

HUDSON, NH, BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Minutes of the April 6, 2010 Workshop Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER by Chairman Massey at 7:03 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at Town Hall.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, led by Connie Owen.

3. ATTENDANCE

Selectmen: Ken Massey, Roger Coutu, Ben Nadeau (arrived late), Shawn Jasper, Rick Maddox

Staff/Others: Mark Pearson, Assistant Town Administrator; members of the Library Trustees; and members of the Benson's Committee

4. MINUTES

Board of Selectmen minutes of March 23, 2010

5. OLD BUSINESS

Votes taken following Nonpublic Session on March 23, 2010

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Coutu, to authorize hiring Thomas DeAngelis as Babe Ruth Baseball Director for the fee of \$600 effective April 1, 2010; hiring Kimberly Buccarelli as Summer Program Director for the fee of \$5,500 effective June 1, 2010; and hiring Cindy Holton as Ladies League Softball Director for the fee of \$600 effective April 1, 2010, carried 5-0.

Motion to adjourn at 9:42 p.m. by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Maddox carried 5-0.

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Board of Selectmen Liaison Assignments

Motion by Selectman Maddox, seconded by Selectman Jasper, to appoint Selectman Coutu as the Board of Selectmen's representative to the Budget Committee and Selectman Massey as the alternate, carried 4-0-1. Selectman Massey abstained.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Jasper, to approve the liaison assignments as put forth in Chairman Massey's memo of March 30, 2010, carried 4-0-1. Selectman Massey abstained.

- B. Department Reviews

Chairman Massey thought that it was either 4 or 5 years since they last had the departments come in outside of the budget process to talk about what their future needs are and to give them some indication of things that they would like to do that might be different than what they were currently doing. He put together a schedule and after putting it together he learned the Fire Chief is not going to be here on May 4th. So we're going to switch Fire to June 1st and Police to May 4th.

Finally, the Sewer Department is more properly with the Public Works. So we'll move Sewer from July 6th to August 3rd. Are there any questions or any issues that you would like to see the department heads address when they come before the Board?

Selectman Maddox would hope that it was conveyed through the Assistant Town Administrator what their goal is here. He knows that in the past they've asked department heads and they thought it was the Spanish inquisition. He thought it was more to get information from them on a much wider scope than our usual - they come in with an agenda item, they're here for 8 minutes, and they're off. Selectman Maddox thought it was really to look at talking with the department heads to find out where their departments are. In the past, sometimes they took it as a summoning.

It is really for them to have face time before the Board of Selectmen to be able to tell them what's good, what's bad, what's ugly, what may be needed, what issues were coming up that they should be made aware of. Unfortunately we tend to do it all as a reactionary, and he congratulated the Chairman on bringing this back in something that, again, gives the department heads times to talk to the 5 selectmen about their departments. He was hoping that's the way they were going to take it. He hoped that was the way it was transmitted. It is truly to look at departments that do an awful lot in Town that the Selectmen only see bits and pieces of that are able to explain. He's hoping some of them come in and say, "Did you realize".

Selectman Maddox thought Kevin Burns is one of those. The amount of road miles that is plowed and maintained. As we looked at all of the rain that has happened over the last month, our usual spots of failure have been corrected over the last 5 years. Kevin Burns and his crew - the intersection at Bush Hill and Pelham that was always a choke point did not get closed down. Again, he thought that's what he was hoping to look where are those issues that they know of? What personnel issues may be coming up? Hopefully they can have a spirited yet informative discussion. He was hoping that that is what was transmitted. It's not simply a summoning to...

Point of fact, Chairman Massey said that one of the things he talked to the Town Administrator was that one of the things that he would like them to talk about is what they see their 5 year capital requirements are so that we can begin to, again, do some more forward planning and prepare the citizens for things that we think or know are going to be coming down the road. It's an opportunity to do it without the budget process lurking in the background. Any other comments from Board members?

Selectman Coutu said over and above that which was being proposed and what was enunciated by Selectman Maddox, he appreciated the fact that he decided to go this route. He hoped first of all that they get a clean copy of the changes at their next meeting anyway. But he would like to beyond that and he thought the capital needs of the department are critical for them so that they can initiate some planning. It's very tough considering the budgetary constraints that we have in light of the state of the economy, but he'd like to see what those critical need areas are. He also beyond knowing just about the departments, he'd like to know their level of comfort in their housing situation within each office.

Selectman Coutu would also like from the Assistant Town Administrator with regard to Community Development some sort of a plan for attack this year on how we're going to go forward, and what kind of community involvement that he may or may not be anticipating or would like to see involved in marketing the empty buildings we have in our community, and how we're going to go forward in marketing this town. He'd like to see a more comprehensive report from him and if July 6th didn't meet his date, he would hope that any of these department heads as did the Fire Chief would communicate with you Mr. Chairman to tell him that they would need more time. He thought that they needed to not only look at this, they needed to look at this very seriously because we need this forethought in their planning for what we can afford, and where we can go, and when we could begin some of these projects. Once we have the input from all of the department heads, then we can begin prioritizing what are our most critical needs and start a plan of attack to address those areas. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

C. Sale of 47 Ferry Street

Chairman Massey indicated that they asked the Library Trustees to come here to speak with them as they are concerned about being able to sell this building with the conditions that it currently it is in, and whether or not we should do any remedial work before we sell it and if so, who should bear the price of that work. He asked the Trustees to come forward. We have Connie Owen, Arlene Creeden, Scott Slattery, Linda Kipnes, and Bernie Manor. What brings them here tonight is that we've had 47 Ferry Street on the market now for about 6 months. During those 6 months we have not received any credible offers. The two that we've received were for \$10,000 and the other one was for \$7,000. We clearly understand that there is an issue with asbestos there, and we now have an estimate of what it would cost to do that work. He thought that the question the Board of Selectmen would have was first of all, we don't have any money relatively speaking earmarked for this project. So the thinking was if we do invest the money to sell it, that money should come out of the proceeds before the net is sent to the Library Trustees. Chairman Massey said they had asked the Trustees what their thinking was relative to the building.

Connie Owen said that she did a little bit of homework on this issue because she was quite curious about the situation of the sale of #49. She did some homework and research at the Hillsborough

County Registrar of Deeds and found out that a similar situation at #49 was handled by Mr. Phillip Rogers who applied to the State Department of Environmental Services and got a letter clearance determination with activity and use restrictions based on the coverage that he had put on it and was able to sell the property with a full mortgage from the Bank of America to the current owners. Unfortunately, she really didn't do that research before, and she's passed that along to the Town Administrator who has passed it along to the Town Engineer who is researching that. From what Ms. Owen understood, the estimates for the remediation of the asbestos seemed quite high. At this point, there is very little point there are some other things that could be done to the house but if it is the asbestos issue that is preventing the sale, it's kind of silly to do anything else until they decide about the asbestos. She would suggest that they follow up with the Department of Environmental Services and see if they can get a similar clearance determination on the property in which case then it should become saleable. Ms. Owen's understanding was that the bank would not give a mortgage with the current condition. So if they can get that letter of clearance that would be something that they put that impediment out of the way. Other than that, they have not seen the estimates, and she thought that whatever they need to put into that house to make it saleable would not come out of their regular budget nor is there money in the Town budget for it. Like anything else, if it is a cost to make something saleable, it would have to come out of the profit. She didn't know how the other Trustees felt about that, but that certainly made sense to them. They are just as anxious for it to sell as they are.

Selectman Coutu wanted to make sure that they were all on the same page. He knows what he just heard, but he wanted to make sure that it was clear. Whatever remediation needs to be done you're saying no now. What Ms. Owen is saying is when you say "whatever" she thought they needed to find out what was anticipated...Selectman Coutu said whatever remediation needs to be done. If Ms. Owen was not mistaken, the remediation for the asbestos was ranged from \$20,000 to \$65,000. They're certainly not going to be saying yes take \$65,000 off the top. Chairman Massey said that they'd make sure that the Trustees get a copy of it. The basic cost right now looked like it was in the neighborhood of about \$12,000 or \$13,000 plus \$975 a day for the onsite supervision of the work. So we're under the \$20,000. Ms. Owen said she asked Mr. Manor to comment because he has seen it too.

Selectman Coutu said apparently they're not getting each other. He'll let them proceed and he'll ask his question later. He thought they were all on the same page. Apparently they're not.

Mr. Manor said he looked at the estimate that they have from the engineer. The \$12,000 that you mentioned is probably the least figure that we'll turn up. Chairman Massey interrupted Mr. Manor and said just for their purposes was he talking about the GZA estimate? Mr. Manor said yes. You're looking at - the cost of the fill is not included in that price. That fill is going to be coming from the Town and the Town is going to be doing the trucking. That stuff what they're talking about in there is just oversight, plans, and specs. So there are still other costs involved.

Ms. Owen would certainly say that they expected to not have this coming out of the Town budget; however she certainly could not say that they would accept something that would be an unreasonable cost to mitigate that. She would like to be informed about what the costs are, and she'd like to see that all prior options would be pursued before they go to that.

Selectman Jasper said the problem that this Board was probably having was this really isn't their situation. So if you want to take charge of it, knock yourselves out and we'll just back off. When you have everything done, we'll put it back on the market. Otherwise, you need to trust them to do what is in the best interests of the Town and get the job done. He didn't think this Board was interested in going back and forth and negotiating and having the Trustees overview what they've done. He had the sense that that's not going to happen. So if they wanted to take the project and run with it, put the money up front, go ahead. We're willing to put our money up front, get it done, get it back on the rolls, and give you the net. If that's not acceptable, then it's your baby, we walk away and wait until you're done. That's where we're at.

Ms. Owen said that the property was listed at \$179,000. That is the current listing with Harmony at least on their website the last time she looked. If they're going to wind up selling it for \$7,000 or \$10,000, certainly they're all going lose money on it. She would say within reason they really don't want to take this back. They want to work with the Board of Selectmen in a collaborative fashion and hopefully trust that we can come to what is going to be in the best benefit of the Town and of the Library Board of Trustees.

Chairman Massey thought that Selectman Jasper and probably Selectman Coutu were raising the point that if they're going to wind up getting into a negotiation with them on what we should or shouldn't be doing, then he believed this Board would feel that they then should make all those decisions. They didn't want to get into negotiating. Ms. Owen said nor do they really, but she was kind of shocked that there was another option that had not been pursued about this letter of remediation until she dug it up and pursued it. One would hope that..

Selectman Jasper said that the letter of remediation comes after the remediation. Ms. Owen said no. Selectman Jasper said it came after the remediation or if you have a clean site. They didn't have a clean site. They have to make the site clean. You can't get a letter of remediation from the State with asbestos sticking out of the ground. So we can't just go in and say put 2 inches over and have the State come in. We're in a situation where we have to have it done properly. If you want to pursue something else, then we're saying that's fine. We don't really need this hassle. We don't really need to put our staff time into it; we don't really need to put anything into it. You think you can do a better job than they and their staff, that's fine with all of them. They're not going to get into a back and forth here.

Selectman Maddox said he was going to give them a moment. He thought that they've just hit them with the proverbial lead weight. He thought that they should go to have their next meeting and get back to us. Nothing here needs to be done tonight. He agreed with Selectman Jasper wholeheartedly. We're not going to run around and do all the leg work, you get the money, and you just get the money. If you want to increase your net and want to do some of the leg work, go at it. They didn't want to be stuck in the middle. If the property needs to be sold, we want to get it back on the tax rolls certainly, but the offers that have been made have been ridiculous. To make that go away, they need to make it saleable to 97 percent of the mortgage situation. Most people can't come in and pay cash. He thought the 2 offers they got were probably cash offers, thought they would go wherever. Unrealistic to them, and unrealistic to us. He agreed with Selectman Jasper. He certainly didn't want to get into you think that you could have gotten another \$12 by doing something else. So why don't you go back to your regular meeting, get back to us - don't put them on the spot of making a decision tonight but until they hear from them, nothing is going to get done. You decide whether you hand it over to us and accept the net profit, or you do all the leg work, you spend the money up front, and get whatever you get. Again, Selectman Maddox thought that they both need to be on the same page. The Board guessing what they want and the Board trying to make whatever doesn't put anybody in a good place.

Chairman Massey thought that was an excellent suggestion. Ms. Owen appreciated that completely because it is difficult. They walked in there just not knowing that this was the topic for discussion, wanting it to come to a budget for a committee or a vote, and also then to pull all the pieces that we've gotten very recently together. That was part of the reason why Chairman Massey wanted to have the dialog with them tonight was to have everything...Ms. Creeden asked if they had a copy of the estimates and everything that was included that they received already? Ms. Owen said that Mr. Manor received one today. This was important for them to have.

Selectman Jasper's understanding, or maybe it had been taken care of, was that there is a leak in the roof that needs to be...Ms. Creeden said they're working on it. Ms. Owen said right. They're preventing any further damage. There has been some water damage from a leak in the roof, and damage of the ceiling. Certainly not as severe as they were lead to believe. They have investigated it and taken some pictures. So yes there will be cosmetic work. There will be roof repair work, which naturally if you're selling any house that has deficits that does not pass an inspection; the seller needs to take care of that. So they anticipate that coming off the top.

Selectman Jasper wanted to be clear. It sounded like you folks are going to take care of those issues? Ms. Owen said if they can resolve the asbestos issue and that's necessary to do to make it saleable, they certainly will. Selectman Jasper thought regardless of what happened, at least the roof issue ought to be taken care of ASAP regardless of anything else. You can wait on the interior things but as long as there's water...Ms. Owen said no more water was coming in, and they had it checked since the last 3-day storm. There has been no more additional damage. She certainly would not expect that they would sell it with a whole in the ceiling of the bedroom. That's less than attractive.

Selectman Maddox said one of the things that if the Trustees take it fine. If the Board was going to be selling it one of the things he wanted to see them do is have a home inspection up front so that they answer those questions, fix the asbestos, and it's still 4 months because it has whatever. He thought it was money well spent. Again, in 6 months they've had 2 offers and they've both been

very low because they had the cash to be able to try and buy it. Again, some homework needed to be done on both sides. So whatever way you'd like to go, they'd be happy to do that. They need to know whether they control the situation or they want to.

Chairman Massey asked when the Trustees next meet. Ms. Owen said on the 21st of April. Chairman Massey asked if they would be in a position to have a recommendation to the Board on the 23rd or wait until their first meeting in May. Ms. Owen said by the 23rd they would have had a vote on it when we've had an opportunity to go through this material, and they will certainly do that. She understood but she didn't know for sure because she doesn't know FHA regulations that certain other things would disqualify it for an FHA sale. Those are the kinds of things that they want to anticipate because if it is another amount of money that would make it more saleable, certainly they'd want to go with that.

Selectman Coutu recommended to Connie that she might want to contact the real estate agent that they're presently listed with and go over all of that with them. They can probably articulate what restrictions they might be confronted with in terms of FHA and the like. They may be able to walk you through because they're quite familiar with the property now having shown it so many times. So they may be a tremendous asset in their decision making process. Ms. Owen had hoped that maybe they had some of that information for them tonight to give them the realty feedback. Again if you're giving them a couple more weeks, they can line all of that up. Selectman Maddox said he was sure that they've received copies of reports. Chairman Massey said to contact the Town Administrator and he could make available all the materials that they've received to date. Selectman Maddox asked that the Assistant Town Administrator make copies and get them over to them rather than going through that step. Ms. Owen said they really appreciated that. What they've been hearing is very much over the threshold and under the door. Thank you so much and thank you for the extension of time.

D. Benson Park

Chairman Massey turned toward the liaison Selectman Jasper and also recognized Mr. Schibanoff and Ms. Rumbaugh from the Park Committee itself. Good evening.

Selectman Jasper said it has been an interesting and a challenging year. He thought that they're finally here tonight to say here are the final things that we recommend and need to be done, and then the park can be opened. The Committee has worked really hard. He thought one of the things that everyone really failed to take into account when we started this is while there was a plan for Benson; it really wasn't a working plan. They had a whole new committee that had to really figure out what its job was. Board of Selectmen continues, Planning Boards continue - this was a new committee trying to figure out the personalities involved, the charge, and everything else. This Committee has really come together and worked very hard and has done an outstanding job for the Town. They are really to be commended for the work that they have done. We have some very dedicated individuals. It's been a very dynamic group. He can't say enough about the hard work that the members of the Committee have done. It was unfortunate that some of the bumps that they went over on the way to get here and hopefully there won't be too many tonight. He thought they're where they all want to be. With that said, Selectman Jasper turned it over to the people who really have done the work on putting together the plan, and they have a presentation, and probably would be appropriate as we go through it to ask questions on each section and then he had proposals that he's been e-mailing to them over the last few days when they get done with a better understanding.

Chairman Massey recognized Harry and Sandra and also recognized in the audience Mr. Barnes and Ms. Kipnes.

Mr. Schibanoff indicated that the last time the Board asked him how many volunteers they had. He asked the volunteer committee and she said that they e-mail 177 people whenever they have an event. It's quite a large group. They are having an event this Saturday, another cleanup, from 10 to 2. They hoped everyone would show up. They also have been active with the Eagle Scout program, and they now have 2 Eagle Scout programs going on and about to be worked on in the park. They've listed a list of potential projects on the Town web page.

Tonight, they plan to talk about the plan. This plan constantly changes. It's a work in progress. They hope to open the park as soon as possible, but then they just want to have a soft opening and eventually have a dedication or a grand opening later in the fall. They want to work everything out.

As Shawn said at the beginning, this is a brand new committee. This is a brand new project, and we don't know what's coming. Every time is a new challenge, believe him. So this plan is a work in progress, and he will let Sandra Rumbaugh, their Vice-Chairman, discuss the plan.

Just as terms of an introduction, Ms. Rumbaugh stated that how this all came about is back in late fall they had presented the Board with a plan to open the park. He thought that some of the items on there were somewhat unrealistic. He thought what they are now as they've been working and doing the cleanups, they're moving towards a goal of how they get public access. That's what this plan is. Its how do they get the people in there to actually use the park? So you'll notice that some of the items are less work intensive. The other thing too is what was happening with her was that she found that they were getting very good at the cleanups, but they were going around and around and they weren't getting any closer to getting the park open. So she had started this planning process getting a list of what it would take to open this park. This is what you see under this project description - a list of items. In terms of this document, what Ms. Rumbaugh would like to do is go directly to the project description and the recommendations. Then if they had any questions on the other stuff - if you know her she's big into mission statements, goals, and objectives, that's okay. They can go right to the recommendations because that's ultimately where they're going to need the Board's support and approval to go forward with this.

Again, Ms. Rumbaugh said that they'll notice in the plan that she didn't put any kind of date in there. She kept it very generic and said 2010. Again, that's up to your discretion and when you want it to be. Generally people on the committee felt sooner than later. So please keep that in mind.

Ms. Rumbaugh said going in terms of the project description, the first recommendation they had was to conduct the insurance review on the park property. Her understanding that's already been done. She's not sure what the results were and if there were any action items that came out of that. If Selectman Jasper could, the good news was there really wasn't anything on there that wasn't anticipated. So any of the items that they have recommended are already included in other action items. One of the big concerns that he initially had had were concerns about the bridge. With the work that the Highway Department did, the pond level is up 2 feet. He was much less concerned about that, and it did not turn out to be a concern. He liked the bridge just the way that it is. So from what Ms. Rumbaugh heard Selectman Jasper said there isn't anything to prevent from the park opening in terms of the insurance coverage? Selectman Jasper said that primarily paving and fencing items, and those are all addressed in the other 2 memos that they have.

Ms. Rumbaugh said that the second item was repair the pavement from the historical district down to Swan Lake. In the past, that had been called "Benson Boulevard". Her understanding was there was a site walk taken by you and Kevin Burns the Road Agent, and there is a memo dated 4/1 that has his recommendations in there. Again what she's looking for is feedback from you all. Does this make sense? Is it something that is necessary with a goal in mind for the public access if it does or if doesn't, please let her know.

[Sandra Rumbaugh] The third item is the handicapped parking area - establishing that with lines, signage, and gates. Again, that is referencing the memo from Kevin Burns. Do you have any comments on that? Shawn were you going to talk about that? Chairman Massey said to keep going. The next item was to repair the pavement and culvert located at the southern end of Swan Lake in the northern end of Moose Pond. Her understanding was that the Road Agent has determined this has not been a hazard at this time. He'd like to wait until the water comes down and we're out of the rainy season.

Ms. Rumbaugh said the other one they're having issues with - unauthorized entry into the buildings, particularly with the gorilla house and the elephant barn. She understood now there's been entry into the train station. So they felt that was important to take care of before opening the park. Another item was to install electronic access control system for emergency vehicles at the handicapped parking lot. Install park entry signs at both the lower main parking lot and the upper handicapped parking lot. They are currently working on trying to use the existing Benson Park signs. They have a gentleman that has come forward that's going to take a look at and see if he can somehow rework them to make them compatible with today. Chairman Massey said to take the apostrophe s off in other words. Ms. Rumbaugh said that was one of the design changes. Grade and seed the picnic area across from the A frame. Again, referencing the memo from Kevin Burns - install temporary toilets. Develop security measures to protect the property in the buildings during closed hours. Install trash removal bins. Approve park rules and regulations, which she understood they had done already. Then we're getting more into the trail side of it. Construct a kiosk. Install trail signs along the new perimeter trail. Have a Benson Park trail map. Update the

Town web site, and plan the park opening, which again Harry had mentioned. The Committee is recommending some kind of a quiet celebration, and then perhaps more of a louder dedication in the fall.

Chairman Massey told Sandra that it was very nice. Thank you very much for putting it all down in writing. When you have a plan that you can read, it is a lot easier. He opened it up to the Board with any questions or comments.

Selectman Maddox asked Mr. Burns to start tracking what expenditures go into the park by his department. Number one, to get a cost so that they'd have an idea but more importantly, as we keep moving forward and there are grants possibly, there are other things going on - the senior center. We might be able to use this cost as in kind. So before the Town has to expend X amount of dollars, we'd be able to utilize the \$10,000, \$20,000 or whatever Kevin's budget number here is going to hit can use that towards some of those expenditures. So he's hoping, again, he's going to put it just like he tracks a number of other things. Whenever he goes into Benson's for a project, he tracks those. Hopefully they can utilize that in future efforts with the State. Thank you Sir.

Chairman Massey asked Selectman Jasper if he had any recommendations as to how the Board should go about making these items happen. Selectman Jasper said he did. Thank you. There are a couple of memos. The first one is the memo of April 2nd from Kevin Burns, which they all had in front of them. He did ask him when he did this to do as Selectman Maddox suggested to estimate the times that it would take for his crews to go in there and do the work. There are still stumps that need to be pulled. There's some grading that needs to be done. But the primary efforts would be in taking up the pavement on Benson Boulevard and then all of the pavement from Benson Boulevard to the north, which would be towards Central Street. There's a bunch of pavement that goes absolutely no where. It would be best suited to have that ripped out, loamed, and seeded. So if his estimates include that and then loaming and seeding the area that's known as the amphitheater. We went through the park and looked at the area where the sewer lines had crossed, one area where the train station had crossed, a couple of areas where the pavement has a void. It's one of the recommendations in the insurance review. His recommendation is because the rest of the pavement is in good shape, rather than just transitioning from pavement to wrap back to pavement, to actually pave those areas. So he has included estimates for paving that. What you'll see here is his total actual dollar amount. He has the amount in here for the handicapped parking signs. He also has an out-of-pocket expense estimate of \$6,475 to do the work that we have recommended, which Selectman Jasper thought was very reasonable. It would be a labor of about \$13,800. The really good news this year is we had an extremely early spring. You're going to be finishing up all of his spring cleanup about 2 weeks early this year. He's anticipating he'll finish up this week. The time constraints on his department don't exist for getting this work done because he has the time he wouldn't normally have in a more normal winter.

[Selectman Jasper] Looking at some of the areas and talking with him, he'd like to see a little bit of extra money potentially for hydro seeding across from the gorilla cage. There was the area that was the bath house at one time. There's a retaining wall there. There's a lot of area there that's pretty much dirt with no grass and doesn't have a lot of potential to be seeded in. So he was thinking maybe if they rounded the number for material up to \$7,000 to allow a little bit more for hydro seeding if he has the loam, the time, and also potentially a little bit more right along the pond side. If you see the grass there, it's not very even. He's only talking along the pavement and not on the far side. Just along where the Spruce's are. That's going to be a nice area for people to sit. Some of the voids are going to need to be filled in and potentially seeded.

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Coutu, to authorize the work, including the Plan B, to screen their own loam and to authorize the expenditure not to exceed \$7,000 as outlined in the Memo of April 2, 2010 with the additional money for potential additional hydro seeding.

Selectman Maddox didn't want to assume anything. That money is to come out of the Benson's fund? Selectman Jasper said yes. Chairman Massey said he should have thought about it. He would recommend that the money at the moment come out of not the Benson's fund but the Shepherd's Hill Benson's fund. The reason being is it's not clear right now that we have any unencumbered money left in Benson's. If you'll recall last year, they encumbered all of the money that was left in that account. When Chairman Massey spoke with the Town Administrator today, he felt that they had. Regardless because there are some uncertainties to how much money is left that they can spend out of the Benson's account, he would recommend that they take the money out of the Shepherd's Hill of Benson's contribution. Selectman Jasper said that was fine. Selectman

Coutu said he would go along with it. Chairman Massey said there's \$87,000 as of this morning in that account.

Selectman Nadeau asked if the motion would be to rip up Benson Boulevard and do all that type of stuff that was outlined in the memo. Selectman Jasper said right. The signage for the handicapped area includes wrapping Benson Boulevard with the reground process pavement. We will have a paving machine and a roller loaned to the Town so that that will be done with town forces and volunteered equipment. Primarily the money here is, he thought there was \$2,500, estimated for material from Brox for the wrap. There's a couple thousand dollars for paving the roads.

Here's what Selectman Nadeau's biggest problem is. We have perfectly good pavement down there now. He went in there again today to look at it. There is a couple spots where it is torn up. He's seen the wrap put down before and he's not seen it - it could be that it was put down wrong, hold well over time. We have perfectly good pavement in this park and we're going to go ripping it up. Not only that, we're spending \$13,800 of the Highway Department's time. During the budget season, they all argued about how much money they were going to put into Benson, and they all argued, and they got to \$10,000. Some summer interns and this and that. It's great that our Highway Department is ahead of schedule. He didn't think that this was a proper use of the Highway Department. It's okay to use them here and there in Benson's, but now we're putting \$13,000 of the taxpayer's money into Benson's on top of the \$10,000 that we've already put into the budget, and to the equipment that we're buying for Benson's. The voters never approved spending \$13,000 in ripping up the roadways in Benson's and making new trails. We're really not telling the voters exactly how much Benson's is really costing us. If they were to patch up the trails and get them going, great. But to rip up perfectly good pavement really bothers him. Selectman Nadeau went in there tonight and there people walking all around in Benson's and it was drizzling out. He said to them what do you think about this. He said have you been to Mine Falls. Did you see the roots in their trails? Selectman Nadeau said he's been to Mine Falls. This isn't really that bad. He said no, this is beautiful. He takes his kids in there bike riding. They go in there all the time.

Over the weekend Selectman Nadeau went in there. The same thing. The people are not concerned about the roadways and what they are. They're using them as hiking trails. He cannot see spending this type of money on this project. Putting the grass down in front of the A-Frame. Great. Sifting our own topsoil. Great. We can use this topsoil on our project over here at 47 Ferry Street. So that's a good use of renting a sifter and doing our own loam. He just cannot see using the Highway Department in there when they can be fixing the culverts around town and doing different things out that needs to be done. Repairs from the storm. So he's not going to support the motion.

Selectman Coutu said it had been his intention to listen to all of the debate before he weighed in with his thoughts. He's decided in light of those points that Selectman Nadeau brought up that he should discuss them. He would be remised; one of his favorite words, if he did not take the time to thank Sandra Rumbaugh for the excellent report and document that she presented the Board this evening. This was one of the most comprehensive documents he's seen in the two years that he's been serving on the Board of Selectmen. He wanted her to know that he truly appreciated it. He wanted to echo one thing that Selectman Jasper said with regard to the Benson's Committee. One needed only to have watched the very last meeting to get the full essence of the commitment that these people have made to doing this right and to making this a park that we can all be proud of.

[Selectman Coutu] At the last meeting Mr. Chairman if you recall, and he's conferred with him privately with regard to him having a meeting with Selectman Jasper, an amicable meeting following that meeting. He came down pretty hard on Selectman Jasper, and he understood why. It was because of his impatience and what he thought would maybe delay the opening of the park. He felt that it should be opened sooner rather than later. It's been confirmed here this evening by Ms. Rumbaugh that she feels that there's a consensus among the Benson's Committee that sooner than later would be in the best interests of the Town. He thought that's the direction that this has taken. He knows he came down hard on Selectman Jasper. He let him know as much, and he apologized. He didn't have a full understanding and comprehension of just where this was going. It appeared to Selectman Coutu that on the surface anyway that some of this may have been some sort of a stall tactic but it wasn't. It was a sincere effort and commitment on the part of the Benson's Committee and with the interest that Selectman Jasper has had in this project over these oh so many years, we just want to get it right. So he took the time on 2 occasions this week to go to Benson's. One was with Selectman Jasper. They spent a considerable amount of time going through the needs at Benson's, and how they should approach that, and what the expenses were.

The municipal liaison David Yates and he hosted the Recreation Department's wanting to see the Benson's property, and they spent an evening with them down on the property.

[Selectman Coutu] One need only look at the memo that was presented in the packet this evening from the Town Administrator with regard to the insurance walk review. In the second paragraph mid point it says, "In addition to those areas, some of the pavement on the trails needs to be fixed by either grinding it down or removing it to prevent trip or fall hazards, and any large dead branches overhanging the trails should be trimmed back. He dared say that based on his having spent time at the park with Selectman Jasper, and having spent time at the park with the Recreation Committee that Benson Boulevard is one of those areas of immediate concern when the insurance agent classifies it as a potential trip and fall hazard. He thought it behooves us to take care of that problem.

Secondly and probably most important is that not once, and he's sure he would have, has the Road Agent come to Selectman Coutu or to any other member of this Board to complain about the man hours, or the labor, or the cost of material that would be required by the Town to get these things done. Quite to the contrary, Selectman Coutu thought they all had mutual respect for the Road Agent and for what he does for this Town. If he's willing to make the commitment of man hours, labor, and material then he must feel that it is well within his budget. There's a man who thinks outside the box. He's always able to come up with a creative or imaginative way to getting things done. He thought it was time that we proceed. As Selectman Jasper has pointed out to Selectman Coutu, there's a pool of money available. We're going to use some of that money tonight. Based on this motion, we're committing the money from the Shepherd's Hill as opposed to the Benson's fund because he didn't understand how that all got encumbered. We'll look into that. That's an awful lot of money for them to have encumbered. We'll look into that. He trusts that Mr. Burns knows what he's doing. He trusts that if he's willing to make the commitment it's because he feels he has the time, the energy, the resources necessary to do it, and he thought they needed to get it done in order to get the park open.

[Selectman Coutu] Sure there are a lot of people to support Selectman Nadeau's argument. There are a lot of people that are walking through the park and they think that it's great. They don't understand the hazards. They don't understand the insurance risks. We do. We need to address them. The Benson's Committee has put forth a good faith effort and an excellent plan for them to proceed to get the park open. We've appointed these people. He found that if they didn't support what they present to them, then they might as well not appoint committees. As Selectman Jasper always says, "We might as well micromanage it or manage it ourselves." These people have put forward an outstanding plan, and all of these things have costs associated with them. They've all been addressed. He thought it was time to move forward. When the money runs out, then they'll start exploring other alternatives. Hopefully they'll do long before the money runs out to try to secure some federal or state funding and see what else can be done in the park. It's a working project. As the Benson Committee Chair pointed out to them, they have some 177 committed volunteers. Though Selectman Jasper is not the first person to pick up a phone and beg for money, and beg for resources to help us, it's not in his nature to do that. There are plenty of people out there, himself included, who wouldn't hesitate to pick up the phone. Though he says that, he has done it on a couple of occasions, but they're usually close friends. Selectman Coutu has taken a more positive approach and outlook on this whole project. He's going to support the recommendations of the Benson's Committee down to the last word in this proposal because he thought it made sense. He thought it was the way to go, and he looked forward to having the Governor here in September for a grand opening with all the hoopla, and the marching band. Selectman Coutu thought that this was the direction they should take, and he was going to support it 100 percent. If in the future he has any criticism, he'll voice them directly to Selectman Jasper as their liaison. He can take it back to the Benson's Committee and we'll resolve it that way. He thought it was time they started giving this a more positive publicity, and he's going to lead the charge with Selectman Jasper to give it a positive outlook and approach and how they're going to get this done, and the Benson's Committee has his support.

Selectman Maddox said he was torn here gentlemen. He didn't see anything in there that was earth shattering. His question was they keep spending money, and they're going to do a good job of that this evening at Benson's. They have buildings that they are obligated to maintain. He's just concerned that they're doing all of this and at some point that well is empty and they're all going to go well now what are we going to do. As long as there is some plan for stabilizing those buildings to where the monies they have left is still available. Number two, Mr. Burns gave them an outline of what needs to be done. He's looking to the liaison for Highway to say is there a problem. He's kind of torn. The liaison to Highway is looking at it saying there are other things to do. So if you ask

Kevin Burns to move Hudson 3 feet to the left, he'll find a way to do that. He's just asking are there other things that he could be, should be doing. That's his question Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Selectman Jasper said to address his first question as he said, the Road Agent has told him that they're well ahead of schedule. This isn't going to impact anything. Selectman Nadeau would have them believe that there are collapsed culverts around town that need work and things of that nature. There have been no indication from him, and he was very careful with talking to the Road Agent about the time commitment and what needs to be done. They're ahead of schedule. Most of the money, as a matter of fact if you look at that he has to do projects is spent during the summer. The equipment and all that stuff to do more replacements of things doesn't start until July 1. Benson Boulevard is not beautiful by any stretch of the imagination. That pavement is a wreck. Most of the other pavement in the park is in good shape. That is broken up all over the place. We're talking \$2,500 of material. He does have to say he hadn't looked at the Road Agent's math before. We didn't hire him for his math skills. He didn't know where the \$6,475 came to. He'd round it up to 7. But when he did the math, the screening is \$700; \$2,500 for the wrap; \$3,000 to seed all the loamed areas; handicapped paving signs \$250; and patching of the remaining roads \$2,500. To him, that comes out to \$8,950 and he would so amend his motion. He won't even throw in any extra money for additional hydro seeding.

Chairman Massey asked if the seconder would accept the motion. Selectman Coutu said he would round that up to \$9,000. Selectman Jasper said that was agreeable to him. He was hoping they could really come together. Selectman Nadeau I've got to tell you how disappointed he was. He sent the memo out to him last week. He put in the memo that he sent out to everyone to please call him if they had any comments or concerns. He said that. Please. He spoke to Selectman Nadeau 2 or 3 times since then, and you've never mentioned what you're saying tonight. He thought that was rotten. Chairman Massey said to keep it friendly. Selectman Coutu yielded to Selectman Nadeau.

Selectman Nadeau said the first thing was he hadn't talked to the Highway Department about the Benson projects because 1) when he read the memo the last time he went and talked to a department head and didn't go through the liaison, everybody got all upset. That was the Fire Department when they started doing work at Benson's. Now Selectman Jasper goes over and he's talking to the Road Agent. He talked to the Road Agent the other day and they were talking about the roads and stuff during the flooding. The Road Agent said there's stuff he could be doing out there, and Selectman Nadeau understood that. He's doing it. We're telling the voters in this Town that we're having a hard time with the money; we have revenue shortfalls and here we are where we could be doing stuff that's more productive like making sure that their roads are being well maintained. We're going into Benson's. He didn't have a problem with it, but his problem was that we're coming up with all these projects and there's other things that they can be doing. The roads are not in disrepair, but we can be spending their time making sure that they can do preventative maintenance on them, making sure that the culverts are cleaned out, and making sure that the swales on the sides of the road are cleaned out. This is the perfect time to be doing things like that. So that's why he gets so upset when you hear these things and then we have these buildings that we need to maintain and we're not maintaining them. We were supposed to do work on these buildings to weather tight them for the winter. That work still hasn't been done but we have a deposit out on that. Now we're going to be moving that building, and that's still not taken care of. Selectman Nadeau was just there tonight looking at the side of the train station. There's a huge flap of the roof hanging off. But we said that this was going to be taken care of in the fall, and it's still not done now but we've already paid for it to be done. These are just things that are really becoming a problem. He told them that he had a couple of things to talk to him about. He got tied up today and when he went back out there around 3 p.m. is when he came up with a couple of these things. Selectman Nadeau was sorry that he didn't call him back, but he just hasn't had time.

Selectman Coutu said he wasn't going to take too much time. He wanted to address one thing that Selectman Nadeau said, and he wanted to address one thing that Selectman Maddox said with regard to the maintenance of the buildings. That's been brought up several times. He wanted to remind Selectman Maddox, as he would our audience, his peers, and the people here in the hall this evening that the deed requires them to maintain the buildings in at least the condition in which they found them. Those buildings, including additional buildings which were not covered in the deed for protection are in much better condition today than they were on the day they inherited them. Short of an earthquake if they kept them in that condition forever, they'd be well ahead of what their deed requirements are. So they met those requirements. The other thing before he gets to Selectman Nadeau's comment and it won't be negative. It's your birthday, birthday boy. He wanted to remind everybody that they may be using some town resources, but they're not spending

town money. As Selectman Jasper had pointed out to him, we have monies in reserves in various accounts for various projects. We have money set aside for the Haselton Barn. We have money set aside for the train station. We have a Benson's fund, and we have the Shepherd's Hill monies that they can draw from. They have yet to explore, and they'll get into that discussion with Mr. Yates and the Assistant Town Administrator he was sure at a future date, exploring the possibility of securing some federal or state grants to help them with this project. He knows that the Recreation Committee is going to look into some grants through whatever agency and federal government that handles handicapped needs for the handicapped park.

[Selectman Coutu] With regard to a comment that Selectman Nadeau made, the Road Agent, again, he's sure that if he had an emergency situation where he thought that the road work or culverts were in such critical or dire need of work, he would be out there doing them. He's never seen him not take lead or charge of any emergency project that this town needed. He's sure knowing Kevin Burns as well as he knows Kevin Burns that if he felt that making a commitment to Benson's at this time would preclude him from addressing those emergency needs in this town, which would in affect make his department look bad, he would have addressed that either through the Chairman, or the Assistant Town Administrator, or through his liaison Selectman Nadeau. So he didn't see that as a stumbling block. He'd hate to think that the taxpayers - there's a hidden charge here that we're not telling the taxpayers. We've been pretty overt about what they're doing. There's been no big secret about the needs of the Benson's property and what we need to do to get it open. There's an enthusiasm in our community about getting this open, and he thought that this could go on for another 5 or 6 months and we can keep talking about it. Nothing is going to get done, or we're just going to spend the money that we have, get it done - Selectman Coutu said to Selectman Jasper when that money was exhausted the money is exhausted. They'll have to find more volunteers and other avenues to fund it. They're not using taxpayer money. Granted they will be using some in kind contribution. He was pleased to hear and he was glad he reminded him that Selectman Maddox said that they need to keep track of the in kind in case they get into a project where an in kind may be mandated in terms of securing federal funding. We need 20 percent. Well we can prove we've already put in 40 or 50 percent of what we're requesting. So he thought that was a great idea. Those are his comments at this time Mr. Chairman. He would like to see them proceed on this matter.

Just for clarification if Chairman Massey understood what this motion would do if it would pass, it would be taking care of on the Benson Park Committee's list of recommendations the repair pavement from the historical district, the handicapped parking area, and the handicapped parking signs, and the grade and see picnic areas from the A-Frame, correct? Selectman Jasper said, "Correct". To get us there, they would be renting a screener for two days to screen the loam that he has stockpiled at the old landfill. So that we don't wind up with any miscommunications, Chairman Massey did the math too. It totals \$8,950. Your motion is not to exceed \$9,000. The question becomes you originally had added approximately \$700 for the hydro seeding. So we're going to live with the \$9,000. Selectman Jasper would like to put another \$500 or \$600 in but given the math was wrong here.

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Coutu, to authorize the work, including the Plan B, to screen their own loam and to authorize the expenditure not to exceed \$9,000 as outlined in the Memo of April 2, 2010 with the additional money for potential additional hydro seeding, carried 4-1. Selectman Nadeau in opposition.

Selectman Jasper said the next piece is the fence/gate repairs. A lot of this has to do with security issues to ensure the people come in the right way. Our new staff liaison worked very hard and diligently...by the way, Chairman Massey said just to bring him up, he was remise a little. Chairman Massey asked Mr. Yates to join them up front as the liaison for the staff for these programs.

On the issue of fencing, its sort of two schools of thought. Selectman Jasper said one is that we want the wildlife to be able to get in from the back of the property. Understanding that means that from certain areas if people want to take a long time getting into the park, they can get in at the unfenced areas. They also felt that it was important to along the roadways maintain a secure environment. Most of that fence is intact currently with the exception of the relatively small sections. Given that they're going to have an opening and closing of the park, they have two proposals here both in the \$22,000 range. Almost half of that is for the main gate. The purpose of that which is really important to what we're looking at is to allow having a keypad...Chairman Massey interrupted. Excuse me Selectman Jasper; he just wanted to make sure. He's looking at 2 different estimates. One is for \$23,235 and the other one is for \$22,548. Selectman Jasper said

one was \$22,548 and the other was \$22,085. Chairman Massey said he had another one here that says \$23,235 and...Selectman Jasper said to discard. It was a mistake.

Selectman Jasper said that they've talked about the sliding gate. He knew that there was some disagreement about it. The reality is when we see what's happened at Merrill Park. Merrill Park is constantly trashed because there's no real access. This allows a patrol car any time he has a few minutes at night to simply go in, swipe the card, and drive in. Otherwise, it's not going to happen because before physical motions for patrolmen to make every time you wanted to access that, you have to get out and lock the gate. Drive forward. Close the gate. Lock the gate, and repeat that to come back. Realistically, that's not going to happen. He thought it was going to be very important once they get picnic tables in there and once they get things set up, there's grass and areas, it's going to be a place that if we don't patrol it on a regular basis, it's going to be an attractive place for people to come in and do what people will do in unsecured areas. He didn't think they wanted to see that happen. He didn't think they wanted to see them lose their investment. If people know that the police are coming through several times at irregular intervals, we're not going to have that problem. Their hope was eventually to use that office building as a caretaker's building. That's not going to negate the need for the police to come through at 2 or 3 o'clock in the morning, particularly on the weekends because you're not going to have a caretaker there who's going to get up and walk around 2 or 3 times a night.

Selectman Jasper said that those were the numbers that give them the access gates, that repair the gates that are there with the exception of some relatively minor repairs in an area that really are not accessible now. They give us the fencing in the areas that are identified as problems. The Road Agent has recommended even though it's about a little over \$400 higher, we have an ongoing relationship with Gate City and he has recommended that we use that contractor.

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Coutu, to award the fence and gate repairs to Gate City Fence in an amount not to exceed \$22,548.

Selectman Maddox had more questions. He saw fence in there but he could have sworn there was a whole bunch of fence that he saw. Is this all new fencing Selectman Jasper? Selectman Jasper said the problem with the fence that they took down was it was all the plastic stuff that essentially they could cut through with a pair of toenail clippers. That's why that fence that was put up on the inside area wasn't chain link fence. It was plastic. The stuff that was taken down around the buildings was plastic coated stuff. It wasn't suitable for re-use. Primarily there's probably a big piece of the replacement is that new piece along Kimball Hill Road. Selectman Maddox asked that Selectman Jasper explain that. Again without some sort of diagram, he was lost. He brought a photo. Selectman Jasper said it was not on the photo. If you know where Jump Lane is, it's actually the corner where it basically there's an old fence there. It looks like its cow fencing. When the State put up the chain link fence, that fence 20 years ago was very serviceable. So they didn't replace all of the Benson fence. So the section there is probably roughly 100 feet. It's just a corner right there. Then right along the pond there's a section that fell into the pond. So there's 2 sections there. The rest of it is just repairs and the gates.

Selectman Maddox had a second question. He can't vote for the electronic fence. If it's close, you're going to have to do something. If a police officer opens the gate, walks in, he can leave it open, drive through, and come back out and lock the gate. An electronic fence is nothing more than an expensive, expensive gate that becomes problematic. He's having a tough time spending \$10,000 on a gate. Again, he's just telling them where he's coming from. The rest of the stuff is \$12,000 without that. He could spend that money but \$10,000 for an electronic gate is really beyond his ability to spend money. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Selectman Jasper said he agreed it was a lot of money for a gate. He disagreed with him. It's a big park. You go in and you leave the gate open and suddenly you're going to have cars in there. Selectman Maddox said at 2 o'clock in the morning? Selectman Jasper said 2 o'clock or whatever time it was. That be it as it may, he understood his point.

When Selectman Nadeau was there today, he was telling Selectman Maddox earlier that he didn't think he could go for the electronic gate. What happened was, just like you guys have just said, you open the gate, you get out, walk in, close the gate, sometimes you lock it and sometimes you don't. Then everybody comes in behind you. He could see putting in a sliding gate. He just couldn't see doing the rest the fence repairs. So he's on the other side where you are. If you put the electronic gate in and people are in the park because they walked in that way, they're going to walk in anyway. They were in there today with the gates locked. They're getting in whether they fix the

fences or not. They're still going to go around them. They're going to park over by Burger King and walk up. So he'll spend the \$10,000 on the electronic gate and skip the rest of the repairs.

Selectman Coutu asked if Selectman Nadeau was suggesting that the \$2,530 that they're going to put a fence up where there's a drop off. It's approximately a 20 foot drop down behind where the train station is, they should just overlook that and just tell the insurance company they'll take the risk. Selectman Nadeau asked if they told them that they needed to fix that. Selectman Jasper and Selectman Coutu both said yes. Selectman Nadeau asked where that one was. Selectman Coutu said they didn't have an extensive report. "Fencing along the overlook areas and near the drop off to the right of the old red barn were identified as areas to be taken care of." Selectman Nadeau asked if that was where they filled. Selectman Coutu said yes but there was a piece beyond the existing fence that needs to have an addition on it. He's so confused at this point. He was ready to ask Selectman Jasper to remove as a separate item a sliding gate because he thought that would be the bone of contention and the rest would be fine. He was going to ask him to propose instead \$12,273 as opposed to the 22, and let's get into a discussion about the main gate. He, too, though he understood the reason for the gate, he could vote no very easily on the gate. That's not something that's being proposed by the Benson's Committee. They may have discussed it, but it was something that Selectman Jasper proposed to him that made a lot of sense in terms of letting the police in and out and getting it but then Selectman Maddox made a pretty sound argument about open the gate, go in, go out, and lock the gate. You don't have to make 4 motions to get in and out of a place. They can do it in 2 motions. Open it, go in, get out, and lock it. Selectman Maddox made a logical argument about maybe they'll forget to lock it. Maybe they ought to look at who they're hiring for police officers if that's the case. It's part of security. Wherever they want to go with this, he didn't know at this point, but thank you Mr. Chairman.

Selectman Jasper thought a clarification. While it's not specific to the report, he thought that was part of the security. He thought that the committee had always been supportive of this gate. He asked if he was misreading. Harry Schibanoff said no. He thought they've always talked about that gate being a sliding gate. Chairman Massey said that was actually one of the proposed items in his report that he prepared for the Board tonight to install an electronic access control system. Selectman Jasper said that was a specific item.

Again Mr. Chairman, Selectman Maddox guessed the gate to him represented over spending. If you have holes that people can walk through it today having this wonderful electronic fence so that you can swipe a card to get into yet you can walk a quarter mile away and walk through an open spot. Again, he thought the \$12,000 in his opinion is an expense they needed to do for safety. This is a nice thing to have, but he didn't think they needed a Cadillac door on a Studebaker.

Selectman Jasper said of all the things, they're misunderstanding what the purpose of the sliding gate is. It's got nothing to do with keeping people out of the park. It has to do with protecting our assets. They put a lot of money into the buildings. They're putting a lot of money into things. This was to ensure that there will be regular patrols. This was one of the things that they talked about with the Chief of Police. The reality is maybe they'll do those 4 motions. But if they're going in there at 10 o'clock at night - you say who's going to go in at 2. What about at 10 they go in and open the gate. Somebody is going to see the gates open and a car is going to drive through. This is a way to ensure that they protect their assets. All you have to do is look at Merrill Park. Yes the police can go down there and unlock the gate or walk in. They don't. It's just the reality and you're not going to change reality. The reality is we need to have security there to make sure things are taken care of. People can walk in. There's no question people are going to walk in if they want to. He didn't see people walking in from Burger King at 9 o'clock at night. He didn't see people walking in from Belknap across that way. There were probably 3 places that you can get in. He didn't see a lot of that at night. There are going to be those who would do that, and that's why this security was important. This is a matter in Selectman Jasper's estimation of being penny wise and pound foolish. They have a lot to protect in there, and this is a long-term investment. Maybe you have to change a motor every once in a while, but the gate is going to be there for a long time.

Just for a point of clarification. Selectman Coutu asked Mr. Yates in the process of securing costs estimates for this sliding gate, can he give him a description. What does this gate look like? He has a totally different perspective on what he thought this was going to be. Selectman Nadeau yielded. Selectman Nadeau said when you go to the self-storage units like across from Roger's store, you drive up and there's a key pad. You punch in your secret code and you go through. As soon as you go over the pressure plate in the back of it, it closes the gate right behind you. Selectman Coutu asked what the gate looked like. Selectman Nadeau said it was just a big piece of gate on a metal rod with rollers, and it just slides back and forth with a chain driven motor. It's a

big garage door opener for the fence. Selectman Coutu said it was comparable to the gate they presently have, except it was on wheels and slides back and forth as opposed to...Selectman Jasper said visually yes. Selectman Coutu's vision of a gate is like a railway gate but all metal. Something like this that slides this way or this way. Selectman Jasper said no. Selectman Coutu said he now has a better understanding. For the money, anybody can drive through one of those things. It's a little tougher to go through a chain link fence. Thank you. That's all he needed to know. It reinforces his position.

Chairman Massey had one clarification. His assumption was that there would be somebody who closes the gate at night and opens it in the morning. Selectman Jasper wanted to clarify that. This gate will not be opened because that would allow cars - this was for emergency personnel only essentially. There were going to be 2 gates. He'll get into the security of it with the overview of the conversation with the Chief. There will be essentially 3 gates that will need to be opened every day. That will be the gate that is currently on Kimball Hill Road, that big heavy gate. That will open the parking lot, then the 2 pedestrian within the fence.

Chairman Massey believed the motion should be amended to read:

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Coutu, to award a contract to Gate City Fence in an amount not to exceed \$22,548 with the funds to come from the Shepherd Hill account for fence and gate repairs.

Chairman Massey said the Town's purchasing policy says anything from \$10,000 to \$25,000 does not need to go to bid. You simply have to explain why you picked the company you did. He believed in his mind given that Gate City has a long relationship with the Town the difference was worth it.

Motion carried 4-1. Selectmen Maddox voted in opposition.

Selectman Jasper said it was not entirely budgeted for because when they budgeted, the port-o-potty - they weren't really thinking of the handicapped. So he brought this to them more for discussion. They had quite a discussion about port-o-potties. There's certainly a need for handicapped if we're going to have a handicapped accessible park. They talked about having just one port-o-potty down there. The feeling was that they expected that the usage of the park, at least initially, was going to be very high. For \$74 a month, they thought they ought to start with 2 port-o-potties. If it turned out that the usage isn't that high, they can haul one away. So maybe they'll waste \$300 this year on having 2 port-o-potties. It is the committee's recommendation that they go with this. Unless there's a problem by the Board, then he didn't think that they needed to vote on it. Selectman Maddox said, "So you're going to have one of each?" Selectman Jasper said they're going to have one of each. They'll be in the same location so that the truck comes to one spot. It's essentially to have 2 port-o-potties.

Chairman Massey asked if it was the consensus of the Board to go with it. The Board concurred.

Selectman Jasper said that the final issue was the security. That will be an ongoing process. They are going to have to do a better job in the short run with the security that's in there, but the focus on the last couple of weeks has been getting the prices together. He thanked Dave Yates for stepping up and taking care of getting the prices on the fence and the gate repairs. He spent a lot of time out at the park in the last couple of weeks, and of course, Kevin for his work.

Selectman Jasper and Harry met with the Chief about security. He expected at some point they'd come in with a little bit more with some more security for the buildings. He said the initial part was going to be how to get the park open. Opening it, he had a problem with the dawn to dusk. Dawn to dusk is very variable. His recommendation was do they just open it at 5. The Chief said 5 is generally a pretty quiet time around town. Nobody was going to be going into the park at 5 a.m. and causing problems even if it was dark. They'll come forward as a committee with a proposal. The park opening would be at 5 a.m., a stagnant time, and then the committee is either going to make a recommendation for 3 or 4 different closing times. So they'll adjust it as close to dark as possible. The Chief felt if they go in there and tell somebody the park is closed, "well I can still see". It's going to get into a lot of argument. So if May 1st to July 1st is one closing time and then another, it's going to adjust so that we can keep it open as long as possible based on sunlight. That's an easy thing to make. So they'll be coming forward with that recommendation after their next meeting. Mr. Schibanoff said it was being studied right now. Selectman Jasper said they have some people looking at sunsets. That's all Selectman Jasper had on the openings. He thought

everything else was going to come together. The committee was working on the kiosks and things like that. They have a cleanup scheduled for this weekend.

Just to touch a little bit on the opening. Selectman Jasper said that the intent was when all this stuff is done, and hopefully the grass is healed in a little bit. He would anticipate they're all looking at a June 1st. No fanfare, no nothing because the grass first of all that gets hydro seeded isn't going to be very well established. So they didn't want a couple thousand people coming in on June 1st and trampling all the grass down. So quietly open the park, let people come in, let the grass be established, let them get all the kinks out and have a dedication or a grand opening, whatever the Board desires in September. His feeling was that they should try to get the Governor to come down here. Probably the best way to do that was now to tell him that they were looking at a September opening and ask him to give us a date that he's available and work around the Governor. Selectman Coutu said that he was supposed to do that last week. Selectman Jasper said he was going to do that. He was actually going to stop by the office and he thought it would be better if it was a formal letter. Sometimes getting a hold of anybody - he's brought stuff into the Governor's office and a month later he hasn't received it. He thought it was better if they actually did a formal letter from the Board as he thought about that. There's no hurry and they hadn't decided. He thought if they said they were planning an opening in September, we would very much like you to be a part of it, and we would like him - Selectman Jasper said it didn't matter whether it's a Saturday or Sunday or whatever. He thought it would be nice to have him there.

Selectman Maddox believed that towards the end of September you're getting very close to election season. He'll come if you call him on Tuesday, he'll be there on Wednesday. He thought a phone call much later when they finally finalize that. Chairman Massey said no. He wanted to get it on his schedule. Selectman Coutu said the Governor is so booked right now. He told him that he wanted to make Hudson at least 2 more times. It's a matter of getting in the schedule. Selectman Coutu knows the Governor's scheduling secretary and he didn't mind. He thought his idea of a formal letter to the Governor - as a matter of fact Mr. Chairman, he'll provide the Administrative Aide with the name of the appointment secretary and perhaps a letter could be drafted with your signature inviting the Governor. We need to have a formal opening date to get on that letter. So if you'll communicate that with the Chairman, he will communicate with Donna the name of the appointment secretary so that we can get him on the agenda for September. Selectman Jasper thought perhaps if we gave 2 weekends and said either a Saturday or Sunday of these 2 weekends in September and see what works. He didn't think that any of them had a preference for when it was. Let him pick it in case his schedule is booked up now and ask him to get back to us ASAP. Selectman Coutu said ASAP because we wanted to schedule the high school band and all that stuff.

Selectman Maddox said, again, he knows they keep saying June 1st. He would like to see it Memorial Day. It's one week difference. With the kind of progress you're going to make with Kevin Burns over the next two weeks, he's just saying that Memorial Day is kind of a kickoff to summer. Chairman Massey said there was a parade that day. Selectman Maddox said we have a parade but if it's just open that weekend, and all he's saying was...Selectman Jasper interrupted and said if he may, they talked about that and the reason that they discounted that again was there was likely to be a lot of people that would like to get in there that weekend. But that grass is not going to be very well established. Do we want to take the risk for that one weekend to wreck what we just spent thousands on? He thought that's why they talked about that and decided to stay towards the later date just so the grass didn't get wrecked. The ground was going to be soft and if suddenly you've got 1,000 people on Memorial Day and there's a lot of people traveling and coming in, we could very well be sorry. June 1st is a Thursday. Chairman Massey asked if the Board would yield for Mr. Barnes. Mr. Barnes said that June 1st is a Tuesday. He thought Memorial Day was Monday the 31st. Selectman Jasper said he thought he looked at the calendar right. Selectman Coutu thought it was the Monday prior to Memorial Day. Chairman Massey said no. Memorial Day was the 31st this year.

To keep up with his drum beat, Selectman Maddox said they're probably going to put some plastic "Do Not Enter" around that grassed in area because you probably wouldn't want it a week anyway. So to open it for Memorial Day weekend is the start of summer. Its 3 days. He thought it set a better tone than June 1st. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Schibanoff said it was the 31st. Chairman Massey said as the Chairman and the Vice Chair, what are your thoughts? Mr. Schibanoff asked his thoughts on what? Chairman Massey said whether to open it on the weekend or the Tuesday. First of all, have they determined that Memorial Day is the 31st? The question was do you open it up on Saturday the 29th or Tuesday the 1st? Mr.

Schibanoff said with Memorial Day being the 31st, we're talking about just a day or two. So why not Saturday the 29th? That was his opinion. He was not speaking for the committee.

Motion by Selectman Nadeau, seconded by Selectman Maddox, that they open the park on May 29th.

Selectman Jasper wasn't opposed to the motion, he was opposed to the motion at this time. They just approved all those things. Was there any harm in waiting until May 1st and seeing if everything was coming together before they determined that? What difference did it make if they determined that it was opened tonight? We get ourselves in trouble by - oh boy, we're finally there. There's no real need to do it tonight. On our first meeting in May, let's determine the opening date and at that point given the timing, he would certainly support it if everything was coming together. Selectman Jasper would not oppose opening it during the Memorial Day weekend.

Chairman Massey said that in this particular case, he was going to support the motion because he believed that they needed to get dates fixed in their minds. If they had a deadline, they'd work to it. If they didn't have a deadline, they may not work to it.

To follow up on what Chairman Massey said, Selectman Coutu said it was somewhat of some support of Selectman Jasper was that he hoped the Board was amendable to modifying the date if in the process of trying to get the things done that were absolutely critical to the safety of the park, something should come up and that they have inclement weather. Remember, there have been many times we've had snow in April. They didn't know what the future holds. It may be great today, but who knows what 2 weeks from now was going to look like. We're amenable to changing the date if Gate City can't go in and do the fencing on the schedule that they're giving him. He was sure they weren't the only customer he had. We are amendable come May 1st. If it looks like some of the things are not going to be able to get done, that we can move that date back. He's all for opening it Memorial Day, but anything can happen and he didn't want them to come down hard on the Benson's Committee or Selectman Jasper because they didn't get it opened June 1st because of something that prevented him. Chairman Massey said to open it on May 29th. He didn't think they were going to walk over a cliff just because they had a date. We will as time goes by to take a look at it.

Motion carried 4-1. Selectman Jasper in opposition.

The one other thing that Selectman Jasper thought they should talk about and he sent it out to them in an e-mail. Chairman Massey wanted him to hang on for just a second. If the next time you print this out Ms. Rumbaugh, could you bullet by numbering them instead of little round dots. The reason why he's going to tell them right now. If he goes through this, item 2 which repair pavement from historical district, he has that down as a Kevin Burns project that they approved tonight. Item 3 is part of Kevin Burns's work, which is the handicapped parking area. Item 4 is going to wait for a future date. That's to repair pavement near Moose Pond. Item 5 is to secure the gorilla house and the elephant barn. That's a future discussion. Item 6 is the electronic access control system. We awarded that contract to Gate City tonight. Item 7 is the handicapped parking signs. That's the Kevin Burns project. Item 8 is the grade and seed from the A-Frame. That's the Kevin Burns project. Item 9 is a consensus on the toilets. Chairman Massey wanted to make sure that for the record they know what they've committed to tonight. Item 10 was developing security measures. That's for a future project. Item 11 is the install trash removal bins. Item 12 were the park regulations. That's done. Item 13 is in progress on the trail kiosk. Item 14 were the trail signs. That's in progress. He assumed that was being done. Those were the scout projects. Ms. Rumbaugh said no. That's being done by the Trails Subcommittee. Chairman Massey asked if the trail map was the one being done by the...Ms. Rumbaugh said no. That's also being done by the Trails. Chairman Massey said that was item 15. Item 16 was to update the traffic website. Item 17 was the park opening event in September.

[Chairman Massey] Item 18 was spring cleanup. You're going to be doing that this weekend he understood. Ms. Rumbaugh said yes. Their goal was to get 1 or 2 cleanups a month. Chairman Massey asked if they could announce from when to when on Saturday was it going to be. Mr. Schibanoff said from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Chairman Massey asked if it was just on Saturday? Ms. Rumbaugh said correct. Chairman Massey asked if they assemble again at Kimball Hill. Ms. Rumbaugh said correct.

Selectman Maddox said to that end if Ms. Rumbaugh could send over to the Executive Assistant this document and she can do what you just did - put at the bottom of each one of those items the status of...Chairman Massey said it needs to be so we can identify something by a number instead

of a bullet. Selectman Maddox said if she could take this update it. He thought, again, she did a great job of outlining it. She did a nice job of saying it all, but it would be nice to see it on a piece of paper.

Chairman Massey thanked the Benson's Committee. One hundred and seventy-seven volunteers, that's fantastic. He hoped every one of them showed up at the ice cream social. Harry, you have the job of getting them to contact him. Mr. Schibanoff said they do a lot through subcommittees. Chairman Massey said he understood. However you do it, that's your Chairman's prerogative. He hoped that they all showed up. Thank you.

Selectman Jasper said yesterday he forwarded to them an e-mail from the Governor's legal counsel that originally went to then Chairman Coutu and himself. They've never talked about it, and he wasn't sure who received it. So he e-mailed it to all the Board members. It outlined our options when it comes to the senior center. One was simply to haul all that fill out, and put a new foundation in, and build the senior center where the red barn was. Another would be to pick a site, have it appraised, and pay the costs. Essentially the third alternative was to come up with a different proposal. Selectman Jasper has talked to some of them about this proposal. His suggestion would be that they give up the right to every build anything on the red barn site, put the senior center where they proposed next to the parking lot so that they can use just one parking lot, and build the senior center so from the outside it looks very similar to the red barn. Governor's counsel thought that was an excellent idea that should fly but would not commit to that. So their next step would be to come up with drawings. He's contacted Nancy Mayville and by 2013, he expected that she would send the pictures down that he asked for. He shouldn't have said that, but he did contact her and asked her to send us pictures that they would have of the red barn. He thought at that point it would be incumbent on them to probably have some discussions with the seniors and decide how we proceed in terms of who spends what for essentially a conceptual site plan, which is what they'll need to go to the next step. They'll have to have some exterior drawing of the building and a location.

Chairman Massey said the first piece was already done. He talked to the seniors at their meeting. They are in favor of that option. He did not take it to the next step because he was going to wait and see what the Board says. It did occur to him that we're going to have to have some conceptual drawings to get started. The question was where was that money going to come from? One logical process would be to ask the seniors to use that portion of their funds that was for the building to do it with. At some level, he thought you could take the building that the proposed to the Town 2 years ago and change it from a flat roof to a barn roof and change the siding to match what you expect to see on a barn. You might be able to do it that way. He thought that was for a later discussion. Chairman Massey thought the first thing would be to find out if the seniors would be willing to front the conceptual design monies.

Selectman Maddox thought it was a great idea. He thought that was the way he thought they were always going to go. The seniors also did a drawing for that plan that was going to be off of 111. Chairman Massey said that was the flat roof. Again, Selectman Maddox said he has a disadvantage. He probably drove by that red barn and never really paid attention to it. Again, he wasn't really sure. Maybe in that document that he got for how the buildings looked when they got them. Maybe there's a picture in there. To get maybe some historical pictures of what that building looked like so that the seniors had something to go to with whomever. They already have kind of a layout. What he was getting at was they have a lay out between the 2 plans. The one on 111 and the one attached to the Community Center. So they kind of know what they want for the inside. How that outside is configured, and he knows they talked about putting a lower level so you could utilize that. Again, to see what they were willing to accept. Selectman Maddox was in full agreement that that made the most sense. It puts the red barn back on the property. It uses it much more sensibly and it uses the same parking lot. Why would we want to put it up where the other one was and now have to build a sizable parking lot for that use? Again, he thought that hopefully they could make some progress with those.

Chairman Massey said he would bring that to the seniors at their meeting which will be the third Wednesday of the month.

Selectman Nadeau asked if he was just looking for pictures of the old red barn before it burned. Selectman Jasper said pretty much. Selectman Nadeau said he's seen those at the Historical Society and he's also seen them at the Benson's memorabilia display. Selectman Jasper said that he had some there. I didn't think he had a lot of very good ones. Since the State was actively restoring that barn, he was pretty sure they had some close ups, measurements, and what not. He

was trying to essentially get the folder with some pictures. Most of the pictures he saw from the Benson display of that building as he recalled. From a distance, he didn't recall any straight on shots. Things seemed to be at an angle. Selectman Nadeau said that ones that he saw were at an angle with the trees and stuff. Selectman Jasper's first shot was to see what DOT had. They should have had some darn good pictures of it. Chairman Massey asked if it would make sense to send Nancy a letter and say, "Per our conversation..." Selectman Jasper said it wouldn't hurt. He didn't know if it would do any good either. He thought he might follow up this week. Chairman Massey said if he wanted, he'd send a letter the day after the Board meeting. Selectman Jasper said that would be great. Chairman Massey said he'd wait until he heard from him or do you want him to just do it? Selectman Jasper said to just do it, and he'd keep calling her. He's put her number in his cell phone now.

Selectman Nadeau said twice tonight they've brought up this report. Have we ever gotten a final report from...Selectman Jasper said we hadn't paid for it either. Chairman Massey said he talked with the Town Administrator this morning. No, we have not gotten the final report. He has said he sends her a letter every month reminding her that the money disappears on June 30th. If she doesn't submit her final report before June 30th, she will get no money and he hasn't heard back from her. He says he has been sending her a letter every month reminding her that the money disappears on June 30th. By disappearing, it goes back to the unencumbered fund balance.

Speaking of that, Selectman Jasper asked to go back to the issue of the pots of money. They talked about the encumbered money. As he recalled Selectman Coutu, there was about \$80,000. We had encumbered all of that originally pretty much for the roofing projects. Then we backed off because we couldn't spend what we wanted to. It made no sense. So he thought there was a certain amount of money from that's going to surplus. That's the problem. If we hadn't encumbered it by June 30th of last year, and we had encumbered all that roofing money, some of it lapsed. The other pot of money was the Shepherd's Hill money. He knew there was \$80,000 some odd left, and that's all the Shepherd's Hill money less what we've encumbered. Chairman Massey said he had already taken an action item to follow up with Mr. Malizia. The information he gave him this morning was that there is \$87,000 in the Shepherd's Hill, and we just committed approximately \$30,000 of that. There's \$45,000 left in the Benson's fund. It is his understanding that that was all encumbered last year. He didn't think, and he's going to look into, that we can divert it for another purpose other than what we encumbered the money for. So it may, may, be headed for the - unless we can get the work done on the Haselton Barn. He's going to follow up with him tomorrow to get a more definitive accounting of the funds. As he told him, all that's left in that account right now was a little over \$45,000.

To that end, Selectman Maddox asked for an accounting of all the Benson's monies. Again, we've had it before, but now we keep subtracting money number one. Number two, we budgeted money for roof repairs that probably aren't going to get done because we're going to move the train station. He thought he heard that earlier. Selectman Jasper said he started on the roof repair. There's only a little bit left there. The rest of it was on the Haselton Barn. If you recall, Chairman Massey said we pulled back on doing a lot of work on the roof on the Haselton Barn because there was some feeling that we had to something with the foundation. Selectman Jasper said there was a limited amount because there are some leaks. There's a limited amount he's supposed to be doing. He didn't know what was going on. Chairman Massey said that's what they were waiting for the gentleman to come back with a...Selectman Maddox guessed where he was coming from this was if they have monies that were dedicated for roofing, they could do work at the Haselton Barn once they sure up that bottom from the remaining Shepherd's Hill money. Selectman Jasper said not to go there tonight. He'll talk to him about that some time. Let's not go there. We've done what we can realistically do. If we do anything more on that roof, it's going to be a major job of stripping it down and pulling it together. Selectman Maddox asked if is where the bats getting in the part of the roof? Selectman Jasper said you're never going to stop the bats getting in there. Chairman Massey said rather than speculate he will talk to Steve tomorrow. We'll put it on the agenda for the 13th, an accounting for all the monies, what's left, and what we could and couldn't do with the remaining money that's in the Benson's, plus obviously what we can do with the Shepherd's Hill. So we'll put it on the agenda for next month.

A final item to that end Mr. Chairman, Selectman Maddox asked if he could review with the deed or the requirement for the train station any of this work in kind is that applicable towards the grant. Selectman Coutu said they have an obligation for in kind. Selectman Maddox was just saying how much? Start tracking that so that we are doing what we have to do. Selectman Jasper said that we are tracking that. Bernie Manor and Gary Webster had a meeting last Friday about the train station and about all of that. There is a concern that there may not be enough money, but there may be

supplemental grants, and they're going to keep track of all the in kind that we're doing through all of our personnel. So that's being handled. The hope this year is to certainly get the train station on a new foundation and get the roof done. Anything to get done beyond this year maybe gravy but that's the hope is to at least get that far this year.

Chairman Massey said to Selectman Jasper that this has been one of the better conversations they've had discussions on Benson's. He wanted to thank him because he thought there has been an awful lot of work, and he knew that he's put a lot of effort into it. We obviously don't all agree on how we're going, but he thought they are making progress and thank you very much. Selectman Jasper said he'd like to say it was a pleasure, but it hasn't.

7. OTHER BUSINESS/REMARKS BY THE SELECTMEN

Selectman Maddox - He read an interesting fact, and he was sure that the Town was on top of it. April 26th is the last day for municipal filings in any Fairpoint Chapter 11 dealings. He hoped that the Town had followed up in making sure that anything that could be owed had been dealt with on that end.

Next, Mr. Pearson gave him an update on grants. He asked if it was sent to everybody. Mr. Pearson gave a copy and it should have gone to the whole Board. Selectman Maddox said that Mr. Pearson was following up on some grants that - again - they're trying to look at other revenue sources. Mr. Pearson gave an outline of what they are doing as far as that CMAQ application. Again, time consuming. Selectman Nadeau will be pressing the CTAP for some monies for a grant to continue on for some work with the roadway. Again, just an update for the Board. As long as everybody had seen that, he just wanted to make sure that they were allocated. Chairman Massey said it wasn't clear. If it hadn't been, he would recommend that they send a copy of it to the HLN because he wanted to know why we weren't going after grant monies. Selectman Maddox said we are. Chairman Massey thought if they could send a copy of that to the HLN.

Selectman Maddox said it earlier and he said it again; Kevin's team did a great job. He has over the last few years got the drainage issues resolved in a number of areas. One of the things he asked Mr. Burns to do, and he was gearing up for his role as liaison to the CIP was to see if they were going to do that this year but also to see what items he might seem might need to be addressed. He was hoping that this Board, the 5 of them, was going to look at more forward thinking. What's the next item they're going to need to address? Again other than Spear Road for a very short time, all the roads stayed open. So the training he's done over this last number of years, the Mother's Day storm hasn't happened again. Our thanks to Kevin Burns and his crew to make those things happen and what are the next items on his list for those types of issues. Chairman Massey asked to stay on that issue. You could follow up Selectman Nadeau and ask Kevin if there was anything that he could do to either do the work himself or send a letter to the people at Second Brook to clean that area out. The Fire Chief expressed to him over this last storm that he was concerned that because there was so much debris in the brook at that area, and there's a lot of trees growing up into as it turns out now, that it might be worthwhile to clean some of that up. On that note, Selectman Nadeau did talk to the Road Agent, and he said that was something he would be doing around August or September when it dries up. That's where he was going with other projects that they could be doing. Again, a lot of the roadway projects on the sides of the road he can't do right now with the weather the way it is. He thought that one of these things like Second Brook would be something they could do. Like he told him on Friday, the water was still too high.

Selectman Maddox said he too thanked Selectman Jasper. He and I are not going to agree all the time, but he did appreciate the passion that he brings to this. He only turned red moderately a couple of times. So we're doing much better.

Lastly, a teaser. Tomorrow night is the Planning Board. Selectman Maddox did want to tell people that watched a bit of the Planning Board this last meeting, the applicant's representative out on Brockes Road made a statement that the fire department was requiring a considerable amount of water to be stored for other properties firefighting needs. That was not the case. You will hear numbers tomorrow night. You will hear more detail when they come back. That was if they wanted to put the cistern off site. Because that site is another property in town with asbestos, there was concern about digging to put in a cistern. The fire department said if you can either find another location off site, but you would have to include some additional waters for areas around. So the numbers they heard flying at the Planning Board and the comments have been addressed hopefully, again, people who watched the Selectmen caught a snippet of that. He's had a couple of people say to him, "What's going on?" The fire department, the numbers that are going to be

presented are considerable less than what was said. So, again, just a teaser for tomorrow night's Planning Board meeting. With that, thank you Mr. Chairman.

Selectman Jasper - Thank you. He felt like it was not quite mission accomplished, but all the pieces have finally come together. We have had a lot of disagreements. He hoped that they would all once it was opened appreciate what they had. It's going to be a beautiful park. He had a vision of that park going forward for like 15 years the things that are going to need to be done. Not \$2 million. We really have done a tremendous amount of work out there with very little money. That will continue. Now it will be little pieces here and there and there's going to be the playgrounds that the Rec. Department is now enthused about and will be working on. We are talking about 2 with likely a handicapped one up where the train station currently sits and another one down by the A-Frame. There's going to be a tremendous amount of opportunity in that park. It may never well be done because there is so much that can be done there. This is something that is going to continue to be there. It's really the crown jewel of Hudson. He was out there Sunday afternoon meeting with Dick Empey and it was absolutely gorgeous there sitting across from the gorilla cage thinking of Ben. It's going to be a wonderful place. It's really shaping up now what's gone out there in the last few months from where we were when we walked in there even with the Governor. You looked and you just saw trees everywhere and bushes everywhere. Now you can really see the beauty of the train. He was very, very excited about the project.

Selectman Nadeau - Chairman Massey said that now it was time for the birthday boy. Before he gets started, he had something. Cookies. There's some for everybody, however, there's extras for Ben and because it was a belated last week for Selectman Maddox, we also have an extra set for Selectman Maddox. Happy birthday Ben. Selectman Nadeau thanked Chairman Massey and Barbara.

Selectman Nadeau had a few things tonight. The first was the Chamber dinner. It went very well. They did the Citizen of the Year, Junior Citizen of the Year, and the Businesses of the Year. While they were at the Chamber dinner, they got the phone call saying that Spear Road was having a few problems with the inclement weather that they had with the flooding. On his way home, he stopped over there and spoke with Jeff Ferrentino and Jason Twardosky who were both doing a great job and getting everything cleaned up and making sure the road didn't wash away. He wanted to thank all the Highway guys and the Fire and Police Departments for a great job during that storm. It seemed they were getting more and more of those problems as they went along.

He'd like to say that he supported a lot of the ideas that go on at the park both with what he does, how he votes, and sweat equity but he thought they're getting there slowly but surely. He'd like to remind all the volunteers that they have the volunteer appreciation ice cream social coming up. Selectman Nadeau hoped to see all of them there and for them to RSVP to their respective liaisons and chairmen so that they could get an accurate count so they know how much ice cream to get.

Selectman Nadeau thanked everybody for all of their birthday wishes tonight and for everybody to have a good night.

Selectman Coutu - Wished Selectman Nadeau a happy birthday.

Just to follow up on what Ben said, they've had a lot of discussion in the past about Benson's. It's been at times cantankerous, and he's lead some of the charges, and he apologized to Selectman Jasper. They had an excellent meeting. That does not negate the fact that we all know your passion and your commitment to Benson's. You may not always agree with them; he may not always vote with them; he and Selectman Jasper have had private discussions where they tried to feel each other out and see where they were going to go on certain issues. Despite any of the conversations that they've had, he never lost track of the fact that he shared the same passion that they do. Selectman Jasper was involved with it a lot sooner than he ever was and he appreciated everything that he has done, and he knows he will continue to do. Selectman Coutu has said in the past and he has reiterated again this evening that regardless of how the discussion goes, or regardless of whether he's on the winning side or the losing side, and he thought that Selectman Jasper would attest as well that push comes to shove, he would be there, and he would be one of the first to be there. That's the kind of person he is. Selectman Massey has mentioned it in the past and they've all seen the results of your commitment to the people in this Town and to the various projects in this Town.

Selectman Coutu would like to remind everybody, again, that the Hudson Cable Television studio will be hosting their open house this Sunday, April 11, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the studio, which is

located at 98 Old Derry Road. This is a studio which we opened this year. We're very proud of it, and he thought it would give them an opportunity to see first hand the opportunities that are available to those within the community who might be interested in doing their own television programming. You'll get to see what the cameras look like. We'll probably have some video going on while we're there. Has the line been dropped yet Leo? Leo Bernard indicated that he didn't know. For live broadcasting, there was some stalling going on and he sent a terse letter to the Comcast representative. Apparently it shook him up and they were going to try to get it there by the 11th. So we'll see what happens. If not, we're going to be taping it and we'll be showing it live to anybody who comes to the studio. It's a great opportunity to get to see first hand what's involved in program production and airing. You can see all of the equipment that they purchased. Again, this Sunday, April 11th, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 98 Old Derry Road.

The second thing is Selectman Coutu would like to congratulate Hudson twins Corey and Matt Christie who are students at Bishop Guertin. They were named to the Lowell Sun All Star Wrestling team. Their outstanding scholars at Bishop Guertin, and he wouldn't want to wrestle one of them let alone the two of them. They're outstanding wrestlers at Bishop Guertin, and they received that recognition from the Lowell Sun.

Selectman Coutu wanted to thank Jess Forrence who is one of the supervisors in our Highway Department. He took the Sewer Utility Committee and himself on a tour of the sewer facilities in town. He was favorably impressed with the quality on how these facilities are maintained. He thought Selectman Massey had seen them all. In some instances you consider these are sewer maintenance flow facilities. You could eat off some of those floors. They are so well kept and so well maintained. He was favorably impressed. Again, it goes to show that those who are within the sewer district are certainly getting their monies worth from the fees that they paid, and they are some of the lowest in the area. They haven't gone up for quite some time.

Finally and once again, happy birthday Selectman Nadeau. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Selectman Massey - Well the birthday boy stole some of input, but he will just reiterate it. The week of May 1st is volunteer appreciation week. On Thursday of that week, May 6th, is the ice cream social. It is the 4th annual. He truly hoped that we have the kind of turnout that's possible given that they've opened it up to not only the Benson volunteers but to the Rec. Center volunteers, the Library Trustees, and the poll workers. So far he's had one response back, and that's because their committee has already met. No surprise it was Mr. Seabury and his crowd. He had some interesting comments relative to Selectman Maddox.

The last item was we are beginning to see an uptick in the Community Development in both the Planning Board and he would assume at that point the Zoning Board. We have openings on both the Planning Board and the Zoning Board. If you have an interest in what's going forward in the Town relative to its development, its character, and its atmosphere, Chairman Massey would encourage you to take a look at those two in particular because we are going to have a lot of work he thought coming up in the next 6 to 12 months on development. Depending on the outcome of Green Meadow, it could be really an interest. Please anyone out there who is really looking to do something for the Town, those two in particular. We also have openings on the Water Utility Committee. He believed they have openings on the Sewer Committee as an alternate, and a couple of others. Those in particular we would really need to see somebody step forward. In the case of the Water Utility, it's a voting member. In the case of the Planning Board and the Zoning Boards, they are both at this point alternates. It's a great way to get to know the Town in his mind. Selectman Maddox said there was a meeting of the Planning Board tomorrow night in case they want to come and sit in the audience. Chairman Massey said as Selectman Maddox said, "a teaser" on what's happening.

8. NONPUBLIC SESSION

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Coutu, to enter nonpublic session under 91-A:3 II (e) at 9:20 p.m. carried 5-0 by roll call

This ends the televised portion of the meeting. Any votes taken upon exiting nonpublic session will be listed on the Board's next agenda. The public is asked to leave the room.

Motion by Selectman Nadeau, seconded by Selectman Coutu, to exit nonpublic session at 9:25 p.m.

Open session is being entered at 9:28 p.m.

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Nadeau, to seal the minutes of the nonpublic session, carried 4-1. Selectman Maddox in opposition.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 9:29 p.m. by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Coutu, carried 5-0.

Recorded by HGTV and transcribed by Donna Graham, Recorder.

Hudson Board of Selectmen

Kenneth Massey, Chairman

Richard J. Maddox, Vice-Chairman

Shawn N. Jasper, Selectman

Benjamin J. Nadeau, Selectman

Roger E. Coutu, Selectman