

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
Minutes of the March 10, 2014 Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER - by Chairman Maddox the meeting of March 10, 2014 at 7:02 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at Town Hall.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - led by Selectman Coutu.

3. ATTENDANCE

Board of Selectmen: Rick Maddox, Roger Coutu, Ben Nadeau, Ted Luszey (arrived at 7:16)

Absent: Nancy Brucker

Staff/Others: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator; Donna Graham, Executive Assistant

4. PUBLIC INPUT

Chairman Maddox asked does anyone in the audience wish to address the Board on any issue which the Board has control of at this time. Seeing none.

5. NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS - NONE

6. CONSENT ITEMS

Chairman Maddox asked if any Board member wished to remove any item for separate consideration.

*Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Nadeau, to approve consent items A, B, C, D and E, as noted or appropriate, carried 3-0.*

A. Assessing Items

- 1) 2013 Tax Abatement - Map 230, Lot 22-5, w/recommendation to approve
- 2) 2013 Tax Abatement - Map 124, Lot 22, w/recommendation to approve
- 3) Veteran Tax Credit - Map 252, Lot 025; Map 156, Lot 006, Sub 056, w/recommendation to approve
- 4) Elderly Exemption - Map 167, Lot 012, w/recommendation to approve
- 5) Disabled Exemption - Map 148, Lot 040, Sub 033, w/recommendation to approve
- 6) Current Use Lien Release - Map 115, Lot 3-3, w/recommendation to approve
- 7) 2012-2013 Abatement Settlement - Map 216, Lot 8, w/recommendation to approve
- 8) 2012-2013 Abatement Settlement - Map 170, Lot 31, w/recommendation to approve

B. Water/Sewer Items

C. Licenses & Permits

- 1) Request to Solicit Funds - Dunstable-Tyngsboro Lions Club

D. Acceptance of Minutes

- 1) Minutes of the February 11, 2014 meeting
- 2) Minutes of the February 25, 2014 meeting

E. Calendar

- 3/11 ELECTION DAY
- 3/12 7:00 Planning Board - Buxton CD Meeting Room
- 3/13 7:30 Zoning Brd of Adjustment - Buxton CD Meeting Room
- 3/18 7:00 Cable Utility Cte - BOS Meeting Room
- 3/19 5:00 Municipal Utility Cte - BOS Meeting Room
- 3/19 7:00 Senior Affairs Cte - Buxton CD Meeting Room
- 3/20 7:00 Benson Park Cte - BOS Meeting Room
- 3/20 7:30 Budget Cte - Buxton CD Meeting Room
- 3/24 7:00 Recycling/Energy Cte - BOS Meeting Room
- 3/25 7:00 Board of Selectmen - BOS Meeting Room
- 3/26 7:00 Planning Brd - Buxton CD Meeting Room
- 3/27 2:30 Trustees of Trust Fund - Buxton CD Meeting Room
- 3/27 7:30 Zoning Brd of Adjustment - Buxton CD Meeting Room

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Votes taken after Nonpublic Session on February 25, 2014

- 1) Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Nadeau, to hire Daniel Donahue as a full time Police Officer effective March 3, 2014 with a starting salary of \$20.98 per hour, all in accordance with Police Union Local #3657 Contract, carried 3-0.
- 2) Motion by Selectman Nadeau, seconded by Selectman Coutu, to hire Bryan Genovese and Melissa Cafilisch as full time Police Officers effective on or after March 3, 2014 conditional upon vacancies with starting salaries of \$20.98 per hour, all in accordance with Police Union Local #3657 Contract, carried 3-0.
- 3) Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Nadeau, to accept the resignations of Call Firefighters Corey Morin, Brian Alley, Kevin Maier, Brian Surette, and Matthew Emanuelson with regret, carried 3-0.
- 4) Motion to adjourn at 10:25 p.m. by Selectman Nadeau, seconded by Selectman Coutu, carried 3-0.

B. Adoption of amendment to Chapter 104 - Sale of Tax Deeded Property

Chairman Maddox recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia indicated you held the required two public hearings in order to change Town Code. At this point in time, what you're doing is changing the Town Code for the use of real estate professionals to sell tax deeded land. Right now you use sealed bid, public auction, charitable donation. At this point, you've had the hearings so I recommend you make a motion to actually change the code.

Motion by Selectman Nadeau, seconded by Selectman Coutu, to adopt the amendment to Town Code Chapter 104 allowing the use of licensed real estate professionals to sell tax deeded property, carried 3-0.

C. Public Hearing - Modification to Chapter 264 "Race Track, Motor Vehicles"

Chairman Maddox recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia stated there was conversation amongst the Board at the end of the last race season to amend the summer schedule to terminate races during the summer at 10 o'clock as opposed to the 10:45 that's in the Town Code. Mr. Weber, the operator of the Hudson Speedway, has communicated with the Town through the permitting process. He is amendable to the change. He had been invited. He has not responded but based on his own documentation, he was comfortable with the 10 o'clock close provided you gave him an hour at the front end. In other words, I believe 4 to 10 as opposed to 5 to 10:45. In order to do that, you need to have two public hearings to change the Code to reflect a revised summer schedule time for termination at 10 o'clock.

Chairman Maddox opened the public hearing at 7:06 p.m. Does anyone in the audience wish to speak on this item? Seeing none, I close the public hearing at 7:06 p.m. The next public hearing will be at the March 25, 2014 meeting.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Public Hearing - Unmerge and restore to separate lot status property located at 17-19 Grand Avenue

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Nadeau to defer.

Chairman Maddox asked to hear a preliminary. Again, they're here.

Richard Maynard asked I don't understand what the purpose to defer is for.

Chairman Maddox said the purpose is nothing to do with you. It is the fact that primarily on the nights before election it's a very short meeting. Nothing to do with you or your client, it is truly a function of we mostly are not this involved. Since they are here...Selectman Coutu stated if I walk out we won't have a quorum. Chairman Maddox indicated you have that right Sir. Let's see if we can dig into it slightly.

Attorney Nicholas Frasca didn't anticipate this lasting very long. So I'll just go forward. My name is Nicholas Frasca. I'm here on behalf of Granite Properties of New England. Also in attendance is Richard Maynard of Maynard & Paquette and Ray Tetu of Granite Properties of New England. What I thought I'd do is read my letter into the record.

"Please be advised that my client, Granite Properties of New England, LLC, hereby requests that its lots be restored to their premerger status pursuant to NH RSA 674:39-aa Restoration of Involuntarily Merged Lots. The New Hampshire statute is applicable for the reasons set forth below and therefore this request should be granted."

Selectman Coutu noted that there was a motion on the floor to defer. Chairman Maddox said you are correct. There is a motion on the floor to defer. Discussion?

Selectman Coutu stated tomorrow is Election Day. Most of us are going to be out there working at the polls from 8 a.m. to approximately 10:00 to 11:00 p.m. I've been serving on the Board of Selectmen for 7 years. This is the longest agenda and if we were to take all of these items, it's conceivable we could be here until 10 or 11 o'clock this evening. I want to meet my obligation to be at the polls and perform my duties tomorrow and be in the best condition I can possibly do to serve those duties. I implore that I'm going to ask that we defer several items that are not items that need to be resolved this evening and this is one of those items. I'm going to hold with my motion to defer.

Again, Chairman Maddox thought that they put themselves on the agenda and shame on us for not realizing the date. I think we ought to at least give them some time to advance their cause. I think there's going to be questions that we're not going to be able to have answers tonight anyways. It probably will get deferred but that is up to the Board.

Selectman Nadeau said if we have questions and we already know we have questions for them, let's see if they have the answers and go from there.

*Vote: Motion failed 1-2.* Selectman Coutu in favor.

Selectman Coutu told Chairman Maddox we discussed doing this and you backed out of it. Chairman Maddox stated I said the things that we can. Again, I don't feel that these people were put on the schedule...Selectman Coutu said I get to do the dirty work and be made to look like the bad guy here. Chairman Maddox said no. I said some of these items. Selectman Coutu quoted, "I said". "I'm with you" you said.

Nicholas Frasca continued reading his letter:

"The New Hampshire State Statute is applicable for the reasons set forth below and therefore this request should be granted. NH RSA 674:34-aa is applicable when the Town issues a letter to a property owner requiring lot merger and subsequently the lots are merged pursuant to a lot consolidation instrument executed by the property owner and the Selectmen.

Granite Properties of New England acquired the property located at 17 Grand Avenue (a/k/a 17-19 Grand Avenue) by Warrant Deed of Margaret Hubert on November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013, which deed is recorded in the Hillsborough County Registry of Deeds in Book 8629, Page 2009 on November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2013. See Deed attached as Exhibit A. The property is also referred to as Town of Hudson Tax Map/Lot 165-116.

Margaret Hubert, the predecessor in title, acquired the property in 1976. See Deed attached as Exhibit B.

On January 4, 1993, the Zoning Administrator for the Town of Hudson, Susan Snide sent a letter to Margaret Hubert, mailed to her Florida address, stating that the Town of Hudson had amended the Town Zoning Ordinance in March 1992, the Amendment 2 to the ordinance "requires the combination of all lots, which are contiguous, under the same owner and not satisfying the current minimum lot size requirements" and that her two tax lots "must be combined to form one lot."

Although the letter is dated January 4, 1992, it is our belief that this was a clerical error and that the proper date is January 4, 1993. We maintain that the letter could not have been written in January 1992 as the zoning ordinance was not amended until March of that same year. See Letter attached as Exhibit C.

On January 25, 1993, twenty-one days after the issuance of the letter from Zoning Administrator Snide, Hubert received and executed a document entitled CAVEAT REGARDING LOT CONSOLIDATION, which merged Tax Map 59 Lot 20 and tax Map 59, Lot 20-1, such that the two lots would be considered a single lot with a single Tax Map and Lot Number. This document was executed by the Hudson Board of Selectmen on February 9, 1993 and recorded in HCRD on February 16, 1993.

NH RSA 674:39-aa I defines "Involuntary merger" and "involuntary merged" as "lots merged by municipal action for zoning, assessing, or taxation purposes without the consent of the owner."

NH RSA 674:39-aa II states that "lots or parcels that were involuntarily merged prior to September 18, 2010 shall at the request of the owner be restored to their pre-merger status and all zoning and tax maps shall be updated to identify the pre-merger boundaries of said lots or parcels or record at the appropriate registry of deeds, provided:

- a) The request is submitted to the governing body prior to December 31, 2016.
- b) No owner in the chain of title voluntarily merged his or her lots. If any owner in the chain of title voluntarily merged his or her lots, then all subsequent owners shall be stopped from requesting restoration. The

municipality shall have the burden of proof to show that any previous owner voluntarily merged his or her lots.

The facts in this case demonstrate that the statute terms have been satisfied.

NH RSA 674:39-aa II has been satisfied as the lots in question, Tax Map 59 Lot 20 and 20-1 were merged in 1993.

NH RSA 674:39-aa II(a) has been satisfied as this request has been submitted prior to December 31, 2016.

NH RSA 674:33-aa II(b) has been satisfied as no owner in the chain voluntarily merged the lots. According to the letter of the Zoning Administrator Snide, the merger of Hubert's lots was a requirement of the Town of Zoning Ordinance which was amended in March of 1992. The letter informed Hubert that the lots must be combined to form one lot. The lot merger was not a voluntary act of the owner.

For the reasons asserted above, my client hereby requests that the lots on the property located at 17 Grand Avenue be restored to their premerger status."

Attorney Frasca underscored the fact that the Town has the burden of proof to show that the merger was voluntary. With the 1993 letter, I think that would be difficult for the Town to demonstrate. I also wanted to just show the Selectmen the tax map 165-116. I don't know if you have a copy of that but I can certainly distribute that just to show that if the lots are returned to their premerger status, they fit into the character of the neighborhood. They're essentially the same size as a multitude of the lots within the same neighborhood.

Richard Maynard noted the neighborhood is a TR zone, 10,000 square foot lots. These lots would be 10,000 square feet.

Chairman Maddox asked why did supposedly Ms. Snide say that they must be combined if both of them met the requirements to be the lawful lot size at the time. Mr. Maynard had no clue. We can't find anything to that affect. I don't understand why she wrote that letter. Chairman Maddox asked Mr. Malizia if we did any research into the files on this lot as to why these two lots would be...Mr. Malizia said there was nothing in the file from Bill Oleksak. We have whatever documents you have in front of you. I believe this is as complete as the file as. Chairman Maddox asked if they went to storage. Mr. Malizia said yes a week ago.

Selectman Coutu said when I went through the package relative to the division of these two lots the thing that was most outstanding to me was the letter dated January 4, 1992 from Susan Snide. It says, "In March of 1992 the voters in the Town of Hudson chose to amend the current Hudson Zoning Ordinance. Amended #2 requires the combination of all lots which are contiguous under the same owner and not satisfying the current minimal lot size requirements" and it goes on. That in itself would seem to indicate that the lot sizes - if this were true, we need to determine or ascertain what were the minimum lot size requirements at that time and did each of these parcels separately meet that lot requirement. If one of them did not, then I would believe that the merger was in order. If they both complied, I would think that their request today is something that we should consider.

Richard Maynard said that's not what the RSA says Mr. Coutu. The RSA says "voluntary vs. involuntary merger". It doesn't tell you anything about lot size, zoning, etc. The RSA says you can't force the merger. It has to be voluntary regardless of that. It's strictly voluntary versus involuntary.

Selectman Coutu asked let me know when I'm going to be recognized Mr. Chairman. I thought you already recognized me. Chairman Maddox said I did but the Attorney is trying to rush it along I have a feeling to his...Selectman Coutu asked to move it along then. It's not going to get my questions answered tonight. Chairman Maddox told Selectman Coutu he had the floor. Selectman Coutu said he no longer had interest. I don't like being interrupted. This is not the Planning Board. I'm not going to be interrupted. Chairman Maddox asked do you request further information from our staff to see...Selectman Coutu would like to know based on what I just read, that letter, what I'm interested in is the following. In March of 1992, the voters of Hudson chose to amend the current zoning ordinance. So they amended it. The voters decided that. It's not what the RSA said. It's what the voters said takes precedent. They requested that the two lots - there's a suggestion here that these two lots - we know that they're contiguous. They're side by side. It would appear that one of them did not satisfy the minimum lot size requirements therefore I would suspect that the voters of the Town of Hudson when they amended the then current Hudson zoning ordinance, it was that if two lots were contiguous and one or both were under lot size they must be merged. So that was an action of the voters of the Town of Hudson. I would like to have that item researched. What is it exactly? What warrant article was passed to change the zoning ordinance and did those lots both meet the minimum lot size requirement.

Steve Malizia said page 23 is the zoning amendment that was voted on by the voters. Amendment #2 was the vote. As far as the lot size, I don't know what it was before. That we'd have to get back. Selectman Coutu indicted a 2 to 1 margin. So one of these lots must not have been conforming at that time it would appear. If that is the case, then Mrs. Snide's letter would certainly be her request is in compliance with what the voters wanted if one of those lots did not meet the minimum requirement at that time. We need to ascertain what were the minimum lot requirements in that zone at that time. If one of them did not meet that lot size or both, then they were to be merged. If we can get that information and we can research that.

Chairman Maddox let the record show that Selectman Luszey arrived at about 7:16 p.m.

Richard Maynard indicated that fact that Selectman Coutu was asking for may be interesting but it's irrelevant to the RSA. Totally irrelevant. Voluntary versus involuntary, no conditions, no stipulations, no nothing. Chairman Maddox said it comes down whether it was voluntary or involuntary. Mr. Maynard represented to the Board that this letter is an order from the Town. Thank you.

Chairman Maddox thought that's why we need to talk to our attorney. I think we need to get our attorney to give us...Mr. Maynard indicated that Mr. Buckley is well aware of this. He's up to speed. Chairman Maddox thought we had questions that you can't answer. As much as we would like to do this, again, it comes down to voluntary or involuntary and I think there's more knowledge that we need to get more information that if we can find. If you have a set of drawings that show what it looked like premerger that would be helpful. I'm sure we have it upstairs.

Attorney Frasca requested that the Board of Selectmen pay close attention to the Statute because the Statute really is determinative here. The Statute says that involuntary mergers prior to 2010 have the right to be restored to their premerger status provided that there can be a demonstration of involuntariness. I would request that there be close attention paid to the Statute and I think that what is determinative of the involuntariness of this case is the letter written by Zoning Administrator Snide. I think those two things should be interpreted closely. Thank you.

With that being said, Selectman Nadeau said we have to do a little more homework on this.

Motion by Selectman Nadeau, seconded by Selectman Luszey, to defer until the March 25, 2014 meeting.

Donna Graham asked do we need to hold another public hearing as we have to advertise. Chairman Maddox indicated that's a question for our attorney also. I know Attorney Maynard wants to give us an answer. Mr. Maynard said isn't it deferred to date specific therefore no more. Chairman Maddox didn't think so but this isn't the Planning Board.

Vote: Motion carried 4-0.

B. Elephant Barn at Benson Park - obtain a building permit

Chairman Maddox recognized Selectman Nadeau.

Motion by Selectman Nadeau, seconded by Selectman Coutu, to approve the request to allow the Friends of Benson Park, Inc. to obtain a building permit to proceed with the Elephant Barn - Phase 1 renovation project, carried 4-0.

Selectman Coutu said to thank them because the plans are beautiful and it looks like this thing is going to become a museum very shortly. A lot of work to do but I applaud them for their effort.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Luszey, to defer Items C, D, and E to the next meeting (3/25/14), carried 4-0.

Tony Basso volunteered to allow it to be deferred. There's a lot to be discussed here and you guys are in a rush. Chairman Maddox thanked Mr. Basso.

C. Lowell Road Traffic Signal - Market Basket/Fairview Nursing Home/Haffner's Service Station - DEFERRED 3/25/14 MTG

D. Impact Fee Account #2050-186 - DEFERRED 3/25/14 MTG

E. Bid Recommendation - Police Package Vehicles - DEFERRED TO 3/25/14 MTG

F. Stretcher Purchase

Motion by Selectman Nadeau, seconded by Selectman Coutu, to authorize the Fire Chief to purchase a new electric over hydraulic lifting stretcher from Stryker in the amount of \$18,051.14 without utilizing the bid process.

Chairman Maddox indicated we've all read the packet. It needs to get fixed. We're going to have an ambulance out of service if we don't get that stretcher.

Vote: Motion carried 4-0.

G. Request to advertise for a Full-time Firefighter

Chairman Maddox recognized Fire Chief Rob Buxton.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Luszey, to authorize the Fire Chief to advertise for three (3) full-time Firefighter positions.

Chairman Maddox stated I'm going to vote in opposition. I think that one is fine but until we know what happens tomorrow, I think we're ahead of the bus but so be it.

Vote: Motion carried 2-2. Selectman Nadeau and Selectman Maddox in opposition.

Selectman Nadeau indicated what you just said made sense to me. Selectman Coutu said we're not hiring people, we're advertising. We're not hiring anybody. We're advertising for them. Chief Buxton stated we have a 6 to 8 week hiring process prior to coming in with any names. Selectman Nadeau said I'll change. If we're just going to post it, then fine. I get nervous when they said post and next thing you know we have 3 people in the seats. Selectman Coutu knows where you're coming from Mr. Chairman. We'll see what happens with the results tomorrow. We're going to have to rethink our positions based on decisions that are made at the polls. I understand that but I'd like to at least get the process going so if we're down to 1, at least they'll have some candidates to get one in.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Luszey, to authorize the Fire Chief to advertise for three (3) full-time Firefighter positions, carried 3-1. Selectman Maddox in opposition.

H. Recommendation to Increase Election Worker Tax Exclusion

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Nadeau, to exclude the services performed by election workers for a calendar year in which the remuneration paid for such services is less than \$1,600, effective January 1, 2014, from Social Security and Medicare as recommended by the Finance Director, carried 4-0.

I. Dog Park at Benson Park

Chairman Maddox recognized Selectman Benjamin Nadeau.

Motion by Selectman Nadeau, seconded by Selectman Coutu, to defer this until we get a recommendation from the Benson Park Committee, carried 4-0.

9. OTHER BUSINESS/REMARKS BY THE SELECTMEN

Selectman Nadeau - I just would like to encourage everybody that's home watching this meeting tonight to go out and vote tomorrow. The polls open at 7 a.m. and they close at 8 p.m. As you can see on the lawn across the street and a few other key places in town, there was a sign made up and put there that told you the hours of voting, and where to go vote, and the date. I think that the Town should think next year to purchasing those signs and putting them in key locations - down at the bridge, over on the Town Common, on 102 when you come into 102 in Hudson. I think these signs are very informative. When I had somebody call me on Sunday to say that the sign was on my lawn, I was told in the morning that the sign was going there but I did not realize what the sign said until someone said voting is this Tuesday. I went yeah and they said okay we just saw a sign on your lawn. We just wanted to make sure it was correct and I went okay. I think these signs caught a lot of people's attention and I hope that people do go out and vote.

Selectman Luszey - Just a quick update on the senior center. I was over there. They were pulling in and terminating the fiber optics from the road last week. The inside is all swept and cleaned up. Really about the only thing that's keeping us from moving is concrete from the asphalt to the building. The weather is holding us up there a little bit but if you haven't been over there, I urge you to take a walk through it. It's a very nice facility and I think it's going to serve the seniors of our community quite nicely as well as the cable TV.

On a closing note, Selectman Luszey said yes voting is tomorrow. Tonight may or may not be my last official meeting sitting here. I'd like to take the opportunity to say thank you. It has been my privilege and honor to actually work with all of you folks. I think getting to know each and every one of you not only personally but as Selectmen has helped me become a better person and I want to thank you. I do urge you all to vote for me tomorrow. Thank you.

Selectman Coutu - First thing I want to say is that we had the Friends of Benson here tonight to ask for our permission to allow them to get a building permit so that they can begin the process of renovating the interior of the building which we know that they want to use to exhibit a lot of Benson memorabilia. In order to do that, none of them are wealthy in their own right so they have to undertake various means of raising funds. One of them is coming up very soon. I hope to be there this week. There's a spaghetti supper to benefit the Friends of Benson Park. It's this Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, at 4 p.m. right at the Community Center where you go and vote. We're going to have some great spaghetti. I hear the sauce is fantastic. If you buy your tickets in advance, which I haven't yet, they're \$8 a person, \$7 for seniors. If you buy your tickets the day of, it's \$9 per person and \$8 for seniors. Let's all go out and support this great organization who's trying to raise some money to add to the beauty of Benson Park by having a beautiful barn which will display a lot of the memorabilia. Thank you guys for doing that. That's number one.

Number two, Nancy's husband Will called me as Nancy was being operated on. As you know, she had a knee replacement. The surgery went well. It was a little longer than they anticipated. She was pretty well drugged up after the surgery, didn't know who Will was, so he called to let me know that she was doing well. He called me, again, the following day to tell me that again the operation was a success. She's grateful for all of the prayers and our thoughts and he'll keep me posted. She's doing well. I'm looking forward to hopefully seeing her here by the end of the month or if not the last meeting of the month.

I want to send a shout out to Cameron Levesque. A young kid that I know who made the honor roll at the middle school.

I want to say in light of the election tomorrow, Mr. Chairman we as elected officials know full well what's involved in running a campaign, and getting out to the people and trying to convince them to come and vote. I've taken election very seriously since I was 14 years old which was the year that Dwight Eisenhower ran for President of the United States. I was a proud America who put his signs on the spokes of my bicycle wheels and stood in front of the polls and asked people to vote in a French district in Lowell for Dwight Eisenhower for President. I've always had a love for politics from that day forward. Mr. Chairman it takes a lot of courage or lack of brains to put your name on the ballot. It's a tough road to hold and I applaud each and every single person who put their name on the ballot. Putting themselves forward to want to serve their community is exemplary. I wish more people would do it. We have a health race for the Board of Selectmen tomorrow. I wish Selectman Luszey the very best on his re-election. I'd be remiss if I didn't recognize that Patricia Nichols is a candidate for Selectmen and she's also here this evening. I wish them both the best of luck as well as the other two candidates who are running for office as well as all of the other candidates. We're going to have for the first time I think a run for their money on the Budget Committee. Usually we have open seats. This year we have 4 candidates running and I'm pleased to see that. I wish you all the best of luck.

Most importantly, most importantly I implore despite all of the Thumbs that were probably all written by the same person - vote no on 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, a, b, c, d, e, f, g and all the letters of the alphabet because we have \$40 million in surplus in the school, and some \$20 million surplus in the Town. I wish that person would come forward and please show me where the money is. Show me the money. I want to know where it is. I implore you to vote for our budget and I ask you to think about our town employees and to make an investment in our community. I will be voting yes on all of the warrant articles and I'm going to be voting yes for the increased budget. I can afford a cup of coffee a week. That's all it's going to cost me - a cup of coffee a week so that our employees can get a pay raise. I hope our citizens will follow suit and do the same because it's the right thing to do. If nothing else, at last show up and vote so your voice can be heard. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Selectman Maddox - I have a couple of items. Number one, we certainly didn't mean to give people the bums rush this evening but, again, historically the meeting before the elections is a very short agenda so that we can get out of here to be ready for tomorrow and we still have another number of things on the nonpublic that is going to take us some time. It was not our intent but everybody had read their packet and we were ready to vote. We moved it right along and there was other people they were town staff for the most part.

I agree with Selectman Coutu. Folks come over. We'll all be there and ask us questions. We'll have the ballots with us if you have any questions, Just remember the \$61.44 that Selectman Coutu was talking about that average price. That's what we're talking about. Not the \$800 that you're seeing in the Thumbs. If you have questions, ask us a question. I look forward to seeing all of you tomorrow.

10. NONPUBLIC SESSION

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Luszey, to enter Nonpublic Session pursuant to: RSA 91-A:3 II (a) The dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a meeting and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted; (b) The hiring of any person as a public employee; (e) Consideration or negotiation of pending claims or litigation which has been threatened in writing or filed against the public body or any subdivision thereof, or against any member thereof because of his or her membership in such public body, until the claim or litigation has been fully adjudicated or otherwise settled. Any application filed for tax abatement, pursuant to law, with any body or board shall not constitute a threatened or filed litigation against any public body for the purposes of this subparagraph, carried 4-0 by roll call.

Nonpublic Session is being entered at 7:40 p.m., thus ending the televised portion of the meeting. Any votes taken upon entering open session will be listed on the Board's next agenda. The public is asked to leave the room. Open session is being entered at 7:50 p.m.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Luszey, to hire Kyle Moran as an Intern with the IT Department at the rate of \$10 per hour not to exceed 20 hours per week during school breaks, or 12 hours per school week, with a start date of April 6, 2014, contingent upon receiving a NH Youth Employment Certificate from Pinkerton Academy, carried 4-0.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Luszey, to hire Ryan Murphy as an Inter with the IT Department at the rate of \$13 per hour not to exceed 250 hours with a start date of March 11, 2014, carried 4-0.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Nadeau, to accept Chief Lavoie's recommendation to hire Donna Rosso to fill the vacant full-time Telecommunications Technician position, carried 4-0.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Nadeau, to hire Laurie A. Stevens to the position of Town Engineer beginning on March 30, 2014. This assignment will be an exempt position and in accordance with the Hudson Police, Fire and Town Supervisors Association Contract with a starting salary of \$80,501 and then to Step 4 \$83,583 at the completion of probation, carried 3-1. Selectman Maddox in opposition.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 7:55 p.m. by Selectman Luszey, seconded by Selectman Nadeau, carried 4-0.

Recorded by HCTV and transcribed by Donna Graham, Recorder.

HUDSON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Roger E. Coutu, Selectman

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Benjamin Nadeau, Selectman

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Ted Luszey, Selectman