

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Meeting of March 22, 2011

1. CALL TO ORDER - by Vice-Chairman Maddox the meeting of March 22, 2011 at 7 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at Town Hall.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - led by Vice-Chairman Richard Maddox.

Vice-Chairman Maddox asked for a moment of silence for Mr. Phil Rogers. He thought that when you talk about a man who built Hudson, at one point four out of the five Selectmen their homes were built by the Rodger Brothers. His passing, his great legacy of the Library, all that he has done for the Town, he would ask for a moment of silence.

3. ATTENDANCE

Board of Selectmen: Roger Coutu, Shawn Jasper, Rick Maddox and Ted Luszey. Ben Nadeau arrived late.

Vice-Chairman Maddox introduced the latest member of this body. Mr. Luszey, welcome aboard.

Selectman Luszey thanked Vice-Chairman Maddox and thanked all the voters that put him in this chair. He hoped he does them well.

Just so everybody understands, Vice-Chairman Maddox wanted everyone to understand the reason why he's sitting here this evening is Selectman Massey walked the walk and not just talked the talk. He said he was going to term limits and he did it. So as Vice-Chairman, he's sitting here for the evening.

Staff/Others: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator; Donna Graham, Executive Assistant; Asst. Town Administrator Mark Pearson; Town Planner John Cashell; Asst. Assessor Jim Michaud; Ross Hergenbahn; Curt Laffin

4. PUBLIC INPUT

Vice-Chairman Maddox asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Board on any issue? Seeing none.

5. NOMINATIONS & APPOINTMENTS

- A. Recycling Committee - (1 vacancy, 1 alternate term to expire 12/31/12)

Wm. Todd Wehner

Vice-Chairman Maddox introduced Mr. Wehner and asked him to tell the Board a little about himself and why he wants to be on the Committee.

Todd Wehner, 7 Baltusrol Drive. He moved here 2 ½ years ago following his retirement from the Army. He's always wanted to be involved with the community. As his civic duty, he's always been very involved with recycling, the environment, his concerns for that and he believed that with his input into the Recycling Committee, he'll be able to help the Town both as a member of the community here in Hudson as well as being a member of the global community as well.

Selectman Coutu extended the Board's appreciation for applying for the position. We have greater numbers of people within the community who are volunteering their service to our community, and they appreciated that. You said that you resided here for approximately 2 ½ years. Based on your knowledge of our community, what do you think Hudson can do better in terms of our environment?

From what Mr. Wehner's seen, there increases have been with the dual stream and Council is working to increase the percentages and get that higher. He thought there are possibilities. We need to get the word out with more residents but also he thought there should be a focus as well working towards working with the community as far as the businesses involved in the city as well by possibly helping them to help increase their recycling as well. That would also help us all the way through the Town at bringing that down.

The other question Selectman Coutu had was with recycling. Relative to some of the comments that Mr. Wehner just made, he's satisfied. Thank you Mr. Chairman. Thank you Mr. Wehner.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Jasper, to suspend the rules and nominate and appoint Wm. Todd Wehner as an alternate member to the Recycling Committee with a term to expire 12/31/2012, carried 4-0.

Vice-Chairman Maddox wanted the record to show that the new father Selectman Nadeau is here.

6. CONSENT ITEMS

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

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

A. Assessing Items

- 1) 2010 Tax Abatement - Map 147, Lot 29-5, w/recommendation to deny
- 2) 2010 Tax Abatement - Map 147, Lot 29-11, w/recommendation to deny
- 3) 2010 Tax Abatement - Map 147, Lot 29-14, w/recommendation to deny
- 4) 2010 Tax Abatement - Map 147, Lot 29-17, w/recommendation to deny
- 5) 2010 Tax Abatement - Map 147, Lot 29-20, w/recommendation to deny
- 6) 2010 Tax Abatement - Map 216, Lot 18-45, w/recommendation to deny
- 7) 2010 Tax Abatement - Map 162, Lot 47-2, w/recommendation to approve
- 8) 2010 Tax Abatement - Map 126, Lot 28-1, w/recommendation to approve
- 9) 2010 Tax Abatement - Map 204, Lot 63, w/recommendation to approve
- 10) 2010 Tax Abatement - Map 137, Lot 1, w/recommendation to approve
- 11) 2010 Tax Abatement - Map 116, Lot 36, w/recommendation to approve
- 12) Veteran Tax Credit Applications - Map 234, Lot 023; Map 156, Lot 006, Sub 048, w/recommendation to approve
- 13) Veteran Tax Credit Application - Map 156, Lot 063, Sub 061, w/recommendation to approve
- 14) Elderly Exemption Application - Map 147, Lot 029, Sub 001, w/recommendation to approve
- 15) Disabled Veteran Tax Credit - Map 156, Lot 063, Sub 061, w/recommendation to deny
- 16) Tax Deferral Lien Releases - Map 138, Lot 33, w/recommendation to approve

B. Water/Sewer Items

- 1) Sewer Abatement, S-UTL-11-11, 33 Constitution Drive, M/L 170, 036, w/recommendation to approve

C. Licenses & Permits

- 1) Raffle Permit by Friends of Benson Park
- 2) Raffle Permit by Senior Activity Center
- 3) Request to Solicit Funds by Nashua Senior Center
- 4) Request to Solicit Funds by Hudson Dog Park
- 5) Second-Hand Dealer/Pawnbroker License by Cash Converters (Salstar Stores, Inc.)

D. Acceptance of Minutes

- 1) Minutes of the March 1, 2011 Meeting
- 2) Minutes of the March 7, 2011 Meeting

E. Calendar

- 03/23 7:00 Benson Park Committee - Landscape Subcte - BOS Meeting Room
03/23 7:00 Planning Board - Community Development Meeting Room
03/24 3:30 Trustees of the Trust Fund - Community Development Meeting Room
03/24 7:00 Zoning Board of Adjustment - Community Development Meeting Room
03/28 7:00 Recycling Committee - BOS Meeting Room
03/30 7:00 Conservation Commission - Community Development Meeting Room
04/05 7:00 Board of Selectmen - BOS Meeting Room
04/06 7:00 Planning Board - Community Development Meeting Room
04/07 7:00 Benson Park Committee - Community Development Meeting Room
04/07 6:30 Recreation Committee - BOS Meeting Room
04/11 7:00 Conservation Commission - Community Development Meeting Room
04/12 7:00 Board of Selectmen - BOS Meeting Room
04/13 7:00 Benson Park Committee - Landscape Subcte - BOS Meeting Room
04/13 7:00 Planning Board - Community Development Meeting Room
04/14 6:00 Sewer Utility Committee - BOS Meeting Room
04/14 7:30 Zoning Board of Adjustment - Community Development Meeting Room

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Votes taken after Nonpublic Session on March 7, 2011

- 1) *Motion by Selectman Maddox, seconded by Selectman Nadeau, to reinstate Howard Dilworth as an alternate member of the Sewer Utility Committee, carried 3-1. Selectman Coutu in opposition.*
- 2) *Motion to adjourn at 8:59 p.m. by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Nadeau, carried 4-0.*

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Request to Conduct a 5k Run/Walk

Vice-Chairman Maddox recognized Ross Hergenbahn.

Good evening. Ross Hergenbahn - he's a resident of Hudson. He's here to request the Board's permission to hold a second annual charity race in his son's honor Nathan Hergenbahn on July 31st of this year. Their first event was held last year for attempting to hold these the last Sunday of each July. Last year they held their first and had over 375 runners. By all measures, a success and they'd like to build on that a little bit this year with the proceeds going to a scholarship fund at Alvirne High School.

Selectman Coutu asked to make a comment. Ross he understood that the race was very successful last year. He remembered Mr. Hergenbahn coming before the Board and laying out what he was going to do. For him in his first year to present Alvirne High School with \$5,000 worth of scholarships is very commendable. It's a great tribute to the honor and memory of your son. Thank you for wanting to do it again this year.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Nadeau, to approve Ross Hergenbahn's request to conduct the 2nd Annual Nate's Race (5K Charity Race) on Sunday, July 31, 2011 starting at 9:00 a.m. per his proposal dated March 14, 2011, carried 5-0.

B. Request permission to plant Chestnut Tree nuts from The American Chestnut Foundation (TACF) at Benson Park

Vice-Chairman Maddox recognized Curt Laffin.

Curt Laffin - 9 Daniel Webster Drive. He's a volunteer with The American Chestnut Foundation. That's a nonprofit organization that was formed 27 years ago to attempt to recover or restore the American Chestnut Tree to its historic range. If you're less than 60 years old, you probably don't know much about what the American Chestnut Tree was. A hundred years ago, about 200 million acres of the Eastern United States from Maine to Georgia and out towards the Mississippi River was heavily forested and a dominant tree in those forests was the American Chestnut. It was a fast growing tree that grew to significant heights and sizes. It was not uncommon right around here to find Chestnuts 6 and 7 feet in diameter. It's an extremely valuable wood. It was rot resistant. The boards would not warp. It was used to provide all kinds of wood products to the United States economy. In fact some of the woodwork in our State House - the door frames and some of the finish work are made of Chestnut. There was a lot more of it around than you might think because it is so durable. It's very resistant to rot.

The American Chestnut Foundation was formed 27 years ago with a mission to try to restore this magnificent tree to its historic range. Through a lot of genetic backcrossing, The Foundation has now produced a tree that maintains essentially all the characteristics of the American Chestnut but is also about 95 percent resistant to a blight that was imported into the United States with an Asian species of Chestnut. It was first discovered in New York City in 1904. It's a fungal growth that infects American Chestnut Trees and it gets in under the bark and literally girdles the tree and kills the tree. Within a 50 year period, essentially all the American Chestnut Trees have died. That's a tremendous amount of forest if you consider all the way from Maine to Georgia and out west towards the Mississippi River.

What the American Chestnut Foundation has done is to interbreed a Chinese tree with the American tree through six different generations to produce this tree that is now resistant to the blight. Literally this right now at this point in time they're at the point where they have a blight resistant tree. Last summer Mr. Laffin requested from The Foundation a few of those blight resistant nuts that they could plant at Benson Park. He saw a tremendous asset to the park to have some of these trees growing there. Even more so, it's a wonderful outreach opportunity for the entire Chestnut restoration program. The Board has a map in their package. The area that Mr. Laffin is considering is the upper part

of the so-called North Field area. He's had the soil tested and it is susceptible but it needs a little bit more acidity. They feel pretty confident that that site would support the growth of the trees. He had The Chestnut Foundation scientists look at the site. She's in agreement with him.

Mr. Laffin is proposing to plant 5 or 6 of those nuts (that's what has been promised to him) and put up an interpretive sign that would tell the story of the Chestnut restoration and how it relates to Benson Park. What would be involved at each of the sites - like he said there'd be as many sites as they get nuts, they'd have to put a small fence around them as the trees start to grow to prevent it from being browsed on by deer or rabbits. They grow very fast. They have an orchard out in Peterborough and the Shieling State Forest where they have 3 generations of Chestnut Trees growing there now. They're not entirely blight resistant. They're different stages of that process. The three year old trees are now about 6 feet tall. They grow quite fast once they get established. Mr. Laffin was in front of the Board to ask is their approval to accept the offer from The Chestnut Foundation and to proceed with the planning. It would occur in early May or very late April depending on the weather conditions. If anyone wants to know more about this program, he has a PowerPoint presentation where he goes into a lot more detail about the history of the tree, how important it was to our culture and economy, and how the blight ravaged the species, and then the work that's being done by The Foundation to bring it back. He's asking for the Board's approval to move ahead with the program.

Vice-Chairman Maddox asked Selectman Jasper if the Benson Park Committee had seen this. Selectman Jasper said yes about a year ago. Mr. Laffin was in to talk to the Committee about this project and as he recalled, it was a unanimous approval for moving forward.

Mr. Laffin said he spoke last week to the Benson Committee. Vice-Chairman Maddox asked if the location was all set. Selectman Jasper said he was not at last week's meeting, but Mr. Laffin had been in about a year ago as well.

Selectman Nadeau had some good news for Curt. He's only 35 and he was very, very well educated with the American Chestnut with a degree in horticulture. He thought this was a great idea to put them at Benson's. It would definitely be a great benefit to the people to see these trees and the placard. Knowing that Mr. Laffin has plenty of good experience, he can watch them and take good care of them.

Motion by Selectman Nadeau, seconded by Selectman Luszey, to grant permission to Curt Laffin to plant Chestnut Tree nuts from The American Chestnut Foundation (TACF) at Benson Park and to erect an interpretive panel explaining the chestnut restoration program.

Vice-Chairman Maddox had one question. Benson's has a web page. Would this be something they can tie into that his presentation. Maybe they can hook Mr. Laffin up with IT so they can get that on so that again, people will know what he is doing out there.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Laffin had one more piece of news that they might be interested in. Literally a year ago today, he gave a talk to the Women's Club here in Hudson. At the end of his talk a woman named Bonnie McCarthy who lives on Ridgecrest came up to him and had a paper bag and said she thought she knew where one of those trees were right here in Hudson. Sure enough, it certainly looked like the Chestnut burrs. He went down and found the tree. It's right at the end of Ridgecrest. The Chinese Chestnut is also around and the burrs look very similar. It's certainly not the tree they're looking for. So he had that tree checked out and it is an American. It's 14 inches in diameter or it was last year. He contacted the land owner and said that they'd like to go in and pollinate some of the flowers on his tree to produce start the generations of the blight resistant nuts. The owner told Mr. Laffin it was a good thing he called because they're going to be in there logging next week. One thing lead to another. He told him who he was and what he was interested in. He was very supportive. Public Service of New Hampshire provided them with a bucket truck. They went in and it's a 3-step process to pollinate the flowers. They were pollinated with the blight resistant pollen. They harvested those nuts in September, and they got 194 nuts off of that tree. More than any other tree in the New Hampshire/Vermont Chapter. They're going to check it out again this year. The blight has started to affect the tree. It might still be alive enough to do it again. They'll see. Right here in Hudson, they came up with the most productive tree in Vermont and New Hampshire. There are only 3 of them, and that's one of them.

C. April 1, 2012 Property Assessment Revaluation - Funding

Vice-Chairman Maddox recognized Assistant Assessor Jim Michaud.

Good evening. Mr. Michaud said it was a pretty good segway from Chestnut Tree nuts to something that drives people nuts - re-evaluations. In front, the Board has a memo where the Department is requesting that a sum of \$15,000 be transferred to the Assessing budget to the Capital Reserve Fund for property re-evaluation for a revaluation for 2012. In some ways the Memo kind of fights the old battle of do we have to do a re-assessment once

every 5 years. He apologized if that was water under the bridge. He wanted to make sure that they addressed it in this memo. The Department anticipates that it is going to have approximately \$30,000 left over at the end of the fiscal year. So the \$15,000 transfer would not put the department in the negative. This would complete the funds necessary to conduct the re-evaluation for 2012. They estimate that the total amount needed is in the range of \$70,000. The \$15,000 would fill that gap.

Selectman Coutu said that Jim was proposing to transfer \$15,000 out of his existing account. Mr. Michaud said that was correct out of Assessing 5410. Selectman Coutu asked if the \$15,000 was in there for that purpose. Mr. Michaud said the Assessing Department budget is in the Chart of Accounts with the State. It's called re-evaluation of property. Anything within the Assessing Department Chart of Accounts leads towards an assessment of property whether it's a re-assessment or maintenance of assessment - whether it's picking up new value. He didn't have a specific allocation in this budget that says this is for re-evaluation. The purpose of the Assessing Department, the very essence of it is to maintain equitable property valuation.

So that there's no confusion and primarily because Selectman Coutu had a citizen in his store today yelling about assessments. The human cry is that we're over assessed. The market doesn't bear the assessments that we have on our property and when you try to explain to someone that when the municipality needs X number of dollars to be able to manage its affairs whether your assessment is lower or higher is immaterial, the rate is going to be reflective of what the bottom dollar need is going to be for our community. We're going to transfer \$15,000 into the account which should cover the re-assessment, correct? That will cover the balance that is necessary for the re-assessment. Mr. Michaud said that was right. Selectman Coutu asked when the re-assessment would begin. That is the most asked question that he gets.

Mr. Michaud said it would be effective for the 2012 tax year after the spring tax bill and before the final tax bill. Selectman Coutu asked when the assessment would begin. Mr. Michaud said in many ways it has already begun. This is the planning process to plan for next year. Back when they established the Capital Reserve Fund, that was the start of the plan to do the re-evaluation. This is part of that, contacting the two contractors. One for public utility valuation and one for commercial industrial evaluation. He sent out e-mails to perspective ones within the last two weeks. They're out rescratching property today. In other words, going to the properties and confirming the data. We never really stopped doing the process that will lead them towards a re-assessment whether its data collection, budgeting, planning, IT expenditures - they're in a constant motion to re-assess at a minimum once every five if not oftener.

Selectman Coutu thought the more proper question would be when would citizens be seeing people knocking on their doors to look at their properties. Mr. Michaud said it has already started. Selectman Coutu wanted to make it very clear that the people know that we're out there and we are doing re-evaluations. He tried to make people understand that. The gentleman today was a little upset about the situation. Again, he tried to explain to him that one way or another if we need X number of dollars, we have to collect it if we revalue the property and the assumption is that everybody's property is worth a lot less than what we assessed it for, the tax rate will go up. Proportionately, we'll still be paying the same because we still have to raise the money. Thank you.

Vice-Chairman Maddox said that's why he did talk to Mr. Michaud before the meeting. He thought that would be a great April workshop item. He said that he's in the middle of a multitude of things so we'll hold that off. He thought it is something that we need to present whether it be to the new Selectman or to the older ones as well as our citizens basically Assessing 101. That would be something that we're hanging around on our list of things to do so that, again, they can understand how the process works.

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Coutu, to authorize transferring \$15,000 out of the Assessing Department's budget, 5410, into the "Capital Reserve Fund for Future Revaluation" for the purpose of funding the 2012 property revaluation, as recommended by the Assistant Assessor, carried 5-0.

D. 2011 Update on Economic Development

Vice-Chairman Maddox recognized Assistant Town Administrator Mark Pearson and Town Planner John Cashell.

Good evening Mr. Chairman and members of the Board. His name is Mark Pearson the Assistant Town Administrator and with him tonight is John Cashell the Planning Director. He provided the Board with a memo indicating that Selectman Maddox asked him for a 2011 update on economic development. He put together several memos and ancillary information and he'd like to go over the update if that's the pleasure of the Board.

[Mark Pearson} During the last year, Mr. Pearson and John Cashell have established and managed an economic development program in addition to their core responsibilities. A few of the notable achievements have been specifically designing and implementing a new economic development web page, including a large number of

resources and links, positing Economic Revitalization Zone (ERZ) signage in the Sagamore and Clement Industrial Parks, establishing a database of contacts with businesses and business leaders, and meeting with regional and State officials with respect to economic development.

Mr. Pearson and John attended the Department of Resources and Economic Development (DRED) seminar in 2010 and was held in Nashua at no cost. They attended several numerous business meetings and training - some after hours in other towns networking with other communities and their community development and economic development people. They also participated in the Hudson Chamber of Commerce Business Expo at Alvirne High School.

They created packages of economic development material for the Community Development counter to hand out at various business functions. They met with various corporate executives who inquired about specific parcels of property or renovations to existing buildings with the hope of attracting new businesses to Hudson. John continued to follow up with assistant to businesses who decided to go through the Planning Board process to expand or locate their business in Hudson.

On February 11th of this year, Mr. Pearson and John attended the Governor's Job Cabinet Meeting Regional Business Outreach Session in Concord with presentations by the New Hampshire Commissioners and Directors from DRED, Department of Administrative Services, DES, Department of Employment Security, Department of Insurance, and Department of Labor. The focus of the session was assisting communities with respect to creating jobs and resources available in the State of New Hampshire. There is another folder that they collected and they'll speak about it.

This year they have designed an ad for the Hudson Chamber of Commerce 2011 Community Guidebook that the Board of Selectmen recently approved. So the Town will be included in that book that will hopefully reach out to some people when they get that publication from the Chamber. Their objectives have been to match businesses with the right site, assist with proposed plans, work with businesses that are expanding, pointing people in the right direction, assisting with proper permitting, i.e. the Zoning Board of Adjustment, Planning Board, Conservation Commission, and building permits and to keep informed of the trends in the region. Their actions to date also include reaching out to businesses in Hudson through mailings in the ERZ zones where they posted signage, to inform business of the Town's website, and resources available to them. This resulted in a lot of businesses contacting the Town and State to inquire about the tax credit incentives. Mr. Pearson checked recently with the New Hampshire Department of Resources and Economic Development about how many businesses in Hudson actually applied for the ERZ tax credit. To date, only one Hudson business has applied.

Mr. Pearson indicated that they also have an open door policy to meet with any person who calls or comes to Town Hall on possible economic development type projects. Sue Fiorenza at the Community Development counter has tracked all of their meetings, phone calls, inquiries, and events attended and created a database of contacts with respect to being involved in economic development to date. He included that in the Board's packet and was from the original assignment that was given to Mr. Pearson by the Board to start economic development. They've tracked all the data and all the contacts to date. They'll continue to do that in the future.

Mr. Pearson indicated that one of their first successful efforts to date was to bring Enterprise Bank to Hudson. As you know, Enterprise Bank is a community type bank who specializes in promoting financial assistance to small businesses and entrepreneurs. Enterprise Bank has an ambitious goal to create new business relationships in 2011 in the Greater Hudson area. Obviously many small businesses and start up companies will benefit from this type of investment in Hudson and contribute to the multiplier affect. On a side note, Mr. Pearson said that you can expect Enterprise Bank to also open up branches in Pelham and Windham. He thought it would be appropriate for us to attract them here first and try to get an edge if you will by having them here first. It took over a year for Enterprise Bank from our initial meeting to the grand opening. They renovated the existing bank building. They did not need Planning Board approval. If they needed Planning Board approval, this would have delayed the time that year until a little bit longer. In this case, bank financing was not an issue that most companies face.

[Mark Pearson] Expanding and locating jobs and businesses in Hudson since most job growth and capital investment will come from existing businesses in Hudson. An effective business retention program is critical. In addition, businesses who are happy doing business in our community will be our best sales people for attracting new businesses. One component of most economic development programs is that business retention and attraction effort which focuses on companies that will build, strengthen, and diversify the community's economic base. An economic base firm is one that exports goods or services from the community and therefore imports income. For every one job economic base firms create another 2.5 jobs are created in the community. This is known as the "multiplier affect".

The average corporate site takes 18 to 36 months from the initial inquiry to the local announcement. It was a little bit faster with Enterprise because it was a bank building being converted to a bank building and they didn't have to go

through the approvals. There's a fast track is a year. "Many economic development strategic plans in communities state that embarking on a new economic development effort, you need to assume a minimum of 3-5 years before they can actually realistically expect results from their efforts." That's a statement that Mr. Pearson found out there. He thought that it can be modified depending on Planning Board and depending on how involved the community is. Obviously they would like business to locate here sooner than later. Also a community needs to be persistent in their efforts but they need to be flexible to adapt to changes in the marketplace which are out of their control.

Included in the Board's supplemental information, Mr. Pearson has included several supplemental pages of information and data relative to national, state, regional and Hudson economics involved in determining the trends of economic development. The national economy essentially we recognize that there was a recession that started around December of 2007, a downward shift in manufacturing, the initial claims for unemployment started to spike around December of 2008. During that time period of 2009 and today, obviously the price of goods, commodities, home heating fuel, and gas has gone up and continues to be volatile. Food stamp recipients in New Hampshire increased by 35 percent and the number of unemployed nationally increased by 25 percent.

Unemployment in New Hampshire between 2001-2008 varied between 3.4 and 4.5 percent. In 2009, New Hampshire unemployment rates varied between 6.3 and 6.9 percent. By March of 2010, New Hampshire's unemployment rate started to stabilize in the mid 7 percent range and declined to 5.3 percent by December of 2010. The economic indicators are the average weekly hours of production workers in manufacturing, unemployment claims and housing permits. In New Hampshire, manufacturing employment declined in 2009 and increased in 2010. The weekly earnings in manufacturing increased in 2009 and continue to increase in 2010. He thought that was a positive sign.

Unemployment peaked in January and February of 2010 and started to decline in March of 2010. By the end of last year December 2010, New Hampshire unemployment decreased to 5.3 percent. In Hudson, unemployment peaked in February of 2010 at 8.6 and steadily declined to 5.8 percent by December of 2010.

The last indicator on housing permits, Hudson had 44 building permits for single family residential units or 19 percent of the greater Hudson total. Only Nashua and Windham had higher percentages respectively. He inquired with Windham. It seemed like 77 units was a little bit out of line but Mr. Pearson called them up and there was a demand to build single family homes over there, and their numbers were exceedingly high.

Overall, these economic indicators have been trending in a positive direction in the last half of 2010 and the first quarter of 2011. Their generic building permit line item, 3230-4218, is trending and he has an update as of the middle of this month here. Basically the revenue projection was \$120,000 and we're at \$120,000 as of right now. Revenue on the building permit side is ahead of our revenue projections. They anticipate that the revenue will probably come in around \$140,000 to \$150,000 depending on the spring activity. So another positive sign in Hudson.

Mr. Pearson said right now the Hudson residential inventory for building units, there is an inventory of about 335 pre-approved residential units should the local economy demand new housing. Shepherd's Hill has 140 approved units that are not built. River Walk and River Ridge have a combined 120 units not built. Various smaller approved subdivisions have over 75 units not built. As you know, there are several residential projects in the pipeline for approvals with over 100 units proposed. Specifically that is Belknap Road area and the Center Farm area also has a pre-approved subdivision.

Jumping to the Hudson retail, office and industrial inventory, as you know there's not a lot of retail and office inventory. Largely Hudson has a large amount of industrial square footage space available. Actually 3.7 million square feet of industrial space. In 2009, there was a 21.2 percent vacancy rate and by the fourth quarter of 2010, the industrial vacancy rate dropped to 15.8 percent. Mr. Pearson included in the Board's packet was supplemental material which will also reference other communities and their respective percentages of vacancy. Hudson is doing very well with a very low vacancy rate in the industrial area.

At this time, Mr. Pearson would like to turn it over to John Cashell very briefly to talk about some commercial projects in town with respect to economic development.

As Mark was pointing out, Mr. Cashell said it really does appear that the recession is maybe not over but it's showing good signs of moving in the right direction. The chart keeps on going from bottom left to upper right. We have many more building permits being issued at this time compared to last year or the year before. When you're talking about commercial development in the Town of Hudson, just over the past year a company by the name of Vaupell Rapid Solutions located in the Sagamore Industrial Park. He was fortunate enough to be able to have the field tour they had the opening day. It was pretty impressive what that company is all about, all the high tech equipment they're manufacturing on that site right now. That's just one of the new companies that have come to town recently.

We also have C & M Machine Products. A long standing company in Hudson. They're in the process of going through a major expansion of their facility. It's a three phase expansion that the Planning Board approved last year totaling 35,000 square feet. Mr. Cashell knows a lot of times the Board is watching the Planning Board meetings and they're familiar with those projects. Hopefully he'll be able to give them some information they don't have.

The Planning Board right now is dealing with the Fairview Nursing Home facility. They're planning a major expansion to their site. The expansion includes a brand new three story assisted living facility right beside the existing nursing home. It's going to be totally revamped also. Mr. Cashell indicated that this hinges on Planning Board approval and having a site plan review of that project. Perhaps the final review next month. The important thing with Fairview was he had pointed out to the Planning Board that its part of that overall economy that seems to be strengthening in Hudson has been over the last few years. You have Southern New Hampshire located in Hudson now. You have the Hitchcock facility that's up off of Robinson Road. Now we have Fairview planning this major facility. It joins with the Oblate facility, Sparkling River where you have senior housing. It's been very successful over this economic downturn. Everything having to do with senior housing in this downturn has been continuing on. The Oblate property just pulled the last phase of their 100 units of development over the past two weeks. We all know the benefit of that particular project for Hudson. Kevin Slattery promised that he would connect Hampshire Drive with Lowell Road even though we ran into some difficulties and had to reconstruct a portion of it before the road was open - just before the onset of winter - that project was achieved. Now they have a full traffic signal at that location with another full access point for the Sagamore Industrial Park. To Mr. Cashell, that's a real exciting opportunity that has emerged through what he would consider a private, public partnership. They all work together and achieve the important improvement along the Lowell road corridor. Hampshire Drive is actually going to be a main entrance way now and it's already open for the Fairview Nursing Home.

Just before tonight, Mr. Cashell received an e-mail from EnerTrac. Their company is growing so exponentially at this point and they just secured the financing they need. It's all part of the CDBG grant that this town participated in and sponsored for them. They have the private financing involved now to grow nationally. The whole concept of being able to put a little monitor on your oil heating tank and your natural gas tanks is truly taking off. It is a private company. It's too bad as Mr. Cashell thought that would be a good one to invest in if it was a public company. Probably some time in the future it will be. Here is a little company, a starter incubator company in Hudson and came up with a fantastic idea. It saves so much energy. All of the oil companies and natural gas distributors are just jumping on this. It's an unbelievable amount of money but it costs an average \$75 to go out there and deliver that oil when you're paying the hourly wage of the person delivering the oil, the amount of fuel it takes to get the oil or gas truck out to the site. Now it's all going to be automated. The amount of truck trips associated with trying to run the businesses successfully is going to greatly improve.

Mr. Pearson has been on this one right from the get go. Mr. Cashell said they received a call a couple of weeks ago and Susie did some quick research for them for tonight's meeting. It has to do with Right Networks, a high tech business software company that is coming from Nashua over to Hudson. They're going to locate at 16-18 Executive Drive. This is an international company. They have business software that is second to none. What it is doing is transforming all of the computer needs of corporations, small companies and large companies, to go into cloud computers so that all of their high tech computer needs are being driven by everything being stored off site and managed by this particular company. They're coming to Hudson and 40 jobs coming with them. They're high tech jobs. Those are the jobs communities all over the country strive for. It's coming to Hudson. This is going to be their headquarter facility too. They're going to do everything they can as the economic team for Hudson to make sure they're comfortable here, they're welcome here, and hopefully they'll have another exciting ribbon cutting ceremony that we can all attend.

Whenever Mr. Cashell comes to a Board meeting, and he doesn't go there that often but at the Board's request he's always there, he does start taking off with this stuff. He's been doing it since 1985. Again as he says all the time, he feels so fortunate to be able to be in this profession and also be in Hudson, which is an incredibly exciting community when it comes to a town that has one heck of a future ahead of itself. When it comes to economic development, Hudson has the location, the access to the location, the zoning in place, and all the hard working people necessary to continue Hudson in the right direction. Just so many absolute positive things going for Hudson it's incredible.

The reason why Selectman Maddox asked for this to be put on the agenda was the fact that he knows they had talk of this a year ago, six months ago. He wanted to make sure that everybody understood that there is stuff going on. They're not just sitting around waiting for the phone to ring. They have actively gone out and tried to find expansion in various business, new businesses and wanted to give the Board a report of that. Mr. Pearson did include in their packet one colorful piece of information for the municipal tax services. The rates in Hudson are second from the bottom. We're the ninth largest population in evaluation of getting close to \$3 billion; the Town's tax rate is the bottom of the list there. That is one of the selling points that they need to be selling also. We have a stable by the hard work of the Boards of Selectmen, Budget Committees, and School Board all have worked to keep the tax rate relatively stable. We don't see huge jumps so it scares businesses. It's pretty stable. It's pretty consistent. Again, he wanted

this to be brought before the Board and to the citizens so that they could see that there are things going on. Sometimes you read doom and gloom in the paper and he wanted to get him a more Hudson friendly and was hoping to get this on the website very shortly.

John Cashell wanted to point out one more thing. When you get to that net asset level - \$3 billion, that's an amount of money - assessed value of this community that is really important to understand. It's to a point where you could consider through the ups and downs of the economy. It happens from decade to decade that with that \$3 billion assessed value and growing, you have a self-sustaining community through the rough times. You have to recognize that Hudson has very little debt. That's so important. So many communities would love to be in that position. When you couple that with one of the lowest tax rates, and Mark really expounds on that, that is a huge selling feature when anybody is planning to locate here. It's one of those big things.

The other thing to keep in mind when Mr. Cashell and Mark are meeting with people and they had a meeting in Lowell the other day with their economic development team, people asked them who are your best partners in economic development for Hudson. He said the State Legislature of New Hampshire and the Governor of New Hampshire. There so many hard working people that really know the importance of growing a state's economy. Who else? Mr. Cashell always says Massachusetts legislature and Massachusetts' Governor. Look what happened the other day. The Massachusetts Governor was out of the country and Fidelity is consolidating all of their New England operations in Merrimack. There are so many businesses that do come up here because it is an employer friendly environment. New Hampshire really gets it and we're competitive second to none nationwide. Certainly in New England. It's exciting and we're in a mini boom right now and he keeps on telling the Planning Board that. They have a lot of site plan activity going on. It looks really good. It's self sustaining. Mr. Cashell thought we've gone through the worst of it. We're in the low 5s for unemployment rate. That's unprecedented. A lot of eras of the economy. Anything under 6 is considered full employment. Where you have other parts of the country, California being one of them is 12 percent unemployment.

Selectman Luszey stated that Mr. Pearson and Mr. Cashell talked about the elderly housing is a real big boom - the whole health care segment. Would you dare guess at how much of the economic development in terms of percentages is focused on that versus other commercial types of ventures?

Mr. Cashell asked to comment. He thought what the market was doing was giving us that particular part of the economy. Zoning allows for it. Developers - the market guys that are out there. They do so many studies. They know what they need to produce in order to make a profit. We all know there's a bulge in the population. The bulge is senior citizens. He's in the last of the baby boomers and there's 20 years of baby boomers before him. Everybody is either retiring or getting ready to retire.

Actually that was the crux of Selectman Luszey's thought. Are we setting Hudson up for a mini recession 30 years down the road when all the baby boomers, which he's one of them, may no longer be here? They'll have all of this infrastructure that is supporting a portion of the population that won't be existing at that point. Mr. Cashell said he didn't think so because we're nimble. Whatever the hit thing is 30 years from now who knows what it's going to be. People are already thinking about that. Thirty years from now we're nimble enough and we'll be right there. Right now they're trying to take care of what's coming at us. There's a lot of nursing home capacity that needs to be built. There's a lot of assisted living capacity. A lot of health care workers have to be trained. The people that are really planning for that senior environment, that's going to be a big chunk of our population and they're going to have to be cared for. The private sector is looking into that. The federal government is looking into it, State government. Everybody is trying to get ready for it. What Mr. Cashell can say is that for Hudson the senior housing that's being developed is private sector housing. It's a profit making venture for Hudson. Each one of the elderly is paying equal in property taxes what single family houses are paying. Typically there aren't any kids involved with the elderly housing units. Not that it's impossible, but we do for 55 and older they have to pay the school impact fee. What he's getting at is \$3,000 to \$4,000 of property taxes are being received by each one of the units. They're paying their fair share. Some people have asked about emergency services and the toll that may bring in a community. Ambulance service is not free. People are paying for that and it's not the Town paying for that. Elderly housing, senior housing is not going to be a drain on the community's resources and funds. It's a highly assessed property that brings a positive rate of return to the community.

Selectman Jasper thought what would segway into that would be in terms of the percentage of the housing stock. It's still a low percentage of the Hudson housing stock. It's not like we're going to have 50 percent elderly housing and then suddenly we're going to have a problem because we still have such a very low percentage of those units being built.

Vice-Chairman Maddox said that could have been the case. They fixed that loop hole about what a lot is on the zoning side. Look at the Oblate. He thought that was one of those projects that people are wanting to get into. They're either trying to get older faster or get rid of their existing house. Kevin Slattery has done a tremendous job. It

is a gorgeous facility and what he's done with the old building and the services that he has out there. Again, that is going to be a pre-eminent senior facility that people are going to be waiting to get into.

Mr. Pearson wanted to bring up that if the Fairview project is approved, that would bring the exact jobs that the New Hampshire Department of Employment Security is predicting is that market of jobs that is going to be available, which is the health care field. It ranges from jobs from the linens, janitorial, medicines, therapists, and so forth. There's 75 jobs. It's not all high end jobs. It's a mixture of high end and down. That's 75 jobs that are available for 75 people in the greater Hudson area.

Mr. Pearson indicated that the books in front of him were the second generation of the economic development packages that are available to people when they come into the counter. It will be something that they will improve on as they go forward. It's all about resources. They can't make people come here. They can't pay for people to come here. They can't make landlords rent buildings to specific tenants. A lot of this is out of their control. Mr. Pearson thought the fact that they are very prominent out there and they know who to contact, and they have a list of resources and if they have any questions they can stop in and see him and John. They do drop everything they're doing to meet with any perspective person should they come in the office, should they call. They set up appointments right away. They understand that if they deliver a good service to people when they call or come in, possibly that they'll think about coming back here. So they are trying to be resource enhanced to provide everybody with as much information as they can about why they should locate to Hudson.

Selectman Coutu made one observation with regards to the handout. He thought it would be a lot more effective if they had more than one page that was actually created by our Town in all the packets the information was readily available through the State. He thought what they needed to do was when they have a packet like this and they're trying to sell our community to potential developers, maybe they ought to give a little more history about our Town. There ought to be more documents in the packets that reflect the culture, the nature of Hudson. All they have that's created internally is a map. He didn't think that said much about Hudson. It gives them a lot of information, incentive programs, and other opportunities that are available. All of that information is available on the web site. He would rather see more in-house product relative to the Town of Hudson. Selectman Coutu thought it would make that a lot more attractive.

Vice-Chairman Maddox said it would be a good segway for version 3 when they come back next year. Again, that was something that was not going to happen over night. He wanted to bring to the Board's attention and to the citizens watching what they are doing. They're not simply waiting. They're trying to keep this moving in a positive nature. So if there are no more questions, thank you gentlemen.

E. CDBG Grant Administrator - REDC/EnerTrac Project

Vice-Chairman Maddox recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

As you all recall, Mr. Malizia said the Board accepted a CDBG Community Block Grant for the EnerTrac project which was referenced earlier. The \$450,000 grant of which \$425,000 will be granted to EnerTrac for business capital purposes. They are in front of the Board to hire a grant administrator as is the practice with the grants. There is money allocated for the administration of the grant. Administration typically includes the grant administrator to make sure that all requirements, regulations, laws and rules are followed and complied with as well as some money for what's called a "single audit". Because of the size of this grant and coupled with the other grants, they're going to have an audit requirement. The Town auditors are going to have to review this. There's going to be a cost. There is \$20,000 allocated for grant administrator and audit purposes. REDC, which is the Regional Economic Development Corp. and used to be Rockingham Economic but because they're expanding they've changed their name, put out a spec./advertisement/request for proposals. They mailed it to 15 qualified folks that do this sort of service and believed they advertised it in the Union Leader. We had two responses. We know both of the individuals that responded. One is Donna Lane who if the Board may recall handled a CDBG grant administration for the Ottarnic Pond sewer and water project. We also had Gerry Coogan through TFMoran submitted a bid. Those two bids came in and Mr. Coogan's bid (TFMoran) was \$9,500, which is less than the \$11,750 submitted by Ms. Lane. At this point, Mr. Malizia's recommendation is to go with the lower price bid with Mr. Coogan from TFMoran.

Selectman Coutu said he read the packet. Based on Mr. Coogan's credentials and the fact that he's worked with our community, and Mr. Malizia has interacted with him in the past haven't you. Mr. Malizia said he worked on the feasibility part of the grant for Ottarnic Pond which was admittedly a modest part of the proposal. They worked much more extensively with Ms. Lane. She's eminently qualified. She's very familiar. If you look at it from a price perspective and a basic qualification, Mr. Malizia thought Mr. Coogan of TFMoran was that much lower that the Board really had to consider.

Selectman Jasper asked if it was that long ago that he was working for the Town on a part-time basis as a grant administrator. Back in Mr. Sharon's day before Mr. Malizia's time. He was Finance Director. Selectman Jasper said Mr. Malizia was Finance Director so he didn't interact with him. Mr. Malizia said no he did not. Somewhere around 2000 maybe 1999. That was Vice-Chairman Maddox's concern also. Is there something in the contract Steve that has them giving the Board quarterly reports as to status or something?

Mr. Malizia said they are required to fill out federal status forms, so he was sure we could get a copy of it and take a look. His perspective on this one was it's a bit simpler than the Ottarnic Pond. When they did Ottarnic Pond, it was a very intense project. They did sewer, water, different contractors, engineers, construction, and a lot of labor. This appears to be relatively simple. They're basically loaning money to an entity and they'll be reporting on that. There's no engineering. There's no construction. There's no making sure you comply with the Davis Bacon Act and things like that. It's a simpler package altogether.

Motion by Selectman Luszey, seconded by Selectman Coutu, to award the bid for the CDBG Grant Administrator for the REDC/EnerTrac Grant to TF Moran, Inc. in the amount of \$9,500, carried 5-0.

F. Public Hearing - Adoption of New FEMA Floodplain Map Panels

Vice-Chairman Maddox recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

To set the stage, last August Mr. Malizia said the Board of Selectmen incorporated into the Hudson Town Code and updated FEMA, Federal Emergency Management Agency, flood plain maps for the Town of Hudson. It's a series of maps which they call panels or what not that represent the community. According to Attorney Buckley, the Town needed to adopt those into our code so that folks when they go and do insurance or whatever it's specified where the flood plain is. Apparently FEMA updated two of those panels. So they've updated a small subsection of the maps. After speaking to Attorney Buckley, he advised them that they needed to hold a public hearing to incorporate by reference the two updated panels to get into the Town Code. So to accomplish that, the Board has to hold a public hearing. After the public hearing, basically adopt the two flood plain panel updates into the Town Code. We've advertised the public hearing and obviously the public has responded overwhelmingly. Unless it's a process we have to go through and show proof to FEMA or some agency in the State that we've actually done this.

Vice-Chairman Maddox opened the public hearing at 8:05 p.m. Does anyone in the audience wish to speak on this item? The public hearing was closed at 8:06 p.m.

Selectman Coutu asked Mr. Malizia if he had an opportunity to look at the additional panels. Mr. Malizia said yes. It appeared to be modest. He assumed it was some omission or oversight because they just did them last year. Selectman Coutu was concerned because he didn't know if anyone had caught the news lately relative to flood plains. In light of all of the flooding that's taken place - this wasn't going to tell him anything. He was hoping someone else had reviewed it. He's not an engineer either. In light of the seriousness of the flooding that occurred nationwide, insurance companies obviously are suffering a little bit from their profits and are somewhat concerned. The rules and regulations for properties that are going to fall in the flood plain are going to be a lot more expensive that what they had been in the past as a result. Selectman Coutu is concerned with is there anyone that could tell him or the Board how much additional land has been included in the flood plain that we didn't have prior.

Mr. Malizia asked what he meant. Prior from the ones from 1969? That's the previous iteration before this 2010 one. As you recall, the Board adopted a FEMA map update in 2010. He believed the previous iteration was 1969. Selectman Coutu said in 2010 and here we are 2011 and we haven't had any complaints. He hasn't heard anybody say we have had. Mr. Malizia said they've had a public hearing for the other one. They've had the documents in the Selectmen's Office, the Engineer's Office, and the Community Development Office where it was publicized.

Selectman Coutu asked if there was anybody who can tell them that this new plan that they're going to adopt has significantly changed from the 2010 plan. Mr. Malizia indicated that nobody has told him that it has significantly changed anything. It's a change. They have not told him specific. He received this from Attorney Buckley who has been advising that basically to keep in compliance with FEMA, it's something we need to do before April 18th. Again, he's not profession to be an engineer and he's not an expert.

Selectman Coutu asked if it was something they had to do before April 18 or what. Mr. Malizia said somebody in that flood plain panel may not be able to get their insurance. Selectman Coutu said he is always concerned when they're voting blindly on something they really have no handle on. They really have no handle on what this entails, how much additional profit is being put into it, how many homes or property owners that have property that may now be in a flood plain are aware of that. Not Mr. Malizia. Mr. Malizia would dare say they probably did that when they did the whole 2010. Quite honestly he wasn't sure that anybody here could succinctly or expertly testify to what the big differences

were between 1969 and 2010. He certainly couldn't. Vice-Chairman Maddox said the 1969 probably weren't even on Autocad or something that you could overlay to see what the differences were. Mr. Malizia didn't believe they were.

Selectman Luszey said the last time that this Board adopted an overlay were any affected homeowners or residents or businesses notified. Mr. Malizia was not aware that there was a specific mailing to anyone other than in the series of either advertisements of FEMA and then a public hearing requirement that we had to carry out for the Town of Hudson. We didn't call anybody. We didn't go to their house. We didn't tell people yes or no they are in this.

Just a follow up and it kind of goes with Selectman Coutu's concern, Selectman Luszey said if we adopt this and it affects residents and they should get flooded and they didn't know that that could affect their claim on their insurance, do they know enough to get flood insurance. Mr. Malizia assumed their insurance company would know. They're the ones writing the insurance policy. He would have to assume that if somebody is an insurance company, they're well aware of those flood plain maps. They know exactly whose where. We don't write insurance obviously. He assumed an insurance company would have some knowledge just because it's probably critical to their business.

That's what Selectman Jasper was going to say. This is really a protection for the residents. If you're not in a flood plain, you're not eligible to get flood insurance to the best of his knowledge. If you do, it's at a higher rate. If you're in the national flood plain, there is the national flood insurance program which makes it available to you. So this is not a negative towards the residents. This is a positive. It also is something by incorporation becomes part of our zoning, which makes the Planning Board aware that when they're looking at subdivisions that there is a risk of flooding and they then will look at that in a whole different light. Obviously we try not to build in the flood plain.

Vice-Chairman Maddox said the maps they see at the Planning Board level are from the developers but taken from those maps. Mr. Malizia said there are two locations in town that he can point to specifically where the maps are. One is in Engineering so if you're coming in there's the series there. The other where he made the copy is up in the Community Development Department. The resources are here. The notification, i.e., we don't send it to everybody's house. We have a public hearing. It was advertised. He didn't think we received any feedback quick honestly when we did the adoption of the whole system. Selectman Jasper is correct. This is more of a protection from homeowners to be able to procure flood plain insurance if you're in a flood plain as opposed to folks whose house isn't in a flood plain. Mr. Malizia's house isn't in a flood plain. It's nothing that he has to worry about. He can probably buy it he supposed by the chances of him getting flooded are minimum so he probably wouldn't do that. He thought that was the intent of the program was to offer folks in flood areas an opportunity to procure insurance to protect their property. Again as he understood it, those were updates that FEMA did subsequent to the whole upgrade back in August. We need to incorporate the two panels, which is not the whole town, just a section into the ordinance.

Vice-Chairman Maddox asked if the sections that Selectman Nadeau was looking at the map are they ones that may have been something to do with the Mother's Day flood. Selectman Nadeau said exactly. Vice-Chairman Maddox said they probably have done some further research because of the incidents that they had on those two big rains. Selectman Nadeau said that was exactly what he and Selectman Coutu were just looking at. Off of Webster Street the new houses that were built near the Litchfield line - Harvest Way, Serenity Circle and those over there. Serenity Circle was one of the ones that he went to during the Mother's Day flood and Harvest Way. Part of those were on the map before so they've added extra that goes out a little bit further around them. It's almost a half a mile in some sections that they put in that weren't in before. It's all pretty much the new areas that we're building up on the river like Garrison Farm Road, Federal Street - all those were in there. They just widened that section out just because it was a bigger storm.

Vice-Chairman Maddox said a lot of rain that they had in those two storms indicate that that might be the right thing to do. As Selectman Jasper pointed out, that would then give those homeowners the ability to get flood insurance at a much lower rate through the federal government. Selectman Nadeau said one of the reasons that they've been updating these is because they've noticed the river height has been changing a lot more with the storms plus the building all around it. You build developments and you take away places where water goes and it goes into the river. He can understand why they're doing it and where they're doing it.

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Luszey, that pursuant to RSA 674:56, by resolution of the Hudson Board of Selectmen, all lands designated as special flood hazard areas by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in its "Flood Insurance Study for the County of Hillsborough, NH" dated September 25, 2009, together with the associated Flood Insurance Rate Maps dated September 25, 2009, including the revised map panels 33011C0514E and 3011C0652E dated April 18, 2011, are declared to be part of the Hudson Zoning Ordinance and are hereby incorporated by reference.

Selectman Nadeau said that this one of those things that should be readily available at our Town website so that if people have questions on the flood plain maps, we could have them on the website. He didn't know that they were that hard to or a link. At least they could have a way to go look at it. It might spark some interest tonight to go look to

see if we have flood insurance or if you need it. Vice-Chairman Maddox thought that depending on what format they're in and where and how are they going to be able to tie into ours. At the very least, he was sure there was a link to FEMA. Mr. Malizia said people can also be aware that they can come here in Community Development or through Engineering. A copy can be made for them too if they need it.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0.

G. Electronic Information Transfer

Vice-Chairman Maddox said he brought some visuals for us. This is the paper that each Selectman receives for Police, Fire, and Community Development for all of the various reports. He is asking the Board if they would prefer or agree with the idea of having the reports sent to them electronically. Donna can assemble them just like she does now but send it out electronically. She will then track that each of them gets it so there's no I'm not getting them for whatever reason with their e-mail. That way there they will save a lot of paper, ink and labor to facilitate getting those out to the Board.

Selectman Jasper said that he has the budget included in that. He was not agreeable to the budget. He's agreeable to the rest of it. Vice-Chairman Maddox indicated that the binders were Community Development and activity reports. Mr. Malizia said it just happens to be in a black binder. Selectman Jasper said he saw the tabs and it looked just like the budget. Vice-Chairman Maddox asked for it just to show the Board the amount of paper that they use.

Selectman Coutu wanted to make sure they were talking about the same thing. When he looked at the black binder, that is the Fire Department - the monthly report. Those are the monthly reports of all the activities and we have the same thing from the Police Department. Then Community Development they have all the actions and inspections. He understood the amount of work that's involved with having to make copies and put them in their boxes. It's been something that he's talked about for a couple of years now. He thought they go through an awful lot of paper. He and Selectman Maddox have had this very same discussion on how they thought would conserve a lot of paper and certainly save a lot of money. He was concerned about the amount of time Donna. Wouldn't it be more appropriate if they had the Executive Secretary to the Police Chief and the Executive Secretary to the Fire Chief sends the reports to the Selectmen as opposed to having everything funneled in their office and have Donna do it? Ms. Graham indicated that Dorothy sends the reports to her electronically. Selectman Coutu asked if Ms. Graham copied that. Mr. Graham said yes and she prints a copy and sends it around the office. Selectman Coutu asked if Ms. Graham received the reports from fire and police electronically. Ms. Graham said only police. Selectman Coutu said that Ms. Graham would have to scan all of them and send them out to the Board. Mr. Malizia suggested that we could ask them to scan it before it gets to us. That's what Selectman Coutu was saying. Why can't they have each department?

Selectman Jasper was sure they do it electronically there anyhow. So we can just redirect them to send them electronically. Just from an efficiency perspective, Mr. Malizia said he knows it sounds kind of arcane but we are a central repository for a lot of information that sometimes you folks you need and the citizens need. Frankly it's easier if it does funnel through us. He's not trying to make more work but if we received the electronic copy and then we assure that the Board received it, and then we know where it is and where it's accessed. If it's important for you, there are some things other people do need to take a look at and you wouldn't believe how many departments come to us looking for their stuff. Not to make a burden, but Mr. Malizia is just saying. If he started having everybody send them to the Board. It's probably easier as a control point. Pennichuck sends it to him and he'd like to look at it. Maybe there's an issue. Maybe he can work with them and let them know that they didn't report this correctly or they forgot something. It's a control point just so they know when it came in and then we distribute it to the Board. He didn't think it was a major effort to do that. We're doing it now. We're just doing it electronically if that's the will of the Board.

Selectman Luszey was going to reiterate what Mr. Jasper said. He was sure they do them electronically. So it's a matter of just...Vice-Chairman Maddox thought Pennichuck's reports were still hand written. Mr. Malizia said they can easily get them to change because quite honestly we pay them. Again, Vice-Chairman Maddox was just trying to look at ways to be green, save a few dollars, and just make it easier for all of the Board. We could then keep it for their own reference downstream electronically if they so desired. Without any objection, that will be the process. We will start sending them out electronically. Selectman Coutu thought that was a great idea. He applauded Vice-Chairman Maddox for taking the initiative to bring that to their attention.

Selectman Coutu wanted to make another recommendation. It was one of the things that he noticed in their boxes a couple of weeks ago. If you remember, they had directed the Chairman to send letters to all of the Representatives. They don't need copies of all those letters. That's an absolute waste of paper. They don't need copies of letters that the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen sends out. A copy of one letter could be put in their review folder upstairs. Those are the kinds of things that irk him.

Selectman Jasper thought that they've gotten away from the "general read". He wasn't sure who remembers when they used to use it very extensively. They didn't get any of that stuff in their boxes. It would all go in the box on the corner of the desk and they'd all sign it. A lot of them didn't but you leave it in there for a month. If they don't look at it, that's their fault. If they do, they initial it. He thought they could probably go back to more stuff going into the general read. Certainly when it's going out to all the Representatives, one copy and then a hand note saying "sent to all Reps." would be fine. They didn't need to see 13 copies of the same thing.

H. Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman for the upcoming year

Selectman Coutu nominated Selectman Jasper for Chairman.

Selectman Nadeau nominated Selectman Maddox for Chairman.

Vice-Chairman Maddox asked Selectman Coutu if he wanted to say anything. Selectman Coutu said he would rather not because he's liable to say things that he's going to regret later. He wholeheartedly endorsed Selectman Jasper for the position.

Roll Call: Selectman Luszey voted for Selectman Jasper; Selectman Jasper voted for himself; Vice-Chairman Maddox voted for himself; Selectman Coutu voted for Selectman Jasper; Selectman Nadeau voted for Selectman Maddox.

Three in favor for Selectman Jasper; two in favor for Selectman Maddox.

Motion to elect Selectman Jasper as Chairman, carried 3-2.

Vice-Chairman Maddox opened the floor for nominations for Vice-Chairman.

Selectman Jasper nominated Selectman Coutu.

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Luszey, to close the nominations and vote by acclamation to elect Selectman Coutu as Vice-Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, carried 4-0-1. Vice-Chairman Maddox abstained.

9. OTHER BUSINESS/REMARKS BY THE SELECTMEN

Selectman Nadeau - As he promised the Board this week, he would tell them the Citizen of the Year for the Chamber of Commerce which will be presented tomorrow night is for Pauline Boisvert. The Large Business of the Year was St. Joseph Healthcare. The Small Business of the Year was Showtime Computers. There's two Junior Citizens - Jeremy Poulin and Kirsten Lennox. Jeremy and Kirsten's will be presented to them at the Scholarship Night where the Chamber presents them with a check for their scholarship money. The other three that he told the Board - the small business, large business, and citizen of the year, will all be presented tomorrow night at the Castleton. This is the Chambers annual dinner. He and Selectman Coutu will be going. He wasn't sure if any of the other Selectmen were going.

Selectman Nadeau wanted to update the Board on the monument on the common. The American Legion is getting the exact dates and wording of the inscription on the monument. Once he gets that, he will get a proposal to the Board to have that added to the monument.

To that point, Selectman Coutu interrupted with all respect Selectman Nadeau was he talking about the monument that he had said that he had hoped that they could get somebody to update the wars. Selectman Nadeau said yes. Selectman Coutu said he got a hold of Dave Cote of Hudson Monument and said he was available to do it and for free. He's volunteering to do the carving as long as it doesn't require him putting in 40 or 50 names. Selectman Coutu told Mr. Cote that they were going to update and add two additional wars to the monument. He is more than willing to work with Selectman Nadeau and arrange to come in and do all the carvings at no cost to the Town.

Selectman Nadeau thanked Selectman Coutu. Once he gets that information and gets the update to what's going to be on there, he will talk to Selectman Coutu and they will get this done. Hopefully it will be done for Memorial Day this year.

Selectman Luszey - He had a couple of things. He'd like to thank the voters that voted for him and giving him the opportunity to serve the community in a different capacity.

Selectman Luszey wasn't sure how many folks know about Mooremart. He thought everybody on the Board knows about it. They did a packing this past Saturday where they shipped over 1,400 packages and hopefully if they did their homework right, they would have shipped a package to every serving military person out of the country. The reason that's important to Hudson is about 50 percent of the people that showed up to that event come from Hudson. So there's a great support. He

thought it was partly because the Moore family is from Hudson. If you go to Senator Shaheen's website, Mooremart was her light point video on it. He'll send it out to the Board so that they can take a look.

Selectman Luszey has received a few phone calls about what folks would like to see the Board do here and as they get into some of the stuff, where appropriate he'll bring those topics.

Selectman Jasper - He had a few things this evening. First he didn't think it rose to the level of a motion. Just to make sure that everyone was fine with it. Down at Benson Park down between the ponds there's a section of fence. It's sort of an L-shape and it connects to the long stretch. The Benson Committee would like to take that down. They have volunteers to take it down. It's pretty dilapidated at this point. So without objection, that will come down this spring.

Selectman Jasper said there were a couple of things at the State level. One being the issue of poles and conduit. Some of them remember that. It has come back. It has passed out of the Senate to repeal that tax. He thought that the Board knows that he has been opposed to that additional tax and he's looking at it more in a global point of view in that particularly in the north country where there are few and far between homes, there's a lot of poles and conduit and that makes it very expensive to provide landlines to those people. Primarily for that reason and the fact that because they have 239 communities and they don't have a dollar amount set that a pole is valued at this, and a length of wire is valued at this amount, we'll have potentially 239 communities fighting with the phone company what the value is which will raise everyone's expenses. Leadership of the House is going to be supporting that Senate bill to repeal that ability to tax. Selectman Jasper will be testifying on behalf of leadership for that on Thursday at 1 p.m. He knows that is at odds with the position the Town has taken in the past. He wanted the Board to know that he would be speaking only for himself and for leadership at that point. He didn't know where they were on the assessment process with that whole issue. He didn't think they were too far along.

Selectman Jasper said they all got the e-mail today from the Police Chief and hopefully the (Don Breault) trial will be wrapping up. He would like to be able to make it there to show his support on Thursday. He didn't anticipate he'd be able to because he should be in Concord. Selectman Coutu is going to speak to that. Selectman Coutu said it was moved until tomorrow. Selectman Jasper said he definitely won't be able to make it. He hoped they had a good showing and support. Mr. Malizia said he will most likely attend. He attended last Thursday and sat on the Town's side. Selectman Jasper said hopefully they'll have some support there for that.

Selectman Jasper thought Selectman Coutu might know a little bit more about this but the 9/11 monument is moving forward with the possible site selection coming up soon.

Finally, Selectman Jasper said the State budget they saw an e-mail that Chief Murray sent out today with an analysis of what the Governor had done in his budget and the negative impact it would have on the taxpayers of all the communities. The House is not going along with that scheme, although this is going to be a very painful budget. The pain will not be passed on at least not in any direct way to the communities. We will be receiving the same funding in the areas that we have in the past so that there will not be any downshifting. It's going to be very difficult to tell the affect it has on services to the needy and the handicapped are ultimately going to impact the towns. They're trying to do the best they can to make sure that doesn't happen. It looks like the State budget is going to be recommended out of the House Finance Committee is down by 9 percent. An actual 9 percent decrease. It is going to be painful but we all know there's nobody else to go to the well and say pay us more taxes. All our taxes have really been on the decline in the last few months. It's encouraging to hear what John Cashell had to say but the reality is that that's not translating into revenues at this point. They are still falling below their projections. Things are not good on the State level.

Selectman Coutu - First thing, he'd like to ask a question and it's relative to the house at the library (47 Ferry Street). Have we made any inroads in terms of finding somebody to manage the rental of that property? Mr. Malizia said he has the spec. prepared and he's mailed it out to several property companies. He has not received anything back yet. He anticipated sometime early spring or fairly soon getting something for the Board if that's what they want to do. Selectman Coutu asked - "If that's what they want to do?" Mr. Malizia assumed the Board still wanted to do that. Selectman Coutu said he wouldn't sell it just yet.

Selectman Coutu wanted to let the Board know that Hudson Cable Television this evening is hosting a Cub Scout group in the Hudson Cable facility. They're going to show them through and have them work some of the cameras and show them how we produce television shows here in the Town of Hudson. He wanted to use that as a segway to let other people within the community know whether it's a nonprofit group, scouting groups who would like to go and visit and tour our cable facility can get hands on and first-hand knowledge of how the facility works. The Hudson Cable Television facility is funded obviously with the user's fees. They wanted to make people aware that it exists and that it is available to them. He thought the best way for them to be educated in that process was to have small groups from their organizations make arrangements to go to the facility and our Facilitator would escort them through and make a 2 to 3 hour time frame for them to be able to do that. They're doing that right as they speak now with the Cub Scout group.

Selectman Coutu said he would like to just say this publicly because he didn't know if any or all of the Board had an opportunity to watch the senior meeting this week - the last televised senior meeting. It resembled rhetoric that they had heard a few years ago when this whole process started about building a senior facility. Remarks such as "We don't want to get screwed again" doesn't shed a positive light on what they're trying to do for the senior community. This Board of

Selectmen has been unified, and he was sure Selectman Luszey will join with that effort as he becomes ensconced in what they've done, where they're going, and what they plan to do. They have been unified in their support for building a community center for the seniors. Hopefully they will start making some headway in terms of getting the Attorney General's Office to review the deed so that they can make the language change that is appropriate and if necessary, they'll work with the Governor's council if they start throwing bills at us to have those bills overturned. We've had that assurance from the Governor. He and Selectman Jasper have communicated with the Governor's attorney with regard to doing that. He thought they were going to do some follow up in that respect. He knows that Selectman Jasper is ensconced in the budget process right now, but they need to address that issue. He would ask the seniors to temper their remarks please. They're going to work with them hand in hand. Selectman Maddox with Selectman Massey have been in the forefront this past year in terms of getting this project off the ground and getting it before the voters. They've had an overwhelming support. He wanted them to speak more positively about what they could potentially get. The Board will work with them very, very closely and he was sure they're all going to be unified in that to make sure that they dot all the Is, cross all the Ts, and they protect the interests and their investment into that new facility. Selectman Coutu was somewhat concerned with those remarks.

Before Selectman Coutu goes any further, Selectman Luszey - welcome. They had two good qualified candidates who ran. Neither of them did much campaigning except for showing up on television for Candidate's Night. The voters have spoken. He could have lived with either Mr. Luszey or Mrs. McGrath. Selectman Coutu has worked with Ted. He's gotten to know him a little better. He knows his brother because he goes in his store. He lives right down the street. He's one of those Massachusetts people. He's gotten to know Mr. Luszey as a person who's dedicated to anything that he tackles. He's a sincere, genuine person and he respected that. He thought Mr. Luszey's mindset is that what they try to achieve is in the final analysis though they may lose some of the battles, the final product is what is best for the citizens of Hudson first and foremost. He welcomes him on board. He's going to be a tremendous asset to this Board and he's going to bring a whole new dimension and a whole new perspective for them to look at. Selectman Coutu has said before and he'll say it again Selectman Luszey, he doesn't go in with a mindset. He goes in with an idea of what direction he thought they needed to go. Often times, like Selectman Maddox or Selectman Jasper, or Selectman Nadeau and in the past Selectman Massey, may have thrown something in there that he hadn't taken into consideration and can change his mind. He thought especially this past year more flexible in their thinking. Selectman Jasper may be a little less than most of them. He sticks so firmly with his positions. He's mellow considerably. Welcome Ted and he was really looking forward to working with him this year.

One of the things that came out in this campaign that he heard in the previous campaign because she has run a couple of times, Marilyn McGrath. He thought was something that they need to consider and it stuck with him this time. The first year he heard it and said it was a pretty good idea. This year he heard it and said that they should do something like that. She has proposed that they put together some sort of a program where they invite their employees to come in with a cost saving idea and that they reward them somehow. Selectman Coutu thought that was a great idea. It could be a topic for a workshop. He didn't think of some of those things as just rhetoric in a campaign. He thought she was sincere and genuine because she repeated it twice in two separate campaigns. Selectman Coutu though Ms. McGrath was saying - Ted you've managed companies and he has and you'd be surprised that the people that they have working in the company have some great ideas but they're afraid to step forward and you know that some of those ideas could save them a considerable amount of money. He thought it was worth exploring the possibility of having some sort of a reward program for an employee who comes up with the best savings idea in any given year. He'd like to entertain that for a workshop.

9/11. Selectman Coutu said they have a commitment obviously for the steel. They haven't had a meeting for a long time. They had a meeting last week and now they're going to have another meeting next week. They're going to organize subcommittees. They have to look at things such as fundraising and things of that nature. Dave Cote from Hudson Monument - this memorial is to memorialize all of the people who were tragically lost on 9/11. It's not geared towards the Fire, Police, and the public service. It's to memorialize and remember all of the people who tragically died. One of those is the Pentagon. Dave has 5 six foot slabs of concrete that he is going to donate to the memorial so that they can put that into the shape of the Pentagon around the Twin Tower monument. They're going to have a design here. The monument in the center is going to have the Twin Towers which will be the steel. Then they'll have that surrounded with the Pentagon shape made out of the concrete that Dave is going to provide. Then they're going to have an open field concept for the tragic incident with the plane crashing in the field in Pennsylvania. They're hopefully going to take a site walk down at Benson's and look and see if there is something that they can achieve an agreed location. They want to find something that affords the tranquility to be able to sit there and to think about the tragedy of 9/11 and also not be in a situation as we are with the fire monument where you're out there and there are all kinds of traffic and noise. That's been a problem over the years. They just wanted to find a secluded spot where they could put something to memorialize that particular day. They're making tremendous progress. They hoped that before the spring they'll be able to come before the Board of Selectmen with some sort of a proposal to look at and then they can take it to the Benson's Committee and then it would come back to the Board for final approval if the Benson's Committee can agree to it. That pretty much covers it. Thank you.

Vice-Chairman Maddox - He had a couple of things. Number one, recycling. He gave out 175 recycling bins on Election Day and only because he ran out of bins. For all of them that agreed to use them - do that, they'll be in much better shape. He talked to Kevin Burns and he said that if they can get from the stubborn 24 percent that they have been sitting at for some time to 30 percent recycling, they can save \$42,000 a year. Not a big jump. The Selectmen have made the peace right here to help out. He thought that, again, it is a case of nobody thinks about it. If you just start with the paper and the cardboard and put it in those bins, they can see 30 percent if they really tried. Vice-Chairman Maddox thought that the citizens think that it all goes in the same hole. It doesn't. It goes into two different trucks. One we pay \$78 a ton to dispose of and the other one whether they co-mingle or whatever they do at the recycling plant, we don't pay for the tipping fees. Again, a

\$42,000 savings to go up 6 percentage points. He was hoping that those that received new bins, he would hope that we get some bins down here when people come to register their vehicles. There's a place for them underneath the table and pick some up. Here's an item that goes directly to the bottom line. Whether you believe that it goes in the same hole or whatever, as long as you're putting them in those green buckets or the recycling, its money saved on our tax bill. He knows that Selectman Luszey will love to hear that he will be part of the discussions and decisions on the trash program, since he had many, many questions the last time. Selectman Luszey said he spent many years on the waste and recycling committee. Vice-Chairman Maddox said they can't believe it, they're already 3 ½ plus years through this contract. So it's something that they're going to have to start thinking about. There is a number that if they can get up to 30 percent, \$42,000 bottom line savings.

Finally, the elections. Vice-Chairman Maddox said he was fascinated by the people that write in the Thumbs about get rid of the incumbents. Twenty-four hundred people showed up out of 16,000. Obviously the incumbents are doing better than we think, or those people just forgot that that Tuesday was voting day.

10. NONPUBLIC SESSION

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Luszey, to enter nonpublic session under RSA 91-A:3 II (b) the hiring of any person as a public employee; and (c) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a fee, fine, or other levy, if based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant.

Selectman Jasper asked if they could do that following a 5 minute recess.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0 by roll call.

Nonpublic Session is being entered at 8:52 p.m., thus ending the televised portion of the meeting. Any votes taken upon entering open session will be listed on the Board's next agenda. The public is asked to leave the room.

Open session is being entered at 9:16 p.m.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Jasper, to hire Shane Michael Collins as a part-time Telecommunication Technician at the Police Department at a rate of \$16.78 per hour effective March 27, 2011 according to Police Union Local #3657 effective July 1, 2009, carried 5-0.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 9:18 p.m. by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Luszey, carried 5-0.

Recorded by HGTV and transcribed by Donna Graham, Recorder.

HUDSON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Richard J. Maddox, Vice-Chairman

Shawn Jasper, Selectman

Benjamin J. Nadeau, Selectman

Roger E. Coutu, Selectman

Ted Luszey, Selectman