

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
Minutes of the November 27, 2012 Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER - by Chairman Coutu the meeting of November 27, 2012 at 7:02 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at Town Hall.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - led by Selectman Luszey.

3. ATTENDANCE

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

Staff/Others: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator; Donna Graham, Executive Assistant; Gary Webster, Town Engineer; Charlie Matthews, Library Director; Connie Owen, Library Trustee; Erin - Telegraph Reporter; Mike Linehan, HLN Reporter

4. PUBLIC INPUT

Chairman Coutu asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Board on any issue which we may have control at this time? Seeing none.

5. NOMINATIONS & APPOINTMENTS - NONE

6. CONSENT ITEMS

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

*Motion by Selectman Luszey, seconded by Selectman Nadeau, to approve consent items A, B, C, D and E, as noted or appropriate, carried 5-0.*

A. Assessing Items

- 1) Veteran Tax Credit - Map 168, Lot 068, Sub 076; Map 147, Lot 029, Sub 019, w/recommendation to approve
- 2) 2012 Tax Abatement - Map 204, Lot 1, w/recommendation to approve

*a. to approve the granting of a Residence in a Commercial/Industrial zone classification for the property located at Map 204, Lot 1, 155 Lowell Road, as recommended by the Assistant Assessor*

*b. to approve the granting of an abatement to Map 204, Lot 1, 155 Lowell Road, as per attached abatement form, as recommended by the Assistant Assessor.*

- 3) 2012 Tax Abatements - Map 165, Lot 152; Map 102, Lot 11; Map 158, Lot 24; Map 203, Lot 14; Map 203, Lot 15; Map 203, Lot 16; Map 203, Lot 18; Map 203, Lot 005; Map 203, Lot 8; Map 203, Lot 11; Map 197, Lot 196; Map 197, Lot 202; Map 197, Lot 204, w/recommendation to approve

B. Water/Sewer Items

- 1) Sewer Abatements - S-UTL-13-04, Map 160, Lot 030; S-UTL-13-05, Map 185, Lot 063, Sub 000; S-UTL-13-06, Map 147, Lot 001, Sub 024, w/recommendation to approve

C. Licenses & Permits

- 1) Hawker/Peddler/Itinerant Vendor's License - Michael Bevens a/k/a B & B Catering
- 2) Request to Solicit Funds - Girl Scout Troop 60302

D. Acceptance of Minutes

- 1) Minutes of the October 18, 2012 meeting
- 2) Minutes of the October 23, 2012 meeting

E. Calendar

11/28 7:00 Benson Park Cte - Landscape Cte - BOS Meeting Room  
11/28 7:00 Planning Brd - Buxton CD Meeting Room - CANCELLED  
11/29 7:00 Budget Cte - Buxton CD Meeting Room  
12/04 7:00 Board of Selectmen - BOS Meeting Room  
12/05 7:00 Planning Brd - Buxton CD Meeting Room  
12/06 7:00 Budget Cte - BOS Meeting Room  
12/06 7:00 Benson Park Cte - Buxton Meeting Room - CANCELLED  
12/06 7:00 Recreation Cte - BOS Meeting Room  
12/10 7:00 Conservation Cmsn - Buxton CD Meeting Room  
12/11 7:00 Board of Selectmen - Budget Review - BOS Meeting Room

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Votes taken after Nonpublic Session on November 13, 2012

1. *Motion by Selectman Maddox, seconded by Selectman Brucker, to hire Barbara Doyle for the position of full-time Senior Accounting position at a starting rate of \$16.04 per hour (Step 1) effective December 3, 2012, carried 5-0.*
2. *Motion to adjourn at 10:02 p.m. by Selectman Maddox, seconded by Selectman Brucker, carried 5-0.*

C. Library - proposed salary increases

Chairman Coutu recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia indicated that during the budget deliberations there was discussion about raises for amounts for raises that were put in for the Library budget. The Board took the position that raises put in the budget they would not support during the budget process the Budget Committee part of the process. So they asked the Library Trustees to consider/reconsider taking it out of the budget so that a warrant article could be forwarded for those raises. We had some correspondence I believe via e-mail. The Trustees met. They did accede to reduce the amount from 3 percent to 2 percent which has been the general amount that the Board of Selectmen have approved for their non union folks. The money is still in the operating budget. For your consideration, you need to decide whether you want to still support going to a warrant article, which at this point they have not acceded to do that, or do you want to direct your Liaison to not support this when it comes to the Budget Committee. This being the raises that are inside the budget.

Selectman Luszey believed they needed a motion to reconsider because it was actually made...Mr. Malizia said when there was a 3 percent number correct.

RECONSIDER MOTION OF 10/25/2012:

*Motion by Selectman Luszey, seconded by Selectman Maddox to reconsider the Motion by Selectman Luszey, seconded by Selectman Maddox, to direct the Budget Committee Liaison to recommend taking out 5060-101 to reduce line item for a three (3) percent increase (part time and full time), carried 3-1. Selectman Brucker in opposition.*

Selectman Luszey indicated the reason this is here is actually two fold. One is I will be representing the Board of Selectmen on that evening because that's the night the center will be presented. You requested that I attend that meeting. Just to be real clear for me going into that meeting on what this Board's position is, I asked that this motion be put together. What we're doing is I believe bringing in line what we feel is in terms of wage increases, what is in line with all the other departments that have come forward. However, I would state that we still need to be clear as to whether or not this Board's position is that those raises should be on the warrant or within the budget itself. Given that they are still in the budget, I would support the motion that we do not support the way the Library Trustees are handling the wage packages here. For full time employees, we should actually amend that.

Selectman Maddox indicated that they should reconsider because there have been changes to the whole program Sir.

*Vote: Motion carried 5-0.*

*Selectman Luszey thought it was proper now that there be a motion that would direct the Liaison to the Budget Committee at this point to 1) make a motion to withdraw all of the increased amounts of money, and I'm not sure what that is. It would be for the full time employees of the library from the operating budget.*

*Motion by Selectman Luszey, seconded by Selectman Maddox, to amend motion of 10/25/2012 by directing the Budget Committee Liaison to recommend taking out of line 5060-101 to reduce line item for a two (2) percent increase for full timers.*

Selectman Brucker asked if all they were actually doing is decreasing it from 3 percent to 2 percent. Is that what you're saying? Selectman Luszey said no. What we're doing, we've requested that the Library Trustees to put all full time salary increases on a separate warrant to enable the voters the right to vote on those increases. They failed to do that. In practice in the past with one exception that this Board did 2 years ago, all increase for full time employees go in front of the voters to let them choose whether or not they want to pay for that increase. By bundling the increase in the operating budget, the voters only have 1 choice - either to accept the entire operating budget or to decline it. What this motion is doing is taking the money for full time employees only out of the operating budget. If the Library Trustees choose to still put forth a warrant article for that, they can still do that.

Clarification. Chairman Coutu asked that they're not voting to take out the money. We're voting to take out the raises for full timers. Selectman Luszey said yes. Chairman Coutu told Selectman Brucker what we're trying to do is we're trying to be consistent in that we've asked all full time employees to present warrant articles which we've discussed. You've all taken part in some of them. We want to treat the part timers the way we do non-represented employees in town. We keep that amount of money in the budget at 2 percent and ask the Library to come forward with a warrant article for the full timers like we have all other departments. That would show consistency on our part.

*Vote: Motion carried 5-0.*

Chairman Coutu asked if the Board wanted to take it one step further. We don't have to. It's up to the Library Committee if they want to go for the full timers to come back with a warrant article. You're here. I'll give you an opportunity to speak. Connie Owen said she had no comment at this point.

Chairman Coutu said they haven't taken the 2 percent away from the part timers. We're recommending that it stay in your line. You can either argue with the Budget Committee to oppose what Selectman Luszey is going to represent this Board at the wishes of our Board or you can proceed and try to put together a warrant article for the 2 percent for all the full timers like we have for all other town departments.

## 8. NEW BUSINESS

### A. Well Drilling Contract - Weston & Sampson

Chairman Coutu recognized Town Engineer Gary Webster.

Gary Webster indicated that as a process on the water utility, we've always been trying to search for new sources of water for the town. I've been working with a local developer and have come up with this area that we're eventually going to a test well years ago. It's at Sparkling River. The contractor is the same as what we did last year with Weston & Sampson. It's not to exceed \$25,100 and that's complete. All the well testing and reports that come out of it. Hopefully they do 2, 3, or 4 test wells in that area. I was out there today to look at it. It's no tree cutting and wide open. We marked out the well citing and we're ready to get going on this project for this year to try to find more water. It's in the aquifer. I gave you guys little maps of everything. It's in a good aquifer area. It's near the river and it doesn't affect his building of any condo. He doesn't lose any units in the process. I received permission from him to go on his property and explore for possibly more water. It's one of the areas we looked at years ago and we never did anything about it. This gives us another chance to do something.

*Motion by Selectman Maddox, seconded by Selectman Luszey, to approve the Sparkling River Test Well Drilling Engineering Services Contract with Weston & Sampson in the not to exceed amount of \$25,100.*

Selectman Maddox indicated that this is one of those things that have been crawling through the process. We all know that we get our water from our wells in Litchfield and augmenting that with a well within the Town of Hudson would benefit all the way around. It would reduce our dependence on Pennichuck Water during the summer which will again keep our costs down. This is an exploratory well that hopefully will benefit the Water Utility for years to come.

*Vote: Motion carried 5-0.*

B. Acceptance of a donation of \$907.01 from Lifetouch National School Studios

Chairman Coutu recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia indicated that this happens a few times a year when we have the soccer and basketball programs. There are pictures taken of all the participants should they chose to and they chose to buy the pictures. Lifetouch donates money back to the community from some of those proceeds. I recommend you accept this with the Board's thanks and appreciation.

Motion by Selectman Brucker, seconded by Selectman Nadeau, to accept the donation of \$907.01 from Lifetouch National School Studios to be placed in the Recreation Donation Account, carried 5-0.

C. Acceptance of a donation of \$500.00 from Princeton Technology Corporation

Chairman Coutu recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Again, Steve Malizia indicated that this was somewhat of an annual donation from Princeton Technology, one of our local businesses. They generously donate every year toward direct programming for the youth of Hudson. I would also recommend that you accept this one with the Board's thanks and appreciation.

Motion by Selectman Luszey, seconded by Selectman Brucker, to accept the donation of \$500 from Princeton Technology Corporation to be placed in the Recreation Donation Account with the Board's thanks and appreciation, carried 5-0.

D. Acceptance of a donation of \$500.00 from Craig Norton

Chairman Coutu recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia said it would appear that Mr. Norton works at Princeton Technology and given his employer's donation must have stimulated him to make a donation. I would recommend we also accept his \$500 donation for the Rec. account with the Board's thanks and appreciation.

Motion by Selectman Brucker, and Selectman Maddox, to accept the donation of \$500 from Craig Norton to be placed in the Recreation Donation Account with the Board's thanks and appreciation, carried 5-0.

E. Request to use and waive the fee for the Community Center for Hudson Police Department's blood drives on March 25, 2014 and September 23, 2014 from 12 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Chairman Coutu stated that this has become common practice now for them. They had asked us a couple of years ago if we wouldn't mind if they would advance their request so that there's no conflict for those dates for their annual blood drive.

Motion by Selectman Brucker, seconded by Selectman Maddox, to approve the request to use and waive the fee for the Community Center for Hudson Police Department's blood drives on March 25, 2014 and September 23, 2014 from 12 p.m. to 7 p.m., carried 5-0.

F. Petitioned Zoning Amendment

Chairman Coutu recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia said the season for Petitioned Zoning Amendments has opened. The deadline for those is through December 12, 2012. Per law, the Board is required to receive the petitions and forward them onto the Planning Board. You do not take action on them. You are merely forwarding it to the Planning Board. I suppose if you wanted to have a recommendation, you could do so. Again, this is in the Planning Board's purview. It does come through the Board of Selectmen by State law. This is the first one we've received. So we've put it forward for you to forward. Again, with the deadline being the 12<sup>th</sup> of December and you're meeting the 11<sup>th</sup> of December, we'll have a motion on the 11<sup>th</sup> meeting that if we receive any on the 12<sup>th</sup> that they automatically be forwarded. For now, this is the only one we've received. It's basically to rezone some parcels down the south end of town near the water tank that we have down there. The property owners are looking to rezone it. It has the requisite amount of signatures. It appears to be in proper form so it gets forwarded to the Planning Board for their review and/or recommendation.

Motion by Selectman Brucker, seconded by Selectman Nadeau, to forward the petitioned zoning amendment for rezoning of properties located at Map 235, Lots 11, 12 and 13 to the Planning Board, carried 4-0-1. Selectman Maddox abstained.

9. OTHER BUSINESS/REMARKS BY THE SELECTMEN

Selectman Brucker - I want to thank the Highway Department for the beautiful light display at Library Park. It looks beautiful again this year. The Budget Committee is working very hard on the budget review of the school budget. You've heard from the Water Department about the wells and the contract. That's it for me.

Selectman Luszey stated when Selectman Brucker brought up the Budget Committee - during the opening session of the Budget Committee meeting, the School Board presented their overall budget which has a \$.79 impact to the tax rate. Selectman Brucker voted in favor of the plan correct. The proposal for the redoing of the schools if you will which I believe we need to have a discussion on it and allow the Liaison to bring back the consensus of this Board on where we sit. It was a very close vote. One vote would change I believe if I recall the vote on that from a recommend to a not recommend. The reason I bring it up is an e-mail was sent around that if you read it would have declared victory for that warrant article if you will. A very positive e-mail. What I would hate to see is it's almost a premature headline if you will. Just like the one I saw in The Telegraph about our budget. It stated that the Town's budget was up less than 1 percent yet there is no warrant articles reflected in our budget right now. There are no contracts reflected in there. It's very misleading to be making statements like that right now given that we are really in the beginning cycle of the overall preparation of next year's budget. I don't know when would be an appropriate time for us to actually take up that item.

Chairman Coutu asked to clarify one thing. In terms of newspaper reporting, what the newspaper reports is what we did as a Board. We recommended a budget with 1 percent either a hair over or a hair under 1 percent. The margin was 5 and we kept it down to 1. So you guys did an awesome job. Selectman Maddox said .1. Chairman Coutu said it's just one penny on \$1,000. I thought it was 1 percent. So it's one cent. So technically what the reporters are reporting are what we as a Board proposed for a budget. The warrant articles - we have no control over. Anybody can put a warrant article on the ballot providing they do it properly. Then it's up to the voters whether or not they want to spend more over and above what we recommend that we spend at this time. We can recommend or not recommend warrant articles. We're recommending for an operating budget is an increase of one cent per thousand on the budget for the Town. The School Committee on the other hand is recommending without warrant articles based on the information that we have is \$.79 per thousand increase. I think that's what the reporters were reporting. I think that's fair that they reported that.

Chairman Coutu indicated that Selectman Luszey had the floor if he wished to make a motion. I think that the Board would probably need - I know I watched the Budget meetings because we talk about them. Maybe members of the Board need further clarity about what you're talking about specifically.

Selectman Luszey said the item that I'm talking about is the warrant article for the study for doing changes to Library Street from an elementary school to I believe they want to make it a Pre-K which I think the voters need a say on whether they want to do that, adding rooms or a wing to HO Smith and then redoing the cafeteria and the gymnasium on the high school and creating a performing arts center, as well as retrofitting I believe Room 101 and 102 because all of a sudden this year they've deteriorated to the point that they've become unusable. Chairman Coutu asked if those were the rooms that were being interfered by the band noise. Selectman Brucker didn't think so.

Selectman Luszey found strange is the Budget Committee tours all the school buildings every year. Every year the Budget Committee asks all the principals and the Superintendent are there any major capital improvements that need to be done to keep the buildings usable and all that. These types of improvements or capital improvements were not brought up in the last 5 years. To have all of a sudden rooms being such that they're unusable I think is kind of strange.

Chairman Coutu asked if Selectman Luszey knew what the amount of money is that was in that warrant article. Selectman Luszey said what they're asking for a study is \$250,000, which is I believe one percent of the estimated cost of the project. Selectman Brucker said \$25 million. Chairman Coutu indicated it was about \$.07 per thousand on the tax rate. Mr. Malizia said the 250 is \$.10 assuming every \$25,000 is...Chairman Coutu asked if he was overestimating. Mr. Malizia said you're down to 25. Chairman Coutu said he liked it better from our side. I don't like it better from that side. It's \$.10 per thousand on the tax rate on that one item.

Motion by Selectman Luszey, seconded by Selectman Brucker, that the Liaison notify the Budget Committee that when that item comes up for reconsideration during the final vote that we would be voting in opposition of it.

Selectman Brucker indicated that she does know that the overall budget is a good size budget. I think that from my point of view I think that they could do this in stages. They probably know what they're talking about. They feel like they need to look at the whole thing - the fields, the buildings, the renovations in the cafeteria and the gym. It seems like a big chunk to me. However, the voters could vote it down. It has to be a warrant article.

Selectman Maddox indicated that he knows so little about this. Again, I'm relying on our 2 people to the Budget Committee (inaudible) sounds like a vicious project. Again not knowing much more than what you've just told us tonight, I was sitting in the audience briefly but I didn't hear that piece of it. Again, I'm up in the air but it just sounds right. \$250,000 to study spending all that money seems like an awful lot of studying. Chairman Coutu said you look at the total package which is \$25 million, when are we going to be able to afford \$25 million into all of those projects on the school side when we have projects we've been delaying forever on the Town's side such as a new fire station, looking at this building, and a lot of other things.

Chairman Coutu reiterated to Selectman Brucker something that was said to me when I was first appointed to the Budget Committee. I respect the fact that you've reconsidered the position and you took a vote that way. I was told when I was first appointed to represent the Board on the Budget Committee. When I had a difficult time either supporting or not supporting something the Board wanted to do. I was told that irrespective of the fact that you represent us on that board, you're entitled to a personal opinion but you have to vote according to the mandate of the majority of the board. You can express your personal opinion but you have to say to them, however the Board of Selectmen has asked me by a vote of 4 to 1, or 3 to 2, to oppose or support this warrant article or whatever. That's how I fell into that trap myself. Sometimes you're sitting there and you know everybody obviously has good intentions but there are some things that we control one vote. We want our voice to be heard on certain things. You can see how austere our budget is this year. I can say quite frankly for the past 4 years we've done an awesome job on the town side of maintaining our expenses at either level funded or very minimal increase. Anything over and above that was approved by the voters on our side which was the paving. That was their decision. I'm going to support Selectman Luszey's motion as well.

*Vote: Motion carried 5-0.*

Chairman Coutu indicated when that comes up again, the Board wishes not to support that warrant article for the study.

Selectman Maddox - Mr. Chairman I think you've said it well that .1 percent. This Board agonized sometimes fought, discussed longer than maybe we should have over 3 cents to keep the budget where we were trying to hit. I know that you weren't happy with some of our methods but I believe that this Board has said from day one that we wanted to get this as flat as possible so that we might put contracts on the warrant and have a good chance. I understand probably looking from afar, we weren't the prettiest bunch but we had a goal. We did what we had to do. I think our department heads understand that this is public. Those same discussions happened at HP, McDonald's or any other company. Unfortunately they don't get to do it live on television. I for one want us to recognize our employees. I think we work diligently to keep that...like I said, we argued about 3 cents. You saw \$.79 show up on the other side and that's their decision. We fought hard and long about raising even 3 cents. I just want to close with the fact that I hope that everybody that works for us understands that that is the process. If you read the paper tonight, the new Governor is challenged with a 26 percent increase if all the department heads got what they wanted. It just can't be. Those discussions are on television live for all of you that love to watch us on Tuesday nights.

Chairman Coutu wanted to say and certainly not in defense of what I did, I wanted to be here for wrap up night. I had missed a lot of meetings through no fault of my own. Nonetheless, I was not here. It's very, very difficult to govern a municipality on 4 votes on an even number of votes. I think in the final process you all did an outstanding job. I applaud you for it. I just wanted to get my 2 cents in before the budget was finalized. Thank you for that Selectman Maddox. I know you played an instrumental role as did all the others in accomplishing that goal.

Selectman Nadeau - I have quite a few things tonight. The first one I'd like to bring before the Board is the Building Department and the Building Inspector. Things have come up recently in that department which we need to really look at and post a job for a Building Inspector. We have some things coming up in that department that will be hitting us in January and February. We need to start looking to get a person into the role as our Building Inspector so that when the person who's currently filling the position decides that they're going to retire like we did with the Town Engineer, we need to start looking and preparing into the future. We need to be proactive instead of reactive. I think this is the time where we can do this and do it before January. The position has been unfilled and we have the money there to fill this position as a full time inspector so we can get it into the budget for the following year - the budget that has gone to the Budget Committee. We have it in there as a part time position.

(Selectman Nadeau) We've been talking about it for over a year now and I think it's time to move forward with posting this position. It's not something that I want to do or I've been trying not to do in making it a full time position. I think

the candidates that we got this last round were not very strong candidates for the part time position. With the state of the economy, I think that some people that are in their early 40s are looking to get out of the field. I think we have a better chance of picking up somebody with electrical experience, a Master Electrician, that type of thing that is looking to get out of the field and go into the inspecting department. It's my hope that the Board would be willing to post the Building Inspector's position. With some of the stuff that's been happening, I think now is the time to do it. I have a copy of the posting for a full time position if the Board is interested in going forward with this. Just wondering what the will of the Board is to move on this.

Selectman Luszey was actually not that far off from where Selectman Nadeau is however, I'm not ready to do a posting. I do know of the situation you're talking about. I would suggest to this Board that we take this topic up at our next workshop so that we can hash out what that position would be. Right now we had a part time Building Inspector. We have a part time electrical inspector that wants to reduce his hours. We have a Memo from that particular individual that states what they can and can't do. I think we owe it to the taxpayers of this Town to make sure, again - and I'm going back to some of the work that I've started with the Town Administrator of looking at all of the positions in the Town and see if we have the right people in the right place doing the right work. I think this is a great opportunity to do a real detailed analysis of what we want that position to do and then write a job description and posting for that position. I've looked at these postings that we're using. They're old postings. They're based on historical work. I think we have an opportunity here. I would support that.

Selectman Maddox said if we're going to look at this, you and I probably a year ago sat down with the Fire Chief and we discussed the idea of putting the inspectors under the Fire Department. We held off because we were going to do combined dispatch. That seems to have ground to a halt. Maybe bringing the Fire Chief in at the same time while we're making this discussion and seeing how those inspectors with the building inspectors we could do what we saw being done in two other communities, the Chiefs came in and spoke to us, to take a look at that avenue. As long as we're going to look at this, let's take the big view and look at that option as well.

Here's the problem Chairman Coutu is having. I certainly agree with Selectman Nadeau for various reasons. Time is critical and I don't know that discussing it the first Tuesday in December is going to afford us enough time to go through the process without a huge lapse there knowing what I know anyway about the circumstances without getting into any detail and I don't want the detail brought up. Selectman Luszey asked if they were talking 8 days from now. Mr. Malizia indicated it would be a week because today is Tuesday. Chairman Coutu asked how long do we post it for because we'd have to post and advertise. Selectman Nadeau indicated that we usually post it for 2 weeks. Now we're going to be off until the end of December.

Selectman Luszey said he honestly didn't believe having the discussion during a workshop and then posting it is going to have a huge impact on the outcome of this. I do know what you're talking about. Even if we were to post tomorrow unless you already have a candidate lined up to say hire that person, it's not going to have a huge impact to the issues that are coming up. Chairman Coutu agreed. I don't see where 7 days is going to make...it just tightens it up a little bit. Selectman Luszey suggested if we have inspectors within the Fire Department, we could put together a contingency plan to take care of inspections that need to be taken care of while we work through this upcoming issue. It's going to happen. Mr. Malizia wanted to remind everybody that we have one inspector in the Fire Department and the other one is out. Selectman Luszey said we know where a contract agency is and we may have to do contracts for a few of the inspections.

Selectman Maddox indicated that was going to be my question. I thought that we asked the Town Administrator to research and I know it wasn't for long term but it could be done. Mr. Malizia said to get MRI to come down on a contract basis for a certain per diem for hours. They'll do it for a short time provided somebody is available in the area. There's no guarantees that there is but provided that there is.

Selectman Brucker asked if there is a suggestion that there would be one inspector who is a fire inspector would also be doing the building code inspections. Chairman Coutu didn't personally think he could do them. Selectman Nadeau didn't think so either. Chairman Coutu said he's not a Master Plumber. We have a licensed electrician but he's not a licensed plumber. Selectman Maddox indicated that we don't have a licensed plumber now. Chairman Coutu asked if they knew building codes. That would be a discussion for the Fire Chief.

Motion by Selectman Nadeau, seconded by Selectman Brucker, to post the position for a full time Building Inspector with a starting salary of \$21.65 (Step 1) per hour, passes 3-2. Selectman Maddox and Selectman Luszey in opposition.

Selectman Nadeau stated that the winter parking ban goes into effect starting December 1<sup>st</sup>. No on street parking in the Town of Hudson between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m. If there's a snow emergency and it's posted, it's usually posted on the cable channel and the Town website if we have to change the parking ban.

The other item Selectman Nadeau had is Santa came to town and did the tree lighting at the Common. After that it was followed down to the Community Center where they had something for the children to meet and greet Santa. That was put on by the Lions Club and many other organizations in town which was very well done as usual. I'd like to thank everybody who helped us with that and the Highway Department for doing the lights at the Common.

Selectman Nadeau said that the dump is now closed on Saturdays except for the last Saturday of the month with your permits. You don't need them for the brush and the leaves but you do need them for your regular trash. The new permits are available at the Highway Department for 2013. You still have one more chance to use your permits from this year, the last Saturday in December.

Selectman Nadeau stated that he'll go over it in December but there's many toys for tots location drop offs in Hudson. The Chamber is also doing their annual Christmas dinner which will be held at the White Birch. It's during the first week in December. The money that they raise goes to the St. Vincent de Paul Society. The tickets are available at the Chamber office if anybody is interested in going to the Christmas Chamber dinner. That's all I have this evening.

Selectman Luszey - Just a couple of items. The Senior Affairs Committee met last Wednesday. I gave them an update on where we are on the center on the warrant article and all of that. We'll be getting the final wording for that warrant article put together this week and with the numbers. I've been working with KC and Gary to do that.

Selectman Luszey also had an opportunity when we were talking with the Senior Affairs group. They're working on trying to consolidate the senior activities that take place within the town with all of these small groups of seniors - the Council on Aging, the Hudson Seniors, and others. One of the things that actually has begun to surface - and they're making traction. They're getting to some of the elderly gated communities and may have groups within them. One of the items that's surfacing is transportation. Some of the seniors don't drive. The only way they get around is by taxi or public transportation. I'm wondering if this Board would be okay if I approached the SAU School District about the possibility of using the bus that they purchased this past year. It's a small bus and I don't know how many passengers it is. Selectman Nadeau asked if Selectman Luszey was referring to the vocational bus. Selectman Luszey didn't know if we could use it or not. Selectman Nadeau thought it was purchased through the Trustees. Selectman Luszey didn't know if there were limitations on it. If it's through the vocational, I think there would actually be a better shot of using it because they have a program that deals with elderly care and stuff like that. Maybe we could somehow link them up with that organization to get people to the senior center on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday's when they're doing the meals, games and things like that.

Chairman Coutu said he had no problem with him asking if we can use it. We have a consensus.

The last item Selectman Luszey had is he had an opportunity to meet the folks at Blackwater Firearms yesterday. They brought me through their facility. They asked to extend an invitation to this Board to go down and see what they're doing there. It is quite an operation of what they're doing. I think it's going to be a great asset to the Town for what they're doing with that property. The other thing that really struck me on how serious of an operation this is going to be is they have 1 of 4 trailers. It's a 51 foot trailer that is a simulator where people go in and use live ammo to simulate terrorist attacks, robberies, bank robbery scenarios. It is intense. It was built for the FBI and it became excess. It was never used. It's something to see. If this group would like to go down, we could do it on a workshop day and we meet there and maybe start the meeting. If not, then there is an open invitation for each and every one of you to go down, stop in, and meet them, and get a tour of the facility.

To that, Selectman Maddox indicated that they came in before the Planning Board. Once they finally answered the questions, it went rather rapidly. It looked like quite the operation when they went before the Planning Board. I wish them the best of luck.

Chairman Coutu hoped it proved true Selectman Luszey that they do become an asset for the town. Based on what I've seen so far, I'm very impressed. They haven't spared any money in refabricating their parking area, the shrubs, getting the water system up and running again for the grass. I was very impressed.

Selectman Coutu - I have a request from a department head that I would like to pass by you. As you know, I was not here but you had an extensive discussion with the Recreation Director relative to starting up a lacrosse league. He has brought to my attention as have a couple of members of the Recreation Committee that there have been several requests in town since they've seen this discussion about starting it up this year. I told him to tell me what it costs. I had remembered seeing it at the meeting and to give me a refresher. As you remember, Babe Ruth will no longer exist under our Recreation Department. That line item has a line item of \$13,057.90. The lacrosse budget is \$12,516. He anticipates that he could get enough players in the first season to have 4 teams with each team having approximately 20 players. The registration fee would be \$100 per player. It is anticipated that would bring in about \$8,000 revenue for the year. He's favoring that \$12,516 that there would be some start up costs. The first year technically the program would cost - if we got the \$8,000 revenue, we would need \$4,000 out of the \$13,000 budgeted



for Babe Ruth leaving him a surplus there of \$9,000. Babe Ruth's revenue last year was only \$4,130. I think it was moved to have them move elsewhere. He needs almost immediate consideration whether we agree to or not agree to because Litchfield is holding their registrations this Saturday, December 1<sup>st</sup> and several parents who live in Hudson said they would not go to Litchfield because if we have a lacrosse league here, they would have to join ours. He would like to be able to inform these people before Saturday that we're agreeing to allow them to start the program this year or not.

Selectman Maddox said the only thing is he didn't fund Babe Ruth so there is none of that money. Mr. Malizia said yes there is. This is this year. Selectman Maddox asked if they spent it last summer. In essence, Mr. Malizia said baseball starts late April or May. It gets over before the school year ends. It will be for this prospective season. Selectman Maddox indicated that they're going to cancel that baseball program a year early to do lacrosse is that what he's saying. Mr. Malizia said in 2013, the current year we're in, there's a budget called "Babe Ruth" has \$13,000 in it with offsetting revenue of \$4,000. What he's saying is next year we had this conversation for next year. Can we move that up this year by therefore offloading Babe Ruth - I'm assuming one of the baseball organizations Pelham or Hudson Youth Baseball will pick it up and put lacrosse in, which will be a less of an expense. It's \$12,000 versus \$13,000 and double the revenue \$8,000 versus \$4,000. I believe that's what he's asking for. He doesn't want to do it unless the Board says yes that sounds okay. If the Board says no, we won't do it.

Selectman Maddox said if that be the case, if he's saying that the Rec. Committee and the Rec. Director wish to cancel baseball early so they can do this, I have no problem with that. It's within his budget. He seems to have a lot more interest in lacrosse than unfortunately in baseball. Chairman Coutu didn't think it was necessarily that. I think that from my experience anyway, and Selectman Nadeau could talk to his serving on the Recreation Committee, there isn't that great an interest in Babe Ruth. It became an expensive losing proposition for us. It would be better for these kids in order to be able to play ball to be absorbed by another baseball affiliate locally. I think it was cost prohibitive because we didn't have the number of players they had originally thought we were going to get and that's what happened with Babe Ruth. Things faded out and a lot of kids play Legion ball now.

Selectman Luszey indicated that there was initial startup. Mr. Malizia said it was \$12,000. As Chairman Coutu remembered him when he spoke before the Board about this, he was going to be buying practice sticks, goals, and probably a marker for the field where you put spray paint in and go around. I think that 's going to be their initial startup and then the \$100 is going to more than cover each of the kids. They have to provide their own helmets; they have to provide their own sticks; he has to provide the balls. Just for the viewers to be real clear Selectman Luszey said what the Board is really saying is the spring of 2013 there will be no Babe Ruth and we will be starting up a lacrosse team and there will be net zero impact to the budgets.

Chairman Coutu said that was correct. It should be a surplus of the budget as a result of these numbers assuming they come to fruition. They will be no impact on the budget. Selectman Luszey said he didn't want to give anybody any false expectations. Chairman Coutu said there's no impact on the budget. If it comes in at over \$14,000, we'll put a kibosh to it over \$13,000.

Chairman Coutu indicated one of the questions he asked was do we have to hire directors and what not like the other organizations do. He said for the first year he has sufficient volunteers. He was a woman that is really into it and has offered to step forward and she's willing to do it. They're going to see how it goes the first year. If there's a need or he'll make a request in the next budget for it.

Selectman Luszey said the impact is to anyone that thinks that they were going to play Babe Ruth in the rec. league this spring will not be there. Chairman Coutu said we won't be playing Babe Ruth recreation ball. They'll still be playing in Hudson but I don't know but under a different auspice. There is another organization of youth baseball players that are in the Babe Ruth age group. Selectman Nadeau said the American Legion. Mr. Malizia said that Pelham runs a program. The Legion and Babe Ruth are two separate things. Pelham runs a Babe Ruth program. The Legion runs a junior league and a senior league. Babe Ruth is for youth 13 to 15. Pelham runs a league. More likely, they're going to be absorbed or work with Pelham to either take a couple of Hudson teams for the kids that are interested or scatter the Hudson kids to Pelham teams.

Chairman Coutu knows that he and a couple of other members of the Recreation Committee, Keith Bowen, have met with this other person who runs a similar type and he said he was willing to absorb them. If they want to continue playing, the opportunity will be there for them. They may have to travel a little. I just know that lacrosse is the up and coming sport in New England right now.

Selectman Brucker wanted to say that the night that he came and shared his information for the 2014 budget, practically the whole place was filled up with people who were interested in seeing the lacrosse program. I don't think that there will be any problem with having people who will want to get involved. Some of the kids are already playing over in Nashua and would like to come back to Hudson and be on the lacrosse team.

Motion by Selectman Nadeau, seconded by Selectman Luszey, to authorize the Recreation Director to start a lacrosse program and get rid of the Babe Ruth program for the spring season, carried 5-0.

Chairman Coutu wanted to thank - and by the way it really looks good when you're watching it on television the Recycling Committee - and I know that's one of those programs that's near and dear to your heart Ben - I think these posters do a great deal of justice to our town especially at these meetings when they're being held here and when they show the full front. People get to see how much we support recycling. I think it's great that they did that.

Chairman Coutu told Selectman Nadeau that he was very surprised in light of the fact that this is my first year that I missed the event - our annual Thanksgiving Day feast. Again, plaudits to the Hudson Fish and Game. They had an outstanding Thanksgiving Day. Thank you to the scouts, to all of the volunteers, the members of the Hudson Fish and Game, and all of these people who volunteered 3 or 4 days cooking this food. It was brought to my attention yesterday - my wife told me and we're talking about meals being delivered as well as people coming into the building that somewhere between 1,400 and 1,500 meals were served this Thanksgiving by the Hudson Fish and Game. I think last year Ben we were around 1,300. So it's a couple thousand. The people coming in to eat was greater than it has been in the past. I know often times when we go down and we work, there aren't that many people in there. There are some that come in a smattering here and there. I guess they got quite a few this year. Selectman Nadeau indicated that they did get quite a few when I was down there. I was washing dishes and didn't break the sink this year. I even brought an assistant down. My wife's Uncle Bob came down and we washed dishes for a few hours. We did have a very good time. Like you said, there was a lot more walk ins but they had a great system set up as usual and everybody filled the meal boxes and they just went out on delivery. I answered only two calls this year while I was there. People were very patient and everything went very well this year. I look forward to doing it again next year. Hopefully Selectman Coutu will be down there next year washing dishes with me.

Chairman Coutu heard too relative to the organization that the phone was ringing off the hook for orders. They had to because people had to go home. They're all volunteers and they had to go home for their own family dinners. They had to not answer the phone after a certain hour because it was ringing off the hook for last minute request for meals. What an outstanding job they did. I'm so proud of them as always.

10. NONPUBLIC SESSION

Motion by Selectman Maddox, seconded by Selectman Luszey, to enter Nonpublic Session pursuant to RSA 91-A:2 (a) Strategy or negotiations with respect to collective bargaining, carried 5-0 by roll call.

Chairman Coutu indicated that Nonpublic Session is being entered at 8:10 p.m., thus ending the televised portion of the meeting. Any votes taken upon entering open session will be listed on the Board's next agenda. The public is asked to leave the room.

Chairman Coutu entered public session at 8:26 p.m.

Discussions were held relative to the senior center/cable facility center warrant article.

Motion by Selectman Luszey, seconded by Selectman Maddox, to request moving the Assistant Town Administrator's salary not to exceed \$90,000 to the Senior Center Capital Reserve Fund, carried 4-1. Selectman Maddox in opposition.

Discussions were held relative to the Building Inspector posting.

Motion by Selectman Brucker, seconded by Selectman Maddox, to reconsider (prior vote relative to the Building Inspector position), carried 3-2. Selectman Nadeau and Selectman Coutu in opposition.

Motion by Selectman Brucker, seconded by Selectman Luszey, to wait until December 4, 2012 to hire a Building Inspector, carried 4-1. Selectman Nadeau in opposition.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 9:38 p.m. by Selectman Maddox, seconded by Selectman Luszey, carried 5-0 .

Recorded by HGTV and transcribed by Donna Graham, Recorder.

HUDSON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Benjamin Nadeau, Vice Chairman

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

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

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