next year and we continue to come back and re-scope the project and figure out where we're going. We need to start to look at our long-term planning and infrastructure for the community.

Selectman Nadeau said another creative way of doing this is putting a half a million dollars out of our surplus and knocking this down to \$2.5 million. Chairman Coutu said that was possible. That would bring it down to \$.10 instead of \$.12. Selectman Nadeau said that's where I was trying to get to. Chairman Coutu said you're trying to get to a dime. I'm trying to get to zero. The voter would decide this obviously. Selectman Nadeau thought this would take care of a lot of our issues and I think that would be a little bit more palatable.

Chairman Coutu's personal opinion anything that we do with this building is all band-aids. Everything we're going to do is just band-aids. We're trying to stretch the life. It's like we know there's a terminus somewhere but let's put another band-aid on it. If I were going to go to bond for \$3 million, what's it going to cost us to tear the building down? It wouldn't cost us \$1 million to tear it down, build a brand new building right there and forget the south end for now. Spent \$3 million and build a brand new building right there. Selectman Nadeau didn't think we had the space. Chairman Coutu said we don't have the space to build a brand new building? That is too much space. Consolidate it all and make a nice two-story building for \$3 million and have a brand new Lenny Smith Central Fire Station and put off the south end. That land's not going anywhere unless we put it on the market to help build this.

Selectman Brucker said god forbid if you have a fire that you need. If you tear the building down, where are they...Chairman Coutu said they could tear the building and build a fire station in short order. Two weeks. If something ever happened, there's still going to be a fire station. There's a plan to put equipment somewhere right? If we said we're going to tear this building down and build a brand new fire station, we'll still have apparatus at this end of town.

Chief Buxton said if we're going to renovate Central Fire Station...Chairman Coutu stated not renovate, tear it down. Answering your question, Chief Buxton said if we were going to renovate Central Fire, the plan that was being developed was to keep the building open through construction. If we tear the building down, we need to disburse the equipment to both ends of town and you have no center. So you need to cover that somehow. Chairman Coutu said you would leave an ambulance out here with somebody manning it wouldn't you like most municipalities do in case they need an ambulance run. Chief Buxton asked where's their facility going to be. If we tear Central Fire Station down where are we housing them? Chairman Coutu indicated downstairs in the administration building. You can have an ambulance at the ready here in the center of town and maybe one piece of equipment across the street and they can run over and get it. Just come out of your office. Just have one piece of equipment and the ambulance.

Selectman Maddox said now that I've had time to...Chairman Coutu said trying to get creative here...Selectman Maddox thought very creative. Chief we know we need to do this stuff. What can we take off that will bring it down. My biggest heartburn Mr. Chairman is over \$1 million. If it's the antenna do we bite the bullet or how much does an elevator cost and what are we going to use it for just giving rides? Chairman Coutu asked how much was the elevator at the high school? Chief Buxton didn't know. They did more than just the elevator. Kathy Carpentier said \$300,000. Chairman Coutu indicated that was on the exterior of the building. I think this is more complicated I think. This is on the interior of the building. Chief Buxton said no this is on the exterior section of the building.

Where Selectman Maddox is going with this Mr. Chairman is I think the Chief needs to go back and hear that there's consternation. Is the Board ready to put it in at \$950,000? My biggest problem is saying to the voters we're going to spend more than \$1 million to put a band-aid on it. I think that again under \$1 million somehow or another sounds better. It solves an immediate need. I guess I'm having a problem with the elevator. Somebody has told us that we have to put an elevator in when we don't have one today and we have fit people in there. I just don't see if there's not a waiver that could be had for that but if that's what we have to do. It's just jacking up the price to make it more expensive that now we're going to back off and not do it. I think we need to regroup Mr. Chairman. Chief saw the

exercise tonight. I still think we need to do this. If we put it into a warrant article, we're looking at 60 percent. We're looking at possibly failing. I really think that under \$1 million the renovations to the Central Lenny Smith Station would be more palatable.

Chief Buxton said the antenna alone is \$100,000. You take that off, you're at the \$1 million mark. If I find \$25,000 worth of savings in there though and come in at \$975,000, we get into a process where what else can we cut. What else can we cut. People want to be paid to generate those types of numbers. What we have this evening we have some retainage on staff with them. We'll get them working on those types of things. The issue comes down to at some point we need to make a decision in regards to where we're going to go and what the number is going to be. That's my concern.

Selectman Nichols said this band-aid bit. A band-aid will keep it going for 10 or 15 years roughly. So 10 or 15 years is a long time. So I'd rather go with the band-aid if it's going to give that life for 10 or more years and then with a new station, it's going to cover. By the time the 10 years is up maybe we'll have generated enough money to build to take the old station down and build a new one. Selectman Maddox asked where is the money being generated. Selectman Nichols said I said maybe possibly. You can always put money aside like we do everything else. Selectman Maddox thought there was a bake sale at the station. Again, I'm just trying to say...a lot of bake sales. I think we need to do something.

Selectman Brucker wanted to get back to the million dollars from the savings. If it's sitting there and it's not doing anything, why are we going to go out and take out a bond? Chairman Coutu said it does do something. Selectman Brucker asked what does it do. For one thing, Chairman Coutu said it secures a good bond rating if we ever need to borrow money. Steve Malizia indicated if things went to heck in a hand basket we're not only covering our budget, we have to cover the school. They're not allowed to have a contingency so if something were to happen...Chairman Coutu said if something catastrophic, the school would come to us for money. Mr. Malizia indicated you don't have to do anything. It's best financial practice to have something. Something between 5 and 10 percent I think is what we've always tried to go for. Some people run it leaner but god forbid you have a bump in the road or something comes up and I don't know what that could be and I'm not trying to put a scare tactic out there. You have no cushion. When you're looking at your bonds and your other indebtedness and your credit worthiness, it doesn't look good for borrowing when your numbers are below a certain ratio.

Chairman Coutu offered to suggest something that might be a little more palatable and get this thing going. The Town Administrator threw a note at me. I'm going to compromise a little on what's there. You know where I am on the Lenny Smith Fire Station - tear it down and build a new fire station. I said that's what I wanted and I will not leave this seat until we have a brand new fire station. It looks like I'm going to be here another 15 years. Dammit. I want out of here. We have to be fiscally responsible as always. I'm not averse to going to the voters and asking them for \$2.1 million to build a new fire station at the south end of town. We have the land. I think we're never going to get this bargain again. This would be the year to do it if we can get it for \$2.1 million and get that facility built. The \$1.1 million I agree with you Selectman Maddox. It's not really palatable especially this year. However, we can break it into two phases - this year and next year and make it \$550,000 this year and I'd take \$550,000 out this year and then take \$550,000 out next year and we can do the elevator and the antenna last or the elevator if that's a huge project do those last and get the electrical and the doors done first. We can do it in two phases and build that out over a two year period. It's a little more palatable. We're not damaging our reserve by \$1.1 million. We're damaging it over a period of two years but we've got a little more reserve for a couple of years and then we can look at it then. I think that it would be more palatable while they're doing the work he can bid out whatever sections. We can look at the costs in the next year for the second phase. We can break it up into three phases and go \$333,000 a year for 3 years. We can make it even more palatable. Three years is 3 ½ years because we're not talking until next July. So that's 3 ½ years out we might get an elevator. I think at some point the State is going to come in or the feds are going to come in and say where the hell is that elevator. Better get it sooner rather than later and then we're boxed in because we started renovations. So we need to figure out I would say a 2 for I'm suggesting. If you have something better, I'm willing to listen. I'm trying to make this happen. We need it to happen.

Selectman Maddox said this discussion was had about the senior center and the cable facility. Chairman Coutu said come up with a creative idea. It was you who came up with the creative idea. Selectman Maddox indicated what I was going with Mr. Chairman is someone had, I think it was the State but I'm not positive, the infamous Mr. One said we have to have an elevator between the two floors. After much discussion, we don't.

Chairman Coutu said we don't because they're both handicapped accessible and they're not conjoining in the sense that there's no access to entrance or egress so you don't need an elevator and there's immediate access to the floors. The way it was first proposed to the State it was going to be a two story building, You have to come in and walk up the stairs to go upstairs so the answer is you have to have an elevator. The way the building was built, we've solved that whole problem with separate entrance and exits. Selectman Maddox thought more questions need to be asked of the fire station. All I'm saying is that seems to be the biggest bugaboo, the biggest dollar expense. You're not

telling us how much that thing is but if it's \$150,000 that takes us down to the \$950,000 that I think everybody is comfortable with. I don't want to do this over 3 years Mr. Chairman. I really think that that's going to become grinding on the taxpayers. Chairman Coutu asked do you want to do it over two years, or three years, or any. Selectman Maddox said I know we need to do it. We're getting sticker shock. I really thought that we spent \$80,000 putting in the HVAC that when you came in it would be somewhere around \$900,000. Again, everything now that you got this you got to do this. Now that's why we're trapped. So before we say no, before we burn down the bridge, I think the Chief needs to go back and see what other options there are and take it backwards.

Chairman Coutu noted to do it at the end of the budget. At the end of the budget, we'll come back and revisit it and have him come in. We gave him some ideas. He can pull it all together and see what he comes back with. I share the same concern. I shouldn't say it's your concern. I share your concern and we need to make something that's palatable. 1.1 because you and I had said if we can get this in at \$950,000, we can sell this. 1.1 - it's like buying that \$10 item. I'd rather it be 999. Can't get up over 10. The minute you say 10, it's up over 10. It's exaggerated.

To Selectman Brucker's statement, Selectman Maddox said this is our reserve. I don't want to tough this but I don't see a good avenue other than bonding this as well. This needs to get done. Again Chief I just have sticker shock. You scared me. I don't like the fact that it's over \$1 million. I don't want it to say we'll just keep taking money out of our savings. That's just not the way to run this.

Chairman Coutu told the Chief that in your conversations with both Selectman Maddox and I that we're very supportive of both proposals. We just got to make this palatable. Chief Buxton said I get it. Chairman Coutu thought that's a great suggestion on your part. You've heard the conversation, the discussion. Chief Buxton indicated the recognition needs to be there though that there's certain rules that I'm not going to be able to fix. Chairman Coutu understood that. Chief Buxton said when it comes down that the State says the elevator...Chairman Coutu said we're not going to play games with the State, and the feds, and the rules. We're going to abide by the rules. If so, what's that going to cost us? That's what we need to know. So then once we have that number - it's not necessarily iron clad, things change but it's not cast in stone. We have a pretty decent number to work with. How do we sell that? One year? Two years? Three years? How do we do it and in what stages? What gets done first, second, and third so that we know and we can digest that information and make a decision. A more intelligent decision based on what we have now. I would firm up and certainly ask somebody with authority about the elevator and what priority does that get. If they say oh you're going to do this construction, that has to be done first or it can be done last so we don't get into a quagmire with them mid way through this whole project if we go that route. So that we will come back to and we will hope that you will come back too to discuss that with us. Is there anything else?

#### Warrant Article K

Chief Buxton indicated the last warrant article is Warrant Article K. That is for the replacement ambulance this year coming out of the capital reserve. Zero impact to the taxpayers. Every three years we purchase a replacement ambulance. This is a process that's been ongoing. One of the highlights is we're going to take \$150,000 out of capital reserve and requesting \$50,000 at the end of the remaining fund balance at the end of the year. One of my suggestions early in the evening was to kick up the capital reserve fund for ambulance replacement. I think one of the pools of money that I'm watching shrink every year is the available fund balance at the end of the year. We were I think \$100,000 just north of \$100,000 on the municipal side last year not excluding water and sewer. Steve Malizia asked are we talking the unexpended appropriation right. Chief Buxton said yeah. When we go into those funds and take those funds of \$50,000 and we only have \$100,000 if we're looking to do other projects at the end of the year, we need to be cognizant of that because we need that \$50,000 to finish funding this.

Chairman Coutu said we need to stop doing projects at the end of the year. We spoiled you guys. We let you do projects at the end of the year.

Selectman Maddox stated this does have a tax impact. That money that goes into that fund comes from taxes. It doesn't have impact because you want to take now more money into that fund. It does impact the tax rate. We need to take a look at it whereas...Chief Buxton said calendar year. Kathy Carpentier said it doesn't impact the current year tax rate is what he means to say. Selectman Maddox said in fact the last 3 years. What I was going to though Mr. Chairman is I think we need to take a look at it at some point and not tonight is the ambulance revolving fund. Some of the income that comes in from the ambulance above and beyond what we have in our budget could be used towards this. Chairman Coutu didn't think was a bad idea. If it comes in from fire, keep it in fire.

Chief Buxton said we had talked about that earlier in the year regarding looking at revolving funds and where that would end up. Chairman Coutu said we'll have that discussion. Chief Buxton asked are you going to want to do that for this budget cycle so that will be in the next 3 weeks the revolving fund question or when are you going to want it. Chairman Coutu said we're going to have a question on it we have to decide before December.



Selectman Maddox mentioned that we're going to have two fire department items on their 3 items. Again, I'm cognizant of trying to not to..Chairman Coutu said not to overwhelm the voters with all kinds of question. I agree. We'll let you know. Chief Buxton said it takes a couple days to pull the program together that's all.

Selectman Maddox asked to take a 10 minute recess.

Chairman Coutu declared the session to be in recess at 9:43 p.m. We have resumed at 9:57 p.m.

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

Chairman Coutu recognized the Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia indicated the Board of Selectmen/Administration this is where your salaries are, myself, the Executive Assistant, the other office person. Basically this budget is down. As you recall, we moved the position but we still had the money in the default budget for the former position of Assistant Town Administrator. So I've taken it out again.

Chairman Coutu indicated that's pretty much a flat budget. We just removed the money for the Assistant Town Administrator.

Town Hall (5120)

Selectman Maddox said it's just the union contract right. Chairman Coutu said that's it. It's only increased if you look at the bottom two lines, the 2014 budget to the far right you have \$85,875 last year, \$86,121 this year. The reason for the increase is that the salary full time was increased as a result of an approved contract.

Community Center, page 8.

Steve Malizia said the same person is in that also is apportioned to that so it's the same contract.

Chairman Coutu stated like you see salaries full time. That would be the custodian. The custodian for this building also does Fire Administration. So we apportion part of his salary to all of those.

Selectman Maddox asked about 5125-210 Community Center natural gas. The seniors aren't there. They were there 3 days a week. Steve Malizia indicated they were there during the day 3 days a week. That's correct. Selectman Maddox said with the heat up. You don't think you're going to see a savings? Mr. Malizia indicated we spent \$9,400 last year so it's \$8,200 this year. I don't know how much we're going to save more than \$1,200. Gas is not going down. It seems to be going up at least it is at my house.

Chairman Coutu thought maybe instead of spending 94 it will be closer to the 82. We'll see. Hopefully.

Selectman Maddox said we bought these setback thermostats. I come in here on the weekend and it's at 72. Chairman Coutu agreed. I'm having a problem with that. Selectman Maddox asked what is the setback. Steve Malizia asked are we talking this building, the Community Center. Selectman Maddox said I know about this building. I don't go into the Community Center. We bought those - again, we're not using them to their full advantage in my opinion when again it's 72 in here when I come in on a Saturday, Sunday. Chairman Coutu said I come in here on a Saturday in the summer time and it's like 52. It's freezing in here. I don't know what it is. Just as an aside, Selectman Maddox asked to have the maintenance person to see what we can do. Steve Malizia indicated they were programmable so I'm sure we can do something.

Kathy Carpentier shifted to page 11. There's an outside the budget request. Steve Malizia wanted to put on the radar at the Community Center the front part of that building is heated with a separate heating system. I'm just telling you that that is starting to get to become problematic from the repair perspective. I'm sure you can get another year out of it but I don't want anybody to sit there next year and say nobody told us. Chairman Coutu said it's a small little...Mr. Malizia said it's the unit that serves as the front end of the building which is a hallway, and what was formerly the senior's office, and there are two other offices on the other side, and there's a handicapped bathroom up there.

Chairman Coutu asked how do we have a unit - does it have vents to goes to all of these things. Steve Malizia said yes. It's a separate unit for that part of the building. Chairman Coutu asked if we got a thing like we got at the old HCTV facility, we pay like \$8,000 which did the whole building...Mr. Malizia said it just did air conditioning It didn't do heating. We already had heat. I'm putting it on your radar. Chairman Coutu asked who estimated \$6,500 to HW Wells. Mr. Malizia put it on the radar because, again, in a year from now...Selectman Maddox stated when we go to do it, it will be \$9,000 like the fire station. Chairman Coutu commented that this is more important to me than a part time employee.

Senior Center, page 13

Again, Steve Malizia said we're still figuring out what we're doing there. Chairman Coutu said it was a reasonable expense. Mr. Malizia said it was our best estimate at this point. Selectman Maddox noted that's the building. Chairman Coutu knows. It's a reasonable expense to operate the upstairs of that building I think assuming that it comes in at that. We're still subjective. We don't have a year but I think that's reasonable.

Selectman Nadeau asked how come the salaried part time didn't carry over. Kathy Carpentier indicated that is under the Recreation Dept. You gave it to the Recreation...Chairman Coutu indicated we will have that discussion. Ms. Carpentier stated this is just for the building itself. This isn't for the operations, the activities, or the personnel. Chairman Coutu guaranteed we will have a discussion on the senior center personnel when we get to that budget. I guarantee you we're going to have that discussion. I will make sure that we have that discussion. Selectman Maddox asked well maybe we want to come back to this Mr. Chairman if the Board is looking to increase hours, then you're going to increase costs in this line item. Chairman Coutu was not interested. I'll tell you what I'm interested in doing. I'm going to be very blunt. I would like the senior administration not to be under Recreation but to be under the Town Administrator. I am not pleased. Selectman Maddox said it's just a lateral move. Chairman Coutu thought that maybe an increase. I don't know what they're recommending. All I know is I wasn't too pleased about a few things. That is what I'm going to recommend which would move that salary line over here because it would be a separate entity. Instead of Mr. Yates supervising it...Steve Malizia mentioned you might want a separate cost center. So what you're saying is you put it in a different type of cost. You might have a facility one and a management one for lack of a better word kind of in this area is what he's saying. Chairman Coutu said we'd take out all the monies for her office supplies and whatever is in that cost center and move the cost center out completely. If she has a problem - technically she reports to a Senior Affairs Committee and they kind of run it.

Steve Malizia asked well if I may correct you. Everybody else reports to you. Committees are advisory so she doesn't really report to them. Chairman Coutu knows. That's not the way to phrase it. They're an advisory. I don't think she's going to need to be running into your office every 5 minutes and I don't think Mr. Yates should be supervising the position in my opinion. Selectman Maddox said we can move off of this. Chairman Coutu thought the seniors would be happier if they were a separate unit of government which is what we had initially proposed - a separate department by itself. I think we can solve that problem. We're going to get it done guarantee. One of many motions I might be making or things I'd like to see entertained. I know I will get your support. Are we done with this for now? Can we do it later?

Kathy Carpentier asked if we could put this on the "W" list. Selectman Maddox said no because we're not increasing hours. Chairman Coutu said we may. I don't know what the recommendation is. I recommended that they increase hours. They're not so convinced that they have to. They'd probably take the hours and stretch them out to 4 days instead of 3. Steve Malizia indicated it may be part of a larger discussion. Chairman Coutu didn't know what the recommendation is going to be. This will all be part of the discussion. Put a "W" please.

Town Poor (5151)

Chairman Coutu recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia said that's obviously the folks when folks come in here, we have a certain obligation. Again, I can't tell what's going to exactly happen but we've tried to be frugal in this line item as far as what we pledge. If you look at the default this year, it's \$120,000. We're taking it down to \$100,000. Chairman Coutu said any budget considering how bad things have been has been frugal and the return too has been great. Mr. Malizia said we've been able to collect back money. Chairman Coutu was surprised at that. Mr. Malizia indicated folks have property and we can lien it. There's things you can do.

Town Administration

Chairman Coutu questioned office supplies. Steve Malizia indicated that's printer cartridges for the printer and the fax machine in the office.

Selectman Maddox stated not that I want to be here any longer than anybody else but page 15. Chairman Coutu read, "the following represents a request to hire a part time employee for cleaning services senior center facility". Kathy Carpentier thought that was part of our revisits so I didn't bring it back. Is it? I don't know if it is. Chairman Coutu said I imagine somebody is making this request. Who put this in here? Steve Malizia said we need somebody...Steve Malizia said we need somebody. Chairman Coutu said we don't have anybody to clean that building. We are, and this is another thing that disturbed me, from what I understand Leo has been going over on Fridays but he doesn't have a key. He has no access to equipment, mop or anything. They won't give him a key to unlock the door which is ridiculous. Laurie's been going in and unlocking the door and giving him stuff. If he's going

to be cleaning it on a regular basis, he should have a key to get into the closet to open and get supplies. That should have been made available to him. You need a mop, you need a mop. You need a broom, you need a broom. If they're all locked in the closet, then you need a key. I understand having them under lock and key. I'm working on it. I don't know about this request. This is new to me. Who submitted this? Steve Malizia said I guess I did. Chairman Coutu said because you feel that we need somebody to clean...Mr. Malizia indicated at some point in time you have no budget or no money for anybody to go in there and clean it.

Chairman Coutu thought they failed to understand - I'm going to go back to the old argument that I've had about the Community Center, about the senior center, and the cable facility. If Mike O'Keefe and a few other people that are volunteers on the Cable Committee were to leave tomorrow morning and we hired average John Jones citizen who wants to assist us in serving on the board but they have no technical knowledge of cable television, we would lose 70 percent of our help. The amount of hours that people put in volunteering doing physical labor. Sometimes we don't appreciate the people who serve on our boards and commissions enough. A lot of people go out that are on land use boards and go out and site walks. It takes a couple of hours. They don't get paid to do that. They don't get paid or reimbursed for their gas. I think they could legitimately put in for it but they never have that I know of. Again, we have this brand new facility and we're expecting the seniors to clean their own floors and vacuum. We've got the cable facility we're expecting them. I mean we don't expect the Town Administrator, the Finance Director, and the clerk to come in here and sweep, vacuum, and clean this building. We have a person to do it. That building needs some sort of custodial either - I don't need a full time person but it should be cleaned a couple days a week. It's common sense. It's another municipal building. I think that's the reason for this request. Mr. Malizia indicated we have nothing in there right now.

Selectman Maddox had a stupid question because today is stupid question day. Chairman Coutu said no question is stupid. Selectman Maddox said confused. We have somebody that cleans the Community Center right? Mr. Malizia indicated Leo. Selectman Maddox said now that usage has transferred to the senior center. Chairman Coutu indicated some of it. Not all of it. There's still basketball programs and stuff goes on. Selectman Maddox said all I'm saying is we kind of do. We had somebody cleaning up the senior center. I would think that some of that would transfer over.

Chairman Coutu wanted to make this a "W". Why don't I look into what his hours are now, what he's doing, and estimate what I think would be the required time to do that building over there a couple of times a week upstairs and downstairs and see if I can come in with a relatively accurate number. Maybe there is enough in the budget that he has now that - I don't know what he has for hours now. What does he have for hours now? Steve Malizia thought 15 hours over at the Rec. and then some other amount of hours for events. Chairman Coutu indicated he's out mowing lawn. He's not going to be doing that all winter either. If you saw in the Thumbs this week, they said the person over at Jette Field that was him. I went down there and watched him 2 or 3 times. He never knew I was watching him prepping that field. He did an outstanding job getting that software diamond really looking good. I was impressed. He's slow but he gets it done and does it right and does a good job. He's going to be there. That's what I like about him he shows up. Let me get you a more accurate number. I'll talk to the Town Administrator. We'll look at what he's doing, what his winter looks like, and maybe we won't have to increase anything. We may have to fudge it a little by a couple thousand. We'll see. We'll work on that. Will you remind me? We'll come back to this one. Good enough. I don't expect our seniors to be going around with brooms, mops, and pails to clean their own building. We should provide that service.

Legal (5200)

Chairman Coutu recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia pointed out the difference on legal is the value defense. As you recall, we are in court. If you look at the default budget this year '15 you see zero. You transferred as a Board \$25,000 when we made all the moves. You transferred \$25,000 into the '15 budget for the value defense. What that means is you have to higher folks and defend all of our utility valuations and the other large commercial industrial. I don't know what the exact number is going to be. Mr. Michaud, again, tried to estimate it. I put \$40,000 in based on what he recommended. You got \$25,000 this year. It's going to be somewhere between \$20,000 and \$40,000 next year because these cases take a while to wind their way through Superior Court. They don't go as we'd like them to go sometimes. You attempted to put money in this year. It got taken out with the default so that's why you see zero but you as a Board collectively put \$25,000 in there and now we've put \$40,000. If it doesn't pass, you're default is going to be zero and we're going to have to pay for it unless we don't want to defend our values.

Chairman Coutu said we have to defend our values. It's going to cost us more than the legal fees if we don't...Mr. Malizia said if everybody knows you don't defend yourself, you will have everybody in here. Chairman Coutu stated we need to be aggressive in defending our position. Mr. Malizia noted that's why there's a number there but that number is probably...Chairman Coutu thought it was also subjective isn't it. We could make that 25 if we needed to

find some money and make it 20 or zero and really gamble. Mr. Malizia said you have some latitude. Chairman Coutu said we're going to need to make some cuts. That's an item we can look at. I wouldn't cut the whole thing. I certainly don't want to endanger us. That's it on legal? Mr. Malizia mentioned that was the only thing that changed. We expect to be negotiating two contracts next year -Fire and Support. So there's money in there for that for collective bargaining. Other than that, it's pretty much the same.

Finance (5310, 5320)

Chairman Coutu recognized Finance Director Kathy Carpentier.

Kathy Carpentier indicated I have three different departments. One's for myself, one's 5310, one's for my staff, and my IT cartridges and my operating expenses are flat and not a \$1 increase.

Chairman Coutu said on Finance Administration, page 1, I consider the increase there is just salaries that were approved. Ms. Carpentier said not salaries. I'm the only one in there. There's a non union position. It would just be four NH Retirement System. Chairman Coutu said on page is where the salaries would come in. Ms. Carpentier noted there's a \$400 operating budget decrease on this page and I gave it to put a printer in on my IT Department.

Insurance (5910)

Chairman Coutu recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia stated that insurance covers our worker's comp. policy and our property liability policy.

Chairman Coutu asked if that was just because the cost went up not because we hired more people. We were at a default at 185. We're estimating it's going to be 197 because...Kathy Carpentier said that's the actual. The one that we just got now. We can't predict what next year is going to give us. Chairman Coutu said we do have the audit back on the payroll. I know workman's comp. we have to have an audit on payroll. Ms. Carpentier said that's what we just paid in FY15. That's the only best guesstimate at this point. 441 is flat with no increase.

Community Grants (5920)

Chairman Coutu recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia explained these are the grants to folks such as the soup kitchen - the folks over at St. Vincent de Paul. These are the requests for grants or allocations from our budget to provide services to those various organizations that provide services to the citizens. There's a list here. I think you can see the history. You can see the actual appropriation which is the third column from the right. That's the \$96,000. We had a request for \$116,000 but we're trying to hold the line at \$95,000. It's certainly up to you how you'd like to allocate the money. I will say this, the 90 is less than the 96 you're paying this year. Chairman Coutu said I'm not averse to making some cuts based on some information that I know about some of these agencies. We can look at that.

Selectman Maddox asked if that was a "W". For Chairman Coutu it was. Anybody can bring anything up they want at any time. Selectman Maddox thought it was better if we do it by the "Ws" so we don't have to keep jumping around. If we've all said we're done with this section. Chairman Coutu said it was a "W". They're all "Ws". The whole budget is a "W" for me.

Patriotic Purposes (5930)

Steve Malizia noted that Patriotic Purpose which is on the next page of your agenda is a very small cost item but it's our donation or our contribution for the Old Home Days and our contribution for the Memorial Day Parade and a service. That budget is flat. It's the same number.

Other Expenses (5940)

Steve Malizia is part of this. Gas contingency is in here. You put it in. It got taken out by the default budget. You made a decision not to put it back in. So I'm pointing that \$25,000 out to you. In this particular budget you did put in \$25,000 for the storm water. As you recall, we moved the money for that activity just so you're kind of aware. That's in there but gas contingency isn't.

Selectman Maddox had a question. The contingency for the Selectmen has always been \$50,000 and I thought we bumped that up to \$75,000. Steve Malizia indicated it's not in the default budget. You did it as off line as you recall. Selectman Maddox asked where is it on the...Mr. Malizia said it's not because those numbers were moved around.

That's not your default budget. In theory, Selectman Maddox said we have to bump that up if we're going to do what we said we were going to do. This year, Mr. Malizia said you've allocated money so if you look at the budget to actuals, you'll see a budget column that says \$50,000 then a transfer of \$25,000 for an adjustment of \$75,000 for this year for the storm water contingency. That's what you did. Selectman Maddox said for 2016 it's not there right. Mr. Malizia said you're correct. We have not made a decision to do that but I did put in \$25,000 gas contingency which you put in last year but was removed by the default budget. Again you can take that out it's up to you but you put it in last year. It got taken out by default. We've been very cagey when it comes to our gas. We're budgeting at \$3.20. It looks real good right now but 18 months from now, I don't know what gas is going to be.

Chairman Coutu said also in this budget we have not made any provision to put any money into the capital reserve funds that were established last year right. Steve Malizia believed the only money I believe that's going into the capital reserve fund from this budget is you're putting \$10,000 into the communications one and \$50,000 into the earned time. Chairman Coutu said we have nothing in recreation. We have nothing in buildings. Mr. Malizia said Rec. has it in his budget. There's a request in his budget. Buildings I don't believe. It's certainly not in this budget.

Selectman Nadeau said we were going to use the money for selling the property.

Kathy Carpentier explained he's requesting \$5,000 for the recreation equipment. You put in a \$5,000 in FY15 and \$50,000 in field construction but he hasn't addressed those. Mr. Malizia said that's a conversation for Thursday obviously. At this point, Ms. Carpentier said with no offsetting revenues identified. I just want to make that clear. We put in the appropriation but we haven't offset it with any...Chairman Coutu said if he does what we had suggested he do last year, he's to come back here to show us how he can generate more income to try to make that offsetting not on the warrant article but on the programs that we offer trying to offset it. We'll see if he comes back with any recommendations.

Just to be clear here just so we all know, Steve Malizia noted that this capital reserve funding is \$50,000 for the earned time fund and \$10,000 for the communications equipment and infrastructure reserve which was established in FY14. That's the backup. That's what that indicates. I just wanted you to be clear that's what that 60 is for.

5940-208 - Selectman Maddox asked about other expenses telephone. How many places has telephone in this budget? That's what Chairman Coutu said. You pull out that number, you'd be surprised. We haven't saved a dime. It's cost us a fortune - \$27,000 here.

Steve Malizia thought that's why we're getting a report I thought or getting some data. This particular telephone is the system that we have I believe this facility, this building. When you got a phone bill from Fairpoint, we get it from Bayring now because that's who we've gone with. I believe it's still Bayring, correct? Ms. Carpentier said yes. Mr. Malizia said that's our for lack of a better word our formal phone system. Chairman Coutu said if you looked at the phone bill 5 years ago what we paid for everything for phones and you look at everything we pay for phones now, I bet you it's gone up 40 percent. All that savings.

Kathy Carpentier explained that the request that was made the other night was just as I understood it as who has cell phones and how much is it costing us. That's the project I'm working on. Chairman Coutu mentioned it has nothing to do with this. Ms. Carpentier said what I couldn't do is roll up anything that has 208, anything that's hitting 208 amongst the whole budget if you want and give you that report. That would be a different report. Chairman Coutu stated that we wouldn't know what all of our phone system is costing for the Town of Hudson. Ms. Carpentier said anything that is going to 208. I'm not the one who's best to speak to this because I'm a Finance Director but I think that telephone might be the wrong label for it because it's like data. I have a town tablet and its data usage. I don't have a telephone but my data usage is on a phone line which is going to my telephone expense.

Chairman Coutu asked now we buy cell phones for our employees. Now we're buying tablets for employees? Mr. Malizia said not all employees. Chairman Coutu asked have we bought tablets for our employees too. Ms. Carpentier didn't know. I have one. Maybe I'm the only one in the whole town. What I'm saying is - and that's what's going to come out when you see this cell phone - Verizon bill. I don't have a cell phone. I'm a department head. I'm probably one of the only ones that doesn't have a cell phone but I'm able to look at all my records, all my stuff any place in the building on my tablet. My point is is that in telephone is data access, it's security, it's telephone, it's cell phones, it's tablets, it's the computers in the police cars. When you guys are saying telephone, it's not just telephone anymore. Its communications is probably a more accurate label for it.

Steve Malizia said all of our water stations, and all of our pump stations, and all of our water tanks they all communicate on a SCADA system. That monthly charge goes to telephone. Nobody is picking up a phone but that was all communicated that way.

Chairman Coutu asked but how did we do it before we had all this. Mr. Malizia indicated that we didn't have all the

pump stations. We always had alarms. I think since we've owned the water utility, we've always had to monitor for example that. I wasn't around those days.

Selectman Maddox noted it says Mr. Chairman AT&T Bayring Communications and Fairpoint.

Kathy Carpentier said the Bayring bill is split between Town Hall and Police. AT&T is for long distance and that's very minimal expense.

Chairman Coutu asked who monitors that. Steve Malizia said every department reviews their phone numbers and then it comes back over here. Chairman Coutu stated I never have a long distance - I talk to people all over the country and I never have a long distance charge. Why does the Town of Hudson? Mr. Malizia said phone service has evolved through the years. I mean I don't think it's what it used to be. If you looked at these numbers back probably 10 years ago, it started in the '50s. Chairman Coutu mentioned this doesn't include what we pay Verizon.

Kathy Carpentier said I'm doing who has cell phones and how much it costs is what you asked me to do the other night. What are you asking me to do tonight? Chairman Coutu wasn't asking you to do anything. You're the one who brought up the whole telephone thing. I'm not asking for you to do anything special today. I said if we looked at what the telephone bill was 5 years ago and what it is today, I bet it's a significant increase. We keep saying you know we're going to do all these energy efficient things and I never see the electric bill go down. We're going to do all these and go to fiber optic because we're going to save on the phone bill. The phone bill keeps going up and up every year. Where are these savings? Ms. Carpentier noted that this line item went from \$34,000, to \$28,000, to \$26,000 almost \$27,000. I'm seeing a decrease right in the last 3 years of this line item itself. I know there's other things peppered out...Chairman Coutu knows that things get moved around from year to year. Ms. Carpentier said not these things. This is the phone system for here where some efficiencies lines were shut off. This was the efficiencies for the phone system for Town Hall. Chairman Coutu wasn't questioning that. I just made an observation. Ms. Carpentier said no action item. Chairman Coutu said no. You have enough on your plate. You'd be looking for more part time help if I give you too much. Ms. Carpentier said my job is to give you the information for you to make your decision. Chairman Coutu understood and appreciated that. I know you always make it readily available and I appreciate that.

Hydrant Rental (5960)

Chairman Coutu noted that hydrants there's going to be no increase. Steve Malizia agreed so I'm not going to explain it.

Chairman Coutu said that's all we have on the agenda. We will be meeting again Thursday. Does anyone have anything that they want to say?

Selectman Nadeau indicated I've had a couple of residents in the last couple of days bring me in they look like bills and it's addressed to the property owner. It's just like Pennichuck had. It was a water maintenance contract. Chairman Coutu asked if it was a scam. Selectman Nadeau stated it is because the address that I have here does not have water and everybody on that street got these. I went home today and I had one in my mailbox. I just want the residents to be aware that these are being sent out and a lot of the residents that called were older residents.

Chairman Coutu asked the camera operator to zoom in with the camera so they can see what it looks like.

Selectman Nadeau noted it looks like an official bill. I talked to the Water Utility Clerk and she told me the same thing. A couple of people have called and asked about it just so everybody is aware that that's out there.

Selectman Maddox asked that we put that on our website and say this is not associated with the Town of Hudson. It's a business trying to get people to give them money for an insurance policy. That's really what it is.

Kathy Carpentier stated this is the same program similar to the program that the Town authorized with Pennichuck the Water Tight Program I believe it's called. It's insurance in case something happens on my property I can buy that insurance. Chairman Coutu said this is not what that is. Ms. Carpentier thought it is very similar but this is an outside company and not...Selectman Nadeau continued and not authorized by the Town of Hudson. Chairman Coutu told the public do not let them scam you into paying anything. We should put something - if it doesn't say Pennichuck Water or the Town of Hudson.

Steve Malizia stated we should check with our attorney first. Business is business and we should check with our...Chairman Coutu indicated that people are gullible and they'll feel like well if I buy this, this is going to protect me and it might not.

Selectman Nadeau said I don't have town water. This person here does not have town water. Steve Malizia indicated it wouldn't make any sense for them to pay. Selectman Maddox said they could call up and say I don't have a pipe. Kathy Carpentier said we're getting a lot of phone calls in the Water Department. Chairman Coutu stated we need to put a stop to this. Let's talk to our attorney and see. I appreciate that. Selectman Maddox explained that it's a business. They can send them out Mr. Chairman. We just make people aware that they are not affiliated with the town or our water system.

Selectman Nichols stated Sunday evening I went over to the First Baptist Church in Hudson. Reverend Moa was inducted into the church and there was a beautiful reception, great music, quite a few speeches, and I spoke for all of 60 seconds. I went up and congratulated them for the Town. It was really lovely. A great congregation and a lot of old people that I knew and others that I just met - new people. Very, very nice. It was well done and congratulations and welcome to our town.

Chairman Coutu believed, and you can both correct me because I already have my tickets. I think my wife reminded me that the Friends of Benson's spaghetti supper is this Saturday night. Great spaghetti sauce because I took some home the last time. It's at the Community Center Saturday from 4 to 6.

Selectman Brucker indicated that you all asked me to find out about the herbicide treatment and the DASH unit at the two ponds and which is more economical. Actually the herbicide treatment should be effective for like at least 7 years we're hoping. We've already done that. We've already paid for it. The DASH unit should just be able to go in there may be just a few days in the summer to remove the invasive species that might have come back a little bit. You need both but the herbicide treatment is the one that really does the job and makes it a lot easier and shorter days for the DASH unit and also it will be a lot cheaper for us. It all works together.

Selectman Maddox asked to define cheaper. You're saying they're not going to do chemical treatment next year, then that's not in the budget. You're saying the DASH could be reduced. I'm just looking for dollars. Selectman Brucker said it shouldn't be needed.

6. ADJOURNMENT

*Motion to adjourn at 10:37 p.m. by Selectman Maddox, seconded by Selectman Nadeau, carried 5-0.*

Recorded by HCTV and transcribed by Donna Graham, Recorder.

HUDSON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

\_\_\_\_\_  
Roger E. Coutu, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Benjamin J. Nadeau, Selectman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Richard J. Maddox, Selectman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Nancy Brucker, Selectman

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