

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Minutes of the October 17, 2013 Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER - by Chairman Maddox the meeting of October 17, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at Town Hall.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - led by Paul Inderbitzen.
3. ATTENDANCE

Board of Selectmen: Rick Maddox, Nancy Brucker, Ben Nadeau, Roger Coutu, Ted Luszey

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

Selectman Luszey asked to indulge the Board for just a couple of moments. I was a little quick on asking to move the road discussion to the next - and I wished Selectman Coutu jogged a couple of brain cells. We do need to spend a few minutes on it. The reason being is we are under a time constraint to get the proposed bypass back on the 10 year plan if we're going to try to do that this year. We had two weeks roughly to do that. The request from DOT was to have all of here, the Board members, to contact their local State Reps. and the Executive Council and urge them to put that road at least the southern piece back on the 10 year plan.

Chairman Maddox asked are you looking to do something this evening. Is that what you're asking for? Selectman Luszey indicated I just did what I needed to do and that is please contact your State Reps., your Executive Council.

Selectman Coutu thought Selectman Luszey would get into a little more detail. Selectman Luszey was there. We had a contingent from the House of Representatives. If I forget anybody, let me know. Lynne and Russ Ober were there. Jordan Ulery was there. Rick Lavoisier was there. Senator Carson was there representing our interest. They did what I had said I thought was lacking. Our delegation just doesn't step up. They stepped up. They were very critical in giving testimony to the Commissioner, to the Director, to the Assistant Director, and other staff people that were there. There were quite a few people. I can tell you that, and you know from a personal standpoint Rick, I don't take any BS from too many people. I walked away from there very heartened with their willingness to look at this project. I failed to mention too that our Administrator was there as was Selectman Luszey and I. Steve Malizia indicated Representative Renzullo was there too. Selectman Coutu said they are willing to seriously consider building the corridor. The problem is that the bond that they put out when they bought all of that land is being held obviously by investors and they need to recoup the bond. They're want to go from obviously the south end corridor, they want to take it obviously over Lowell Road or through Lowell Road, however they want to do it whether they put an overpass or they put a four way. They want to go with four lanes as opposed to two. They're talking about going all the way to the new what would be created Exit 9, which was what the original plan called for off of Route 3. There is no Exit 9. It goes from 10 to 8.

Selectman Coutu stated we are discussing our need for our community. There's not necessarily to be able to get to Exit 9 but if they want to build it, that's great. We are concerned and our emphasis was on the south end corridor to Route 111. The argument that was made was that it opens a corridor from Route 3 to 93. It alleviates a lot of traffic on the back roads - Wason and all of those little back roads that people have found little shortcuts to get across town which adds additional cost to the taxpayers and the Town of Hudson because these roads deteriorate at a more rapid rate. The accident rate especially on Musquash and Wason is ever increasing. The major point is alleviating the traffic that are heading up Lowell Road to get up to 111 or the center of town. It would alleviate some of that traffic and ease the burden. It would give easy access for people on the south end who might work in Salem, Windham, and that. They clearly stated that they need to satisfy the bond. The only way they could satisfy the bondholders on the highway is that we would have to agree to a toll road. The tolls would be in place until such time as the roadway is construction. As I understand it, our delegation would support legislation to offer the Hudson citizens an opportunity to use the access way at no cost. I don't know how they would do that. It would be all automated tolls. There would be no toll takers so anyone who would use it would have to use a transponder. The amount of the toll would have to be discussed. There's been some e-mails that have been going back and forth. You alluded to it today in an e-mail. I watched it. I agreed with Lynne and I agree with what you stated today. He did a little survey - 5 people in his neighborhood and said if we had toll and we were going to have this access way from the off ramp of Route 3 over to 111, would you be willing to pay a toll to be able to access it. The speed limit would be anywhere from 55 to 65 mph. He got four people said yes and one person said they wouldn't pay a toll.

Selectman Coutu thought a lot of people may never use it. They still want to do whatever they're doing until they realize that at 65 or 70 mph, whatever the speed limit would be, it would cut their trip down considerably or they could

make it from one end to the other. I know Ted said he could make it in about 3 minutes and 2 seconds. Most people generally would be a 7 - 8 minute ride - 5 to 7 or 8. I'm old. It would probably take me 8 minutes. That's the crust of it. They suggested that, and I'm glad we're doing this this evening because in hindsight now like you said Selectman Luszey, time is of the essence. Any citizen of our community who feels strongly, and we've heard it during the campaigns of people who have run for office. I don't care who it is. Anyone who feels strongly about having this access way especially now knowing what it would consist of, it would definitely be a toll road. Please write to the Director of the Department of Transportation. Write to your legislatures. Call them. Call Senator Carson. Let them know that you support it. I'm sure that if they start getting phone calls or letters, they're going to start keeping tabs. We only have 2 weeks. So it's imperative that you write your letters immediately. I think that's the best avenue is to take the time to write a note, write a letter I'm a citizen of Hudson. I think this would be great for Hudson. It's on the table. I feel very confident that if they get the support - I think they're looking for support from the Board. I think that if in fact we take formal action this evening to show our support and endorse the concept that's been proposed and we send a letter to the Commissioner as a Board - and then I think they also said that maybe we should include our Planning Board because that would be intricate in the development process. We're not looking to have off ramps to be building large shopping plazas off it. We want just one way access from one end to the other and they agree to that straight corridor that's going to go through. I don't know if you want to add anything Ted or you Steve. You were both there. Please feel free to do so.

Selectman Luszey said the only thing I'd put clarity on is a toll. When we talked about the toll, DOT suggested that over time once the bond was paid off, it would go reduced costs to cover just the maintenance of the road. They would look into either an even more reduced cost for just Hudson residents or a zero cost. Those are details so far out that I think what's important that people understand is that we need to fund this road somehow. To me it's a user access fee, not much different than the franchise fees that cable users are paying. A toll is a great way to have the actual users pay for it and I think a lot of Hudson people especially in the south end would use it. It's not just the folks that work in Salem. It's the folks that live in Londonderry, Windham, Salem that work...Selectman Coutu said down the south, down in Boston, or the east coast. They'd use it coming it from that as an access way.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Luszey, that the Board of Selectmen send a letter to the Commissioner of the Department of Transportation endorsing the Route 3A, 111 bypass.

Selectman Luszey suggested that we also send a copy of that same letter to every member of the legislature, the Executive Council, and the Governor. Chairman Maddox was hoping that we also had it put on our website and on our cable so that the citizens have an address to send it to. It's actually the Department of Transportation. Selectman Coutu indicated I will make sure that I will get a hold of Mr. McIntosh this evening when we leave here and ask him to put it up. Again, Chairman Maddox thought that people are watching us saying here's our chance. If we can get a good number of communications into them, that's what drives the bus.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0.

Selectman Coutu thank the Board for your unanimous support. Thank you.

4. BUDGET PRESENTATIONS

Moderator (5041), page 12

Chairman Maddox recognized Paul Inderbitzen.

Thank you Mr. Chairman and members of the Board. Paul Inderbitzen said the fiscal 15 budget is tough going because we're just getting into 14 and we're already starting to talk about 15. It's really weird. There will be 3 elections. There will be a State Primary in September of 14 and a general election in November of 14 plus then the Town Election of March 10, 2015. It's less than the default budget. It's more than what I had requested in this current year's budget because this year there was only one election and one deliberative session. Because of the two year legislative cycle, every two years we have these primaries and general elections.

Paul Inderbitzen mentioned I am putting in there for two more voting booths I'm going to be ordering for this year that are in the budget. I'm going to put in two and this is our whole program of trying to replace some of the old ones and to bring us up to State standards for elections that we have to have so many per hundred votes.

Selectman Brucker asked about the ballot boxes. Are those all operational? I know last time there was a problem with one of them. Mr. Inderbitzen said yes. We had that fixed so it was a crack in one of the black ballot boxes where the electronics went into the back of the machine. That was fixed but we actually got a new one. There was enough money left in last year's budget that we purchased a fifth machine. We had four and we have five now that we're going to be using as our backup if we need it and in the bigger elections, we may put it into place just to have it and

we purchased that at a reasonable price from another town that was lowering the number that they had. That's been tested I believe and everything is up. So we have a backup now so if one goes down, we'd be able to bring one out and just continue as we went. That came with a box and everything so we should be in good shape.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector (5030), page 6

Chairman Maddox recognized Town Clerk/Tax Collector Patti Barry.

Thank you good evening. Patti Barry indicated once again the fiscal year 2015 budget for the Town Clerk/Tax Collector is level funded. I'm not requesting any additional funds and my operating budget is at zero percent increase. I have two wish list items that I'm not requesting additional money but I wanted to explain to you. I have to replace the countertops - the customer side countertops in our office. The wood grain is coming through the sealant. I am going to replace that this year with laminate countertops. Wayne is going to do that for me. Also we will need to eventually replace the carpet in our office but I believe Steve has that covered under the Town Hall - maintenance. Chairman Maddox indicated that you're going to pay for that out of surplus in your department. Is that the counter? Ms. Barry stated the counter I'm going to be using this current year budget. I have money in the lodging for the conferences. I'm not going to this year. I'm going to use that money.

Supervisors of the Checklist (5042), page 16

Chairman Maddox recognized Sandy Lavasseur.

Sandy Lavasseur stated that there's one thing that the Supervisors would really like to have and it's a computer for use at the polls - a laptop. I spoke to Lisa today and she said a good laptop with WiFi would cost around \$700. Then we also talked about our sharing it if we can have one. It would stay in the Town Hall. It wouldn't come home with us. It would be used at the polls.

Clarification. Selectman Coutu asked are you suggesting that you have a computer here and a laptop at the polls so that you can transfer the information to the computer. Mrs. Lavasseur so not to the computer here to Concord. Selectman Coutu indicated all you need is a laptop. You don't need a hard drive here at Town Hall. Mrs. Lavasseur stated we already have one or we did have one. It's disappeared since you moved all of our stuff around. I have no idea where that computer is at the moment. Selectman Coutu said you can get laptops Mr. Chairman right here in town. I don't think there's too many computer stores right here in town for about \$150 - \$200.

Selectman Luszey said I will work this with the IT Director. We have some ruggedized laptops I believe that are being swapped out. Steve Malizia thought you need to talk to the IT Director like I did today. I wasn't aware that there are any that are available to be swapped out. When they talked today, she had given a quote of \$850 with virus software to do the things that they need to do. The number I saw today was \$850 to be able to provide a laptop for them to bring to the elections and also to share possibly with the Town Clerk. Sandy Lavasseur said we definitely share it. It would stay here with IT and we would take it out when we went to the polls.

Selectman Luszey's only other point - do you need two computers? So if you just had a laptop, that would provide all that you need. Sandy said we have access to Election Net. That we can do changes. We can do a lot of things at the polls and look up histories also if we have to that we can't do without - there is a computer over there at the Community Center but it's in a very cold room and it's taking a person away from the table to go sit in there and work on that. It would just be easier for us. If you can find it in your hearts. Chairman Maddox said it's not in our hearts it's in our budget. Sandy mentioned it to you Mr. Maddox and you said absolutely. Chairman Maddox asked to let us take a look again. I would have been nice if it was in the budget that was on paper so we could take a look at it. Board members we'll put this as a "W" and we'll come back to this. Is that a fair statement?

Selectman Coutu thought it's imperative that she has one. We'll put a "W" on it. Sandy indicated that's all I have for you tonight. Thank you very much. Selectman Coutu said we don't need to spend \$850 for what she needs. That's outrageous.

Fire Department (5710 to 5770)

Chairman Maddox recognized Fire Chief Rob Buxton.

Good evening Mr. Chairman and members of the Board. I'd like to take a minute and thank you for the opportunity to present the FY15 budget. I would be remiss if I didn't take a moment and thank the members of the Hudson Fire Department and the administrative staff for their support in putting the budget together. The Fire Department submits a budget this year that does include an increase in the operational budget. The additional funds were put towards protective clothing, fleet, and facility maintenance programs. We also have submitted four additional items for the

Board's consideration - a part time clerk for Inspectional Services, HVAC upgrade for Central Fir Station, paramedic school tuition costs, and a radio transmission site to be located at the Hudson Police Station. From there, I would ask if you would like to go under the outside of the budget items or go through the budget section by section first.

Chairman Maddox indicated that this represents 22 percent of the tax budget. Where would you like to start? Ms. Carpentier indicated page 6 is his first item. Chairman Maddox asked if anyone had any questions in regards to the first couple of pages as far as revenue and all that.

Chief Buxton said we had submitted a fact section which we had reviewed during the workshop on October 1st. That is the same information that we have reviewed during that period in time - discussion revenue, projects that have been completed, staff allotments that were in the budget. This year under the FY15 budget, we were asking for consideration to look at a part time clerk for the Inspectional Services/Land Use Division. I had talked with the Town Engineer who obviously occupies the other section of Community Development and we had thought that maybe we'd be respectful to request some additional help in there. We continue to see an increase in permitting but don't feel that we've necessarily tipped the scales for a full time position as of yet. We're looking for an additional funding of \$16,149. This would constitute 4 hours a day, 5 days a week to cover that position.

Selectman Luszey said back in October when we undertook the Inspectional Services organization consolidation of fire and building/electrical and permitting, part of the analysis that was done showed that we would save one full time Administrative Aide by combining these. What changed that significantly requires us now to bring in a part time person? Chief Buxton said basically the work load has increased. This construction season we've seen an increase not only in inspections but in the number of permitting being processed in there. The Engineering, Planning, Zoning and Engineering section of the Land Use Division have seen steady increases. We feel that the work load that's being split between the three members of the staff in there now between the two Admin. Aides that are assigned to Land Use and the Permit Technician basically needs some assistance. We don't necessarily think that that constitutes a full time position yet but we definitely have seen increase in that activity. The period of the day that we're looking for coverage would be during the center section which would encompass the lunch time hours when we do see a peak in the construction traffic coming in and going out.

Selectman Luszey stated part of the discussions that we had back when we did this was that there are two administrative people in the administration building. If need be, part of their time would be reallocated to support this if need be. Are we doing that and has that been considered in lieu of the part time position? Chief Buxton indicated the two administrative staff folks that you represent are 1) the Executive Secretary works directly with the Fire Chief's office and we have one Admin. Aide for the entire organization that is assigned to the Fire Department. The Admin. Aide does support the Inspectional Services Bureau from her location in the administration building that happens today. She's still handling a percentage of the Fire Prevention work that was moved over to Town Hall in Inspectional Services. Specifically, she's handling the school Place of Assembly Permitting and the continuous fire prevention inspections that continue to happen and not the building construction traffic that was moved over to Town Hall which was inclusive of gas permitting, mechanical permitting, and those types of things. So that is taking place currently.

Selectman Coutu was going to continue pursuing that line of questioning. In your request for \$16,149 for the position and assuming that we were to grant that position - I know the person is going to be housed up there. Is that going to mean we're going to need to buy another desk? Chief Buxton said no. When we constructed the Inspectional Service and Land Use area, we had placed four administrative work stations out in the center of the floor. One station is currently set up as a scanning location and the spare work station for whoever maybe floating by or if they're setting to do the electronic scanning for electronic records retention. So that work station would be available to that part time clerk that would be brought in. From an infrastructure standpoint, we are prepared to put somebody in place.

Selectman Coutu asked how many administrative people do we have. How many clerical or administrative full time and part time do we have in that office? Assigned to Land Use, Chief Buxton said you have two Administrative Aides. That's split between Planning, Zoning, and Engineering. Assigned to the Inspectional Services area, you have one Permit Technician. In the Fire Department administration building, you have one Administrative Aide and the Executive Secretary.

Selectman Coutu understood the two Land Use Aides they work also for the Zoning Administrator and the Town Planner, correct? Chief Buxton agreed. Selectman Coutu said they man the desk for Inspectional Services. Chief Buxton said they provide backup when the workflow is needed at the counter. That work flow could be dependent on what the foot traffic is coming in the door. Eighty-five percent of the foot traffic that comes in the door to the Community Development area is for Inspectional Services and the Permit Technician. You end up with a period of time during the day where lunch is taken into account and they have other projects that they can't support the Inspectional Services are for Planning and Zoning packaging and other projects that they have for the Town Engineer. Their core, primary responsibility are to support Land Use. They in turn back up the Inspectional Services area on a daily basis.

Mr. Malizia when we were at our peak with traffic and potential development of Green Meadow Golf Course - we even had to hire another person to work in there, Selectman Coutu remembered it, it was some sort of an engineer and Green Meadow was footing the bill for that because there was so much paperwork coming in for them. Do you remember at that time - I know that we had some heavy traffic in at that time for other reasons within the community, what we had for Administrative Aides in the office at that time. Do you recollect that far back? Steve Malizia stated there were four. One was assigned to Engineering so pretty much resided down here at one point and there were 3 Administrative Aides - or the title of Administrative Aide - actually 2 Administrative Aides and 2 Secretaries. They were a lesser title. One of the secretaries sat at the counter full time and handled the initial inquiry when people came in. So there was a full time regular town employee at the counter. There was another full time Secretary supporting the functions of that office. So there were 3 people in the office. One at the counter and one at Engineering so that would make 5 of varying titles but they were all basically support, administrative aide type of people at the peak.

Selectman Coutu said I would expect that considering the amount of work as I spent a lot of time in the Engineering office down here when it was located here, the amount of work that Betty had at the time was very consuming for her and I would expect or suspect that considering all the projects that are going on right now and everything he's involved with as well as the Civil Engineer Gary. That's pretty much as consuming if not more consuming. Steve Malizia was not aware that there's less work in the Engineering Department. I know that our Engineer has been busy almost flat out busy.

Presently Selectman Coutu asked do we have any Administrative Aide positions that are unfilled. Steve Malizia indicated the one we talked about the other night. Selectman Coutu asked if it was full time or part time. Mr. Malizia stated it was full time. Selectman Coutu said it's in the budget and I think we committed that money to something else. Steve Malizia indicated you've discussed committing it to something else. Regardless, Selectman Coutu said we were talking about the money. We weren't talking about the position. Technically we could use that position as a slot for a part time on an interim basis. What I'm afraid of is that...

Selectman Luszey asked for a clarification question. The position we're talking about is the one that was in Community Development. Is that the position we're talking about? Chairman Maddox said we're talking about the one that we saw on Tuesday night that was \$57,000 with all the roll ups. Selectman Luszey asked was that position vacated by the Administrative Aide that went to the School District. Mr. Malizia indicated yes. When we did the combined Inspectional Services, Selectman Luszey indicated that was predicated on that position being eliminated because of consolidating services.

For further clarification, Selectman Coutu said it has been the practice of the Board of Selectmen historically that we have X number of positions in our budget. Rather than eliminate positions and then all of a sudden find a need to have to have a position rather than go back to the voters, we hold those in abeyance because if somebody can justify a need and the consensus is among this Board that we should reactivate that position, we refund it. It's hell to go through a warrant article to get an additional position. What I expected of the position is like you said, I expected that we were going to save a full position not eliminate it. We just don't fund it. It's funded because it was in the budget but we defunded it but we leave the slot there in case we ever need to ever have a need in the future. What I'm having a difficult time with Chief is along the same lines as Selectman Luszey. We're certainly not trying to bully you. You know better than that. It was my understanding and Selectman Luszey and I have had this discussion not prior to this budget meeting here tonight but we've had this discussion in the past that it was my perception as well as his, so apparently the two of us attended that meeting that we were going to save a full position as a result of the consolidation. That was the ultimate goal. Selectman Luszey had been telling us for quite some time and chastising us for not acting sooner rather than later on looking at the workload and whether or not we have too few or too many employees. That's at the time everybody was accusing him of witch hunting and he was saying that look if in the final analysis we find that the workload is too heavy, then we need to address the fact that we may need an additional position. I certainly walked away with the impression from the discussions and agreed to work with the then Chief on the consolidation and I know that you played a major role in it because 1) we thought in the final analysis it was determined that we would save a position. We were also told and some people have said that we may have misconstrued what was said but I don't think so. I heard very clearly and very loudly as did Selectman Luszey that we would use staff from within your office to fill in at lunch time. That's how the lunches would be covered.

Chief Buxton told the Board that the work flow for the four hours a day that we're requesting is as of such that I believe we need to revisit the position. So we took less than 10 percent of the Administrative Aide's work flow away from her at the Fire Department for construction permitting and moved that over to Inspectional Services. At the end of the day today, we're feeling a pinch to be able to maintain our efficiency and continue to service the public efficiently. When we talk about - I'm not just talking about coverage for lunch hour, I'm talking about the work flow that is being - permitting coming in and permitting going out, and services the public. I'm not talking about somebody to sit there and cover the counter so somebody can go to lunch just to fill that space. There is work that is associated with that

hour or more. I'm telling you we're seeing an overflow. We're seeing an overflow and then I'm requesting the Board to revisit that stance for that fund.

Selectman Coutu asked did you not just state that you took 10 percent of the work - Chief Buxton said less than 10 percent of the work. Selectman Coutu continued saying less than 10 percent of the work away from what was being done in your administrative office and shifted it over here. Could that work stay there in the administrative office? Chief Buxton said not to meet the goals of the merger of the Inspectional Services Division. The number one goal was for one stop shopping for all construction permits. So that workload has been shifted over to Inspectional Services. Selectman Coutu indicated that you're saying people were going up to the Administrative Office to pick up permits and then went up which permits. Chief Buxton said gas and mechanical permitting. That was really the original issue that started us down the path two plus years ago regarding how permitting was being handled within the Fire Department and Community Development Department. Less than 10 percent of her work flow was that permitting and we shifted that over. That's not the only work that's pushing this over the top. Our construction permits continue to go up. We're feeling the need to have some more balance there.

Chairman Maddox indicated you haven't raised your income numbers. You're telling us you're going to have this bigger increase yet you're carrying numbers that are similar to the last year. Chief Buxton said when I came before you, and I don't have the number with me tonight and I apologize, when I came before you and we discussed the part time inspector that was brought on, when we reclassified that position, we showed you in the first 6 weeks of having Inspectional Services that we were seeing an increase. I apologize if we're not referencing that here tonight. Chairman Maddox noted that building permits are the same as was budgeted in 14; places of assembly, oil and kerosene, they're all the same. Again if you're telling me we're going to have more business, I would be thinking that revenue would reflect there. We need to probably take a look at that.

Selectman Brucker wanted to say that the Engineer when he reported the other night said that our Administrative help is 60 percent of what it was back when I guess you're talking about. So now we're down to 60 percent. Those individuals in that office are doing the permitting and backing up the permitting. They're not to my knowledge, they haven't been trained as Permit Technicians so they're having to learn this other job. That's two individuals. I just think that maybe we're at the point where we do need a part time person in there to help out especially since the noon time is the busiest time of the day for the contractors and also the time when everybody is trying to get a lunch in. It would be good to have somebody in there to absorb the extra work. I don't know that when these individuals took the jobs they did for Land Use that they thought they were going to be doing permitting. All of a sudden that's what they're doing and they're not part of Inspectional Services.

Selectman Luszey had a couple of questions and comments. I look at the 6 items that would make up the majority of the tasks but not limited to these 6 - scheduling, issuing building and other applicable permits. When are we going to move those to allow people to fill those out on line and have them fulfilled automatically without having to have human intervention? Chief Buxton said all of the construction permits are allowed to be fillable off line today. If you go to the Inspectional Services area on the web, you can fill that form out today electronically. The next piece to that phase in less than 90 days is to create an account for those permits to be able to be submitted to. That's the next piece to work with IT on. Then we continue to move forward on electrical payment and those types of things. So we're phasing in the plan and I understand the view in regards to the work flow and the manual piece of that. I will tell you that with the fillable forms, I hear the Permit Technician every day when I'm over there pushing contractors towards the terminal to fill the permits out. Sometimes that field is not as quick to pick up on electronic formatting as we would like. I did want to make one comment if I could for just a second. We have taken other steps to alleviate some of this work flow. All of the inspectors are being trained in the ability to assist at the counter from receiving a permit, to cashing out a permit, to doing all of those things. The Permit Technician has rotated her lunch hour to the latest hour in the day so we're trying to decrease the exposure of the Land Use folks at that counter dealing with permitting. The traffic is of such right now that we feel that's there. I'm not ready to click over and say that we need to come in for a full time position. I think we need to crawl before we walk and that's why you see this in front of you for a part time position.

Selectman Coutu indicated a "W". Selectman Luszey said we need to come back. It's a "W". I have a request though. When we come back to this, I would like to see the detailed tasks and time break down of everyone in this group now. Part of bringing them together we spent a ton of money creating what was supposed to be an optimal work station work environment that would give us a productivity enhancement of these employees and it sounds like we went backwards in doing so. Let's take one hard look at it.

Selectman Coutu wanted to ask one question just to see if we can alleviate some of this problem. We have presently 1 Inspector and 1 part time Inspector - no 2 Inspectors and a part time Inspector. Chief Buxton said no. We have 3 Inspectors and one part time Inspector. Selectman Coutu suspected just on the basis he lit up a bulb in my head listening to what he said. I would find it very difficult to believe that these 3 ½ Inspectors are out in the field all day long. I would find that very difficult to believe and I would think that 1 or 1 ½ of them could be in house assisting when

it's necessary. Chief Buxton said I would state this. Similar to what Selectman Brucker had mentioned about core workload, when they're in the office they're not only handling consultations, they're doing plant review and moving forward with other tasks. So yes they are there to give an assistance but there is still a flow that we're seeing that is of such that we're being overrun to a certain point. I'm not telling you the numbers are way out of whack but I'm telling you that there was an increase in the workload there that needs to be examined. We did create in a modern view of Inspectional Services. One that is new for this area. We did achieve better customer service as our core goal was to do that and one stop shopping for the customer. That is taking place today. As the program continues to move forward, we'll see where that takes us as far as efficiency goes.

Selectman Coutu said I'd be interested in seeing Selectman Luszey's request fulfilled.

Selectman Luszey wanted to make a point of clarification. The goal was improved customer service, one stop shopping, and improved efficiencies. Efficiency was a priority and if we didn't achieve it, then we need to look at why we didn't achieve it.

Chairman Maddox said that in my other job, I am having to go to towns to pull permits. Most of them you are going to multiple locations to get what you need done. So I think we're heading in the right direction. Maybe we need to look at this more as rather than a part time person giving them monies in an account for professional services so that during the summer months, during certain times, he could bring in a temp. and maybe that's the compromise to having somebody 52 weeks a year. You could have monies available to pull that out. Let's look at your numbers and if you can look at your revenue numbers to see if that's reflective of increases.

Since we're talking about efficiency, Selectman Brucker thought a lot of efficiency has to do with focus and if you have one person who's in there part time fully focused on doing that, they're going to be more efficient than somebody who gets pulled away from whatever they're doing at their desk to jump up to do permitting. That's not their regular job. I just think it's more efficient to have somebody who that's their main job.

Chairman Maddox said I'd like to ask a question of you then. You're saying that you would rather have two people that weren't busy because that was their cycle not to be busy to sit there while the Permit Tech. was fought out and there was 3 people waiting. Selectman Brucker said no. I know those people are busy all the time. I don't think they're sitting there twiddling their thumbs. Chairman Maddox was just saying that they have some open time. The Planning Board didn't meet this week because of the Law Lecture Series. There was no meeting. There was no packet. There was no nothing. Could that person have helped out? That's all I'm asking. I think we need to look at what uses do we have in that office. We're getting in the weeds. Can we move on because we haven't got past..

Selectman Coutu told Selectman Brucker I understood what you said and I agree with you. Focus is a fact in providing for more efficient work. I agree with you. She was on a good point.

During the workshop on the first of October, Chief Buxton said we had expressed to you that there was a concern regarding the HVAC system at Central Fire. The quote that was received cost would be \$59,400 to replace the HVAC system at Central Fire. That would be encompass of three larger units compared to the 6 residential grade furnaces you have on the second floor, and the one residential grade furnace you have on the first floor. So the cost of that is \$59,400. All of the systems have reached the end of their life span and we're looking to see where the Board wishes to go before we continue to put money into the current system to try to band-aid it to get through another cooling season.

Through another cooling system - in other words, Selectman Coutu said because you know that this budget doesn't go into effect until 2015. Chief Buxton said we're ready to go through the heating system or I'd be here asking for something other than that. Selectman Coutu indicated to the Chairman that you and I have had this discussion long ago about what should our approach be with Central Fire Station and how should we approach it. This was an issue that came up and I think this is definitely something we need to look at. So we can put it off or we can decide now but like everything else, I think it has to go on the wish list but I think this should be given some priority.

Selectman Brucker was wondering what kind of measures have been taken to upgrade or have any measures been taken to be sure that the building is pretty leak proof. Chief Buxton said we're dealing with a structure that was built in 1952. The insulation value in the attic is sealed. So we're doing the best we can with our windows. The replacement windows were done in the late 80s early 90s with vinyl replacements to handle that at that point in time. Chief Mason replaced the window air conditioning units that were on the second floor with central air conditioning when they did an upgrade in the early 90s. So now we need to consider the next step for that area.

Selectman Nadeau answered Selectman Brucker by saying yes. The Green Team did two years ago I believe go over there and test the air flow and all that stuff. They did at the time make some improvements with door sweeps and different things to increase their emergency savings over there. This is one of those things that if we had a

capital reserve fund, we could take the money out of. This is one of the things that we need to really look forward to at the end of this - before we send this off to the Budget Committee to create some capital reserve funds. It's going to be a little up front but it's going to help us in the long run I think. One of the things that I'm thinking of is this is something that's pretty crucial and important. I'm thinking about taking a look at this in July to see if it's something that we can do before the system breaks down and is totally unusable. I'd like to put a "W" next to this or even just remove it and try to fund it this year in June.

Chief Buxton told Selectman Nadeau that currently out of the default budget that I do not believe that we would be able to fund a \$59,000 HVAC upgrade out of the Fire Department budget. That would be my concern. Selectman Nadeau said overall town budget. Chairman Maddox indicated we're going to put a "W" on it for now because we're going to come back.

Paramedic school. Chief Buxton indicated this request is similar to the request that you saw for FY14 that unfortunately was not funded because of the default budget. This was an outside the budget item for 14 that you had voted unanimously to include in the Fire Department budget but then when we were dealt the default budget in March, it's not funded in this year's budget. So we're once again asking for \$9,500 worth of tuition money to send one of our current firefighter EMTIs to paramedic school. It's an 18 month commitment. The tuition will be paid out of the next fiscal year 15 and then for the next 18 months they would be doing their normal firefighting work and inclusive of attending paramedic school. It would be core employee development and go from there.

Selectman Luszey said I need help with some memory cells. Is this the enhanced job description? Chief Buxton said no. This is the next level up. Selectman Luszey said should we do this, is the employer required to maintain employment with Hudson for a certain amount of time? Chief Buxton said I did not include that in here but there has been an agreement that was signed with the employees that they would have to work for so long with the organization. I didn't bring that with me tonight but that was done by Chief Carpentino when they first brought this program in.

Selectman Nadeau asked if we had someone that's interested. Chief Buxton said yes. I have more than one individual interested. It will be competitive getting in.

Chairman Maddox thought this is one we should fund now. I think that we can find \$9,500 somewhere. We're losing paramedics. If we got somebody who wants to go school, we have contingency. We have monies. I think that this is one of those things where if we can't get them through the hiring process, if somebody wants to go to the school and do this why do we want to wait.

Selectman Coutu asked when you say fund it right now, you're saying let's not wait to the budget let's take it out of this year's money? We hadn't even approved the air conditioner. We were looking for money for that and you want to go..Chairman Maddox indicated that if you're aiming the gun, you don't care if they're coming from a hot building or a cold building. Selectman Coutu asked if we had somebody ready to go. It's going to depend on when the school is available. Chief Buxton said we had done a survey of employees and I believe that Lt. Rudolph had gathered 3 applications. So we have 3 people within the organization that would love to pursue this opportunity. Structurally, Selectman Coutu asked when does the class begin. Chief Buxton said in the spring time. Selectman Coutu indicated before we can fund this right away you ought to look over to the Finance Director and the Town Administrator. We're committing a lot of money this year. Steve Malizia indicated we're in a default budget as it is. You're only a quarter of the way through the year. Selectman Coutu agreed with the Chairman that if there are people - obviously they're going to have to go through the 3 applicants and pick the one that they think is best. I think it enhances and adds great value to our fire personnel. As you well know, you've ridden fire trucks, ambulances, and probably the tow truck many times. So you're well aware of what's going on. I've been a passenger in the ambulance a few times not that that was on my wish list but I think that if we can, we should probably fund it before the spring before the next class begins. We would ask that the Town Administrator and the Finance Director make that a priority item and remind us. We should do this as a motion so that it's on record but we have to be careful how we word it. It's going to have a proviso if funds are available.

Chairman Maddox said if we can back it up from when the school starts and come back in and say do we have the monies, we have a candidate, let's move forward.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Brucker, that we approve the expenditure of \$9,500 for participation in the paramedic school for EMT-P classes from the 2014 funds available.

Selectman Luszey advised that it should be "if funds are available" because you say from the funds which means we have funds. We'll make them available.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Brucker, that we approve the expenditure of \$9,500 for participation in the paramedic school for EMT-P classes from the 2014 funds if available.

Selectman Luszey asked when will we know that because if we know that prior to this, this comes out of the request. True? Chief Buxton said we have 3 applications in house today and I'm requesting one here - one tuition for next year. So if you wanted to fund one out of this year. Selectman Luszey noted the discussion request would be this and one this year. Okay. Selectman Coutu indicated that was a reasonable request. Chairman Maddox indicated we've lost 2 already. Even still, Selectman Coutu said we don't pay that much and they're going to take this training, work for a while, and off they go because we don't pay our firefighters. Chairman Maddox said that's another discussion. Selectman Coutu indicated the discrepancy is \$10,000 in pay crossing the bridge. I think that's a good point. I think we ought to keep this one on a "W" so we can enter into conversation about 2015 budget on an additional one next year. God knows we need them.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0

Transmission site. During the workshop and through several conversations regarding combined dispatch, Chief Buxton indicated there was some conversation in regards to infrastructure for the radio system to be able to be controlled and utilized from the police station. I have submitted a request to install a transmission site of the Hudson Fire Department's system at the Police Department. I believe that the Police Chief will be bringing in a request for a new tower at that location which this Board needs to make some sort of decision if that's going to be a project that's going to go or not. This is one of those pieces of equipment if you were going to relocate all employees to Constitution Drive that we feel needs to be in place from an infrastructure standpoint. I also believe there was some conversation on Tuesday evening in regards to the age of the dispatching consoles and if we were putting equipment in the field that was going to be outdated before it was even controlled up there. I talked to our vendor as late as today. The Golden Elite Console which both the fire and police departments use currently stopped being manufactured in 2010. The requirement by Motorola is that they maintain a 5 to 8 year support system to support the infrastructure of the consoles and the consoles only. The radio equipment that we are installing in the field, some of our Quantars, which is an intricate part of the transmission site are 12 years old today and are controllable by updated equipment on the dispatch consoles. I'm not putting in equipment that's going to be outdated 2 years from now. I'm putting in equipment that is going to be supported by new consoles down the road. I asked that specific question today to our vendor. I said one of my concerns is if I build a transmission site for \$40,000 and then the community invests several hundred thousand dollars in consoles, what's the ability to control all of my transmission sites. This is going to give us our fourth transmission site on the Fire Department system alone and our fifth receiver site on that same system. We're going to be able to continue to control those things.

Selectman Coutu asked what does \$40,000 buy us. Chief Buxton said it buys us a repeater setup at the Police Department. It buys all the antennae. It buys all the FCC licensing and buys an ability to control if the telephone lines go down to the system at Central. In other words if we were to lose the connection point to the fiber optic connection point between Central Station and Police Department, we would be able to talk through the radio system to our sites through radio wave. Selectman Coutu asked how many towers do we need. Chief Buxton guessed currently on the Fire Department system alone, we have a tower located at 15 Library Street on top of Central Station...Selectman Coutu said no how many are you including in this \$40,000? Chief Buxton said I'm not including any towers. The Police Department is responsible for the tower piece. It's their facility. I'm looking to put a transmission site on that tower if that's constructed. Selectman Coutu indicated just the transmission equipment is \$40,000. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Selectman Luszey asked the fiber loop if that was finished would you still have the failure with the telephone communications. Chief Buxton indicated we had this discussion back when we were discussing microwave technology. We had talked about...Selectman Coutu said a year ago April. A year ago April when we were discussing microwaves, Chief Buxton said we had the conversation about requesting the telephone company to reroute all of our T1 lines that control our radio sites. Another route opposite of the fiber optic route. I don't necessarily see that as an option. All of our telephone lines continue to go right down 111 and follow the fiber optic line. So when we talk about backup and redundancy, that's if you're running a landline system, you're running a landline system whether it's fiber optic which we would own and there's no additional costs because it's done in the install. That's where Selectman Luszey said he was confused. We own the fiber optic today. The loop is partially built and if we finished a build out from Constitution back to Alvirne High School, we'll have a continuous loop which will give you the redundancy so how does that play into this? Chief Buxton hadn't given the consideration because I didn't think the loop would be completed from Constitution Drive to Robinson Road and then from Robinson Road back out to 102 to Alvirne High School. That wasn't part of the fiber optic plan that I saw.

Selectman Luszey indicated we've seen a number of proposals. Everything from \$382,000 to replace all of the communication equipment with microwave, to a half a million dollars to upgrade what we have, and add some new

equipment. I still don't think based on the conversation we're having right now that we have fully understood or architected out what needs to be in place and what we need to spend in order to fix both fire and police communication. We're doing it ad hoc. A little bit here. A little bit there with no end vision plan in place. I think before I will support any more spending on that, we need to do that and I think once we know that, we can go after grant money that seems to be there every year that buys portable radios that we've replaced I don't know how many times.

Chairman Maddox thought the decision that the Board made to not further the combined dispatch certainly changes the parameters. Selectman Luszey said I'd make a motion we go back. Selectman Nadeau indicated I'd second that. Chairman Maddox thought you can't develop a plan if you don't know what our desire is to get to. I think the combined dispatch is important. I think that we need to look at that but if you're not going to do that, then that probably changes some of the costs and the requirements of what you're going to need.

Motion by Selectman Luszey, seconded by Selectman Nadeau, that we put combined dispatch back on the table during this budget review process and get that work and analysis done and make a decision on which way we're going to go instead of continuing to put \$40,000, \$50,000, \$100,000, \$250,000 into stuff that in the long run is costing us a premium.

Selectman Coutu told Selectman Nadeau I am absolutely shocked from the person who said that I will never, ever discuss combined dispatch again. Selectman Nadeau indicated we're getting real close here. Selectman Coutu indicated I will be supporting the motion because Selectman Nadeau has a different vibe than we do that were getting close. There's a lot of discussion that needs to be done.

Chairman Maddox reminded the Board that this is Hudson. There's no need for cemeteries because everything comes back to haunt us and nothing ever dies. I want to know if we're going to be able to do it in this budget season.

Selectman Brucker was trying to remember back to the combined dispatch. Wasn't the final number like \$400,000? Selectman Coutu said yes. It was Chief Buxton's understanding that this year we were going to start to put together some infrastructure items to bring forward. We had been working with the grant funding and I reviewed this on October 1st, we received almost \$300,000 worth of grant funds to begin to build a system and continually chip away at that number and we've been successful. This is another step of that process. Selectman Brucker said this would be part of that work. Selectman Coutu thought it was a "W". It will come back with the discussion to combine dispatch. If it's part of the structure and we want to go forward, then we can consider doing this and put it into some sort of a diagram or approach and see whether we want to fund it this year, next year, the whole thing all at once? We'll discuss it.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0.

Page 11, Administration - 5710.

Chairman Maddox thought this was going to earn a "W" because there is some movement in this.

Chief Buxton said 5710 the administration line is the section of the budget that covers the salary and benefits and associated operational costs for the Fire Department administration. Under this year's submission, you'll see a -4 percent from FY14. This is due to the reduction in postage, printing, and medical exams. You'll also note in 304 that there is an increase in gasoline and the number of gallons in gasoline and that is respectful to the merger with Inspectional Services where we brought in \$3,500 from Community Development in gasoline over to the Fire Department budget. It was moved specifically into 5710, 304 based on the fact that we only have one key on the control box outside to differentiate between fire, police, and so forth. If we're paying the bill, we need to account for it somewhere. We had worked with the Finance Director and that's where the money ended up being put in. Past year expenditures lead to increases in towing and notice of ads. You certainly know that we have been in an upside regarding advertisement for open positions and trying to recruit and retain folks within here. Our goal in the administrative line over this year was to evaluate where the budget was and realign our costings throughout.

Selectman Luszey wasn't sure – it's under the training line 273. Why is it that we pay for the testing if a person wants to be promoted? Chief Buxton said we have a promotional policy in house that lays out the competitive process for the candidates to compete or promotion. We actually utilize the State of New Hampshire Fire Standards and Training to come in and do that testing process for us so it doesn't become a grievable item down the road instead of doing it in house.

Chairman Maddox asked if this was an item that we're going to come back with a "W" at some point. Selectman Nadeau said yes.

5715, page 17 – Facilities.

Chief Buxton indicated building maintenance for this year once again holds consistent with the 2007 recommendations from the facility study that we did. You'll see that we keep \$31,000 in the overall building maintenance line. This year we are anticipating a roof at Station 4, shoreline project at Central Station. We're starting to burn out all of our shorelines which supports our apparatus for trickle charging on the batteries, doors and envelope. When I say envelope, I mean exterior building issues – windows, doors, and seals and continue that project throughout. If you remember correctly, we have done a pointing and ceiling project at Robinson Road. We've done new generators. We've increased our preventative maintenance which we are starting to see some return on. We're getting the life span out of our equipment.

Selectman Coutu asked Chief which buildings need additional work on the exterior. Chief Buxton indicated we currently this year are working on the doors at Central Station, specifically on the personal entry doors that lead into the apparatus floor. Several of them have started rotting out and we need to examine them and then we will continue that examination throughout. Another piece of Central Station maintenance that will be done this year is the entry door on Library Street – the main entry door. We're in the process of pricing that out and getting that work completed.

Selectman Luszey had a question on 204 given that we just put a new generator in, what are we getting for the \$2,400 on the station generator maintenance. Chief Buxton stated that's not just Central Station. That's all of our facilities. So that's maintenance for them to come in and service the generators. I believe it's four times a year – changing of the oils after any big storm. They also will come in and do review low testing and those types of things. It's preventative maintenance.

5720 – Communication, page 21.

Chief Buxton said the communication's budget obviously is utilized to support the current Fire Department dispatch center. This is inclusive of the infrastructure that we had discussed earlier. We are submitting a one percent increase in this line. Both of these increases are due to some telephone line issues and then some contractual obligations under uniforms. Any employee that's with the Town for longer than a year is entitled to a dress uniform by contract and that will come up for at least two employees within that division next year. Our telephone line cost in there is specific to charges to support the transmission sites.

Selectman Coutu asked about the uniforms. By contract, Chief Buxton said we're required to not only provide them uniforms per year under the uniform allowance but after they've been employed with us for over a year, we will purchase a dress uniform for the employee – a Class A uniform.

Selectman Luszey questioned 208 – radio lines for interoperability. What is the interoperability? Chief Buxton stated those are the T1 lines that support our system and control back to the voting system at Central Station. The interoperability is so we can continually maintain the operation of the site. We have started to move through some of our grant funding onto the fiber optic loop. As that project continues to move forward, we see a reduction at some point.

Selectman Luszey said we don't use our fiber for that communication we still lease lines from the phone company. Chief Buxton said that would be correct. Selectman Luszey asked why. Chief Buxton said the work hasn't been completed. Chairman Maddox indicated that's an IT question I believe. Selectman Luszey said no. Every fire station right now today with the exception of Robinson has fiber going to it. Chief Buxton noted that was incorrect. Selectman Luszey said Burns Hill has copper that's connected to fiber. Chief Buxton said we still rent a line from Burns Hill Station down to Lowell Road. I believe that's where the connection point is. We still have a costing there. Selectman Luszey didn't think it should be this amount. Chief Buxton said that's what we're paying per year. Selectman Luszey asked if that was just for the Burns Hill connection. Chief Buxton said it was for all the T1 communication lines. It's not a normal specked telephone line. It is a specific line for the radio system. They need to meet certain criteria and clarity and all those types of things. That's why the line is that high. Selectman Coutu asked if it was Fairpoint. Chief Buxton agreed. Selectman Coutu said that's why we got rid of them. The rates just kept going up. If we own our own fiber which is clearer than the copper, Selectman Luszey said...Selectman Coutu agreed but the loop is not complete as he said. I was aware of that. Selectman Luszey said he can run fiber from the end of Lowell Road up to Burns Hill and put that station on it. They do it for alarm systems today. That's what we got the alarm bucket truck for. Chief Buxton believed when we looked at the costing of that, there was no money to achieve that extension because the fire alarm system actually comes up Wason Road and does not go up Burns Hill Road. So all of the fiber optic systems in town is lashed to a municipal fire alarm wire and the municipal fire alarm loop runs down to Wason Road and comes into Burns Hill Station on the back side and not straight up over Burns Hill

because at the point and time the infrastructure was built. There was no reason to go down Burns Hill Road.

Selectman Luszey asked to put a "W" on 208 and I'll take to the IT Director. It's ludicrous.

5730 – Suppression.

Chief Buxton stated the suppression area of the budget is the largest cost center for the Fire Department. This area covers all salaries – full time and part time, fleet maintenance, equipment and training. This year we come in at a zero percent increase overall. Most of the lines have been held at a zero. We have seen increases in our protective clothing and 319, large equipment maintenance in 204, we've also increased. We've moved the pennies around to increase 237 to outside hire – bring outside hiring back with some instructional support for our command staff and then we obviously see an increase in 252 which is diesel. Our gallon has not increased but we saw a \$.10 increase in per unit cost.

Selectman Coutu said we have an audience. Some are live, some are asleep. We may have killed off a few who knows. This will be retelevised. The Chief just stated on at least three occasions you will see an increase, you will see an increase, you will see an increase. Fire suppression is the heart and soul of the fire department. It's where the bulk of the salary comes out of. The bottom line was not an increase. It's a decrease of \$2,000. So I don't want people to think that you said increase, increase. You're making us aware that the cost centers within that particular budget that are going to increase but you have offset it in other areas. I have just one question relative to the item on 319. 319 is the biggest increase. It's a \$15,000 increase even though the overall suppression budget is down. Are these the uniforms that we're often times we've applied for grants and we were...if you give me one second, Chief Buxton said specifically if you go down the line, you'll see that I've budgeted for 10 sets of protective clothing – turnout coat pants at a cost of \$19,000. We're putting aside \$1,900 per set and looking to budget for 10 sets of replacement protective clothing. That is for the protective gear per say that the firefighters wear when they perform their function on hazardous duty. That clothing has a 10 year shelf life. In 2008, we were fortunate enough to receive a \$76,000 grant. We were able to replace the entire stock at once. That grant has gone. There are no other grants that I've seen come out in regards to that line. Actually part of the grant process was to put into place a replacement plan for down the road. This is the first year; we're about 5 years into that life span. We're saying that we should take it in small bites and we should start to buy 10 sets per year. We're a 59 person organization. If you average that out, that puts us on a 5 year rotation to replace everybody.

Selectman Coutu said you're suggesting that even though they have a 10 year life we can those 5 every year until we have them completely turned over? Chief Buxton said no. What I am saying though is at the 5 year mark we need to look at moving them back to their backup set of protective clothing. What we are seeing in the primary set is the outer shell although is protective from thermal, we're starting to see wear from the usage every day. Whether that's tears in the protective clothing, wearing through the sleeves, the elbows, kneepads, whatever it may be, we're starting to see wear in that protective clothing because of the usage. Based on what your Captains recommend to you, Selectman Coutu said you will replace those that are worse. Let's make it very clear. I'm sure this Board wants to make sure that our people out there are doing their job everyday trying to save the lives and homes of the public. We want to make sure they have the adequate safety measures in place. If that includes better uniforms, then okay. I'm good with it. I was just wondering if this was something. I remember that we had voted 5 years ago to get that grant. There's nothing out there right now. Chief Buxton hasn't seen anything come out. Selectman Coutu knows you'd be in there asking if there were. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Selectman Luszey indicated you said move these to backup. Do they have backup uniforms today? Chief said correct. As they move into that 10th year, they are removed from service.

Chairman Maddox thought we had a capital reserve fund for this. Chief said you have a capital reserve fund for equipment. I will tell you that we are unsuccessful getting the SCBA trailer I came in with last year. We are staring an upgrade to the NFPA Standard in the face for respiratory protection. I believe that we will need those funds to purchase upgrading of our respiratory protection program. So as those continue to age through, I think we're about 12 years into that purchase. So we're getting to the point where the bottles have a 15 year life span. We're getting to the end of that life and we're going to need those pennies to replace that equipment. Those are approximately \$4,500 to \$5,000 a piece with a bottle included. It's an expensive business. I think you did a couple of pieces to that puzzle. It was a three year phased in piece. Chairman Maddox thought we got a grant for some of that also.

5740 - Fire Prevention.

Chief Buxton stated you'll note the fire prevention line has seen a reduction this year. Organization – we've reviewed the two budgets for Inspectional Services and Fire Prevention and we have actually grouped all of our subscriptions into one budget. Previously you had the Community Development Department with an NFPA membership and then

the Fire Department with an NFPA membership. We've co-mingled that now underneath one membership and we have a town membership per say to streamline not only NFPA but the ICC and our Codes and Standards Committees that we are members to.

(Chief) The Inspectional Services portion of the budget is 5745. We maintained those monies outside of 5740 specifically so we can get some history. We're 3 months into the budget year this year and we don't necessarily have a history on Inspectional Services yet. So those were monies that were extrapolated through conversation with myself and the Town Administrator in placing to the Fire Department budget.

5750 – Ambulance.

Chief Buxton noted this year's budget covers the cost of the EMS program for disposal equipment, ambulances, and those types of things. Currently you see we come in one percent less than last year. You will note that you see a reduction in the number of hours that were budgeted for the EMS Coordinator. That was just because we had some additional monies in the FY14 budget for training. This year those needs are not necessarily there.
Fire Alarm, page 44.

Chief Buxton said this year submission you'll see your first affects of the removal of the utility truck from the fleet. The monies for the maintenance that were moved over to Highway budget have been removed based on the fact that we're now utilizing a joint vehicle with the Highway Department and Kevin Burns is responsible for the maintenance of that piece of equipment. So that budget has come down.

5770 – Emergency Management, page 46.

Chief Buxton indicated that the emergency management line this year I believe you'll note that there's an increase and that is specific to accounting for the data packages on the emergency management phones and those types of things and the cost centers are under the cellular piece. We have reduced other areas to try to make some of those funds up. You just voted on a reviewed plan that Chief Murray had presented I believe at the last meeting that he was officially Fire Chief. He came in and asked you to look at the emergency management plan so we don't anticipate a full review again that we're posting and sending things out. We do more of an informal internal review this year.

Chairman Maddox noted that you have 12 phones for emergency management. Chief Buxton believed that takes into account phones, that takes into account hot spots, and those types of things. So yes. That's the total package cost. Chairman Maddox said the Chairman supposedly gets a phone and I didn't take it because it makes no sense. From a budgeting standpoint, Chief Buxton said that number was carried. We're on a shared plan on the cellular side of the house. So we contract for a certain amount of minutes and that is shared amongst those 12 devices. As numbers come in and go out, you move those things around. Yu didn't take the phone this year which is out of 14's budget. Depending on whose Chairman next year whether they want the phone back, that is available under the emergency management line. Chairman Maddox said it's a 67 percent increase. That's huge. Chief Buxton said you have to remember that we were making up those numbers somewhere else in the budget over the last couple of years. The Smart Phones came in and the technology came in. Previous to that, it was a flip phone cellular package only. As those phones were deleted either because they couldn't be replaced or we wanted additional communication technology, we moved forward in that direction.

Selectman Luszey said for this particular, why isn't a flip phone, straight cell phone adequate? What do you need a Smart Phone for? Chief Buxton said I'm going to be honest with you. The bulk of the phones are your administrators also. So you have the Fire Chief, the Deputy Fire Chief, the Town Administrator. We have a flip phone in the Captains hands on the apparatus, a flip phone on Engine 4 for the Lieutenants, dispatch has a flip phone, and then you run into a couple of data packages for hot spots. So those things are available. We do scale down the phones depending on where they are and what's available.

Selectman Luszey asked why do you need a hot spot capability. Why isn't the radios on the trucks and on your side sufficient? Chief Buxton informed Selectman Luszey that when we go to – and I'm going to utilize a hazardous material incident, the bulk of the time we're using either the laptop technology or tablet technology that needs to get internet access to get into the federal database on hazardous materials. That's specific to those types of things. So it's field delivery type events that we utilize that piece of technology for. It's either pay for an air card or a data package...Selectman Luszey asked a question. Isn't that on the apparatus that laptop like the ambulance and is that part of this? Chief Buxton said no it is not. We are just beginning to phase in tablet technology on the ambulances this year. We have deployed two Toughbooks. One was for the Deputy Fire Chief and one was for the Fire Chief under the old system. We have started to deploy tablet technology in the field for EMS. That is accounted in the EMS budget and we've absorbed those costs there. We do not have field mounted mobile data terminals like you're probably familiar with the Police Department. We don't have that technology in place today. That is a growth thing

that we are attempting to achieve.

Selectman Brucker asked how are you communicating with the hospitals – blood pressure and all those. Chief Buxton said through the radio. We have a cellular phone package that is supportive of the life pack. You all have seen the Stemi reports come out. That is done through basically a cell phone modem that is attached to the defibrillator and transmitted to the hospital that way. Selectman Nadeau asked Selectman Luszey if it was too much technology for him. Selectman Luszey said no. It's not too much technology. It's again another instance of where we do not have an overall architecture for our communication in this town.

Chairman Maddox had a question on the diesel. You've gone up. Chief Buxton said we did not increase the number of gallons that we are budgeting for. We saw a \$.10 per unit increase this year. You have to remember the number that you're seeing from 14 is a default number. So in theory is a 2 year old figure. We went up to 340. Kathy Carpentier stated all department heads collaborated and they put \$3.20 in for gas and \$3.40 in for diesel. Selectman Luszey asked do we still have the fuel contingency account. Chairman Maddox said that got killed with the default. Kathy Carpentier indicated later on this evening you will be going through it. It is in there for you to discuss this evening whether you want it in there or not. Selectman Luszey said it is there. Chairman Maddox was looking to see if we thought we might save some with the squad truck. Chief Buxton indicated it was unknown at this point. I would assume that we'll see a little reduction but I'm not necessarily willing to gamble on the number of units that we're utilizing without some data to back it up.

Speaking of the squad truck, Selectman Nadeau asked when is it coming. Chief Buxton said we opened the bids a week ago. The bids are in review. We had two bidders. One was KME Fire Apparatus and the other was Pierce Fire Apparatus. Those were the only two companies that bid. We had solicited bids from I believe 7 different manufacturers and those were the only two pieces that came in.

Selectman Coutu asked Ms. Carpentier if she remembered what the amount of per gallon was for diesel last year that we allocated. What was the estimated cost per gallon? Kathy Carpenter believed it was \$3.30 but then we went back to default and I don't know what that number is. So it's even lower than that. Selectman Coutu said we had budgeted \$3.30. A \$9,000 increase over 2014 just seems a little high considering costs are coming down. Chief Buxton said the last bill that we paid, we paid a per unit cost of \$3.49. Today we're over that as we sit here today. I would agree with you as the numbers come down, that may be an adjustment the Board wishes to take with the contingency fund. Currently we're all purchasing together and the last bill that we look at today was \$3.49 per unit. Selectman Coutu asked if we contract that. Chief Buxton indicated we moved everybody under Highway and does bulk purchasing through Dennis K. Burque. We're doing a group effort through all the departments. Ms. Carpentier said there is no contracts. They used to do contracts a long time ago but the gas people got out of it. It was too risky for them to be in contracts. Chairman Maddox said we don't pay tax so I'm just surprised that it's \$3.49.

Chairman Maddox asked if there were any other questions for the Fire Chief. Seeing none. Selectman Coutu said I have to applaud him. We gave him a rough ride. He held onto the reigns and he hung in there. I applaud him. This is his first budget that he's presented by himself and I appreciate it Chief. Chief Buxton thanked the Board for the support tonight.

Chairman Maddox recessed for 5 minutes and resumed at 8:49 p.m.

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

Chairman Maddox recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia indicated that this is predominantly the area where the Board of Selectmen office is, Town Hall facility. There's a new cost center in here for the senior cable facility. That will be the first year of that along with the Town Poor account, and the Community Center. As you go through, those are the areas that you'd be looking at here. In the Board of Selectmen, the big difference as you know we're under default budget. That put the Assistant Town Administration funding back in so we're taking that back out. Again predominately that area is down because as you know we are in a default budget which put I believe the Assistant Town Administrator salary back in. So we took it back out again. We also had a line item in here for a tax deeded property management which was \$10,000. I think the Board added that last year. Chairman Maddox said we added that but the default budget took it out. Again, I think it's something a need to have unfortunately. We may get there someday.

Selectman Coutu asked for what purpose. Refresh my memory again. Steve Malizia said tax deeded property. When we have to deal it, manage it. Selectman Coutu indicated I remember. The budget is down \$80,000 anyway.

Chairman Maddox said it looks good at 18 percent down. It's really driven by the Assistant Town Administrator's salary.

page 5, Town Hall Operations – Dept. 5120

Steve Malizia indicated it's fairly flat. I think there's a slight reduction in electricity. Obviously we've been under the contract so the trend for that has been down. That's the purchasing contract we have. I believe that's reflected in the budget. Other than that, it's maintenance of this building.

Selectman Luszey had a question on the maintenance line. In 13 we were at \$11,400; in 14 you went to \$10,000 and that's because of the default? Mr. Malizia said yes. Selectman Luszey asked what's allowing you to stay flat? Selectman Coutu said the building is well maintained. Mr. Malizia said we try to catch problems before they become major problems so service intervals, trying to maintain heating and cooling systems, and making sure that if we can repair and replace something modest before we have to replace a whole system with a lot more inspections going on by our maintenance person, I think we're catching things before they become big problems. Some of the systems we've replaced through the years, they don't have to replace them again for 5 or 10 years. This building has a bunch of small systems running in different parts of it. That's what we inherited. That's what we deal with. It's a challenge. Yeah I don't know what's going to go. I'm presuming that \$10,000 will cover it but if it doesn't we'll have to get it from somewhere.

The only observation that Selectman Luszey had is you start at 11. You got 246, you drop to 89, then you go up to 11, and then you drop to 10. You're doing a seesaw. I'm wondering is there a pattern that should say there actually should be a little more money in 15. Steve Malizia indicated more money is always appreciated. I'm not saying we shouldn't but I'm not sure. I'm not predicting anything major at this point in time. I believe we've done most of the major air and cool systems in this building over the last few years. That tends to be the big ticket items. Small stuff, you can sometimes put off or you can do a more modest fix to something. The bigger thing that we've gone through in this building have been the heating and cooling systems. You can see the vestiges of that in 11. I think we had a couple of major replacements to some of the systems that were causing noise for example on the other side of the building. Remember that system got replaced.

Selectman Luszey had one last question. There was concern for the insulation over the Planning/Zoning area. Steve Malizia believed during the fix of that system, that was accommodated.

Chairman Maddox thought one thing we should do – I don't know about you but when I come in here on the weekends, it's 70 degrees. What's the sense of having set back programmable thermostats and we don't use them. Steve Malizia indicated if I put this on 70 it would be freezing. I'm not sure they read accurately. Again, I'm not an expert on it but put this on 70 and come back in an hour. When we came in this afternoon it was on 70 and it was like an icebox in here. Chairman Maddox was just saying it's warm in the building and this building is empty for the weekend. So two days out of the week, we're not utilizing the technology. We'll get back to our technology. Mr. Malizia knows the thermostats are programmed to cut back so I'm not sure why it's not. Selectman Coutu said I found it cold when I came in. Honestly, I find it cold but I'm old.

Salaries – full time. Selectman Coutu asked is that shared. Steve Malizia said we divvy that out between the Community Center, this cost center, and the Fire Administration which that person – that salary is divvied. When you get a chance, Selectman Coutu asked could you put that in my box – combine the three so I can see exactly what it is. I'm not complaining. I'm just saying every year I mean to ask that and I can't believe he would do it for that amount of money – anybody would.

If Mr. Malizia could bring the opportunity up, I just wanted to mention as the Town Clerk mentioned when she was in here, we still have carpeting. If you go to page 8, you'll see the carpet that still has not been replaced in this building. So what that means is all the other carpeting has through either the remodeling upstairs, or through the Board's funding, or through looking at the budget at the end of the year. I just wanted to point out when she spoke earlier, her carpeting is in here. This is pretty much in the condition that it's in. In other words, number one is the worst. Number 5 is the last. Selectman Nadeau said number one should have already been taken care of. Yes when we did the renovations, we asked that that be done. Selectman Coutu said we asked but it wasn't done because I was in there the other day and it's not done. Selectman Nadeau knows it wasn't done but seeing it on here...Chairman Maddox said those monies would have been referred if there was any money left. Steve Malizia said I can tell you they haven't done it. I physically walked around and looked – okay that one's still there, that one's still there. It wasn't done.

Selectman Coutu wanted to ask a question. I noticed that on the third one – the finance, water, IT office – are we going to be wasting time redoing the carpeting in that whole area knowing that that may be reconstructed somehow if

the IT is going to move out, a portion of it may be reconstructed and used for other purposes? Steve Malizia indicated if you're not planning on moving any walls, it's probably not wasted because that was all done in its totality 4 or 5 years ago – whenever they moved down there. Selectman Coutu said they're in cubicles more or less. Mr. Malizia said the finance office was last done somewhere in the 2001 time frame. That's when we had the great flood and we replaced all the carpeting over there. That's why it's in that order. It wasn't the greatest carpeting we replaced it with. I think we replaced this office too with this carpeting or the hallway at least. This is not in the budget. This is outside of the budget if you choose to do anything. Selectman Coutu indicated I know that. I'm looking to see if I'm going to do something.

Finance, water and IT office. Selectman Luszey said we do not plan to reconfigure walls. If you recall, the plan is when IT moves out there'll be a locked door put on the current break room area and then the door will be relocated from the finance office – or in between the break and the finance office to outside the IT office and the finance area to make the Supervisors of the Checklist. So there's no walls being moved. It's just two doors are being relocated. So this would not preclude that.

Motion by Selectman Coutu to add to line item 5120-224, \$22,000 to offset all of the building maintenance.

Selectman Coutu said let's get this done once and for all before somebody gets hurt.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Luszey, to add to line item 5120-224, \$22,000 to offset all of the building maintenance.

Selectman Nadeau thought we should put a "W" next to this instead and check with Deputy Buxton with the carpet for the Sewer Utility office that he said he had the money to do it when he was doing the renovations. That could lower this number down to 19 and some change. Before we put in 22, let's do the homework first and see if that will.

Selectman Coutu indicated I'll amend my motion not to exceed \$22,000 so that if it comes back within a week before we're done with the budget and it is \$2,000 less, we will drop it to 19 so it adequately reflects our needs. I agree with you. I think something came up and he had to use the money for something else and that's why that didn't get done. Kathy Carpentier didn't believe he had any extra money. He encumbered it and he used it. I don't know on what. We'd have to follow up. Selectman Coutu thought there was something that he anticipated the cost to be less and it came in higher for whatever reason. Selectman Luszey asked if he would be able to find it now. Steve Malizia said the office that Planner occupies was carpeted. That office was specifically carpeted but the hallway, and welfare, and sewer office have not been done.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Luszey, to add to line item 5120-224, in an amount not to exceed \$22,000 to offset all of the building maintenance.

Selectman Nadeau indicated he was not going to support the motion.

Chairman Maddox said neither am I only for the fact that I think we can put it as a "W" and see where we are. I think that we're still early into this that this would be nice to do but you might decide as we look at the numbers where we are, we might only do the top 2. I think just to make a motion to now spend \$22,000 is a little early for my taste.

In support of my motion, Selectman Coutu said I am no longer going to sit here and keep pushing this can down the road. I want to get it done once and for all.

Vote: Motion carried 3-2. Selectman Nadeau and Selectman Maddox in opposition.

Community Center (5125), page 9.

Chairman Maddox said the maintenance was so high in 2013 for...Steve Malizia said the new roof and I think it looks great. I think it came out well. It should give us years of service. Chairman Maddox thought wouldn't this building drop down once the senior center is open. Selectman Luszey asked who's the salary full time. Steve Malizia indicated there's not a full time salary. That's the portion of the maintenance person that we allocate between here, the Community Center, and the Fire Administration cost centers. The electricity – we anticipate that going down. You can see that line going down. I would assume less occupancy would...Selectman Coutu said I see the same amount...Selectman Nadeau said 12,000 for 15. Steve Malizia was looking at what we spent in 13, 153. I would anticipate that we'll spend 12 in the next period because we have some less usage over there in 14 and 15. Selectman Coutu asked it's not going to go below 12. Mr. Malizia said I have no idea. That's a number. I don't know.

Selectman Luszey said the rec. center is going to move to the Community Center. Steve Malizia asked if the Board decided that. Selectman Coutu said there's no decision made. It is anticipated that we're going to move in there. We have not formally relocated them. Selectman Luszey said that is what would drive that and you should see almost a zero cost at the Oakwood Center. Selectman Coutu asked if this was both buildings. Mr. Malizia said no. This is the Community Center – Lions Ave. Selectman Coutu stated it depends on what we do at Oakwood. Like natural gas, Chairman Maddox said you only did actuals of 63 but you budgeted 82. My gas bill has gone down and, again, if you're not going to have the seniors in there 2 days a week with the heat at 80, I can't picture how it's going to be more than the actuals in 13.

Selectman Luszey thought we should put a "W" on this page and come back to it after we've done the rec. centers and see how it all plays together. Selectman Coutu thought that was a good idea because we have to deal with the rec. center because it's going to be in January or March and that's 2015 budget. So you have to remember now it's not until March. Steve Malizia indicated this budget won't kick in until July. Chairman Maddox stated the new building should be occupied. Selectman Coutu agreed. We should revisit this page and...Mr. Malizia said the 5810 page I think is probably the facility. Kathy Carpentier mentioned the next page is 5135. I think they all go together. Selectman Coutu didn't think 5135. I think this budget is based on closing out 3 months extension on the lease. He's not even going to be there. Steve Malizia said 5135 is the new facility for a year. Chairman Maddox indicated 15 will wrap up from March to the end of June. Selectman Coutu question that it's only going to be \$22,070 to run the whole cable facility. Mr. Malizia said to run the senior portion of that I believe. Selectman Luszey indicated you're missing the salaries.

Kathy Carpentier said the budget was created by the Rec. Director and Lori Bowen the Senior Services Coordinator. 5135 represents just the building piece. There's another piece under Recreation called "senior activities" that would roll up under Dave. This is just the building and it just represents expenses for the senior floor and not the cable floor.

Selectman Coutu asked about 5135. It only covers the senior portion. Chairman Maddox said the top of the 2-story building - \$22,000 yes. Selectman Coutu indicated it shouldn't say "Hudson senior and cable facility". If it's only going to cover the top floor, it's the Hudson senior facility. Ms. Carpentier said we can change the name but that is the name of the facility. Selectman Coutu thought this is out of whack. I expected expenses are going to be a lot more than this.

Selectman Luszey indicated that's kind of where I'm at. This should be all inclusive of all utilities, all sewer because they're combined. There is no separate meters. We need to figure out what the proportioning is but this is a cost center that the total expense for that building should be captured and is that...Kathy Carpentier said the Recreation Director and Lori did a lot of work on this. They met with cable and what they decided was that – and they could speak to this better – but some bills are going to be pro-rated based on a 60/40 split. Some might be an 80/20 split. So what they'll do is get the bill and I will charge cable their piece of whatever the electricity is. Selectman Luszey stated that's my question. If I take a look at the electricity of \$12,000 is that what is going to be the bill we pay to PSNH and then that's the bill that gets proportioned out? Ms. Carpentier said no. It's just seniors. Selectman Luszey said so this is the 20 percent of the electric bill. Ms. Carpentier stated if that's the pro-ration. I don't know what the pro-ration would be but yes. Cable has covered their own utilities. They've all met. It might be nice to talk to them all at the same time.

Selectman Nadeau stated that they're all coming in next Thursday. So we'll put a "W" on this. Chairman Maddox said yes. Selectman Luszey said I will go and calculate what the electricity should be based on the name tags of what we're going to be putting in that facility.

Selectman Coutu indicated if they're coming in next Thursday Mr. Chairman, I don't see senior center on the list. Selectman Nadeau noted its recreation. Kathy Carpentier said senior services activities is a department...Selectman Coutu asked if we can have Recreation and Cable combined. We'll deal with each budget separately but have them both here in case we have questions. Steve Malizia stated they should both be here for the next Thursday meeting. Kathy Carpentier indicated cable is here and Recreation is here. Selectman Coutu mentioned what Selectman Brucker said – focus is efficient and I'd rather have them both here so they're focusing. I mean that seriously.

Kathy Carpentier noted a "W" near 5125, 5135, and 5810.

Town Poor (5151)

Chairman Maddox recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

As you can see, Steve Malizia said the budget for this year was \$120,900. Next year we're looking at \$95,900. That's the Town's assistance program that's run through Ms. Wilson. That's for folks – this is the first line of defense. The stop gap sort to speak for folks who require assistance.

Selectman Brucker was wondering why it was going down. Does she just estimate that we'll... Steve Malizia said as I look at the actuals; she does a super job of trying to use other resources in the area? As you're well aware, we fund a lot of community organizations – Soup Kitchen for example, Pastoral Care which is now called The Front Door Agency. Those folks she utilizes that network of resources. She's very diligent with following up. I know folks use St. Vincent de Paul soup kitchen which you funded last year in the community grants. Those things are all a network that help her manage the folks. Again it's variable. We could get a rash of people but I think she does a really super job. Donna and Sue also help her in my office of managing that program so that people get what they need but don't take advantage of our system.

Selectman Coutu thought, too, Mr. Chairman to note I don't know if Mrs. Brucker was here when we prepared the 2014 budget. She was here. We anticipate a year and a half ahead and at the time we were deliberating the 2014 budget, I think there was a lot of discussion about the state of the economy, people being unemployed, going downhill, and we wanted to put in sufficient money in case there was an increased demand. Apparently as a combination of not having anticipated more than what we actually got plus Ms. Wilson's ability to vet all of the applicants and make sure they qualify and if they do, utilize outside services. We won't be spending the \$120,000 I don't think we're going to come anywhere near the \$120,000. If history repeats itself, Steve Malizia said we shouldn't. We also have some money in a donation account that if we were to get close, we have the ability to leverage. There's a donation account that's out there that we could also utilize towards assistance to the folks that need it.

Chairman Maddox asked how come we don't track her time like we do some of the other departments. She's probably spending a day a week. Mr. Malizia indicated she's in the Finance office. What would you like to track? Selectman Coutu asked a day a week on this particular topic welfare. Mr. Malizia indicated she sees people every day. Selectman Nadeau said she's spends more than a day. Mr. Malizia stated it's the same pocket, it's the same taxpayer, it's the same tax rate. It's budgeted in the Finance office.

Legal (5200), page 1

As you may recall, Steve Malizia said in legal in the budget that was prepared, the Board had put I believe \$35,000 in this fiscal year's budget for value defense. You'll see zero there because the default whipped it out. The Assessor handed me a document. The Board may wish to consider putting in some money in this budget – probably a "W" at this point to fund value defense. Value defense as you're well aware is the cost that we have to incur to go to court or the BTLA to defend the Town's commercial values. The sheet I just handed you was the Assessor's number he advanced \$40,000 for this fiscal year. One of the lowest is \$35,000. That's what you've actually put when you transferred it into this budget from other areas of the budget and we spent \$986.00 thus far. I bring it for your consideration because you'll see zero here. The default budget wiped it out. You actually made a transfer to put \$35,000 back in. Again, that's for the major cases including Fairpoint, EnergyNorth and couple of other large utility cases at a minimum that we've already seen suit on. We've already seen things on so this is to defend those values. Those values are not just simply some guy testifying. There's a lot of expert testimony involved. It maybe something the Board may wish to reconsider.

Chairman Maddox indicated certainly carry this as a "W" then. Selectman Nadeau said yes. Selectman Coutu stated is there nothing we can make a decision on tonight. Chairman Maddox asked if Selectman Coutu would like to make a decision on this Sir. Selectman Coutu said we voted for it last year did we not. Mr. Malizia said you did. Selectman Coutu thought we ought to show some consistency and we certainly support the idea of... Mr. Malizia said the \$35,000 for this year. If you look at line 278, I have zero in there because the default budget set it to zero. You had put in \$35,000 I believe in the budget. It was taken back out. You've subsequently transferred it back in. Selectman Coutu asked 278 defends what on the previous page. There's no 278 on this page. Steve Malizia indicated the default budget wiped it out. It showed no budget. There is no budget. You made a transfer from other cost centers to cover it for this year. On the budget document, you'll see zero. You went to default and we didn't have it the year before. Selectman Coutu indicated that there were 3 items knocked off of default. Okay. Shouldn't we have a line item 278 to see what the allocation was for the previous year? Chairman Maddox said it was zero. Kathy Carpentier said the previous year represents default which is what the budget is. Selectman Coutu asked about the year before that. Mr. Malizia indicated it was zero. You didn't do this two years ago. You didn't do it then because you just did the value updates the last couple of years. You didn't need to do it a couple of years ago. If I'm not mistaken, he had requested \$60,000. You settled on \$35,000. The default budget put it back to zero. This Board collectively made transfer to put it back in.

Let's see if I get this straight. Selectman Coutu indicated based on this sheet are you saying that 3414 is remaining as of now. In this fiscal year's budget, Steve Malizia indicated you have \$35,000 you transferred in. We spent \$986.00 through the end of September gives you \$34,000 for the remainder of this fiscal year. These cases sometimes span a couple of fiscal years. They take time to wind through the court system or the Board of Land and Tax Appeals. They require testimony. They require depositions, exhibits. They take time.

If we went to a default budget, Selectman Coutu asked where did we get this \$35,000. If you recall back in March, Steve Malizia said after the Board was handed a default budget, you did a major transfer. We went back to the list of items you felt were important and we moved money around in anticipation of this fiscal year. Chairman Maddox said we transferred monies this year – the Mark Pearson money that keeps going into the default budget that we moved it around. This was one of the places we put it. Selectman Coutu stated you mean the Assistant Administrator's position. It's not the Mark Pearson money. It's the taxpayers money.

Selectman Brucker stated if I make a motion that we put \$40,000 in for FY15 is the \$35,000 that we still have going to carry over to that. Selectman Coutu said that's more than enough. Kathy Carpentier said no it will not carry over. Mr. Malizia said for next year or for this year in total. For the whole thing in total is that what you're saying? Selectman Coutu indicated this year we have \$35,000. We've only spent \$9,000. We've got another \$34,000 to go between now and June 30th. I'm saying next year we'll put in \$35,000. Why put in \$40,000. Selectman Brucker indicated I'm just going by what Jim...Steve Malizia said last year he asked for \$60,000 and you put in \$35,000. If you put in \$35,000...

Motion by Selectman Luszey, seconded by Selectman Brucker, to put \$35,000 into 278.

Again, Chairman Maddox said I was going to split and say put in \$25,000. It's better than zero. You've got \$35,000 left this year.

Selectman Coutu said you go out there and then you just drop it. I mean you were going in the right direction. I would have supported \$25,000. Chairman Maddox indicated a vote could make that motion. I need to know whether you're a yeah or nay. Selectman Coutu indicated I'm a nay then.

Vote: Motion failed 2-3. Selectman Maddox, Selectman Nadeau, and Selectman Coutu opposed.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Luszey, to put in line item 278 the amount of \$25,000.

Chairman Maddox indicated it was a crapshoot. Selectman Brucker agreed it was a crapshoot. Now then the \$35,000 that's there if it isn't used it goes back into the general fund correct? Steve Malizia agreed.

Just for clarification, Kathy Carpentier stated it will not carry over unless there's a legal obligation. If some reason the Assistant Assessor has made an agreement with a consultant to do work, then it could be carried over. Selectman Coutu indicated you can encumber it. Steve Malizia said let's say we hire an appraisal specialist. Selectman Coutu said he encumbers it before the end of the year. He notifies the Finance Director. Other than that, Steve Malizia said it would revert to the surplus. Chairman Maddox indicated we vote to encumber it.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0.

Finance (5310)

Chairman Maddox indicated that there's no increase. Where do we want to go? Any questions from Board members?

(5320)

Chairman Maddox noted that this one is also down.

Kathy Carpentier wanted to make a note that part of the reason I'm down is because of our collaboration of buying paper and in my 5320 department is the paper for the main copy room upstairs. So I represented some of that savings there.

Selectman Coutu said we saved \$16,000 in paper. Kathy Carpentier said she estimated anywhere between \$600 and \$1,000. So a \$600 decrease to my supplies in paper. Selectman Coutu mentioned if we all got tablets, do you know how much paper is generated in the Selectmen's office in any given year. It would cheaper to have a tablet.

Selectman Brucker indicated I hate to do this but I just had a question about – and I'm sorry it's back in 5310. The interns. What do they do? Kathy Carpentier said I haven't used interns. What I've used is some temporary help so the cost goes down in 252. What I was given those funds for was to do the fixed asset project which is what we did. We put all the fixed assets on the books to be GASB compliant. So you'll see the expenses end up down in 252 just because I get a consultant versus an intern.

Insurance (5910)

Way back in the 5900, non departmental section in the back of the book. Chairman Maddox noted this one has a 10 percent increase. Kathy Carpentier indicated insurance is a hard one to gage. So what we did was we put in the actuals that we just currently paid in fiscal 14. So we just paid \$185,000 for the worker's comp. and \$246,000 for our property and liability. I've been in contact with both of our insurance companies and I won't have rate increases until the end of October beginning of November. We have been receiving refunds and holiday contributions from them that I believe you've seen in fiscal 14 revenues. Even though our expenses are sometimes going up, we're getting revenues also.

Selectman Coutu said are you telling me – let me ask a question. How many workman compensation claims has this town suffered in the past year or how many have we received? How many has the insurance company received – workman comp. claims. Kathy Carpentier indicated 40 or 50. A claim could be – I'm going to exaggerate – a paperclip cut. If I twist my ankle, I at least need to put in a claim. Nothing might come of it but we do have claims and then they reserve money for some major pieces. Selectman Coutu rephrased the question. Technically you should report everything just in case. Mr. Malizia said we do. Selectman Coutu said you could get a serious infection. I understand that. How many people are benefitting from workman's comp. as a result of an injury suffered during work in the past year? I know of one. Mr. Malizia indicated we'd have to look at the stats. Ms. Carpentier indicated it is low.

Selectman Coutu asked how do they justify from 2012 to 2014 because you're saying it's based on what we're going to pay this year. In two years raising the insurance costs \$117,000. How do they justify raising it from 78 to raising it to 185? \$117,000 increase in two years? Selectman Luszey said based on the reportables that they paid out against your salary. Selectman Coutu said 3 or 4 people get it a year. We ought to be looking for another insurance company. Selectman Luszey referred Selectman Coutu to page 2 and line item 17. "Insurance premium for employees injured on the jobs. The premiums are based on estimated payroll and current rates are adjusted for the towns claim experience." So what that says is based on our current payroll and our reportable claims against workman's comp., they look across the scale and say that's what your new rate is. If we had zero reportable which means no one filed a workman comp. claim, our rate would be different.

Selectman Coutu asked who's our insurance carrier for workman's comp. Steve Malizia indicated Primex. Selectman Coutu indicated it's an independent insurance. Mr. Malizia stated it's a quasi state agency. It competes with – you've heard of the Local Government Center, the LGC and all of that. Primex is a separate organization that writes worker's comp. insurance. Selectman Coutu indicated that we are part owners of Primex. Mr. Malizia wasn't aware it's a mutual fund company. We pay a premium to them and I'm not aware that it's a...Selectman Coutu commented that this is outrageous. My worker's compensation has gone down. It kept going up, and up, and up. So we formed a co-op. All the retail grocers who wanted to sign in, we had to have a guarantee of \$1 million worth of insurance premiums paid in order to from the co-op just to get the State grant to permit to be able to do it. We were successful. My insurance premiums have been going down every year and I also get a dividend check because we're part owners of the company. I don't understand why in 2 years it would go up \$118,000 with the same amount of claims we had 5 years ago and we haven't hired that many more employees – added that many more positions to the payroll in 2 years not since I've been here.

Kathy Carpentier said usually insurance companies have a 5 year rolling average. So whatever has happened in the last 5 years and say I had a heart attack 3 years ago, that is still in our premium calculations of our loss ratio. I mean I'm not an insurance expert but this is what they tell me. I do know that we meet quarterly the Joint Loss Management Committee management and labor group and we go over our claims to see if everybody is slipping, what can we do about that, if everyone is tweaking their back and what can we do about that. We are told Hudson has a good loss ratio in worker's comp. Selectman Coutu stated it's really showing. They're taking us over the hurdles on rates. If they're going by a 5 year average, in 2011 these are actual figures spent - \$147,000. 2012 - \$78,000. Then it went up to \$156,000. We budgeted \$156,000. You're saying it's \$185,000. We're budgeting \$85,000. At this rate, we should be budgeting \$250,000.

Kathy Carpentier also mentioned but I also received checks that they're calling "contribution holidays" for \$158,000 for 2013 and \$181,000 for 2014 and it's in your revenues. Selectman Coutu asked isn't that money they owed us. Steve Malizia said why would they owe us. Selectman Coutu indicated so you're saying we're paying \$185,000

premium and we're going to get \$181,000 back. Mr. Malizia said we already got it back. Selectman Coutu stated that our whole workman's compensation is \$4,000. Ms. Carpentier said yes for Primex this year. Selectman Coutu said why didn't you tell me that at the beginning people. Ms. Carpentier believes I did. I did say there's almost \$500,000 in revenues because Health Trust, Primex, Cigna, PLT – all our insurance companies are giving us back contribution holidays. Chairman Maddox noted that's that whole thing where they overcharged us years ago. It's our money just in a different envelope. Ms. Carpentier said it was for a different period. Selectman Coutu said eventually they're going to give us back all our money and this is going to go sky high. I'm good with it. I needed an explanation.

Selectman Nadeau indicated one of the other things, we have a very high risk group that we're insuring here with fire and police.

Community Grants (5920), page 3

Chairman Maddox recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

On page 5, Steve Malizia indicated you'll see the list of approved budgets. You'll see the appropriation for the fiscal year 2014. The last column represents the requests. These are requests from the agencies to the town for funding. That number is \$149,663. That's a big number. We've budgeted – we kept the budget level at \$96,893. It is up to this Board to decide if you wished to go above the level funding or if you wish to keep it level funded.

Selectman Coutu looked at the numbers. I'm sure their need is great. Some of these people are asking for over 100 percent increase some of these organizations. If I were willing to support the \$149,000, I'd say take that minus the \$96,000 and add it to the St. Vincent de Paul Society of Hudson because 100 percent of that money stays in the town.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Luszey, that we level fund the fiscal 2015 budget requests for community grants at \$96,893 – the money appropriated in 2014.

Steve Malizia said it's already budgeted for that. So you don't really have to do that. This is just what they've asked for. We've already budgeted the numbers. That's 893. I don't want you to make a motion you don't need to make.

Selectman Coutu withdrew his motion. I believe we should stay at the allocation. Some of these requests are outrageous.

Steve Malizia asked to interject one more comment. The agencies that I know we worked the closest with I believe are supported appropriately in this budget – St. Vincent de Paul, the Front Door which used to be Pastoral Care, the Soup Kitchen. The biggest increase, the biggest request was Community Council. I don't know where they got that number. You're free to look upstairs at their calculation. It seems excessive. That's all I can tell you. The rest of the folks realize the times we're in. The rest of the folks I think, in my opinion, submitted responsible requests. That one is what really...Selectman Coutu thought maybe we should take the \$9,000 away from them and teach them a lesson. What do they do for us? Mr. Malizia indicated he didn't have the backup here, there's a whole book, but they provide services for a lot of the mentally ill. Selectman Nadeau indicated we do use them.

Chairman Maddox asked we can leave it as it is. Is that the gist of your motion is to continue on with where we've been. We did raise it up I think \$5,000 last year. Steve Malizia noted you added the St. Vincent de Paul folks last year so the \$5,000 was well worth it and they are back in this year at their request. Selectman Coutu said they should increase that one. Kathy Carpentier indicated you decreased last year the Hudson Seniors.

Patriotic Purposes (5930), page 6

Steve Malizia indicated that's the town support to the Memorial Day observance and parade and support to the Old Home Days – fireworks and we also help defray some of the expenses. You can see on the support page on page 7, it breaks down how much you contribute for each of those activities. I believe this number has been constant for a while. Kathy Carpentier indicated a few years they didn't spend it. They didn't request it.

Other Expenses (5940)

Steve Malizia said as we talked about earlier, a gasoline contingency of \$25,000. That's the Board's fund only expendable upon the Board's order. That's to cover any upticks in gas. You have your typical contingency which is the general contingency of the town. Other than that, capital reserve funds I believe there is funding for the earned

time trust fund and the communications infrastructure CRF which was established in 14. Kathy Carpentier noted we did zero out the funding to the future senior center capital reserve.

Selectman Coutu stated if we put \$25,000 in the gas/diesel contingency, do we have a tank to put the gas in? Selectman Nadeau indicated we have a tank; we have a pump. It has 3 keys. Selectman Coutu asked if it was working okay. Selectman Nadeau said they're working on it. Steve Malizia indicated this is just to protect against price fluctuations upward. That's all it's for. You've done this before. You don't have to do it. It's up to you.

Again, Chairman Maddox said we're hearing that the price we're paying today is more than we're budgeting for a year and a half from now. Again, it's going to fluctuate. It's unpredictable so this kind of gives us a cushion rather than everybody putting in their department. This has one place if we need to spend more money we do. Selectman Coutu wanted to make sure we have a good pump to put it in.

Just on that, Selectman Luszey asked if we cut a PO yet to replace that pump. Steve Malizia said no. I'm dealing with a vendor right now to figure out what exactly we're going to replace because there's two parts of it. There is the pump and then there's the key system. So the vendor is coming out to go over what we need to replace. Selectman Luszey said if you're replacing the whole pump, you'd get the one that uses a swipe card. Steve Malizia indicated that's \$11,000 some odd dollars. If we don't have to replace the whole thing for \$11,000 some odd dollars and maybe only have to spend \$4,000 for the key part, then we'll spend \$4,000 for the key part. Until the vendor comes out and tells us that, we're not going to spend any money.

Selectman Luszey told the Board that page 9, line item 450, we need to put a "W" on please. It's the communication and infrastructure capital reserve fund. We need to come back to that. That was my request that if we're serious about fixing the aging problem as we heard tonight with fire that their equipment is no longer being made, they have about 5 years left of support. We need to start adding money there. Selectman Coutu question communications equipment the \$10,000? Selectman Luszey said we're only putting \$10,000 there and if you remember our conversation from last Tuesday, I suggested based on the presentations that we've had for replacing or combining dispatch everything from a microwave solution to upgrading the current infrastructure where between \$382,000 to have a million dollars. So we need to come back and visit this.

Selectman Coutu said I'm fine. It doesn't show that we're allocating. It just shows it outside the column here. Kathy Carpentier indicated it is rolled up into the \$60,050 if it's going to the employees earned time and 10 to communications is the \$60,000 that we're currently funding.

Selectman Nadeau asked how much is in the communication's budget now – the capital reserve fund. Kathy Carpentier said just \$10,000. We started it this year.

Chairman Maddox said as Selectman Luszey and I spoke briefly about this, it's a function of I think this should be a warrant article. I think it should go out there and say after – and I'm not sure we're going to be able to get in by March but whatever and say we need to spend \$150,000 a year for the next 5 years. I'm just throwing out numbers. Don't hold me to it. Whatever we're going to do. If now we're going to combined dispatch, if we need to go to whatever with the infrastructure and all of our communication gear, let's find out what it's going to cost and make it a warrant article so that the voters would be informed and they can make this decision. You're right. I think we're trying to do this piecemeal without an end to the program.

Before we even go that route, Selectman Coutu wanted to remind you of a statement that I made back when we first started having these discussions and you and I were involved. I had said that the voters – I forget what year – said no to a warrant article that proposed raising slightly in excess of \$1 million for combined dispatch. We were lead to believe when we entered discussions that that cost would now be less – around \$225,000 give or take a few dollars here or there. I said with that price tag, we could certainly support it. Now we're hearing \$400,000 plus dollars. I've given that a lot of thought. I'm certainly not going to support something that's reaching a half a million or over. I thought we were getting a bargain going from \$1 million to \$225,000. One million to a half a million and you're buying equipment that may only last 5 years because they won't have pieces to support it, and it's not the latest and the greatest, and we're going to need bigger and better microwaves, and maybe even our own satellite in 5 years. God knows where it goes.

Selectman Luszey said to put a "W" on it and we'll come back to it. Chairman Maddox asked if the Board wanted to go there. Selectman Brucker said yes. Selectman Coutu asked who the 3 people were that were agreeing. Selectman Luszey said he was only asking to put a "W" on it and we'll back. Chairman Maddox indicated I'm not spending at this point.

Chairman Maddox would ask is it time to raise the contingency to \$60,000. Selectman Coutu asked if it was contingency the \$25,000. Chairman Maddox indicated the \$50,000 that we have in house to cover all of the – again as we keep cutting these budgets to the bone, at some point things break. Look we've spent 4631 the last time. I'm just asking the question. It's been at that number. Selectman Coutu said no. It's a last minute resort if we need to have something fixed you're saying that we take it out. We've never had to use – we spent 700 one year, 46,000, then down to 31 and we appropriated \$50,000 last year. We're doing the same this year. No, I don't see any need to add to that line. I think it's a reflection of what we're been spending. Mr. Malizia wanted to make sure that that was the case. Selectman Coutu remarked if the \$50,000 this year goes up, then – we have to guess a year and a half out. \$50,000 is fine I think. That's my opinion.

Chairman Maddox was just saying it's been like that for 10 years.

Selectman Nadeau asked are we going to put some of the new capital reserve funds that we've talked about on the warrant. Steve Malizia told Selectman Nadeau to go to Warrant Article D. Selectman Nadeau said we're not there yet. I'll wait until we get there. Kathy Carpentier said yes is your answer.

Hydrant Rental (5960), page 11

Steve Malizia indicated that's the payment from the general fund to the water utility fund to have a charged hydrant system in the town. Selectman Coutu asked if we knew that they worked properly or we do. Mr. Malizia said he wasn't aware that they don't. Selectman Coutu knows that they do flushing. Mr. Malizia said they flush the lines. Whether they have to open every single hydrant every year, I don't believe they do but they open hydrants every year. They're trying to get the sediment out of the hydrant so they will run hydrants at certain points. Other than that, they are. If they are flow tested for a development or whatever, they are flow tested. If their hydrant is found to be deficient it's either fixed or bagged. Sometimes you'll see a bag on a hydrant, service for whatever reason.

Selectman Coutu asked if the Water Department have a plan to extend hydrants in this town. Chairman Maddox indicated they're doing it right now. As developments come on line, as water lines are extended, Steve Malizia said there is a certain amount of hydrants. I'm not aware of all the standards. I'm not an expert but as you extend the water line for example in the 102 area, there are hydrants placed on that line. Selectman Coutu said that was fine. If you're a taxpayer in this town and you've been in this town for 20 – 30 years and you've been paying your taxes and you have no hydrants in your neighborhood but all these new developments are getting hydrants, I understand that its easy because of the construction they're digging holes and what not and they can put the pipes in. Shouldn't we have some sort of a plan for people – I'm fortunate. I have a fire hydrant right across the street from my business. I have a fire hydrant down the bottom of my street. So I'm fortunate and I've seen the hydrant work in my neighborhood but we have other areas in this town. There are some in the south end that a friend of mine lost his house because they had to go down to Dracut Road and pull water out of a stream to be able to run back to his house to try to put out the fire and he lost everything. That was the closest water. There were no hydrants but yet there's water on Dracut Road. I don't see why they can't run lines up Sanders and up in the back. That's just one example. I'm not advocating just for the south. I represent the whole town. When people come to me and say how come they're putting water over there and they're putting fire hydrants? I don't have that and I've been living in this town for 38 years.

Steve Malizia said I can state what I know and what I know is that any extension of a water line has been paid for by a developer. The town is not in the practice of extending the water lines just to extend them. I don't mean to sound callous. That's not what I'm trying to say. Selectman Coutu remarked I hear you. Mr. Malizia said what we have done is we have leveraged development to expand or increase our coverage of the water utility. So if someone comes in and builds a development on Belknap Road, they might update that line. If someone comes in and does something, they will update or put those lines in. Going up 102 for example, all of that has been on someone else's nickel. That has been the practice of the Town of Hudson. We with very few exception, there may be one or two because maybe a line ended here and a line ended here and it made sense to connect them. We have not been in the business of extending the water system on our nickel. It's been on the developer's nickel. That could be a commercial developer or a residential developer. As part of that development, there's a certain requirement to put X amount of hydrants. I'm sure it's a fire standard. I'm not conversing with it and they will put the appropriate amount of hydrants out there. The expansion or whatever people say well they're putting it over here, they're putting it over there. We're having someone else pay to do that. They're paying it on their nickel because they want that water. So they're willing to pay that price. If somebody wants water at their house or their business and they want to pay for it, we'll talk to them and see what it costs to do that. One of the reasons why the previous water utility company got into so much trouble is they were expanding without customers to support the expansion. They would run a 16 inch main and service 40 customers and it would cost them \$400,000. You're not going to make \$400,000 on 40 customers. So everybody else's rates kept going up, and up, and up and that's how we go into the situation we got into. We had water rates that were greater than people were paying out in Arizona. It was that simple and they kept getting the

PUC approval to do that. We have taken a different tact. We will expand when there is a demand and someone to pay for it. That's been the practice.

Selectman Coutu just thought that we should have a practice of at least whether we do it once a year, or pick a neighborhood that we're going to add 2 or 3 hydrants in and move them out. Just because somebody's not going to have a new development built near their property and not have access to a fire hydrant, I'm not asking for water to be added to everybody's homes. They have a fire hydrant and then if they want to tap off the fire hydrant, then they can deal with the water department. I think that it's a wise investment on the town. Steve Malizia stated you'd have to pay to extend the water line if it's not already there. I'm assuming neighborhoods that are already there already have hydrants if you're already on water.

Chairman Maddox thought that's your question. Some they don't. Some of them may only have a 2 inch water line because they were just feeding domestic where I believe you need a 4 inch line minimum to put a hydrant off of. So it wouldn't be as simple as just digging a hole and putting a hydrant in. You'd have to upsize the pipe.

Selectman Coutu indicated I know that but if you have a hydrant here, you can't extend it out here off that line? Chairman Maddox said you can but most hydrants are 300 feet apart. That's the semi-standard is a 300 foot spacing between hydrants. So to go from that hydrant another 300 feet if the pipe's not there sized to do it, you'd have to run 300 feet of pipe. Again, I think it's a question for the water utility to say...Selectman Coutu understood that. I don't expect you're just going to dig a hole and drop a hydrant in and the water is going to appear and flush out it. I know you have to run a pipe from one end to the other. I went to school that day. Chairman Maddox stated then you know that hydraulically as you add more pipes in hydrants...Selectman Coutu said the pressure goes down. Chairman Maddox stated then we get in to the problem that now there's not enough pressure in the ones we have. Again, we can certainly look at how much money we want to spend. Selectman Coutu said I'm sorry I brought this up. I'm trying to think of taxpayers.

Selectman Luszey remarked it's not a conversation about how much we want to spend. It's a conversation about is there a plan for the water and sewer infrastructure in the town. There really is none. The approach has been to the Town Administrator's point and that is if by chance a developer wants town water, they can buy it. There is no plan to improve the current infrastructure beyond what is there out of the water and sewer utility funds. Chairman Maddox thought you really want to say expand not improve. They're improving all the time. Selectman Luszey indicated there's no plan and that's I think the point Selectman Coutu is trying to say. Should we have a plan? Chairman Maddox said we absolutely should. I think we should have a plan to expand our supply. Selectman Luszey said once we understand what that plan is, then you can start putting a cost to it and a time horizon against it. I believe there is a benefit to the taxpayer because every time the Fire Department comes in here, they tell us that if we have hydrants, our insurance rate goes down because we get a better rating.

Selectman Brucker said if the water company takes this on, everybody's rates are going to go up. Steve Malizia indicated it would have to be paid for somewhere. Selectman Brucker stated we're talking about a lot of money. Again, Chairman Maddox said we're struggling with capacity as well as...Selectman Brucker asked about the trucks that carry water. Mr. Malizia indicated we bought a tanker truck a couple of years ago. Selectman Brucker noted that we have 2 trucks that will carry 3,500 gallons of water between the two of them. Chairman Maddox said no. We have one now. Selectman Brucker said not according to the tour I got. One carried 1,500 and the other carried...Selectman Nadeau said that's an engine that carries 1,500. Steve Malizia said the tanker is a different piece of equipment than an engine. An engine has capacity to carry water. A tanker carries a lot more water. Selectman Brucker thought that's what we've been relying on is the fire trucks bringing the water. Selectman Coutu said my friend depended on it and he lost his house. They did everything they could. I'm not faulting the Fire Department. It was just going up a hill, down a hill, all the way up. He's set up in the back of the woods. We don't want to concern ourselves with the safety of the citizens who don't have hydrants. Let's move on.

Chairman Maddox thought I'm going to take the tacked that you often take. I take exception to that. What are we supposed to do? Do you have a plan to spend \$16 million to expand our water system? Is that what your proposing? Selectman Coutu said is it going to cost \$16 million every year to put one little extension 100 feet up and put a hydrant in? If you do one 300 feet every 10 years, you get 3,000 feet of hydrants up. I'm just trying to see if there's a way that we can add water to neighborhoods that have zero water and that a fire pumper is not going to put out the fire. It's only going to just stifle it enough until they run down and get more water and then it ignites again. I saw it done. I'm sorry. I shouldn't have brought it up I guess.

Chairman Maddox thought maybe we look at it when the water utility comes in to talk about a betterment district. If there were neighborhoods that were really interested in getting water, do we give them a no interest loan for 10 years to extend that out there like other towns have done.

Selectman Brucker thought we should. I think we should pass this along to the Municipal Utilities and ask them can they price out things for us, what would be involved, and report back to us. I'm the Liaison. Chairman Maddox asked so you will ask them that question. Selectman Brucker responded exactly.

For all of those who are still up and watching the Selectmen's meeting, Selectman Nadeau said this weekend will be Pumpkinfest. It will be Friday, Saturday, and Sunday over at Hills House put on by the Hudson Kiwanis. They'll be many local organizations there and different vendors – food vendors and carnival rides. I'd just like to have everybody take a look at the Hudson/Litchfield News tomorrow and look at the list of activities that will be going on there. One of the items will be, and we've talked about it recently is the fill the truck food drive. I hope to see a lot of people there. I'll be there for a good portion of the weekend myself. I have quite a few volunteers filling in while I'm out. I'll be out on Saturday night for a little while. My Dad will be filling in for me. I hope to see everybody there and enjoy the beautiful weekend that we're going to have. I look forward to filling up the truck. Thanks.

Chairman Maddox indicated the event Selectman Nadeau was talking about is the Fire Department on Saturday night where we will be swearing in the new Fire Chief. Selectman Nadeau stated and giving out the awards for the past year and the years of service for the fire members.

Selectman Luszey had a clarification. Is Selectman Nadeau and I charged with putting together a combined dispatch plan by this Board and if so, by when? Selectman Coutu never said that. Selectman Luszey indicated we made a motion to do it. Selectman Coutu indicated we made a motion to revisit it to bring it up for discussion. We're not charging anybody with doing it because I can see the cost being well over half a million dollars. I don't want to go there for over half a million dollars. Selectman Luszey was asking is if we're going to come back and revisit it, who is the lead point to go and get that information to come back here for that discussion? Selectman Coutu asked how are you going to do this in a week or two. It can't be done. You can't do this in a week or two. Impossible. We've been working on it forever and every time they bring it up, the cost goes up another \$100,000. Selectman Luszey said every time they bring it up, that's probably a true statement. Selectman Coutu said we forgot to add this. We forgot to do this or we didn't mention this. We had a timeline and everything. The last plan I officially sat down and looked at and then all of a sudden costs started escalating. I don't see us putting on the ballot a half a million dollars for combined dispatch this year. Selectman Luszey stated so we're going to kick this can down the road further.

Selectman Coutu stated let me put it this way. The taxpayers can only afford so much. If I had my druthers, I will make a plea for pay raises for our employees who haven't had any for 5 going on 6 years before I ask him to dole out a half a million dollars for combined dispatch when the dispatch center – it's not like we're in a critical need. We can put this off. The minute you start looking at the ballot and you see a half a million here and then you have an employee's package for say the clerical staff, \$38,000, \$42,000 the first year, they're not going to look at the 42. They're going to see half a million – no, no, no, no, no and it's automatically no. Our employees need to be given attention that they haven't been given. A half a million dollars or more for combined dispatch is not palatable again this year. I don't see how you can do it piecemeal. We can say well we'll buy this. Next year we'll buy that. By the time we buy the last piece, the first piece is who knows.

Chairman Maddox thought the key thing is we've decided that we want to go back to combined dispatch. I think now over the next, unfortunately like glacial year, to be able to pull all the numbers together, get the people, whatever we need to do, I don't think we can do it for this year's budget cycle. Selectman Coutu didn't think we can either. I'm willing to look at it. I'm not saying no. I'm willing to look at it but I want to see the details. I want to see a timeline. Selectman Luszey indicated you want to see details but who is from this Board going to go and work to get those details? Selectman Coutu stated we had started it and we had a plan and the whole thing just fell through for whatever reason. Chairman Maddox said it didn't fall through it bloated and that's the problem. Once people find a program that the Selectmen are in favor of, all of a sudden has an awful lot of cousins. Selectman Luszey said maybe this is a Selectmen's program, and we take it on, and we make the decision on how it's going to be executed and implemented. Selectman Coutu indicated we don't have those expertise and we don't get paid anything more than \$8 a day. I'm not going to sit down day, after day, after day. I have a life besides this. I put enough hours in this as it is without having to start doing – I mean if you want to do it, fine. We went to I don't know how many meetings we went to before we got a final plan and then like you said, it bloated. The price just kept going up and everybody wanted a piece of it.

Chairman Maddox didn't think it was doable in this budget cycle. Why try to push it into it. I know he wants to. Selectman Coutu said if he and Selectman Nadeau want to stab at it then let them go for it. I didn't hear Selectman Nadeau volunteer. Selectman Nadeau said I'd be more than happy to help him out with it. Selectman Coutu indicated if the two of you want to tackle it, I applaud you because Rick and I tried it. We worked on it for a long time and you assisted us and went through the process. We worked through this and the Finance Director, and the IT Director, and the Fire Chief and Police Chief. We had everybody in the room several times and other Fire Chiefs came in to talk to us about it. It was a long, arduous task to try to put a plan together. So good luck to them. I say

that sincerely. I wish you the best of luck. We had a difficult time. Chairman Maddox asked do we want to do this. I think that, again, it's not going to happen this year so let's hold off. I think we have a brand new Fire Chief. He's got some issues going on. As soon as Selectman Luszey has that approval, he's off to the races and he's requiring 600 pages of information that the guy doesn't have the ability to provide. Selectman Coutu thought that is a problem. We're in the middle of budget season. Chairman Maddox said budget season and a bunch of other things that we have going on. Selectman Nadeau commented and say we'll start in March. Chairman Maddox said you can start in January. Selectman Coutu said January 1st once the budget has been submitted through the Budget Committee. Other than that, just a matter of us signing warrants. So January would be plenty of time. That gives everybody a chance to get their feet wet and they'll know its coming.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 10:05 p.m. by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Brucker, carried 4-1. Selectman Luszey opposed.

Recorded by HGTV and transcribed by Donna Graham, Recorder.

HUDSON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Richard J. Maddox, Chairman

Nancy Brucker, Selectman

Roger E. Coutu, Selectman

Benjamin Nadeau, Selectman

Ted Luszey, Selectman