

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Minutes of the December 6, 2011 Workshop

1. CALL TO ORDER - by Chairman Jasper the meeting of December 6, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at Town Hall.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - led by Selectman Nadeau.

3. ATTENDANCE

Board of Selectmen: Shawn Jasper, Roger Coutu, Rick Maddox (arrived at 7:15 p.m.), Ben Nadeau, Ted Luszey

Staff/Others: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator (excused absence); Donna Graham, Executive Assistant; Kevin Burns, Road Agent; Kathy Carpentier, Finance Director

4. PUBLIC INPUT

Chairman Jasper asked if there was any member of the public who would like to address the Board over any issue over which we have jurisdiction. Seeing none.

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Rubbish Removal Contract

Chairman Jasper recognized Selectman Coutu and Road Agent Kevin Burns.

Thank you Mr. Chairman. As you are aware, Selectman Coutu has asked the Road Agent to come here this evening. He will have a document that he will be presenting to each of you. As you are aware, one of the most contentious issues we've had to deal with certainly in the past three years since I've been on the Board has been the new rubbish removal contract. With all due justice to our Road Agent, we made it very clear to all of our department heads Mr. Chairman that we wanted to level fund this budget. He certainly had an enormous task on his hands when he undertook the renewal of this contract, which expires on June 30, 2012. He was able to present to us a contract which we felt would provide pretty much the same service that we provided the citizens and we had to do something to contain costs. I urge our citizens before we make this formal presentation that anything and everything they can do in the next few years to increase recycling will help us certainly to contain these costs. It has always been our objective and certainly the objective of the Road Agent to provide a service in a cost effective manner for all of our taxpayers.

Mr. Chairman you and other members of this Board, and myself included, have received an awful lot of e-mails. I'm sure phone calls and I've had several visitors in the store discuss this issue with me. I'll be careful not to use confront me about the issue. One of my friends is in the audience and we had a serious discussion about this. I've also received Mr. Chairman copies of several of the replies that were sent out to some people. They sent me copies of some of the things that you sent out and also somebody sent me a letter outlining some conversations that they had with Selectman Maddox. I had said basically the same thing to pretty much everybody is that I would give personally some serious thought and see if there was anything I could work out.

One of the plans Selectman Coutu came up with - thank god we have a Road Agent that's on his toes at all times - I thought maybe we had the barrels all wrong. Maybe we ought to use the bigger totter for the rubbish and the smaller one for the recycling until Mr. Burns reminded me of how much more expensive it would be to haul the larger totter with more rubbish out because it would increase our tonnage. It certainly doesn't assist us with trying to encourage people to recycle. However after having communicated back and forth with Mr. Burns, I found out that Mr. Burns was a recipient of as many if not more phone calls and e-mails than we were. Mr. Burns has given this serious thought and has come up with a proposal that I think will help resolve the problem. We can move on and have satisfied the needs. With that, Mr. Burns I turn it over to you Sir.

First Mr. Burns said he does want to say I'm still very pleased with the contract. I think we've done well. By the end of this contract, we'll have 15 years without increasing our expense for solid waste. That's very difficult in these times. I have to say I think I did underestimate the need/desire of some people for the second totter. With that said, I tried to come up with something that is fair and equitable so that those who feel the need absorb the burden of the cost and not have it passed on to everyone. After working with Pinard, and I have to say Pinard is very good to work with. They are very cooperative. They're always willing to work with me on these matters. What I'm proposing is Pinard

will allow Hudson residents one 64 gallon totter for solid waste removal on a subscription plan. This would be the second totter. The Town has already issued them with one. Pinard will charge each household \$150 a year for the service. Residents will pay the fee directly to Pinard Waste. Pinard Waste will supply each subscription customer one 64 gallon totter, black in color with a yellow top. The yellow top will signify a paid subscription. Pinard will own and maintain these subscription totters. At the end of the subscription period if the customer does not resubscribe, Pinard Waste will remove the totter. Pinard will administer the program. Pinard Waste will credit the Town of Hudson \$75 per year per subscription to cover our disposal costs for the contents of the totter. Pinard Waste will pay each owner of an existing second gray top totter \$25 for their totter. This can be applied to their subscription reducing residents first year cost to \$125 of which the Town will still receive \$75. If the resident does not wish to subscribe, they can still receive the \$25 or they can keep the second gray top totter and use it as a second recycling bin with a sticker provided by Pinard.

Mr. Burns thought because of the contract I've been able to negotiate a fair price. In comparison, Londonderry has a very similar program. They charge \$200 for the first year subscription. Litchfield - a subscription service from Pinard costs \$352 or \$6.77 per week. Ours will be \$150 a year which comes to \$2.88 a week and we're supplying the barrel. That is not the case anywhere else. I think this is fair and equitable because the Town is made whole with the \$75 credit to cover our disposal. So we do not have to increase the budget or taxes. The people that need the extra service for whatever reason - it's not going to be you have to prove to us why you need the second barrel. If you feel that you need it, you set up a subscription outside of the Town officers and deal directly with Pinard. I think \$150 is a reasonable fee.

Chairman Jasper would certainly agree. Kevin do you need anything from us tonight? Would you like us to approve the program as outlined in your Memo for the record?

Mr. Burns said probably to approve it just for the record. It really is going to be more of a contract between the residents and Pinard but because we're taking the credit, it probably would be...

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Luszey, to approve the contents of the Memo from the Road Agent dated December 5, 2011 in regard to demand for second solid waste totter, carried 4-0.

Chairman Jasper thanked Mr. Burns. I appreciate that very much.

B. Nominations and Appointments - Interviews

1) Benson Park Committee - (3 vacancies, 3 member terms to expire 12/31/14)

James Barnes (incumbent member) - 3 McKinney Drive. I've been on the rejuvenated Benson Park Committee for the last 3 years. As I think most of you are aware, there has been a lot of progress out at the park. I think it's a credit to all of the people - volunteers, Town Highway Department, and so on, that we have made such progress out there. As you know, it is very popular. I see references to people talking about it all over town. I wear my Benson hat and going into the stores and people at the cash register are saying, "Yes I love the park. I go there all the time." I'm interested in signing up for another term. I think the Committee has formed very well. I would like to continue serving in that capacity to the Town.

Chairman Jasper asked if there were any questions. We're just at the start of this process. Our normal procedure is that we interview people at this meeting and make the appointments at the next meeting, which will be the 13th. We thank you for coming in.

Also just for the record here, we only have 3 applications. All three being incumbents.

Harry Schibanoff (incumbent member) - Good evening. My name is Harry Schibanoff. I live at 8 Birdie Lane. I've been on the Benson Park Committee for almost 3 years since its change over to the Benson Park Committee. For the last two years, I've been Chairman. I can say that during that time a lot of things happened. We never thought that we would be where we are today back then. One of the first times we had a committee meeting, we walked through the park. I couldn't believe how bad it was. People would ask me what's the park like? I would tell them it's a real mess. It was at that time. Through the efforts of the volunteers just as Jim said and the Committee members, we've made it into something that I think the Town of Hudson should be proud of. I'd like to continue on this Committee and see what happens.

Chairman Jasper asked if there were any questions.

Selectman Coutu had a comment. Mr. Chairman you and I remember well how this Committee started and how Harry ascended to the position he is today. I just want to comment Harry that this is for you and for all of the members of the Benson Committee. We are indeed proud of the end product or the product as it continues to grow each and every day into a spectacular piece of our town that we can be very proud of. We are very proud of the way you've conducted yourself, the professionalism in which you've lead this board. I think that you're a real doer and obviously a great organizer because you were able to pull everybody together and everybody is working in unison. We're very proud of that achievement. Thank you Sir.

Chairman Jasper echoed those remarks and thank you very much for reapplying.

Chairman Jasper indicated that John Leone is not with us this evening. He will be here on the 13th, so we can interview him at that time.

2) Building Board of Appeals - (2 vacancies, 2 terms to expire 12/31/14)

Chairman Jasper said he didn't think the Building Board of Appeals has had a case to hear in how many years. How many years Vinny? Have you ever been on the Board when they've had...Mr. Russo said this has been his fourth term. So it's close to 10 years. Chairman Jasper said and never had a hearing. Mr. Russo said he's never had a hearing.

Vincent Russo (incumbent member) - Good evening. Vinny Russo 14 Greeley Street. This was a very easy Board to apply for. As you well stated, there's not a whole lot of activity but in the event that there is, certainly we're here. Again, I want to say as I reiterate is a testament to our Community Development Department and Building Inspectors that they work with the people of the town and there really is not a whole lot of need for us to come together fortunately.

Chairman Jasper thanked Mr. Russo for applying.

For the record, note that Selectman Maddox has arrived at 7:15 p.m. Thank you so much Mr. Russo for coming. Does anyone have any questions for Mr. Russo?

Selectman Maddox asked if the Board has met this year. Mr. Russo said not yet.

3) Cable Committee - (3 vacancies, 3 terms to expire 12/31/14)

Rupert Cote (incumbent member) - Chairman Jasper indicated that Mr. Cote was not here this evening.

Michael O'Keefe (incumbent member) - Good evening. Michael O'Keefe, 57 Glen Drive. I've served on this Committee for countless years at this point. I think it's probably about 6 years since the Board reformed it. I've served as Chairman during that period. I think we've made a lot of progress for local access within Hudson. While we've established a strong foundation, I think there's still a lot of work to be done and a lot of potential for growth. I'm here to continue in that process.

Chairman Jasper asked if there were any questions. Seeing none I'll just say thank you for your service. I know this Board appreciates all the work that you do on behalf of the cable subscribers for the Town of Hudson. I would certainly agree that great progress is being made. I think we can look forward to some more great programming as we progress. Thank you for taking the time to come in.

Ms. Graham advised Chairman Jasper that Mr. Cote is not able to attend any of the night meetings. Chairman Jasper asked what the Board's pleasure was. Mr. Cote is an incumbent. He's not able to be here on Tuesdays. We would either have to form a subcommittee or something to talk to him. I don't think there's the need.

Selectman Coutu said he works with Mr. Cote. He's also a member of the Recreation Committee. He's well known to the Board. I think we can vote on his appointment. Chairman Jasper said we can tell him that under the circumstances we will waive the interview process. Particularly since we have two people applying for 3 terms.

4) Conservation Commission - (5 vacancies, 2 member terms to expire 12/31/14; 1 alternate term to expire 12/31/12; 1 alternate to expire 12/31/13; 1 alternate to expire 12/31/14)

Chairman Jasper said to anybody watching at home, we have one applicant. So if you're interested in getting involved and interested in the work that the Conservation Commission does, please it's not too late to put in your application and go on our next meeting or frankly any subsequent meeting until we fill the vacancies.

Nancy Lamoureux (incumbent member) – 18 Village Lane. Just finishing my first term on the Conservation Commission. I found that it's a lot of information to absorb. A lot to learn but there's a lot of good people on the Board and a lot of experience there to learn from. I'd be looking forward to serving another term with them and assisting in the goals of the Town of Hudson.

Chairman Jasper didn't want to speak out of turn, but I think you're pretty well assured that you'll be reappointed next week.

Selectman Maddox indicated that she didn't check off what she wants to be appointed to - a member or an alternate. Chairman Jasper thought she just said a member. Thank you very much for coming in this evening and reapplying.

5) Energy Committee - (2 vacancies, 2 terms to expire 12/31/13)

Chairman Jasper indicated that we have no applicants for those 2 positions.

6) Nashua Regional Planning Commission - (2 vacancies, 1 member term to expire 12/31/15; 1 alternate term to expire 12/31/2015)

Chairman Jasper indicated that we have no applicants for those positions.

Chairman Jasper indicated that NRPC only meets 4 times a year if that's kind of an incentive. It is in Merrimack but its only 4 times a year.

7) Planning Board - (3 vacancies, 2 member terms to expire 12/31/14; 1 alternate term to expire 12/31/14)

James Barnes (incumbent member) - Chairman Jasper indicated that no one had any further questions for Mr. Barnes as he was here just a couple minutes ago. If not Jim, I think you can sit there. Thank you for coming in.

Tim Malley (incumbent member) - 4 Saint John Street. I spent a year or so as an alternate. I got moved into the Planning Board as a member and still enjoying the learning curve. I'd like to continue that track.

Selectman Maddox was wondering if Mr. Malley can help us out. Again, he was a gentleman that came in fresh and sat as an alternate and now as a member. There is a learning curve but I hope that you feel that you're part of the Planning Board. That you are getting the same education; you're seeing all the ins and outs. It's something that can be done. I know you were kind of goated into this as the Chamber volunteer. I think, again, that everybody kind of says I don't want to make that commitment. Maybe you can expand on some of that for us if you would.

Mr. Malley said the commitment is quite the commitment. I think the most interesting thing is sitting on the outside of the Planning Board you don't see. You question why things are being done and allowed to be done. The bottom line is most of the time is because the law requires you to allow them to do it. That's a big learning curve. Sometimes the law says you can't do it, which is a bigger learning curve.

Chairman Jasper thanked Mr. Malley for reapplying.

8) Recreation Committee - (3 vacancies, 3 member terms to expire 12/31/14)

Rupert Cote (incumbent member) - Chairman Jasper indicated that Rupert Cote is also up and I assume because he's an incumbent the Board will waive that interview as well.

Susan LaRoche (incumbent member) - I'm Sue LaRoche. I've been on the Recreation Committee now for my third term. I feel like we've come a long way. I feel like we've made some great changes. I feel like we still have a lot to do. I'd like to still be a part of that. I think I still have energy left for about 3 years. Hopefully we can continue on with what we're doing. I think the Benson playground project was phenomenal although I had a very tiny part in that. It was nice to see different committees working together to get something accomplished. Hopefully that can continue.

Chairman Jasper asked if anyone had any questions.

For those of you who don't know, Selectman Coutu said Sue was a former Lowellian but recently made it into the Athletic Hall of Fame in the City of Lowell at the high school. I'm very proud of that accomplishment. You were a flooding athlete in your hay day. She carries that competitive spirit with her to the Recreation Committee. She's not afraid to voice her opinion. She does an outstanding job.

Chairman Jasper congratulated Sue and he would certainly agree with Selectman Coutu. The Rec. Committee is doing some great things for the Town of Hudson and certainly the playground at Benson Park is a phenomenal asset to the town. Thank you and the Committee for working with us to make that happen.

Jeremy Griffus - interview of 12/13

- 9) Recycling Committee - (5 vacancies, 4 members - 2 member term to expire 12/31/12; 2 member terms to expire 12/31/14; 1 alternate term to expire 12/31/12)

Leo Bernard (incumbent member) - Good evening. Leo Bernard, 3 Bungalow Ave. I've been on this Committee ever since it was formed. I think we're doing a great job. I want to continue doing the job that we're doing.

Chairman Jasper asked if anyone had any questions. If not, thank you Leo for coming in.

Selectman Coutu thanked Leo for being on every other committee.

Dereck Chaisson - 3 Bungalow Ave. I applied to put something on my resume for work.

Chairman Jasper asked if Mr. Chaisson has had any involvement with the Committee. Have you ever been to a committee meeting? Mr. Chaisson said not at all. Chairman Jasper said it sounded like you're a neighbor of Leo's and he probably corralled you here. Mr. Chaisson said yes. Does any member of the Board have any questions?

Selectman Coutu said he had some questions. Dereck usually when somebody new applies to be on a board, we like to get a little more insight from the person who's applying. I hope Leo coached you. Could you tell us why you're interested in serving on the Recycling Committee?

Mr. Chaisson said to do something different. I've never been helpful with the Town. Selectman Coutu asked how old Dereck was. Dereck replied, "I'm 18." Selectman Coutu asked if he felt that you can contribute to helping the Committee come up with ideas and assist with getting people involved and doing more recycling in our community? Mr. Chaisson said he thought he could. Selectman Coutu asked if he had a sincere desire to want to serve on this committee. Mr. Chaisson said yes Sir. Selectman Coutu applauded an 18 year old to step forward. Not only will you be the youngest committee member if we appoint you, you're to be commended for at least stepping forward. I'm sure Leo doesn't have you handcuffed. You have your own mind and you can make our own decisions. I applaud you wanting to step forward. I wish more young people would. Recycling as you heard when we started today about rubbish removal, we want to get more and more people involved in recycling. The cost of dumping all the trash is getting to be very, very expensive and it doesn't cost us anything to recycle. If we can get more people to recycle and fewer people putting the recyclables into the trash, we can save a considerable amount of money for our town. With that in mind, anything you can do if you get appointed to the Board will certainly be welcome. Don't think that we're not aware of what's going on. If we weren't, Leo would make us aware of it anyway. Again Dereck I'm sure I say it on behalf of the Board, it's great to see a young man step forward and willing to be able to serve our community in a volunteer basis. Thank you Dereck.

- 10) Sewer Utility Committee - (2 vacancies, 1 member terms to expire 12/31/14; 1 alternate term to expire 12/31/14)

Jeff Rider (incumbent member) - Good evening Mr. Chairman and members of the Board. My name is Jeff Rider. My address is 61 Barretts Hill Road. As you mentioned, I'm currently the alternate member on this Committee. My term expires at the end of the year. I would hope that the Board thinks that my experience and background would be of benefit to the Committee and would appoint me to the full membership.

Selectman Maddox knows with Mr. Rider's dual use with the Water Utility. What's different on the Sewer? Anything that you've seen between the two that we could...Mr. Rider said the Sewer Committee has been in existence longer. The system is pretty well down and working well. The Water Utility Committee is in pretty good shape. I've noticed that there are a couple things on the Sewer Committee and I can't remember right off the top of my head right now that I'd like to carry over into the Water Utility.

Chairman Jasper thanked Mr. Rider for reapplying.

- 11) Water Utility - (2 vacancies, 1 member term to expire 12/31/14; 1 member term to expire 12/31/14)

Chairman Jasper indicated that Dereck Chaisson has applied for that as well. I don't know if the Board members want to have him come up again. Unless you have anything different about the Water Utility you'd like to say. If not, thank you.

Dereck Chaisson

- 12) Zoning Board of Adjustment - (4 vacancies, 2 member terms to expire 12/31/14; 2 alternates to expire 12/31/14)

Marilyn McGrath (incumbent alternate) - Good evening all. Marilyn McGrath, 81 River Road. As you all know or most of you should know, I've served on the Zoning Board for the last several years as an alternate member. I'd like to continue to do that.

Selectman Coutu wanted to make a comment just the opposite of what I made about Dereck. Here we have a citizen who has been involved with our government in several capacities over a long period of time. That knowledge has been beneficial to obviously the Boards that you have served and in particular the Zoning Board of Adjustment. I think that you are to be commended for having you stick-to-itiveness that you've come back year after year for this punishment. You serve admirably and I want to extend our appreciation for your continued years of service on the board. Thank you.

Chairman Jasper had one question. You've applied to continue as an alternate yet we have 2 member terms to expire. Do you have any desire to step up to the regular member position? Ms. McGrath would. I wasn't aware that there were that many vacancies. I'd also be interested in serving on the Planning Board again. I know that probably causes you some angst Mr. Chairman. Chairman Jasper indicated that they served on the Planning Board together 26 years ago. Ms. McGrath would be interested in serving in that capacity as well even as an alternative member. The land use boards are so critical for the Town of Hudson. I think the historical knowledge is important to have on those boards as well as having new people come in and serve in those capacities.

Chairman Jasper said certainly we are short an alternate there. It is something the Board will give serious consideration to. Thank you for your willingness to apply even if I may have some angst. Ms. McGrath was sure that he does. Seriously, Chairman Jasper thanked Marilyn for her willingness to serve.

James Pacocha - interview on 12/13

C. IT MS Exchange Software Upgrade Warrant Article

Chairman Jasper recognized Selectman Luszey.

Selectman Luszey indicated that this is the Warrant Article I brought before you at our last meeting. It was worded incorrectly. If I read my e-mail correctly, did we reduce the amount in this one. There's actually going to be a reduction in the price because the IT Director got a new price for the software upgrade that is going to be required. If it's okay to let the IT Director speak to that.

Ms. Nute said there's two reasons, although Mr. Luszey agreed to handle this for me. There's a couple of reasons I did want to come. I can reduce that. The first quote was a misquote. It was not actually an upgrade. It was fully fledged. My second quote that came in made me realize the mistake. I can reduce that down to \$7,000 from the \$11,000. The reason I'm also here is because we have to do this so far out - when we first put in that Warrant Article for the capital reserve fund, it was Board of Selectmen were agents to expend which I totally agree on. I feel like the entire Town of Hudson has to micromanage how we do our software updates. The biggest problem is that you have to do them so far out.

Chairman Jasper stopped Ms. Nute right there. Did you just say the Board of Selectmen are the agents to expend? Ms. Nute said originally that was the verbiage. Chairman Jasper said originally. That did get changed. Okay. On the floor of Town Meeting, Ms. Nute said it got changed. I just discovered that Microsoft is not supporting this anymore. If I don't get this Warrant Article in now and there is no cost to the tax rate, then it's just getting way beyond. I'm wondering if it's also possible that we do another warrant article of just verbiage change in a vote to try to get the townspeople to give it back here where I really believe it belongs. I have no problems get on your agenda and coming before you and telling you what is the next upgrade that we need to look at and what that's going to be but when I have to work so far out.

Chairman Jasper would certainly agree that we should consider that. These are the type of things where the purpose is to take care of the technology needs. That is not very effective if you have to wait a year and a half.

Selectman Luszey said if we close on this one, I'd take the action to bring another one next Tuesday.

Motion by Selectman Luszey, seconded by Selectman Maddox, to forward Warrant Article K as amended with the dollar amount to be \$7,000 for the Information Technology MS Exchange Software Upgrade to the Fiscal Year 2013 Town Warrant, carried 5-0.

6. OTHER BUSINESS/REMARKS BY THE SELECTMEN

Selectman Luszey - Thank you Mr. Chairman. I had a great meeting this evening with the seniors on the work for the building. We do have a preliminary schedule that basically calls or has us working towards August 1st to have the preliminary approval of the design so that the Board of Selectmen can take a look at that. We will have an estimated cost of that project then. The schedule calls for the final project to be completed with an actual bid estimate for the October 1st timeline to be included in the next year FY2014 budget pass.

Selectman Nadeau - I have a few things for tonight. The first one is I just wanted to thank everybody who came and helped at the Thanksgiving Day dinner at the Fish & Game Club. It was a huge success as usual. They got a lot of donations in at the end which was great. They're looking forward to doing it again next year. I look forward in helping them into doing that next year even though Ms. Knox broke the faucet and got me a little wet while we were doing the dishes. Selectman Coutu indicated that it was quite the reverse.

The next thing is for all of those who didn't see it there was a really nice article about the Pearl Harbor breakfast that was held at the American Legion. That was last Sunday. Tomorrow is Pearl Harbor Day. For all of those, they did a service and did a wreath laying at the American Legion.

The next item is combined together. The Chamber of Commerce will be having Thursday night a dinner for St. Vincent's. All the money that they raise they donate to St. Vincent's for the food pantry. Unfortunately it's sad to say but St. Vincent's will be serving 100,000 meals this year to Hudson residents. On December 17th, they'll be handing out the food baskets for Christmas. They are in need of a few things. There will be a couple of places that you can drop it off. One of them being here at Town Hall, the Hudson Gulf Station right here at the bridge, and the other one is Caribbean Tan on Lowell Road. If you have any questions or if you're looking to find out what they need, you can contact me through my Town of Hudson e-mail or you can call me on my cell phone that's listed on the Town's website. That's all I have this evening.

Selectman Maddox - At our last meeting, my brain froze. I was a little confused about that conservation add to the budget. Upon reflection, I didn't know we were in the habit of putting money in as income when we knew that there was money coming in. We had not seen even asked to make an application. That's why I was confused. Most times when we get a grant, we spend the money. I was confused by how come we were putting it in as income when we didn't know. We hadn't applied for it and from what I was told today is they went into the Engineer's office and said here's the paper it needs to be in by the 23rd. So the paperwork is not even in for this. Again, I was just taken aback I guess by the fact that we were counting revenue that really wasn't there Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Jasper said that was not entirely accurate. I think we'll find that when we expect to receive a grant we do put that in on both sides. If money does not come in, there is no expenditure. You can do things in another way but in this case, this was the way that was chosen. I agree with that because I think it's much more transparent. People know exactly what's going on. Other applications come up during the year and you don't have the luxury of doing what we've done in this case. If the application doesn't go in, then we won't be approving the second \$12,000.

Just again, Selectman Maddox didn't explain my position very well. I was lost in space. It happens.

Next thing. I think most people read in the paper that our CALEA re-accreditation is ongoing as we speak. That's why I was late. A Deputy Chief Webb from the Abington Township Police Department in Pennsylvania and Major Phillip Kasten from the Carroll County Sheriff's Office in Maryland are welcome to do the accreditation. So far going very well. For all those people that say why do we do this? Just for the recruiting alone I think it's worth it. To know that there are set procedures in place. Selectman Coutu you've spent some time on a police force. To have these national standards that everybody follows seems to be your way to obviously limit our liability over the last 8 years. I'm sure that the Chief could tell us some sad or funny stories about some of the things that might have gone on that don't happen anymore because of these very rigid and very accountable type standards are put in place. Thank you to Sergeant McGregor who I guess is running the program at this point and so far so good. Chairman Jasper thanked Selectman Maddox for that update.

Selectman Coutu - I was very honored to be able to give testimony yesterday evening for CALEA as did Selectman Luszey and Selectman Nadeau. I had an opportunity to meet privately with both of the auditors for CALEA team. I was very, very impressed and I said to Selectman Maddox earlier today in a conversation we had that it's comforting. I think I had the same conversation with Selectman Luszey. It's comforting to know that you have people of their caliber looking into our operation methods and the standards that have been set in previous years to make sure that we are achieving those goals. If they can find anything at all that needs to be corrected, I'm sure these two guys are going to find it and we're going to get everything back in line. As time progresses, new standards are created because of varied circumstances around the country that comes to their attention. I was very pleased with the progress and with the conversation I had with them privately. Selectman Maddox as a liaison to the Police Department has been spending a considerable amount of time this week with the CALEA team and with the people at the PD. I think it's giving you the kind of insight that Selectman Massey used to report back to us about. It's a very interesting process. I think we're going to do very well.

In order to correct the injustice that was made this evening by Selectman Nadeau to Karen Knox. Again, let me tell you that I had first-hand knowledge and know that Ben Nadeau knows how to wash pots and pans. Although the team tells me they have to wash them after he finishes with them. He doesn't know how to turn on a water faucet. I spent the greater part of the morning with Selectman Nadeau. We had a great time dishing out turkey and watching Ben wash the pots and pans. It was a tremendous success. Again, another team of volunteers within our community that extended themselves all of Thanksgiving morning to serve well over 1,200 to 1,300 meals to people in our community who otherwise might not have been fed or would have been alone. You look at all of these things - Mooremart and the people with Mooremart, the people within our community helping each other out. It's just a great feeling.

I wished the people who are trying to break into stores would stay away from mine. We were successful in thwarting them this time. With that said Mr. Chairman, I thank you.

Selectman Jasper - You all have in your packet, I hope, a legal Memo from November 30, 2006. This is sort of my periodic plea to the Board to consider changing the appointment times prior to going to the Town Council, March/April was our normal time to do appointments. I'm not sure how the Town Council was actually able to change the land use boards because according to the Memo we can't do that but they did. I think this is a terrible time of year to be asking people to apply. This is probably the worst year I've seen in some time in terms of the number of vacancies that go on. The Memo spells out that there are a number of these that we could change. I think we would have a much better time if we were looking to appoint people to boards in March say than we will right at Christmas time. Something to consider and certainly it would take a number of years to get us back on track with the ones we have control over. Certainly if the Board ever wishes to go that way, I can also try to get legislation passed should I be re-elected to another term in the House to allow us to hold people over for a 3 month period to realign. That's my pitch to the Board.

Selectman Maddox asked why couldn't we just appoint people for 2 years and 3 months. Chairman Jasper said the Memo makes it clear that the terms of office for the land use boards are 3 years. So they have to be 3 years. The committees that we control outside of land use, we can hold them over. I think those are spelled out in specific years too but some of them specifically in the Code say or until their successors are appointed. So we could simply go with holdovers on some of them. Some others we might have to change the Town Code. In all of them, we could really change the Town Code to do whatever we want with many of these boards because we appoint to the vast majority of the Board to appoint to are not land use boards. It's something to consider. This is a perennial problem in my opinion. I may be wrong that maybe the holidays have nothing to do with it but I just don't think that between Thanksgiving and Christmas people are focused on boards. As a matter of fact, we had many people who are incumbents who even though they had gotten a letter, they did not reapply. Last week I asked Donna to make phone calls to see if those people had wished to reapply. Many of them, in fact, had intended to reapply. With the season, people forgot. I just think we should not stay on this track indefinitely.

Selectman Luszey saw where it says RSA 673 the mandatory is 3 years. Could we make the change in the folks that are full time members expire could alternates sit in for those 3 months and actually not have a gap? Chairman Jasper said the alternates could do the job for the 3 months. That's one of the things that laid out here. You don't have every board come up with the majority of the members so we could simply say you're off the board for 3 months. You can certainly go and listen. I'm not sure that's a great way to do it though. I wouldn't recommend that. I would rather try to do it through a legislation change that would allow a Board of Selectmen to extend until their successors are chosen. I think that makes sense in any case because certainly the problem here is that there are going to be a number of vacancies in all likelihood. You might have people who would say I don't want to do another 3 years but I'll stay on until you can find somebody. That may be an alternate. The last two times I brought it up - I don't know when the first time was but it was probably sometime in the last century and this one was in 2006. Any comments or thoughts from the Board?

Selectman Coutu supported it. He supported Chairman Jasper seeking legislation to make the change. Not that it's an inappropriate time, it's certainly an inconvenient time for an awful lot of people to come here between two major holidays. As you said, I'm sure they have a lot of other things on their minds besides worrying about getting reappointed to a volunteer position. I think March makes a lot more sense. We might want to talk about that. You could be in the midst of a severe snow storm in March.

Chairman Jasper thought April might make more sense. You have the new board elected and have terms expire the end of April perhaps. Selectman Coutu said if there was a new person serving on the board an opportunity to meet the people that serve on the board. I would think April makes a lot more sense.

Selectman Maddox said it says Recreation Committee about whether they were done by the Town Meeting. I could have sworn in one of my readings of the Annual Reports that it was done at a Town Meeting.

Chairman Jasper knows that's been researched. We can look at that issue again. The bottom line is we have a legal opinion here. Let's face it. If somebody is held over for 3 months, what are they going to do? They're either not going to come to the meetings or they're going to go to the meetings. I don't think anybody is going to take us to court over 3 or 4 months on a Recreation Committee. I think that the reality is that we have a legal opinion here. I would suggest that by the next meeting that we don't have people to fill any of the terms that we simply wait until March to re-advertise unless there is a real crisis on the Board and start the process with those vacancies we currently have not to disrupt any of the people who have taken the time to apply. Look at our Code and see if there's anything we need to do. We could even start doing that in the land use boards where there are vacancies that are not applied and then we can try for legislation. Starting next year simply notify the boards we have control over and ask them to continue to serve for an additional 4 months. That's something that we can start looking at if there's agreement on the Board that that makes sense. Thank you very much. See you keep going at it and eventually you succeed. That's all I have this evening.

7. NONPUBLIC SESSION

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

Nonpublic Session is being entered at 7:56 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 Jasper opened public session entered at 8:22 p.m.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 8:23 p.m. by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Nadeau, carried 5-0.

Recorded by HGTV and transcribed by Donna Graham, Recorder.

HUDSON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Shawn Jasper, Chairman

Roger E. Coutu, Selectman

Richard J. Maddox, Selectman

Benjamin Nadeau, Selectman

Ted Luszey, Selectman