

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
Minutes of the February 23, 2010 Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER by Chairman Massey the meeting of February 23, 2010 at 7:04 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at Town Hall.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, led by Police Chief Jason Lavoie.

3. ATTENDANCE

Board of Selectmen: Ken Massey, Shawn Jasper, Rick Maddox and Ben Nadeau (arrived at 7:05) - Roger Coutu - excused absence

Staff/Others: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator; Donna Graham, Executive Assistant; Police Chief Jason Lavoie; Lisa Nute, IT Director

4. PUBLIC INPUT

Chairman Massey asked if anyone in the audience wish to address the Board on any issue at this time?

5. NOMINATIONS & APPOINTMENTS

A. Removal of Sewer Committee Alternate Member John Parkhurst

Chairman Massey directed the Board to the letter written to them by Mr. Abbott. According to his letter, Mr. Parkhurst has missed six consecutive unexcused absences to date, and has indicated he is unlikely to be able to continue any more.

*Motion by Selectmen Jasper, seconded by Selectman Jasper, to remove Alternate Member John Parkhurst from the Sewer Committee for non-attendance, carried 4-0.*

B. Benson Park Committee - (2 alternate members, 1 term to expire 12/31/12; 1 term to expire 12/31/13)

Ann Kinneen Desrosiers  
Leo C. Bernard  
John Leone

Chairman Massey asked if Mr. Leone was in the audience. Selectman Jasper said no. He was informed he wouldn't be able to make it tonight. As you may recall, we did interview him as an applicant for the committee back in December as a full member. So the Board has had the opportunity to actually interview with him.

*Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Nadeau, to appoint Ann Kinneen Desrosiers to the Benson's Committee as an alternate with a term to expire 12/31/12, carried 4-0.*

*Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Nadeau, to appoint John Leone to the Benson's Committee as an alternate with a term to expire 12/31/13, carried 4-0.*

6. CONSENT ITEMS

Chairman Massey stated that on item B. 1. under water and sewer items, there is a typo. That should be Map 216, Lot 003.

Does any Board member wish to remove any item for separate consideration?

Selectman Jasper would like to remove the minutes of the meeting of February 9<sup>th</sup>.

*Motion by Selectman Maddox, seconded by Selectman Nadeau, to approve consent items A, B, C, and E, as noted or appropriate, carried 4-0.*

A. Assessing Items

- 1) Multiple exemption applications -
  - a) Elderly Exemption - Map 148, Lot 040, Sub 080; Map 204, Lot 006, Sub 927; Map 198, Lot 040; Map 165, Lot 123; Map 183, Lot 093; Map 216, Lot 018, Sub 010; Map 147, Lot 017, Sub 026; Map 204, Lot 006, Sub 517; Map 203, Lot 100; Map 216, Lot 018, Sub 027; Map 174, Lot 196; Map 203, Lot 109; Map 178, Lot 013, Sub 107; Map 197, Lot 147; Map 147, Lot 017, Sub 028, w/recommendation to grant
  - b) Veteran Tax Credit - Map 156, Lot 006, Sub 034; Map 156, Lot 008, Sub 024, w/recommendation to grant
- 2) Tax Deferral Application Map 175, Lot 059, w/recommendation to approve
- 3) 2008 Abatement Application Settlement Agreement (BTLA), Map 216, Lot 14; Map 216, Lot 6; Map 216, Lot 9
- 4) 2009 tax abatements, Map 136, Lot 1-1 Bockes Road; Map 182, Lot 43 Maple Avenue; Map 210, Lot 6-1 Lowell Road; Map 234, Lot 40-1 Lowell Road; Map 222, Lot 18-1 Lowell Road , w/recommendation to approve

B. Water/Sewer Items

- 1) Sewer Acceptance - Hampshire Drive, Map 216, Lot 003, w/recommendation to approve
- 2) Water Abatements, W-UTL-10-09 Automatic Laundromat - Elmwood, 8 Elmwood Drive, Acct. #3504612703; W-UTL-10-10 Woodland Heights Condo Association, 74 Melendy Road, Water Booster Station, w/recommendation to approve

C. Licenses & Permits

- 1) Request to Solicit Funds by Pan-Mass Challenge - w/recommendation to deny
- 2) Raffle Permit by Hudson Heat 14U Softball

D. Acceptance of Minutes

- 1) Minutes of the Board of Selectmen's Meeting of February 9, 2010

Selectman Jasper said it was very possible that he said this, but he'd like the opportunity to go back and review the tapes. On page 26 the second full paragraph beginning it says, "Selectman Jasper appreciated that but to that he thought this is a 365 day park not 5 days for 14 in the week." He has no idea what that means whatsoever. If he said it, he can't really stand by it but he'd like the opportunity to see if that's actually what he said or not.

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Maddox, to defer the minutes of the Board of Selectmen's Meeting of February 9, 2010, carried 4-0.

E. Calendar

- 02/24 7:00 Planning Board - Community Development Meeting Room
- 02/25 7:00 Moderator's Meeting - BOS Meeting Room
- 02/25 7:00 Zoning Board of Adjustment - Community Development Meeting Room
- 03/01 6:30 Hudson School Board - BOS Meeting Room
- 03/02 7:00 Board of Selectmen Workshop - BOS Meeting Room
- 03/03 7:00 Planning Board - Community Development Meeting Room
- 03/04 6:30 Recreation Committee - Community Development Meeting Room
- 03/04 7:00 Benson Park Committee - Community Development Meeting Room
- 03/08 7:00 Board of Selectmen - BOS Meeting Room
- 03/08 7:30 Conservation Commission - Community Development Meeting Room
- 03/09 VOTING DAY
- 03/10 7:00 Planning Board - Community Development Meeting Room
- 03/11 5:30 Sewer Utility Committee - BOS Meeting Room
- 03/11 7:00 Zoning Board of Adjustment - Community Development Meeting Room

7. OLD BUSINESS - None

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Request to use Hudson Community Center for Blood Drive - Jeannie Barkley Memorial Organization  
Chairman Massey asked if there was anyone in the audience for that.

Bob Guessferd, 39 Flying Rock Road, Hudson, NH 03051. He is the Committee Chairman for the Jeannie Barkley Memorial Scholarship Fund. Our request centers around a blood drive that we've now been doing annually in memoriam of Jeannie Barkley. He doesn't necessarily want to take too much of the Board's time but on December 22, 2007 Jeannie Barkley died. She was a dear friend, mother, wife, tireless volunteer, gave her help in support to her family and community, and we lost her after a long fight with Aplastic Anemia, which is a bone marrow disease. Your body basically stops making blood cells. Those who knew Jeannie will always remember her contagious smile, her sense of humor, and of course her giggle. Every group in which she was involved whether it was neighborhood volunteer, FOM, she was involved as much as she possible could be. Her family included all of us who were involved with her.

In memoriam, we decided we wanted to put together a scholarship fund in her honor and at the same time have an annual blood drive. The past 2 years we have done the blood drive at Alvirne High School. He thought the letter to the Selectmen just basically states that due to conflicts this year, we could not get a date. We typically will do it on a Friday, and we just couldn't get a Friday that would not conflict with the school's schedule and calendar. Therefore, we have requested to use the Community Center on June 11<sup>th</sup> for our blood drive this year. The Red Cross has set that date aside, and we are ready to move forward with that. We are asking for the use of the Community Center, and we are also asking respectfully if the fee for the Center could be waived as well. Are there any questions?

Motion by Selectman Maddox, seconded by Selectman Nadeau, to approve the request from the Jeannie Barkley Memorial Organization to use the Hudson Community Center for their annual Blood Drive on Friday, June 11, 2010 between the hours of 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and to approve their request to wave the fees for using the Community Center, carried 4-0.

B. Grant Application - Robinson and Ottarnic Ponds DASH Unit

Chairman Massey recognized members of Ottarnic Pond and Robinson Pond.

Karen Mercer, 93 Highland Street, Hudson. Jim Kegley, 5 Griffin Road.

Chairman Massey asked Karen to give the Board a brief outline of what it is that you're asking to have a grant application for.

Karen Mercer stated that she had sent a packet with some information for all the Board members. In that packet, we talked about the opportunity to apply for this grant. We've been encouraged to apply for this grant for this funding for this project. It appears to be a one-time funding opportunity for our two ponds to participate in from the NH Lake Association. What we're looking for from the Board is approval to submit the application to NH Lakes, and it would be to purchase the diver assisted suction harvesting unit. The Conservation Commission has supported this as well and has matched some funding - grant money that would be used to hire certified weed divers and to operate our equipment for the upcoming season.

Selectman Maddox's question would be why wouldn't we just rent this as opposed to buy it. Then we have to store it. Where are we going to store it? He's just concerned that wouldn't there be a number of lakes throughout the region or water bodies that could utilize this throughout the summer months. Again, trying to get the most use out of it as opposed to using it for X amount of weeks in Hudson and then having to store it some place.

Jim Kegley said they did some research to prepare for this. You know we've been relying on chemical treatments for the last 8 years. This state of treating this problem has advanced to the level now where mechanical harvesting has actually become as productive and possibly more productive than the chemical treatments but it is new. There aren't that many to be hired out there. The ones that are, the cost is essentially double to hire somebody with their own equipment to come in versus you have your own. We were also given some advice that it would put us in a better position for it to be more cost effective in years future to be able to - there's a larger market of available divers to be hired who we can sort of readily do that with our equipment. There is a very small market of people who have the equipment and the divers. Right now, it is twice as expensive. We got rates to compare. Even just within the same company someone to come with his own equipment would charge us twice as much than if we had ours and just hired him for the season.

Selectman Maddox had a follow-up question. Again, he's just concerned that if we now own this equipment that someone is going to now utilize who's liable if it's not functioning properly. Again, if you get a piece of equipment where the person owns it, we don't pay if they don't perform. Again Mr. Chairman, he's just worried that we're going to be sitting here with a piece of equipment that we have to store for large periods of time, certify at some point what the maintenance on it is. He's just looking at those aspects.

Jim Kegley said we're looking at just the maintenance. He can't speak as much for the liability issues per say in terms from a legal perspective. Just in terms of the maintenance costs and the maintenance responsibilities, this equipment is actually very simple and durable. It requires only the maintenance you would need to maintain a snow blower. It's a very simple piece of equipment with a single engine. The pump that pumps the water has some ceramic seals on it that you have to be careful not to burn out. If you use it properly, it's really just a matter of what you would do for a lawnmower or snow blower from season to season. The aspect of storing it, he guessed that could be as complicated or as simple as we want it to be. If it's a piece of town property, maybe there are some liability issues around whether someone in the community volunteered to store it at their residence if it was near the pond. The unit we were looking at was only about 8 feet square. So it's relatively small.

If Chairman Massey could just for a follow up Selectman Maddox. He did talk to the Highway Road Agent Mr. Burns. He indicated to him that they would be able to store it at the Town Barn because from his understanding, this would be owned by the Town and not by the ponds associations.

Selectman Massey would just ask the final question, he read in there somewhere about they're not going to use scuba equipment per say. They were going to use air pumped down to the diver. Mr. Kegley said an air compressor. Selectman Maddox asked if that was part of this piece of equipment. Mr. Kegley said yes - an air compressor. Selectman Maddox thought that that would have to be maintained to some standards if you're going to put breathing air down to a....okay. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Just to be clear. Selectman Jasper apologized if he missed this when he was speaking. It appears from here that the grant is for the unit. There's also going to be \$3,000 that will be coming from the Conservation Commission fund to actually pay for the diver to do Ottarnic Pond this year. Ms. Mercer said it was a matching grant. So it is a 100 percent match. The unit itself is \$6,500. Mr. Kegley said plus the air compressor makes it a total of \$9,000. Mr. Mercer said so what the Conservation Commission has graciously offered is \$7,000 match on the grant.

Chairman Massey thought the question that Selectman Jasper has asked - the answer is correct. Three Thousand Dollars of the grant money would be used to hire a professional diver for next year to do the work for this season. They're only talking about doing Ottarnic Pond this year. Ms. Mercer said they treated Ottarnic last summer/fall for the Fanwort. So the long-term management plan from the Department of Environmental Service recommends that we follow up the following year with a suctioning unit like this to just target patches of persisting Fanwort.

Selectman Jasper's comment would be, and perhaps the suggested motion should be modified to mechanically remove - is says to apply for the purchase of a diver assisted suction harvesting unit to...perhaps it should say... Chairman Massey indicated that the motion he was prepared to offer to the Board would be to apply for the grant for the purchase and to mechanically remove invasive aquatic weeds from Robinson and Ottarnic Ponds. So if there's something that he's missed. Selectman Jasper said the motion here says "unit to mechanically", and you're saying and mechanically. Chairman Massey indicated that the motion should read: "Motion to apply for the New Hampshire Lakes Association 2010 Innovative Exotic Weed Control Grant for the purchase of a Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting Unit to mechanically remove invasive aquatic weeds from Robinson and Ottarnic Ponds."

Selectman Jasper's thought it should be clear that there is \$3,000 - so if it's a matching grant, although it doesn't appear to be with the \$7,000 coming from the town, \$5,000 coming from this grant application, he just thought it ought to be clear that there are going to be funds expended to hire a diver and that in fact as we go out each year, that number is probably going to go up considerably because this is one pond. We'd just need to have it in the record so if somebody comes back. Chairman Massey has a modification that we can make to it when the time comes. The one question he had was he did talk after the meeting with the Conservation Commission. He did talk with the Highway Department. Mr. Burns told him that yes they indeed could be able to lift this pontoon platform up and move it. However, they're not going to be able to do that every day. He would be able to at the beginning of the week and at the end of the week do it. They would be able to store it at the Town Barn when it's not being used. If the ideal is not to leave that in the pond for the whole week that you're doing the work, he's not going to be in a position to provide that type of

service. We didn't talk about this and it wasn't part of the discussion with the Conservation Commission. He would envision that it would be in the water for the time that the work is being done. So basically over night. Mr. Kegley wouldn't envision it being in the water over night. It would be removed from the water or held up on shore. There's a liability issue. You wouldn't want to have it be where somebody could be hurt who's not supposed to be using it. Chairman Massey asked if there was a place where you'd be able to push it up onto the shore. Mr. Kegley was not sure who would want to have a say at Robinson Pond where the town beach is or the boat launch is. The town beach is consistent with town property being left there. Ottarnic you have just the boat launch.

My name is Sue Cloutier. She lives at 25 George Street. She lives right on the pond. She has access. Her property is low right to the water that if it is just a matter of leaving it for a few days, not permanent because she'd be afraid. She doesn't want to have any damages because she's had boats and stuff stolen. It's more than welcome to be stored right there. She has an area where it would be covered. If it's a temporary situation at any time, they're more than welcome to leave it there.

Selectman Maddox was going to vote for applying for it, but he thought there were some more details. It's always those details that get us. He's still not convinced that renting it for the first time to see what actually happens and what our exposure is Mr. Chairman is the way to go. He can see trucking this thing back and forth. He sees the administrators said that it wouldn't be a problem if we have a piece of the trailer or whatever. Now they're saying to take it out every night. He thought some of those details need to be worked out but at least apply for the grant to see if that works. Then we'll hammer out the minutia.

One of the things Chairman Massey understood when they made the presentation to the Conservation Commission is the cost. They had an estimate to do this that he believed was almost the same price. Mr. Kegley said that the rate for labor alone using our equipment for a ten day period, two five day weeks, would be \$3,000. That's what we're looking at right now. Compare that to the rate for diver and a dash coming together is \$7,600 for 10 days. So the difference between \$3,000 just the labor and the equipment and the labor is \$7,600. So it's more than twice. Selectman Maddox said they're going to be responsible for taking it in and out. If it breaks, they own it. They store it. How many times would we use this? When he read here, it said Ottarnic depending upon which way you go, it could be as few as 6, 7 days.

Karen Mercer stated that what's going to happen is in the spring when the ice goes out, we'll have our weed watchers go out, through the DES - Department of Environmental Services - and we'll let them know of areas where we see re-infestation of this exotic weed. So once we have that information, then we'll be better able to judge the time on it. We're anticipating that it wouldn't take any more than 10 days that we're projecting. We really need to let the pond tell us at this point. Potentially the perimeter of the pond may need to be hand suctioned.

Mr. Kegley said the estimates that they got for a range in terms of like you said sparse versus moderate growth - at Ottarnic the range could be anywhere from 18 days for moderate growth to 7 days (working days) for sparse growth just for Ottarnic based on it being 34 acres of what is infested now. Robinson Pond is 48 acres. So it's 24 days for moderate growth and 10 days for sparse growth. He thought their challenge in looking at this was nobody really knows for sure sort of how much work is going to be good enough. There were companies that he talked to in New York and Vermont that said their rate of progress was a half an acre of day. The man that he spoke to who's well regarded in New Hampshire from Atkinson said the rate was anywhere from 2 acres a day to 5 acres a day. So that's a huge range in terms of how thorough someone is going to be to sort of - that's something we're ultimately going to have judge for ourselves how thorough can we afford to be to have a diver be there all summer long versus a diver being there 2 weeks and we're just controlling it versus coming close to eradicating it. We're not really sure. There's a lot of room for interpretation and judgment of how much use it's going to get. There's going to be factors that determine what that ends up being for us.

Chairman Massey said the other thing to consider is the harvested materials can be put into compost programs. It turns out that the weed only propagates in the water. It doesn't propagate on dry land. So it's being used in other municipalities for compost. Based on what he understood, they can pull out that's a significant amount of composting material.

Selectman Jasper indicated that that brings up a question. Perhaps again he may be going over water or that he missed, but how are we going to as we suck this up how is going to be transported to where it's going to be composted. How is it going to be dealt with? How much labor is going to be involved with that?

Jim Kegley said that's where we were thinking that we have enough interest in the community that we're going to have to make this a partnership between the communities of people who are interested in the ponds

not just the residents but in the whole town, people to work side by side with - this is the smallest of all the DASH units we looked at. You can start looking at they're reasonably called "barges" and there's more deck space to actually take the plants and bag them and leave them there without bringing them to shore but with a small unit like this one, we're going to have to find people who can work side by side, haul the things to shore, and then have people who are willing to be involved to bring to a plight where they can be composted. They're going to be heavy, so it's not going to be work for just anybody. It's not going to be light work. He thought we have to kind of try to keep the costs down as low as we can. One of the things that he thought people can offer is their labor and cooperation. He thought that was reasonable to ask for.

Selectman Jasper said he would agree with that. He thought he probably would be to some degree on the same page as Selectman Maddox. He will vote to apply for the grant. He's not sure until we have a more detailed plan that he would be willing to accept the grant if we do get it, until we have some sort of a plan that shows us how this is going to mechanically work and that we have a list of people who are volunteering that we know. It sounds like these are things that are going to need to be done primarily on the weekends. But we can hire somebody to do the diving on the weekends, or that you have volunteers willing to do this during the week because if it is heavy, you have to have people that are healthy and able to do these things during the week or at least store them some place on shore until people can take them away. The bottom line is before we really get into this too deeply, he thought we do need a better plan as Selectman Massey is apt to remind us.

Karen Mercer said they actually felt they needed to know what their backing was before they applied for this grant as well. She thought they'd see in the budget that she sent in that packet we had close to \$8,000 of matching volunteer time between Robinson and Ottarnic Pond. That was just an e-mail to a small group of people. So that was a very favorable response. That's something we felt that as volunteers we could participate in accomplishing this.

Selectman Nadeau had a couple of things. One of them was last night at their Recycling meeting we talked about composting and that we're looking forward to working someplace in town. We were going to be doing something at the high school. That did not pan out at the high school. Now he's going to be looking at talking to the Road Agent about doing something up at the landfill. A more permanent type composting site. He's been looking into this DASH unit after he got it in his packet. He looked at the money that we're spending on the chemical treatment, and he looked at what we're going to get out of this. This to him works out the best of both worlds. One, we're going to get everybody to help us out. We have all the volunteers that they have. We're going to cut down on using the chemicals in these ponds, which he looks at in the long run is a good thing. He also looks at getting rid of these weeds as a person that uses the ponds and sees what's going on in other ponds and stuff in the State of New Hampshire that by getting this harvester or at least applying for it and seeing if we get the grant is a good thing. He's sure that like what happened at Benson's when we decided that we were going to go forward and start doing the volunteer work there, he's talked to people out in the community over the last week that said they'd be willing to go on a Saturday for a couple of hours and haul the weeds back to shore in their boat if they needed that. So there are people out there that are willing to do it. He will support this motion, and he's sure that a lot of people will be coming forward and helping us out with this.

*Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Maddox, to apply for the New Hampshire Lakes Association 2010 Innovative Exotic Weed Control Grant for the purchase of a Diver Assisted Suction Harvesting Unit to mechanically remove invasive aquatic weeds from Robinson and Ottarnic Ponds and further to apply the cost of a professional drive to operate the equipment for the year 2010.*

Selectman Maddox thought that you just need to kind of fill in those blank spots. The other thing he's concerned about Mr. Chairman is much like Benson's, the volunteers with the best of intentions to keep down the cost said let's get this brush whacking device. When the Road Agent look at it, he said it's not the right unit. He's afraid that you need to do a little bit more homework and bring it to us is to say is this one too small. Again, if we rented one the first year and said this size is more appropriate for what we need, again we know what we have rather than buying one and finding out for the next 5 seasons that it was never big enough to do what we needed to do. So that is his concern. We're going to buy something not knowing exactly what we're getting ourselves into. We may be trapped.

Mr. Kegley said he got the expert advice from the manufacturers themselves giving them characteristics about the ponds, the size, the current density of the week growth, and a lot of different parameters. It sort of felt like buying a lawn mower. You sort of go to somebody and they'll sort of say this will get you by. Selectman Maddox said that's exactly what happened at Benson's. Selectman Nadeau said that's what happened with us with the brush cutter. Mr. Kegley said there's such a difference between like a \$10,000 model and a \$40,000 model. Do you sort of get the giant John Deere that's going to do it? It's hard to say.

He knows you can sort of try and see how - there's some wisdom in that to see what someone's small unit would do. Would it perform well enough for the first year? He guessed we were just thinking this grant opportunity came along and what we could stand to gain from almost getting it funded now. We would sort of have to come up with an extra \$5,000 another year that we wouldn't have this year. That was our dilemma. We did get people who sort of weighed in based on their experience to say this should be sufficient for your needs.

Vote: Motion carried 4-0.

Chairman Massey said to take what Selectman Maddox and Selectman Jasper basically said. First of all when you get notification from the Lakes Association that they're going to award the town the grant. There has to be a public hearing in order for us to accept the grant. He thought at that time the plan about how you're going to actually operate this for the season should be part of the conversation that night. Jim Kegley said there's a lot we can do on that definitely. Thanks.

C. IT participation in UNH student internship

Chairman Massey recognized IT Director Lisa Nute.

[Lisa Nute] Good evening. Thank you Mr. Chairman and good evening gentlemen. We didn't know if this required a motion or not. She's looking for their authorization to bring on board a UNH student, Senior Jeffrey Lavoie, who is in the computer services program. He's looking to do a 150 hour internship with the IT Department between now and May. She did interview the candidate, and she believed that this would be a win/win situation for one. He knows that this would be a non-budgeted item. But he would gain a lot of experience she felt and at the same time, he could help her department get through - not that she's going to give him all the tedious stuff, but get through some tedious things and she thought it would give him a lot of experience in some server work that he appeared to be in need of. With the virtualization and things, it will be some really good things for him to see. She is looking for that authorization to have him begin with us.

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Maddox, to authorize the internship as outlined in Lisa Nute's memo of February 3, 2010.

Selectman Maddox said just so that the people at home that are watching this, this is a true internship. Zero cost. It's not what we tend to call interns in town here. It is part-time help. This gentleman understands that he is getting experience and not money. Great. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Vote: Motion carried 4-0.

D. Application for NH Highway Safety Agency grant for \$5,625 "Hudson DWI Patrols"

Chairman Massey recognized Police Chief Jason Lavoie.

Chief Lavoie didn't believe we were requesting to apply for this. He thought they already applied for some months ago. He'll take that error on that paperwork that we may have sent you because it does say to apply for. The Board has already approved them to apply for this grant. Now we have been awarded the grant. We're asking to be able to accept the grant money so that we can perform random DWI patrols is what this grant was in particular for.

A procedural thing. Chairman Massey asked if we needed a public hearing for this. Town Administrator Stephen Malizia said we need a public hearing to accept a grant. It just said application through here. Chairman Massey said we'll have to schedule a public hearing for...Mr. Malizia said that's what we're doing. If we've already applied, which it's not clear here. It looks like this was the application. If you've already applied.

Chief Lavoie asked to take a quick look at it because he didn't have it with him tonight. We have roughly 3 DWI grants that we're currently running right now that we've been working diligently on. His apologies. This one here would be permission to go ahead and apply for this grant. Mr. Malizia said that was okay. You can do that. Chairman Massey said the Chair would accept a motion to accept the recommendation of the Chief of his memo dated 16 February, 2010, to apply for the NH Highway Safety Agency in the amount of \$5,625 for a DWI patrol.

Motion by Selectman Maddox, seconded by Selectman Jasper, to apply for the New Hampshire Highway Safety Agency in the amount of \$5,625.00 "Hudson DWI Patrols".

The only question Selectman Maddox had Chief, and maybe you don't know off the top of your head, under the Schedule A you have that there are 25 establishments that sell alcohol. He could have sworn we've seen a bunch of stores applying and is coming through the Liquor Commission. That number actually kind of sounded low. Chief Lavoie didn't have the number off the top of his head for some of the establishments that sell alcohol. Mr. Malizia said sometimes they come and go. Some different licensee comes in and there might be an existing location that you might be thinking and somebody else either a name change or....Chief Lavoie said a different management comes in and that changes it. It bounces around.

Vote: Motion carried 4-0.

E. Changes to Animal Control Fines and Fees

Chairman Massey recognized Police Chief Jason Lavoie. For the record, we're going to talk about what it is, but we will have to schedule a public hearing on this because it's changing the fees.

Chief Lavoie said they would like to be able to do is with the Board's approval just try and work on changing the Town Ordinance and its fee structure to reflect that of current RSAs or the current State Statute, which he believed they should have that as well. He wanted to reflect like he said, the current RSA the way it is written.

Mr. Malizia indicated that the first offense is the same. Nothing has changed. It's the second offense which has basically doubled under the RSA. So our Code is half as much as the current RSA. So what we're looking to do is send this to a public hearing to bump that fee up to be in compliance with the RSA.

Chief Lavoie said the second offense is on the far right where you see the 200, 100, 400. That would be what we're looking to increase those offenses to reflect current State Statutes.

Motion by Selectman Maddox, seconded by Selectman Nadeau, to forward to a public hearing at the March 8, 2010 Board of Selectmen meeting to consider changes to the animal control fines and fees.

Selectman Nadeau asked a question of the Chief. Do we have a big problem with these particular things in the animal control now? Chief Lavoie said no. Mostly as far as nuisance dogs go, that is really the biggest one that we have. Chairman Massey said that they key is the State Statute says, "shall be liable". They specifically say what the fees are. So we're just updating our Town Ordinance to reflect what the State Statute says we need to do as he understood it.

Selectman Jasper was wondering why we even have a section in the Town Code dealing with this since it's already set by Statute. Mr. Malizia said so it is clearly articulated to the people in case they have a question. It's the only thing he can think of. Selectman Jasper said there were some differences. Whether you want to say they're subtle differences or not, this seems to just be somewhat confusing. It's like anything else. He didn't think we put the speeding in the Town Code because that's covered under Statue. Does this need to be in the Statute or should we just repeal this section? Selectman Maddox said maybe if the Town Administrator could give us a copy and maybe see if there is a difference between, there's none. It's completely...Mr. Malizia said we don't have all this language. We just actually articulate as the front of this memo says, there are sections other than B, C, and D. Obviously there's an A; there's an E; there's an F and a G. Those are specific to Hudson. In other words, there's a boarding fee that Hudson charges is number E or F. This just articulates all the fees under the animal control thing. So it's imbedded. Could you take them out? You probably could and follow the RSA. They've just been in there for goodness knows how long. Selectman Maddox said then we'd have to leave the other part in. Mr. Malizia said you're still going to have the section because the other one is our local through Hudson.

The point is Selectman Jasper guessed that these fines went into effect January 1, 2008. Ours aren't. Do we create more confusion if we forget for 2 years update it and put in a point of controversy by somebody saying well your Town Code says this. We're not going to be enforcing this under the Town Code. We're going to be enforcing this under State law he would assume in all cases.

Chief Lavoie's suggestion would be that we could keep this real simple and just put as far as fines and penalties for this reference the current RSA for that. That way there you don't have to ever worry about changing the numbers again. That's what Selectman Jasper was getting at that we could just say in accordance with RSA 466:31-a as amended. Perhaps you or your staff could look at that for the public hearing that we will set.



Vote: Motion carried 4-0.

F. Donation offer of 100 snow shovels from Hudson Wal-Mart Foundation

Chairman Massey recognized Police Chief Jason Lavoie.

Chief Lavoie asked the Board's permission to allow us to accept 100 shovels or so from Wal-Mart. Basically they wanted them out of their store to bring in new inventory. We also thought that this would be a great opportunity for Kevin Burns to save money in gasoline and have his guys going down the street with them. In the short term what we thought that we would do with these shovels is - you can see the shovel that's out here now at Town Hall. Its pretty beat up. We'd like to be able to take these shovels, distribute them amongst the town owned buildings, and give them each building a couple of shovels so that they'll have them. One less thing that they'd have to buy. Any remaining shovels we'd like to be able to give to a local charity or something like that that may have a need for them as well. But we thought the school system - like he said, all town buildings - the library, Community Center.

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Nadeau, to accept the donation of 100 snow shovels value ranging in price from \$5.00 to \$20.00 from the Hudson Wal-Mart Foundation with the Board's thanks and appreciation, carried 4-0.

G. Donation offer of \$400 from Merrimack Valley Beekeepers

Motion by Selectman Maddox, seconded by Selectman Nadeau, to accept the donation of \$400 from the Merrimack Valley Beekeepers with the Board's thanks and appreciation.

Just for the record, Chairman Massey indicated that this was a donation that he believed...Mr. Malizia said they've been making on an annual basis. Their meetings, he believed, are held at the Oakwood facility on a weekly basis. So they make a donation on an annual just in appreciation.

Vote: Motion carried 4-0.

H. Sale of 47 Ferry Street

Chairman Massey recognized Town Administrator Stephen Malizia.

As you are well aware, Mr. Malizia indicated that we've had a contract with Harmony Real Estate for the sale of 47 Ferry Street, which is one of those 2 properties over here that once we take the proceeds and give to the library if they're under a certain number. The contract with Harmony is renewed back in November. It expired February 10<sup>th</sup>. If it's the Board's pleasure to extend it for another 3 months, that's what this does. If not, we need to do something different.

Motion to extend the contract with Harmony Real Estate, Inc. for the sale of 47 Ferry Street to May 10, 2010.

Selectman Maddox said he was not ready to make that motion. He thought it may be time to slap some new lipstick on this pig. He didn't think we've had an offer in 6 months. So he thought we need to either take a look at the price or the real estate agent. He thought just extending this for another 3 months Mr. Chairman is not going to accomplish what we're trying to do is to get this back on the tax rolls and move it forward. He would like to take a look inside. He's never seen the inside of this. Is the price that is on here realistic? He's seen the reports that the realtor has provided us; he just doesn't see anything changing in 3 months so why bother doing this. Is there something that we can do - he's seen a couple of reports that said it's very dingy. From what Mr. Malizia can tell, the biggest problem is asbestos. Selectman Maddox stated we can't keep saying put 3 more months into it and see what happens. He thought we're going to sitting here extending it for 3 more months. So before we do that, he'd like to see their other options.

From what Mr. Malizia understood one of the bigger impediments or one of the fear factors at this price point is the asbestos and what the mitigation may be. He's been working with Gary Webster to try to determine how we can maybe resolve that. We had one proposal in the late fall timeframe that came in from the contractor who did the asbestos work over here. If you recall the light project at Library Street and Central, they did a small patch over here. We saw a number in the magnitude of \$60,000. That's not realistic. So Gary was working with GZA Environmental and the NH DES to try to come up with a different solution that may be a lot more cost effective. Unfortunately, you sort of have to kind of do that when there's no snow and you can actually get to that point in the season. So realistically speaking, we're not looking to be able to do this effort which may take only a day or two and some number of yards of fill to do probably until April. So

we're sort of stuck with people coming in at this price point saying I can't afford to mitigate the asbestos if I buy this house. You don't seem to get a lot of investors. We had investors at an auction, but they were real low ball. He thought they were \$110K for each of these properties. The Board chose not to sell it at that point in time. We're sort of he won't say in a waiting period, but that seems to be the problem. Buyers at that price point seem to have difficulty getting some FHA backed financing because of the asbestos. One number we saw, again, which was somebody who did over here was \$64,000. Gary has been talking and working with a DES person that's been involved in this to some degree at least to track this. There may be a lot cheaper way to do it maybe get out of it for \$4,000 or \$5,000 which is certainly more cost effective. Until we get a little bit more into the springtime, we're really not going to be able to do much out there. We can let it lie fallow and do nothing and come back and look at this in a couple of months, or we can keep it listed and maybe we'll get lucky. (inaudible) It's not the property itself. It's a cute little house. It's nice. It's mechanically fine. It has a new water heater. It's clean. It doesn't seem to be too much damage from sitting there vacant. It seems to be the asbestos. It is a busy street, but that doesn't stop people necessarily. We've got that situation where we've disclosed it has asbestos and everything else. Folks at that price point are just gun shy.

Selectman Nadeau had a couple of things. The real estate market is heating up with second time homebuyers. There are some incentives out there which just recently came out. There might be some things that we can do if we look at these reports that we've seen from the real estate people. Whether we take Wayne and have him go over there and clean it up a little bit, spruce it up, paint the walls, cheap money, make it look pretty. It's just one of those things that - if you go over there it is dark and dingy. No one lives in it. It's just one of those houses that is vacant, and you have to spend some money to clean it up. As far as what they're saying about the asbestos abatement, there is a lot more new things out there. He did talk to Mr. Webster the other day. There could be a cheaper way for us to cap this and get it ready to sell.

As far as signing up for another 3 months, Selectman Nadeau said to sign up for another 3 months and then just hopefully a) the market turns around, and b) we can do some small things to improve the property between now and then that don't cost us a lot of money, and then see where we go in 3 months. If you look at the log and what's been happening, there's been a lot more activity. So the springtime is usually when you start to see more of the stuff moving. He would just have to say wait and see.

Selectman Maddox said he has never seen the inside of it. So he's going based on what those reports were that we saw from the realtor that it said dingy. He didn't think we needed to hold all of our marbles on that price point. We need to either decide to lower that number and move this along; again, he just didn't think we want to be in the business of sitting on this forever.

Chairman Massey said it sounded to him like what Selectman Nadeau is suggesting would be a nice compromise. We leave it for the next 3 months with the real estate agent, but we do some small changes to it - the painting and maybe some cleanup in there that would make it a little more attractive and we continue to follow up with the Town Engineer on the asbestos issue.

Selectman Jasper would not be willing for us to put any money into it. All the money goes to the library. Mr. Malizia said we also don't have any money appropriated. Selectman Jasper said from the taxpayer's standpoint for us to be putting money into selling it benefits an entity where the taxpayers may or may not see any direct benefit. If there's an interest in doing that, it should come from the Library Trustees and not from us.

Chairman Massey asked what the Board's pleasure was. Selectman Jasper thought they probably should extend it for the 3 months and in the meantime have us sit down with the Library Trustees and talk about where we go here. It probably isn't in the best interest of anyone to take it off the market and do nothing. Leave it on the market for three months but anticipate that it may well not sell for 3 months and have a plan develop as to what we will do at the end of the 3 months. To do that, we need to have the participation of the Trustees.

*Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Maddox, to extend the contract with Harmony Real Estate, Inc. for the sale of 47 Ferry Street to May 10, 2010 and further to ask the Trustees of the Library to meet with the Board of Selectmen to work on a plan going forward.*

Selectman Jasper didn't see what else we can do. It doesn't serve any good purpose to take it off the market. We're going to need to meet with the Trustees. He didn't see how they could do anything but meet with them. We're probably looking at this point the April 1<sup>st</sup> workshop would probably be the appropriate time to do it which then you've only got 40 days to the end of this contract. He didn't see how they could do anything else at this point. The approach is being responsible.

Selectman Nadeau indicated that seeing it is their building and they have a maintenance person, maybe that person wants to go over and start painting it and cleaning it up and getting ready for the spring sale. He thought extended the contract was the way to go. He'd like to meet with them in March whether we meet with them right after the elections or - the sooner the better to him. He didn't want to wait until the April 1<sup>st</sup> workshop if we can have him come in and they sit down and say we'll put \$10,000 into it, and let's get this done then he thought that's what we need to do.

Selectman Maddox seconded this so we could move this along. He won't vote for it. He thought it was time to realistically lower the price and try to move this. Again, if we're going to spend money trying to mitigate if we're going to spend somebody's money to clean it up just lower the price and see if we move the thing. We're going to keep sitting here going around and around every 3 months.

Selectman Jasper didn't disagree with that either because he didn't think the Trustees are in a position to actually put any money into the house either because the money from the house sale was for other purposes, so they can't take money from that. They don't have money likely in their budget. He didn't imagine they're going to end up with a huge amount in the end. He guessed he's not generally in favor of fixing up property to sell it when it's on the margins because you may not get that money back. We should talk about these options with the trustees and probably bring the realtor in at the same time and talk about what's a realistic price and have their input. He just didn't think it was probably helpful to do it just of our volition at this point but talk to them about all the options and see what may be viable moving forward. He's not disagreeing. If we can meet sooner fine but just looking at the schedule he supposed they could do it at any regular meeting. He thought they needed to move off the dime here.

Chairman Massey would simply add that he thought that nothing precluded them from doing everything that Selectman Jasper just said and also to talk with the realtor even now and find out whether or not we should, in fact, lower the price. He agreed. There are lots of people that would be looking at this property if they figured they could buy it at a flip price and they could make money. In his mind at some point in time getting it onto the tax rolls would be worth it. Just as we looked at what the other property sold for after we sold it, he said God love them. We now have that property on the tax rolls. He would think that they do it both ways. We extend the contract but we also have the conversations with the Trustees on moving forward and also talk to the real estate agent about realistically are we at the price point or as Selectman Maddox said, we need to lower the price.

Vote: Motion carried 3-0-1. Selectman Nadeau abstained.

I. NH Municipal Association Membership - requested by Selectman Jasper

Chairman Massey recognized Selectman Jasper.

Starting to look at the Town and City publication of the NH Local Government Center, Selectman Jasper was looking at who made up the 30 people who serve on the Board of Directors. It was somewhat shocking to him to see that there are more teachers on the Board of Directors currently than there are selectmen. In fact, the only 2 selectmen on there are from tiny towns relative speaking - Stark and Rollinsford, which is over next to Dover but it's not a huge town. He loved the fact that you look at all these SAU numbers. He challenged anybody to tell him the SAU number. Most of the time he can't remember what our SAU number is, including right at the moment. Mr. Malizia said 81. Selectman Jasper asked what are these other ones. It doesn't tell you anything. Out of the 30 directors, there are only 12 who are elected. There are 14 representing either school boards or are superintendents. He doesn't know what we do but if you go back 10 years ago, now granted they were the Municipal Association then. They've changed their name but back then it was all people who represented towns and cities. He thought the School Board had their own school board association. This seems to leave towns and cities sort of out in the cold. They have a school board association and now the school board controlled what used to be the Municipal Association. Selectman Jasper thought there needs to be an effort to have a little bit more representation by elected officials whether they be school board members or town members. When the elected officials aren't even in the majority of the Board of Directors, you know there's problems.

Selectman Jasper was also shocked. There was a lawsuit most of us are probably aware of to make the salaries of the people who work for the Local Government Center public. He has the 3 pages of them. He was shocked at how many people work there now. The Interim Director is making \$189,200. That was an eye opener. The Acting Director of Legal Services and Government Affairs - \$122,000; the Associate Executive Director from Member Relations - \$138,000; Director of Claims and Coverages - \$100,000; Assistant Executive Director for Risk Services - \$166,000, almost \$167,000; Director of Human Resources -

\$103,000; Deputy Director CFO - \$171,000. There's a lot of money there. Certainly a lot more money than most communities pay to people in similar situations. He thought there was a problem here. He didn't really know where to go with it at this point. But he did want to bring it to your attention and have us perhaps think about it for a while and talk about banding together with some other towns. The big problem here, and Selectman Jasper would make a motion tonight to end our affiliation if it were not for the insurance that we have through them that seems to be much less expensive than our other alternatives and the fact that we have to be members in order to participate with the insurance. So we're between a rock and a hard place. He thought it was time somehow and we figured out how we get elected officials back in control of things and not people who are essentially appointed officials running this, which sets the money that we have to pay. It sets the salaries for their cohorts. In fact, that's what they are, they're cohorts by being not elected but appointed or hired.

Selectman Maddox what the dues were. Chairman Massey said about \$18,000. Selectman Maddox is disappointed because he's gone to a number of their seminars and he always wondered why they gave them day old sandwiches. Now he knows. They're paying the salaries. How do you get someone elected? He thought he had a candidate sitting next to him. What he's getting at is it is something we should probably look into. He's just blown away by those numbers. He's been to some of their seminars. They're nice people but \$189,000.

Chairman Massey said the real issue is the affiliated groups there is only one of something like 30 affiliate groups that it is a school related organization. That's the NH Association of School Business Officials. Yet 14 of 30 members of this Board of Directors are school officials. Five individuals are individual contributors, 4 of which are teachers. He agreed with Selectman Jasper. He thought it would be worthwhile for them to write a letter to the Local Government Center asking them why they've changed the directions so drastically and to ask them for an explanation of why it's so heavily loaded with school representatives when only one of the 30 affiliates is a school organization. If the Board is so inclined, he would be glad to draft a letter and ask for some explanations.

Selectman Jasper would certainly support that and suggest that it also be asked how these members are elected or appointed to the Board of Directors. He recalled some years ago that Lorraine Madison she was there, and he thought it a little strange that someone who was relatively new to Municipal Association was asked to be on there. He thought that was funny. He'd been on the Board of Selectmen for a long time and the legislature. He thought now he had a better idea of why perhaps he wasn't asked to be involved. She was asked. That's how things at least then happened and do reach out to specific people.

Chairman Massey will then draft a letter and we will see where we go with it. He did think that there is an imbalance when you look at this Board of Directors. He knows now the committee members are nominated and elected, but he's not aware of how the Board of Directors is. We'll follow up on that. Selectman Maddox said he would definitely reference this spreadsheet. Chairman Massey asked for a copy of the list. Mr. Malizia said actually 16 of 30 when you count all the SAU - majority.

9. OTHER BUSINESS/REMARKS BY THE SELECTMEN

Selectman Maddox - Yesterday he had a vacation day and he knows how to have a good time so he spent some time with the emergency management. The Fire Chief was teaching a course in regards to some of the background stuff that no one ever sees. All the department heads were there. Mr. Malizia said it was the NIMS. As you recall the resolution, we were getting training on the NIMS system. Selectman Maddox said again, the stuff that people don't see. It's the people working in the background to be ready for whatever may be coming down the pike.

The next thing - CALEA was the answer to the question at candidate's night. Again, you just can't remember everything. But that is an important function we do utilize with our police department.

Lastly Mr. Chairman, he knows that people need something to read. You can go on line to the State legislative website and Senate Bill 489 is the one for the gaming and video lottery. Its 40 pages. It is just great reading as you can see here. Again, he thought that people need to take a look at this. He thought it was coming up for a vote he was told on the 4<sup>th</sup> of March. Fascinating reading. There is a number of things that could impact Hudson. The more that people read and understand this, the better off we all will be. If you are of that mind, it is available at the [generalcourtstate.nh/senatebill489](http://generalcourtstate.nh/senatebill489). Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Selectman Nadeau - He did not have anything this evening.

Selectman Jasper - First and he's sure that many people in town are aware of the passing of Jim Sullivan who was a member of the School Board and very active in the community. In spite of his physical challenge, and he won't call it a disability because he thought for Jim it wasn't a disability, while he and Selectman Jasper were not always on the same side of the political issues, he always admired his involvement. The last time he saw him it was at the last Benson cleanup. He came in. Ann Desrosiers drove him around, and he was just in great spirits and loved to see what we were doing. At his funeral today that was one of the things that Deacon Ray Marcott spoke about in one of his last conversations with Jim is that he wanted to go back to Benson's again and see how it was going. He will be missed and remembered.

Other than that, there was a rather interesting newspaper article after our last meeting. He was a little shocked by it, and he knows some of you were as well because he didn't think it was a contentious meeting at all. We had some banter back and forth about Benson's but it was stated on one place that Selectman Coutu said something to him and there was silence. He's never at a loss of words. He didn't think anybody has ever seen him at a loss of words. One of the things was that why wasn't this done. In fact, one of the things that was suggested that he was supposed to be responsible to - the question was to Mr. Pearson. It was about the signs at Benson's. He asked him directly about it. He piped in after Mr. Pearson was done, but certainly he took exception as to the tone of the meeting. He thought it was a very productive discussion. As Selectman Maddox said to him, he never saw his ears get beet red. That's how you can always tell if he's really upset. His ears will go red. He would just hope that we try to not manufacture situations. We generally provide enough good fodder here without having to have it manufactured. He had a number of people talk to him about that meeting. He said that none of them whom he spoke to at the meeting, and he thought he probably spoke to most of them about it, saw it that way at all. Neither did anyone who he's spoken with who actually watched it on TV.

Selectman Coutu - Absent

Selectman Massey - He has a few things. They all interesting enough coincide with this conversation on the Local Government Center. He is a member of the Committee on Governmental Affairs, which is a subcommittee to the Municipal Advisory Committee to the Local Government Center. We had our quarterly meeting on Friday. There were some interesting things that came out. As you will recall about a year ago, we along with 200+ other municipalities and school districts in the State and counties provided the Local Government Center with money to fund a lawsuit to challenge the State on the change in the pension contributions for the municipalities as an unfunded mandate under 28-A of the Constitution. They've finally gotten to it and with either this week or next week, they will be filing a suit in, he assumed, Merrimack County, at Superior Court. There will be 3 named plaintiffs in the suit, although there are 250 units that are involved, the 3 names on the suit will be the City of Concord, the Mascenic School District, and Belknap County. They intend to, again, introduce that to the Courts either this week or next week. There was a level of discussion as to why it took him so long to get there, and they didn't really have a good answer for it. They appear ready to go forward with it right now. The good news for us and for all the other communities that are involved, they have enough money in the fund to carry the suit forward. They're not expecting to come back to any of the agencies that agreed to fund this for any further money.

They also had a review on several bills that are either in the Senate or the House that have some impact on us. The first one is Senate Bill 492. It's to extend the exemption for the pole tax for phone companies for another 4 years. It expires this year. Senate Bill 492 would extend that exemption for another 4 years. The Local Government Center is going to take the position and they actually have advocated on the basis of all of the municipalities and cities that it seems unfair to all of the other utilities are taxed on that and the phone companies are not. They've testified against this extension in Concord.

The next which was kind of interesting and it doesn't have any immediate affect for us but it could at some point, House Bill 1609. The local use change tax will apply to any entity. The gist of that is about a year and a half ago the State of New Hampshire wanted to build a liquor store out in the Monadnock he thought in the Keene area. The piece of land that they use to build it wound up coming out of current use. When the local assessor attempted to collect the Land Use Change Tax, the State said no we're the State we don't have to pay it. So with this Bill if it goes forward would mandate is that even the State would be required to pay the Land Use Change Tax.

Another one that has a real impact to us is Senate Bill 488. He thought it was kind of interesting that it's next to 489 that Selectman Maddox just talked about. Senate Bill 488 is going to propose a cap on spending and tax increases. He knows that Selectman Jasper has always said that that's a very difficult thing to do to arbitrarily put caps on. It will have some impact for us.

Finally the last one that was of interest was, and he didn't catch the House Bill on this one, but it's to effectively say you may not force or mandate sprinklers on residential 1 to 3 family units. Apparently it's being brought forward because there are two fire departments in the State who apparently and even though the local code does not - this is the way he understood it. Even though local code does not mandate that you have sprinklers, the fire departments are not signing off on the occupancy permits if they don't have the sprinkler units. So this is going to be put in to say no, that you do not have to have sprinkler units. He thought it was kind of interesting because from what he's seen or what we're doing on the Board, Chairman Massey thought it's all been voluntary up to now Selectman Maddox. Most of the new developments that are going in were on the Planning Board asking to put in sprinkler systems. Is that correct? Either that or put a cistern out. Selectman Maddox said that was more of the fire department's jurisdiction but he thought it was one of those things where, again, the homeowner is going to save money on their insurance. He thought the fire department is driving towards if you don't put in sprinklers you have to put in a cistern, which is more money sometimes than just putting the sprinklers in. At least from everything Chairman Massey has seen on them, the new sprinkler heads that you can put into residential houses, you almost don't even know they're there. Some of them are even recessed into the ceiling. Even the ones that are not recessed are very unobtrusive. They're not like the ones that we typically see which have the big head coming down.

[Chairman Massey] Those were some Senate Bills. Perhaps our legislative liaison could at least - the one that he thought the two that are probably most critical are Senate Bill 492, the pole tax exemption, and 488, the cap on spending and tax increases.

Selectman Jasper would doubt that a cap on spending and tax increases would even make it out of the Senate, but he will certainly keep his eye on it. The extension of the pole tax is one that in his years on ways and means he did work on. It is a tough issue because the phone companies are already - they're taxed on the phone calls. Everybody pays a tax on that. Many of the areas that the phone companies service, there are very few lines. It wouldn't be a problem in Hudson but when you get up into Colebrook and some of the areas like Hart's Location, there are very few phones per mile. When you start taxing those poles, you're exceeding the revenue that they're bringing in on the lines. That becomes a real issue because you're then going to have cases where the phone companies are going to say we'll abandon the lines. It will be like the railroads. Sorry you can't get a phone. Guess what, you can't get cell phone up there either. At what point do you look at this just locally or do you look at it globally. That's the crux of the issue. It may seem to be a fair issue. They're going to say we're just going to give them all over to the electric company, and we're not going to provide phone service to these areas. He didn't think that's good public policy.

10. NONPUBLIC SESSION - None

11. ADJOURNMENT

*Motion to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. by Selectman Maddox, seconded by Selectman Jasper, carried 4-0.*

Recorded by HGTV and transcribed by Donna Graham, Recorder

**HUDSON BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kenneth J. Massey, Chairman

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Shawn N. Jasper, Selectman

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

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Benjamin J. Nadeau, Selectman