

**HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Minutes of the February 10, 2004 Meeting**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** by Chairman William P. Cole at 7:30 p.m.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was led by Chairman William P. Cole
3. **ATTENDANCE**

Selectmen: William P. Cole, Kenneth J. Massey, Shawn N. Jasper, Ann Seabury and Teresa Stewart

Staff/Others: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator; Priscilla Boisvert, Executive Assistant; Tom Sommers, Town Engineer; Shawn Murray, Fire Chief; Charlie Chalk, Fire Marshal; Gary Rodgers, Deputy Fire Chief; Fire Lt. Dave Morin; Fire Fighters Steve Benton, Alan Dube and James Paquette; Richard Maddox; Ray Rowell; Leo Bernard; Mark Fouchere; John Kruk; Alethea Kehas; Carol Pomphret; Reverend David Howe; Anne, TEL

4. **PUBLIC INPUT**

Steve Benton, Local 3154, re Firefighter Union Logo had signed up but did not appear to speak in Public Input. Chairman Cole asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Board on any item, but there was no response.

5. **NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS**

- A. **Benson's Committee** (1 Citizen Member)

David Chaisson was not present, due to a business conflict.

Carol Pomphret, 30 Winslow Farm Road, has lived in Hudson since 1985 and thought she might be interested in serving on this committee because she is interested in preserving open space in Town. She would like more information on the committee. She was invited to attend the Benson's meeting tomorrow night at 6:00.

Sandra Rumbaugh was not present.

Chairman Cole said the Board would make their decision at the next meeting, which would also provide an opportunity for the other two candidates to be present.

- B. **Building Board of Appeals** (1 Member, Term to expire 12/31/06) No applicants.

- C. **Conservation Commission** (1 Alternate, Term to expire 12/31/04)

Alethea Kehas, 6 Wende Drive, a 2½ year resident, wanted to be involved with the community and she is passionate about conservation, being a member of the Society for the Protection of NH Forests, Nature Conservancy, etc.

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Massey, to suspend their rules and appoint Alethea Kehas to the Conservation Commission as an alternate, with a term expiration of December 31, 2004, carried 4-0.

- D. **Nashua Regional Planning Commission** (1 Alternate, Term to expire 12/31/07)

John Kruk, 3 Cardinal Drive, said in December, he applied for the Cable Committee, his area of expertise, but the incumbents were reappointed. He is interested in "big picture" things, and this seemed like a board he'd like to be on.

Motion by Selectman Massey, seconded by Selectman Jasper, to suspend their rules and to appoint John Kruk to the NRPC, term to expire December 31, 2007, carried 4-0.

- E. **Solid Waste Study Committee** (2 Members, Terms to expire 12/31/05 and 12/31/06)

Ted Luszey, 13 Cathedral Lane, currently a member of the Budget Committee, has served on various committees in the community. He has a particular interest in this area of operations, so applied at the behest of Selectman Seabury.

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Massey, to waive the procedures and appoint Thaddeus Luszey to the Solid Waste Committee, with a term to expire December 31, 2006, carried 4-0.

- F. **Zoning Board of Adjustment** (1 Alternate, Term to expire 12/31/06) No applicants.

6. **CONSENT ITEMS**

No one wished to remove any items for separate consideration.

Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Massey, to accept consent items, 6 A – E, as noted, carried 4-0.

- A. **Assessing Items**

- 1) Veteran's Credit and Application for Abatement, 47 Mobile Drive, w/recommendation to grant.
- 2) Application for Disabled Exemption, 3A April Court, w/recommendation to grant.

- 3) Application for Abatement, 99 Robinson Road, w/recommendation to grant.
- 4) Application for Elderly Exemption, 25A Quail run Drive, w/recommendation to grant.

B. Sewer Utility/Water Utility Items

Request for Water Access Fee Waiver, 10 Mockingbird Lane, w/recommendation to approve

C. Licenses and Permits

- 1) Hawker-Peddler Permit by Glenn Smeltzer to sell flowers for the Blushing Rose at True Value
- 2) Raffle Permit by Hannah Dustin Quilters Guild for raffle on 12/6/04—prize is a “Sunny Breezes” quilt.
- 3) Request by Hudson Youth Baseball to hold their annual parade from Rec Center to Lions Field

D. Acceptance of Minutes

- 1) Minutes of the January 20, 2004 BOS Minutes (Public Hearing on Fire Truck)
- 2) Minutes of the January 26, 2004 BOS Minutes (Regular Meeting)
- 3) Minutes of the January 31, 2004 BOS Minutes (Special Meeting after ATM)

E. Committee Announcements

02/10/04 7:30 BOS Meeting
 02/11/04 7:00 Planning Board Meeting in CD Meeting Room
 02/11/04 6:00 Benson’s Committee in BOS Meeting Room
 02/12/04 7:30 Sewer Utility in BOS Meeting Room
 02/12/04 6:30 Regional Water District Charter Committee at NRPC
 02/16/04 Town Hall closed in recognition of Presidents’ Day
 02/17/04 7:00 BOS Workshop with Fire Department Personnel
 02/18/04 7:00 Public Hearing on Establishment of Glen Drive Sewer District, Nottingham West School Cafeteria
 02/19/04 7:30 Budget Committee in BOS Meeting Room
 02/23/04 7:30 Conservation Commission in CD Meeting Room
 02/24/04 7:30 BOS in BOS Meeting Room
 02/25/04 7:00 Planning Board in CD Meeting Room
 02/26/04 6:30 Regional Water District Charter Committee in Bedford
 02/26/04 7:30 ZBA in CD Meeting Room

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Public Hearing on Revised Veteran’s Tax Credit, Service-connected Total Disability Veteran’s Credit and Surviving Spouse Veteran’s Tax Credit

Town Assessor Jim Michaud said the three articles made it through the deliberative session of Town Meeting without amendments. The first article raises the regular Veteran’s tax credit from \$100 to \$200; the second article raises the Disabled Veteran’s credit from \$1,400 to \$2,000; and the third article is to adopt a Veteran’s tax credit for spouses of those killed or missing in action at \$2,000. All three are effective for the 2004 property tax year.

Chairman Cole opened the Public Hearing at 7:42 p.m. There were no speakers, so he closed the hearing at 7:43 p.m.

B. Fire Department Issues

1) Reorganization

Fire Chief Murray distributed copies of the applicable job descriptions. A brief recess was called at 7:47 p.m. for the Board to review them. The meeting reconvened at 7:52 p.m.

Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Jasper, to re-designate the position of Deputy Fire Chief to Deputy Chief of Operations, approve FD JOBD-2, entitled Deputy Chief of Operations and to appoint Deputy Chief Gary Rodgers as Deputy Chief of Operations, carried 4-0.

Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Massey, to re-designate the position of Assistant Fire Chief to Deputy Chief of Support Services, and approve FD JOBD-3, entitled Deputy Chief of Support Services, carried 4-0.

Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Jasper, to re-designate position of Fire Marshal to Captain Training/Safety Officer and approve JOBD-22, entitled Captain Training/Safety Officer, carried 4-0.

Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Jasper, to authorize the Fire Chief to initiate the recruitment process to fill the position of Captain-- Training/Safety Officer carried 4-0.

Selectman Jasper asked if this was going to be an in-house posting. Chief Murray said both in and outside.

2) Union Logo

Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Massey, that effective 2/11/04, the logo, insignia or other reference to IAFF Local #3154 (Firefighters’ Union) will no longer be included on uniform items, accessories and/or equipment being purchased by or through the Hudson Fire Department for official use by department personnel carried 4-0 by roll call vote.

Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Jasper, that effective 2/11/04, all uniform changes for DPW, the Police

Department and the Fire Department must have the approval of the Board of Selectmen.

Chairman Cole asked what the uniform policy was and how they get established. Chief Murray said Admin 21 within the Fire Department addresses authorized clothing lists and items such as that. Chairman Cole asked if those policies have always come before the Board for consideration and approval. Chief Murray didn't know if Admin 21 was included in the policies that former Chief Carpentino brought to the Board. Deputy Chief Rodgers said that was part of the group of policies. Chairman Cole asked if it was possible that there were some uniform policies in place that didn't come before the Board. Both Chief Murray and Deputy Chief Rodgers responded in the affirmative. Chairman Cole said the motion codifies that, from now on, any uniform changes will come before the Board before implemented.

Vote: Motion carried 4-0 by roll call vote.

3) Request for Authorization by the Fire Department to apply for a Grant for a Pilot Program

Chief Murray said the State Bureau of Justice notified them that 600 Fire Departments have become eligible for a Homeland Security Grant program to receive a free satellite dish which carried the Fire Emergency Training Network. This program is broadcast 24-hours a day, 365 days a year. It carries various training subjects, fire and emergency medical services. Additionally, the State is piloting a program to see if this would be a viable method of notifying departments throughout the State during an emergency situation. The company that runs this network has agreed to come in and install satellite dishes, hook up to one television, and provide the service free of charge for one year. At the end of the one-year program, if the grant doesn't continue, the Fire Department would have the option of entering into a subscription service at about \$1,800 annually or having all of the equipment removed. There are no costs to the Town and several area towns are taking advantage of this offer.

Selectman Massey asked what the criteria was going to be in determining whether or not the service provided was worth paying \$1,800 adding that, over the years, that amount would undoubtedly increase. Chief Murray said program content would be evaluated and if the State would be able to provide satellite broadcast to the Town. The State of NH has been trying for years to hook up the different communities. In the recent past, he and the EMS Coordinator, Lt. Rudolph, had to travel to Concord in bad weather to attend a seminar on meningitis. With the satellite system, the State may be able to broadcast those types of training sessions. It would also be used as an emergency alert system.

Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Jasper, to approve the Fire Department's participation in the Federal government's PRIMEDIA Workplace Learning program, a pilot program that provides satellite-based programming in support of comprehensive training to public safety personnel carried 4-0.

4) 2002 Life Safety Award

Chairman Cole said the Selectmen proudly acknowledged the 2002 Life Safety Award presented to the Hudson Fire Department in recognition of fire prevention activities that contributed to reducing the number of lives lost in residential fires. In 2002, there were no deaths as the result of structure fires in Town. The Board extended appreciation and congratulations to the men and women of the Fire Department for their outstanding efforts and personal commitment to the safety of Hudson residents. Mission Accomplished!

C. Announcement of Promotion of Robert Tousignant to the Rank of Lieutenant in the Hudson Police Department

Chairman Cole announced the long-overdue promotion of Robert Tousignant to the rank of Lieutenant, effective February 1, 2004. This action was taken during Nonpublic Session at the Board's meeting on Jan 26, 2004.

(Start Tape 1, Second Side)

8. NEW BUSINESS**A. Water Utility Vulnerability Assessment**

Town Engineer Tom Sommers said under the Bio-terrorism Act of 2002, the Town must do a vulnerability assessment with respect to the water system and a follow-up to that is an emergency response plan. He attended a two-seminar put on by the NH Department of Environmental Services and came back with a lot of information, but this was the basis of it. He has already held an initial meeting and a task force including Fire, Police, Highway, some Admin people and him has to be held with the Emergency Response Officer, which is Chairman Cole, to follow up on this, which needs to be completed by the end of June 2004, with an Emergency Response Plan due at the end of 2004. In order to accomplish that in a timely, confidential manner, he recommends the Board approve the proposal from Weston & Sampson. He received a proposal from another firm, with a similar price, but his recommendation is based on the fact that Weston & Sampson knows the system, and that it would be more confidential by using them. This issue is a very serious and important undertaking which accounts for the individuals identified on the task force. This is not just an exercise. Because of the vandalism issues the Town has had with the wells in Litchfield, an interim call sheet was prepared, but that might be amended in light of the assessment.

Chairman Cole asked how the bid jumped from \$10,000 to \$15,000 and if there was any sense of what the ERP would cost. Mr. Sommers that that was the result of his asking them to help facilitate more of a team approach than originally anticipated. The cost of the ERP was between \$3,000 and \$4,000.

Motion by Selectman Massey, seconded by Selectman Jasper, to waive the Town's procurement policy and enter into a contract with Weston & Sampson to complete the Vulnerability Assessment, in an amount not to exceed \$15,000 taken from account 5592-204 carried 4-0.

B. Request for BOS input from Planning Board re. Boat Ramp Easement to Merrimack River off Route 3A

Selectman Ken Massey said one of the plans before the Planning Board was the Riverwalk Subdivision, located at the juncture of Webster Street and 3A. The Planning Board has asked for a consensus from the Board of Selectmen as to the feasibility of having an easement on that property for the purpose of an emergency boat ramp for use by Town fire personnel. He asked if the Board felt having that easement was good, but that it should not be a pre-requisite for site plan approval. Selectman Jasper concurred.

Chairman Cole asked if there were three proposed developments in that area. Selectman Massey said there is River Walk and River Ridge, both of which are older persons developments. The third property is a standard grid subdivision of about 32 units, where the driving range currently is. Chairman Cole said he concurred with the request, as did Selectman Stewart.

Planning Board Chairman Maddox said the Selectmen should be aware of the fact that the applicant was just providing an easement. The Town would have to construct the boat ramp and get permits from various entities, which could run up to \$100,000. Selectman Massey said there are other options for the Board to consider, that the Town Engineer is working with the Town of Litchfield on a possible joint venture. He stated that he would convey the consensus of the Board of Selectmen to the Planning Board meeting tomorrow night.

9. OTHER BUSINESS/REMARKS BY THE SELECTMEN

Selectman Stewart said CIP is coming around again, having received information in her mail distribution. The Board might want to think about what they want to propose for this year, such as Combined Dispatch, if the article on Interoperability is approved by the voters.

In response to the Super Bowl this year, parents can call Adelphia to request a trap put on their TV to block out MTV and VH-1 at no cost.

Tonight she received a phone call from someone who was concerned that a business, the Sea Science Center was advertising on the Town's cable channel, #21. She asked the Town Administrator to look into it. Chairman Cole said Coleman would have to know about that, but they would track down an answer.

Selectman Jasper said, relative to the Benson's Committee, he continues to be concerned about bringing new people into the process while that process seems to be somewhat in flux, with no clear end in sight. He was curious about what was going on with the Rec Committee's appointment to the Benson's Committee. Mr. Malizia said he was waiting for a response from Dave Yates relative to his inquiry on that. It is his understanding that the Rec Committee did appoint someone and he was looking for confirmation of that. Selectman Jasper said the Board might want to consider having a representative from the Budget Committee on the Benson's Committee because, as they move forward, it becomes a very expensive project. Having a representative on the Committee would make them more of a partner in the process.

Selectman Massey declared he had good news for residents who use Lowell Road. Thanks to Keyspan, the gas lines are being relocated, something they hadn't planned on doing until later in the year. Once that is complete, hopefully by early March, the State can begin the process of widening Lowell Road from Wason Road to Executive Drive. To try to minimize traffic congestion, construction will begin on the part that is not built today. They will then redo the current road bed. The hope is to have everything done, with the exception of the final topcoat, by the end of construction season this year.

Continuing, Selectman Massey said too often the people who get credit for something are the people who are visible and recognizable to the community. He, therefore, wanted to recognize an individual who works in the background and, when the time came, this person stepped up to the plate and took the extra step, resulting in the alleged perpetrator of the bank robbery that occurred in Town was apprehended. He congratulated and extended the Town's sincerest appreciation to Amy Corcoran, the Dispatcher on duty that night, who recognized the voice from a previous encounter, went back through her dispatch tapes and identified the caller, which led to the arrest of the individual. Chairman Cole said that was remarkable, especially considering the fact that the call she was searching for on her log was for something that happened over a year ago.

10. NONPUBLIC SESSION

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to enter Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (a) the dismissal, promotion or compensation of a public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of charges against him, unless the employee affected has a right to a meeting and requests that it be open, in which case the request shall be granted; and (d) the acquisition, sale or lease of real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general community carried 4-0 by roll call vote.

Nonpublic Session was entered into at 8:29 p.m. and was terminated at 9:21 p.m.

Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Jasper, to appoint Charlie Chalk as Deputy Chief of Support Services, effective February 8, 2004 at an annual salary of \$62,221, in accordance with the Hudson Supervisors' Collective Bargaining Association carried 4-0.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 9:23 p.m. by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Jasper, carried 4-0.

Recorded and Transcribed by Priscilla Boisvert
Executive Assistant

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN

William P. Cole, Chairman

Kenneth J. Massey, Selectman

Shawn N. Jasper, Selectman

Ann Seabury, Selectman

Teresa Stewart, Vice-Chairman