

**HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
Minutes of the November 27, 2001 Meeting**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** by Chairman Ann Seabury at 7:30 p.m.
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2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was led by Selectman Rhona Charbonneau
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3. **ATTENDANCE**

**Selectmen**: Ann Seabury, Rhona Charbonneau, Robert E. Clegg, Jr., & Terry Stewart. Shawn N. Jasper was absent.

**Staff/Others**: Paul D. Sharon, Town Administrator; Priscilla Boisvert, Executive Assistant; Richard Gendron, Chief of Police; Lt. William Pease; Lisa Riley and Arlene Creeden, Library Trustees; Ed Caban, Recreation Department; Richard Young, CCI Maintenance Services; Howard Dilworth, Jr; Rich Maddox; Ann, TEL; John, Derry News.

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4. **PUBLIC INPUT**

Chairman Seabury asked if there was anyone in the audience who had anything to bring to the Board's attention. There was no response.

5. **CORRESPONDENCE**

- A. From: Jim Michaud, Assessor  
Re: Various Assessing Items  
Refer to: Old Business & New Business
- B. From: Richard Gendron, Chief of Police  
Re: ✓ Accreditation Material  
✓ COPS MORE Grant  
Refer to: Public Hearing/New Business
- C. From: David Yates, Recreation Director  
Re: ✓ Proposal by Pepsi for the Skate Park  
✓ Acceptance of Donations  
Refer to: Public Hearing/New Business
- D. From: Charles R. Schmidt, NH DOT  
Re: Force Account Agreement—Water Main  
Refer to: New Business
- E. From: Sewer Utility Committee  
Re: Applications for Sewer Abatement  
Refer to: New Business

*Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Charbonneau, to receive the Correspondence, with appropriate referral, carried unanimously.*

6. **OLD BUSINESS**

- A. **Revised Supplemental Tax Billing, Map 27/Lot 15-60; Map 27/Lot 15-31**

At the request of Selectman Jasper, this was deferred from Nov. 13, pending clarification.

*Motion by Selectman Clegg, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to sign, as recommended by the Assessor, carried unanimously.*

- B. **Revised Tax Abatements, Map 21/Lots 6-30; Map 21/Lot 4**
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At the request of Selectman Jasper, this was deferred from Nov. 13, pending clarification.

*Motion by Selectman Charbonneau, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to sign, as recommended by the Assessor, carried unanimously.*

## 7. NEW BUSINESS

### A. Assessing Items

- 1) **Veterans Tax Credit Applications** (17B Richman Road, Map 009/Lot 059/Sublot 00B; 36 Central Street, Map 051/Lot 019; 9 Heron Pond Way, Map 006/Lot 044/Sublot 003; 25 David Drive, Map 039/Lot 003/Sublot 026; 822 Fox Hollow Drive, Map 013/Lot 012/Sublot 822)

*Motion by Selectman Charbonneau, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to grant, as recommended by the Assessor, carried unanimously.*

- 2) **Abatements for Veterans Tax Credit** (36 Central Street, Map 051/Lot 019; 9 Heron Pond Way, Map 006/Lot 044/Sublot 003; 25 David Drive, Map 039/Lot 003/Sublot 026; 822 Fox Hollow Drive, Map 013/Lot 012/Sublot 822)

*Motion to grant by Selectman Charbonneau, seconded by Selectman Stewart, as recommended by the Assessor, carried unanimously.*

- 3) **Application for Disabled Exemption** (10 Greentrees Drive, Map 053/Lot 041)

*Motion to grant by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Clegg, as recommended by the Assessor, carried unanimously.*

- 4) **Applications for Elderly Exemption** (1 Rita Avenue, Map 007/Lot 064; 65 Mobile Drive, Map 027/Lot 015/Sublot 049)

*Motion to grant by Selectman Charbonneau, seconded by Selectman Stewart, as recommended by the Assessor, carried unanimously.*

### B. Police Department Accreditation/Job Task Analysis & Job Descriptions

Chief Richard Gendron explained that, in the process of moving forward toward national accreditation, they had to update their job descriptions. Lt. Pease sent out questionnaires to the police officers who has been with the department at least a year, collected and organized the data, and rewrote every job description within the department. If this process was done by an outside consultant, it would have cost the Town about \$20,000. He commended Lt. Pease on doing such a fine job. Lt. Pease said the task analysis the officers had to complete consisted of about 450 questions relating to their level of training and knowledge of force procedures, report writing, situational analysis, mediating disputes, etc. After he tabulated the results, a team of assessors from the New England Accreditation Coalition analyzed the data and came out with a final version of a job description, customized to a Hudson police officer. Selectman Charbonneau questioned the accreditation process, which the Chief addressed. Selectman Stewart asked if "ability to communicate effectively" meant a good command of the English language. Lt. Pease said it meant the ability to answer something properly, even if English was a second language for that officer. The job description for a Canine Officer was not included, so a copy will be forwarded to the Selectmen. Chairman Seabury said this would be on the December 18, 2001 agenda.

### C. Public Hearing/Acceptance of COPS MORE Grant

Chairman Seabury opened the Public Hearing at 7:55 p.m. pursuant to RSA 31-95-b & in accordance w/Article 36 of the 1994 Town Meeting and asked if anyone wished to speak. There was no response, so she closed the hearing.

*Motion by Selectman Clegg, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to accept the grant carried unanimously.*

### D. Public Hearing/Acceptance of Donation of \$625 by Flash Photo Sports to the Recreation Department

Chairman Seabury opened the Public Hearing at 7:56 p.m. pursuant to RSA 31-95-b & in accordance w/Article 36 of the 1994 Town Meeting and asked if anyone wished to speak. There was no response, so she closed the hearing.

*Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Charbonneau, to accept the donation, with thanks, carried unanimously.*

### E. Public Hearing/Acceptance of Donation of Engineering Services by Maynard & Paquette for the Recreation Department's Skate Board Park

Chairman Seabury opened the Public Hearing at 7:57 p.m. pursuant to RSA 31-95-e & in accordance w/Article 12 of the 1993 Town Meeting and asked if anyone wished to speak. There was no response, so she closed the hearing.

*Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Clegg, to accept the donation, with thanks, carried unanimously.*

**F. Proposal by Pepsi relative to the Skate Board Park**

Chairman Seabury recognized the Town Administrator, who said this differs from a normal donation in that it is a quid pro quo. Pepsi will give the Recreation Department \$5,000 in exchange for an exclusive right to sell their product at the skate park. Mr. Caban said he contacted both Coke and Pepsi about putting their machines in. Coke declined to submit a proposal. Chairman Seabury said the Recreation Director said this is a common practice. Coke has machines at the skate park in Nashua. In addition to the \$5,000 from Pepsi, the Town will also get a 10% commission for each bottle of Pepsi sold. She wants to ensure the Town won't be liable for any vandalism. Mr. Caban said the machines will be on a cement slab, enclosed on three sides, with a roof, and would face towards the street. Selectman Clegg questioned the Town's authority to do this and felt this should be forwarded to the attorney for an opinion. He also asked to see a copy of the contract Pepsi would like signed. Mr. Caban said he would leave a copy.

*Motion by Selectman Clegg, seconded by Selectman Charbonneau, to defer this to the next meeting carried unanimously.*

**G. Force Account Agreement—Water Main (Reconstruction from Dracut Road to Rena Avenue.)**

*Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Clegg, to sign the agreement carried unanimously.*

**H. Applications for Sewer Abatement (S-02-02) (204 Lowell Road, Acct. #3349)**

*Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Charbonneau, to grant, as recommended by Sewer Utility, carried unanimously.*

**I. Warrant Articles**

Library Trustees Lisa Riley and Arlene Creeden were present to discuss the following articles:

**1) Wage & Benefit Increase for Employees of Hills Memorial Library**

This article calls for a \$22,473 increase for the Library Director and Children's Librarian, which represents a market adjustment for these two professionals. It would increase the Library Director's salary about \$12,000 and the Children's Librarian about \$10,000 to bring them up a little closer to the average of comparable positions in the area. It also provided for a 4% increase for the other Library employees. This article was discussed at length, with the general feeling that the salary increases for the two employees were excessive, so the question was split.

(Start Tape 1, Second Side)

*Motion by Selectman Clegg, seconded by Selectman Seabury, to forward to the warrant a request for the Town to raise and appropriate the sum of \$19,024 which represents a 4% increase in wages and benefits for employees of the Hills Memorial Library carried unanimously.*

**2) Transfer Surplus to Library Capital Reserve Fund**

The consensus of the Board of Selectmen was to not approve this request at this time.

Chairman Seabury called for a brief recess at 8:45 p.m. The meeting resumed at 8:50 p.m.

**8. OTHER BUSINESS**

**A. Special Meeting**

The Board of Selectmen will meet on Tuesday, December 4, 2001 at 5:30 p.m. to discuss the salaried Warrant Articles.

**B. Lack of Adequate Cleaning and Maintenance of Lions Hall**

Selectman Clegg said on Friday, they had Santa's Arrival at Lions Hall. The door to the only handicapped-accessible bathroom doesn't latch nor does it close because the frame has been sprung. He was told it has been that way for three months. The concession area smelled of urine and was told that it smelled like that since the last dance that was held for young kids. He also

heard complaints about no soap in the women's bathroom and dirty toilets. One woman said they were peed on. The Seniors asked him how long he thought it had been since the kitchen had been cleaned. There were too many cobwebs to even measure the amount of grease. A 5-year old boy refused to use the men's room, telling his mother it was too dirty and it smelled bad. The mother looked at Selectman Clegg and said, "You're a Selectman." He confirmed that the little boy was right. The place is disgusting. The cleaning contract has a 30-day clause to terminate their services. It is his intent to recommend doing that and finding someone who will take care of the building. Paul's journals indicates he has made numerous requests to have things done that aren't getting done.

Selectman Charbonneau said she was at the antique show a couple of weeks ago and saw an area that was full of papers. She thinks that has been cleaned up. The ladies room had a lot of water on the floor and she called the Town Administrator about that. She also noticed that the stove was dirty. They have to be careful who they rent to. Sometimes they just rent the hall and don't care what is being done with it. She received a call from a Senior who was concerned because it was cold in there and a piece of the automatic door was broken off. She also heard that vulgarities were written on the walls. She can't believe that adults are doing that. They are all concerned about the Lions Hall and they need to make sure things are cleaned, but they are old bathrooms and no matter how much they are cleaned, they still have an odor. She is not sticking up for the cleaning person because these are all things she has complained about, too, including the lighting and other things that needs to be fixed. She thinks the lock has been broken longer than three months. The kids broke the door in the back and that was replaced with a \$1,500 door. She didn't know if more supervision is needed. The place should be kept clean and the floors washed. Last year, the floors looked great. They will be getting new bathrooms, which is very important. She thinks the kids don't respect the building and something has to be done about that. They should find out if the prisoners can come in to do some work, although she doesn't know if they are allowed to paint up high. Lions Hall needs a lot of work and something should be done. The bathrooms should be fixed; water shouldn't be on the floor. People who rent the place should have to clean up. Chairman Seabury asked if the pipes were leaking. Selectman Charbonneau said they have to jiggle the handles, and that should be fixed. Chairman Seabury said they should have unloaded the building to the YMCA.

*Motion by Selectman Clegg, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to terminate the contract at Lions Hall, according to the 30-day provision.*

Selectman Clegg didn't have a signed contract, but was assured it was the contract the Town was operating under. Under the weekly duties, it lists washing the floors, spot cleaning the walls, high and low dusting of the main room, kitchen, bathrooms and entry, etc. He also understands that the Town pays for management, so when there are things wrong with the building, it is up to this company to either repair them or find someone to repair them. He understands there would be a difference in money owed, if the Town has to go outside. The contract calls for him to have someone on staff who can do light plumbing and electrical work, as long as it doesn't require a license. What he saw at Lions Hall tells him they are not getting what they are paying for, even with weekly services. According to some of the Seniors, they aren't getting anything. He understands some people rent for low money. The place is filthy but no one cares and no one is taking care of it. He agrees with Selectman Charbonneau and has a follow-up motion after this one on how to complete the project. He spoke with Paul Sharon about this earlier and would like to work on that next.

Selectman Stewart referred to a memo from the Fire Marshall dated May 7 and asked if all of the issues have been addressed. Mr. Sharon said as far as he knows, they have. The punch list of items was satisfied to the point Charlie Chalk said was fine. Selectman Stewart asked about the fire walls. Mr. Sharon said all of that was done.

Chairman Seabury said they bought a pig in a poke with Lions Hall and they should have gotten rid of the building. It is at least 36 years old and was built by volunteers, probably not to code and was probably never inspected. They got an old, old building with an old, old kitchen and old, old bathrooms that are disgusting because they have never been updated or taken care of. She wouldn't want to try to clean it because it would be a defeating project. Those old bathrooms have a unique odor about them. Kids are extremely destructive. They beat their heads against the walls, punch holes in the walls and smash chairs on the floor. The chairs that get ruined are put in the dumpster. They can't blame the custodial service for things like that. They have told Paul repeatedly that they have to get money up front from people who use the hall to repair or replace things. The kitchen is disgusting, but the stove has been there since Attila the Hun went across Europe. The building should be razed so they can start from scratch without volunteer help. All the cleaning in the world isn't going to take care of that building. She opposed the motion.

Selectman Clegg disagreed with her. He was not blaming the cleaning contractor for damage done to the walls. He was saying that the cleaning contractor is obviously not cleaning, and it's not just at that location, but he is limiting his remarks to Lions Hall in hopes that what happens with that can prevent going further. The fact that the building is old or has old fixtures doesn't mean you don't do a good job cleaning. The fact that there is grease all over the kitchen floor has nothing to do with the age of the stoves. When they rent the place out, they should have a deposit which would pay for any damage. What they have there is disgusting and it is the fault of the cleaners because they are not cleaning.

Chairman Seabury asked how often the cleaners go in. Mr. Young said they clean after every event. Chairman Seabury spoke with someone who had gone to Santa's Arrival who said there were a lot of kids in diapers floating around, so maybe the odor permeated throughout the building. She asked if anyone used the building prior to that event. Mr. Young said they cleaned during the day on Tuesday because when the karate people use it, they are barefoot. They scrub the floor with the machine, so it is sufficiently clean for the Senior citizens. This was a holiday week, so they didn't clean until after Santa's Arrival and before the next event. Chairman Seabury said it was reported that there was graffiti written over a urinal. She asked what they did in that case. Mr. Young said they use a strong grease-cutting purple spray. Chairman Seabury asked how often they go into the building. Mr. Young said they go in in between events. The weekend before Santa's Arrival, they events on Friday, two on Saturday and one on Monday.

Selectman Clegg asked when the last time the Lions Hall was cleaned. Mr. Young said this afternoon. They cleaned after Santa's Arrival and then after the event the next day. Selectman Clegg asked if he cleaned underneath the sinks that are up on legs. Mr. Young said they washed the kitchen floor, but probably didn't wash far enough underneath. Selectman Clegg asked about the part where the light is with all the grease. Mr. Young said they passed the scrubbing machine through the kitchen today, but they can't maneuver that in the bathrooms. Selectman Clegg asked if he was responsible for managing the building. Mr. Young said yes. Selectman Clegg asked him to explain what that was. Mr. Young said it mainly consists handling rentals and making sure maintenance items are taken care of. Selectman Clegg asked for a description of maintenance items. Mr. Young said he could talk about the blower that has been broken three times. He has given up trying to fix it himself and will have to get a contractor to do it. Selectman Clegg asked why it has been broken three months. Mr. Young said he'd have to admit he's been slow in getting that taken care of. He's got the stuff to do it, but hasn't done it himself. Paul told him to call a contractor, so he's done that. The old lock broke. They had a locksmith come in and put a new lock on. People attending an event broke the door in again. The new lock jammed and a third lock was put on and then the frame was sprung. The door and frame has to be replaced.

Selectman Clegg said it his understanding that when a call for a repair is made, whether it is Town Hall or Lions Hall, Mr. Young will acknowledge that a repair needs to be made, but it typically takes him up to 10 weeks to get it done. He asked why that was. Mr. Young said that wasn't the case. Selectman Clegg asked if the urinal (off the lunch room) was fixed. Mr. Young said he has a plumber on the way. Selectman Clegg asked if Mr. Young used the purple stuff to wipe off the ink across the top of the urinal in the men's room. Mr. Young didn't think there was any graffiti there, but he could be wrong. Selectman Clegg asked if he cleaned the place. Mr. Young said a lot of the work was done yesterday and the floor was scrubbed today. Additional cleaning was also done today because WICK was in there. Selectman Clegg said it has taken the cleaners two days cleaning to get the place back to where it should be and asked if there was any smell of urine in the bathrooms. Mr. Young said they probably smell like chlorine. Selectman Clegg asked if there was soap in the dispensers. Mr. Young said there was.

(Start Tape 2, Side A)

After some events, he has to remove footprints from toilet seats and tanks. Maintaining Lions Hall is not a simple task. There is a lot more work than imaginable. It may seem easy, but it isn't. Someone can look at someone else's job and say they could do it, but there is more than one might think. Selectman Clegg said he was talking to the wrong person as he is very much aware of what this type of work entails.

Selectman Charbonneau said perhaps the bid was too low and he can't do what he is supposed to do. Chairman Seabury said low bid was \$33,000, medium bid was \$60,000 and high bid was \$85,000. Selectman Clegg said he'd be willing to let him bid a second time, along with everyone else. Chairman Seabury asked when this would come up again. Mr. Sharon said mid-June. Selectman Stewart asked about security deposits. Selectman Clegg said that's not part of this motion; it's next.

Selectman Charbonneau asked if they should give him x amount of days to clean the building the way it should be. If they cancel the contract in 30 days, this puts them in a dilemma because they don't have anyone to go in. Selectman Clegg didn't think that was a problem. He is very upset to think it takes him sending Paul a memo, indicating that it was his intent to cancel this contract, to get him to send someone in there to clean the place. A crew went in for two days. That tells him the cleaner knew he hadn't been doing it. He didn't think a cleaning company should also manage the building. They need to redo the RFP and ask someone to clean the building. It's not just that building that they have a problem with. It's the same with Town Hall. There isn't anyone any happier about Town Hall than he is with Lions Hall. They all have the same complaints. It's a yes, yes, yes I'll get to it, and it never gets done. It really bothers him that the Seniors have to live with the conditions at Lions Hall. They are not real happy, either. The answer is simple. They need to get someone to go in there to clean the building once a week.

Selectman Charbonneau said they have the same cleaning service at Temple Street and they do a great job. She didn't know if it was the particular cleaners. Everything is done very well and that's what surprises her. Why is it being done so well at Temple Street and not at the Lions Hall? There isn't any dirt in the corners. It really amazes her. Selectman Clegg said he came into Town Hall on Monday to talk to people to see if it was a fluke. There isn't anybody in this building that appreciates the way things are handled. They can't get lights changed and everything is yes, I'll get to it, and it sits for weeks on end. Selectman Charbonneau said maybe there isn't enough staff to do it. Selectman Clegg said when you bid on a job, you know what you are doing. Selectman Charbonneau said she has always said the lowest is not always the best.

Chairman Seabury asked for a vote on the termination of the contract. Selectmen Clegg and Stewart voted in favor; Chairman Seabury was opposed, and Selectman Charbonneau didn't vote, saying she was betwixt and between. Everything should be cleaned and the floor should be done at least three times a year with wax. The kitchen and bathrooms should be cleaned, and shouldn't overflow. But she didn't know who they could get in such a short period of time. Selectman Clegg said they can get somebody and didn't think it was a problem. Selectman Charbonneau asked if the motion was for Town Hall, too. Selectman Clegg said it was just for Lions Hall.

Mr. Sharon said the bids for Lions Hall, the last time around, of the three bidders, the highest was \$43,000, the second was \$39,000 and CCI was \$13,000. Selectman Clegg didn't want to confuse people into thinking that the next bid going out would include management. Chairman Seabury asked who would do the management. Selectman Clegg thought Community Development could, and he has already talked with Paul about it. If somebody wanted to rent the facility, they would pick up the key, sign a rental agreement, which is something that they need to get, leave a security deposit and somebody from staff can check out the building when they are done. Selectman Charbonneau said they definitely need to get a security deposit. Selectman Clegg said Paul is too busy, so it needs to go where somebody has the ability to go in and look at the building. Mr. Sharon said they bid out the management portion of the contract, as well, and CCI was not the low bidder on that part; they were in the middle.

Selectman Charbonneau said it needs to be cleaned better than it is. She'd like to give them another chance. She doesn't know if it is the employees that he has, or if he doesn't have enough employees. She can't get over how good the other building is and can't understand why this can't be the same, unless he bid too low. It's too bad, but the place has to be clean, so she will vote in favor of terminating the contract—unless he can prove he is much better in 30 days.

Motion carried 3-1. Selectman Seabury was opposed.

Chairman Seabury said the company would be terminated and that the next step would be for Paul to work out something for cleaning. Selectman Charbonneau said maybe they are renting the hall for too little money. Selectman Clegg said there is no doubt about that. Selectman Charbonneau said they should be bringing in money to do repairs. Those repairs shouldn't be on the backs of the taxpayers. You can't rent a hall for less than \$500. Mr. Sharon said there is also pressure to keep the rates low for uses that bear some kind of community relationship. (Talking over each other.) Selectman Charbonneau said she wouldn't object to paying for a hall that looks good and is in good condition. The people that should get a break are those who do things for the community. Kids should have proper supervision so they don't destroy the property. People have to respect other people's property. If they don't, what's going to happen when they fix up Benson's? Will they respect that or destroy it? They are trying to destroy it now and the Town doesn't even own it. Kids need things to keep them out of trouble, but it's discouraging. If they respect property of other people, there are a lot of things you can do for kids.

Mr. Sharon said when Lions Hall was acquired, there was an analysis done and it was determined that it was just marginally break-even with the kinds of maintenance costs that were involved. Then the Town lost a major source of income. At that point, it became a money loser. The Board wanted to keep the hemorrhaging down. Selectman Charbonneau said, as with the Kirby Building, if they own it, they should keep it up, and that takes money. Selectman Stewart supports the youth dances, but they should be supervised and the Town should have a rental agreement. If it takes bathroom monitors to prevent destruction, then they should have them.

Selectman Clegg spoke with Jim O'Meara in Manchester about what he was going to bring up tonight and, in anticipation of Commissioner Charbonneau's call tomorrow, he penciled in January 7-11 for the prisoners to paint the hall. Chairman Seabury suggested Selectman Clegg can help Paul in this effort. Selectman Clegg said he will work with Paul to get the ceilings completed and a few of the other things.

**C. Newspaper Advertising**

Selectman Stewart received a call about two public notices for the Town that appeared in the Telegraph instead of being put in the Hudson-Litchfield News. She thought the Board had voted that public notices of that type would go in the HLN over the Telegraph. Mr. Sharon said it was discretionary. If something pertained just to the Town of Hudson, then it should go in the HLN. Selectman Stewart did not see it personally, but thinks it is a Planning Board or Zoning Board notice. Chairman Seabury said it may have been a time problem because of the holiday. Selectman Stewart would appreciate someone looking into it.

**D. Grant Writer**

Selectman Stewart asked the Town Administrator to explain his comments to the Budget Committee regarding the Grant Writer position. Mr. Sharon said sometimes candor is received in a wrong fashion. The night the Budget Committee reviewed the

Selectmen's budget, he was asked if he was happy with the Grant Writer's performance. He answered no, he was not particularly happy that they haven't had more productivity from the grant writer at this point. He was just speaking his mind and not something he's even shared with the grant writer or department heads. He gets as impatient and feels that there is an awful lot of spade work being done, and seeds that are being planted that would bear fruit, but they hadn't seen much in terms of actual successful grants. That is what he thought he had explained. He is in favor of the concept. Selectman Stewart wished he had expressed those feelings during the Selectmen's budget process because she felt that his comments blindsided her. The first time she heard of his concerns was that night. Mr. Sharon said he felt that he answered what the question which was performance to date. Had she asked him that question, he would have said the same thing.

Chairman Seabury said the Board of Selectmen has been accused many times of not promoting their budget. She asked that Selectman Stewart update the Selectmen at every meeting of the cuts that have been made. The Budget Committee has made statements to the effect that they want the budget reduced below this year's. The Selectmen will have to decide if they want the grant writer. She feels that the Budget Committee wouldn't accept Jesus Christ himself as a grant writer.

Selectman Stewart said the Budget Committee cut the \$25,000 for the grant writer, even though she fought for it. There is a lot of money out there for grants and if this individual isn't working out, they should find another one. She believes in the position. Mr. Sharon said the Budget Committee, or anyone else in the room, should not have gotten the impression that he felt they should not have a grant writer. The current grant writer was recommended and chosen after a selective process. He was responding to the fruits that he would have expected to see. He was frustrated, he was not happy and it's not Mr. Coogan, adding that, as Chairman Seabury said, Christ himself probably wouldn't have generated much more. He thinks it's an important position and he was disappointed with what the Budget Committee did. Regarding the comments that a grant writer could have been hired a year ago, they didn't have the Community Development Director on board, who oversees that position. He is frustrated that they aren't bearing fruit yet, and he's told Mr. Coogan that. He does not think the Budget Committee got the impression that he does not support the position. He thinks the Budget Committee had a predilection to vote against that position at any rate.

Chairman Seabury thought that each section of the budget should be promoted at each meeting. She is going to rely on Selectman Clegg to promote the excavator. Selectman Clegg said that is an easy sell. They can either buy a new excavator at \$45,000 a year for five years or spend \$96,000 to repair the 20-year old one, which may last for another two years, or they could rent at \$52,000 a year. Selectman Charbonneau said they'd be better off to buy. Selectman Stewart wants to go on record as supporting the excavator.

Chairman Seabury said the Budget Committee doesn't feel that paying \$12,000 a year for a cable consultant is keeping faith with the voters and they recommended shutting cable off for a year after which, they might vote in favor of a consultant. She thought that was a great idea. Selectman Charbonneau said for many years the franchise fee was used to reduce the tax rate, but that is illegal because you have to have public access. It's amazing the number of people that watch the Selectmen's and the School Board meetings. She enjoys looking at the Community Bulletin Board, which is very informative.

Chairman Seabury said the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee are very different boards. The Selectmen are elected to make sure the residents have a good quality of life with police and fire protection. The Budget Committee is looking at reducing the tax rate. She hopes Selectman Stewart will let the Selectmen know what cuts are made so they can promote them and encourage people to vote for them. She thinks Coleman is working towards televising Budget, Planning and Zoning meetings. Selectman Charbonneau thought that was a good idea so people will see what each of these boards go through. The grant writer is a very important position. You don't take out \$25,000 because someone is unhappy with the grant writer, you hire someone else. They've already seen what the Police Department can do. The Town needs a grant writer. They are losing a lot of grants they could get, and Benson's is coming up. That position shouldn't be done away with. Chairman Seabury said they are moving forward with the LCHIP grant for Benson's. The grant writer is also working on a grant for Merrill Park through the Rec Department. She also thought about the Seniors having an addition to the Lions Hall and there are grants out there for things like that. There is a lot of potential. However, she would be more enthusiastic if she saw money coming in. Selectman Charbonneau said things like that takes time. It's not done overnight.

Selectman Stewart asked about the Riverwalk easements. Mr. Sharon said his understanding is that there is still one company with whom they have not reached an agreement, but he'd have to ask Sean Sullivan for an update. Selectman Stewart understands there are grants available for that, too. Mr. Sullivan has talked to Gerry Coogan about that. It's not that he's not doing some chasing. He has also been working on transportation, Benson's and Merrill Park and pretty soon they will start seeing money.

#### **E. Excavator**

Selectman Charbonneau said the excavator is very important. The Highway Department does an unbelievable amount of work

with only 24 employees. They have to dig sewers, plow miles and miles of roads, etc. They can be penny wise and pound foolish. If this does not go through, it will hurt the Town because it will cost more money to rent the equipment. It should be included in the budget. Kevin Burns has done an excellent job and has produced a tremendous amount of work and saved the Town thousands of dollars. It's important for the Selectmen to support this. Letting people know what is going on is very important, as they are doing tonight. They are all conservative and try to keep the tax rate down. Sometimes you have to spend money to get things done.

**F. Municipal Insurance**

Chairman Seabury said there's a letter in General Read that said because the Town kept the rates down, we received \$22,000 back. Selectman Clegg had talked about insurance rates at a previous meeting.

**G. Senator Francoeur**

Chairman Seabury wanted to inform the Board about an incident she termed pretty sad. She was contacted by a woman and subsequently spoke to Selectman Clegg about an adult child getting some information from a Representative or Senator. She said Selectman Clegg had said he had often done that when college kids do reports or essays. She referred this woman to Senator Francoeur. This person couldn't let on she was a student and that she needed certain information for a grade regarding his views on kindergarten issues. The woman called three or four times, but never received a call back. On the last call, she talked to his secretary, who wasn't very nice. She said that he did have a job and he couldn't answer all those questions. Chairman Seabury felt bad because she is the one who sent the student to Senator Francoeur. She hoped the student's professor took everything into consideration. She is an extremely conscientious student it is too bad it ended up that way. Selectman Clegg said Senator Francoeur doesn't have a secretary.

**9. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

- A. **Minutes of the November 6, 2001 BOS Meeting**
- B. **Minutes of the November 13, 2001 BOS Meeting**

*Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Charbonneau, to accept the Minutes, as presented, and refer to file carried unanimously.*

**10. COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

11/28	7:00 Planning Board in CD Mtg. Rm.
11/29	7:30 ZBA in CD Mtg. Rm.
12/3	7:00 Budget Committee in CD Mtg. Rm.
12/3	7:00 Friends of Hudson's Natural Resources in BOS Mtg. Rm.
12/4	7:00 Budget Committee in CD Mtg. Rm.
12/5	7:00 Planning Board Workshop in CD Mtg. Rm.
12/6	7:00 Budget Committee in CD Mtg. Rm.
12/8	8:00 a.m. Budget Committee in CD Mtg. Rm.
12/10	6:30 School Board in BOS Mtg. Rm.
12/11	7:30 BOS in BOS Mtg. Rm.
12/12	Last day to accept Petitions to amend the Zoning Ordinance
12/12	7:00 Planning Board in CD Mtg. Rm.
12/13	6:30 Recreation Committee @ Rec Center
12/13	7:00 Sewer Utility Committee in BOS Mtg. Rm.
12/13	7:30 ZBA in CD Mtg. Rm.
12/17	7:30 Conservation Commission in CD Mtg. Rm.
12/18	7:30 BOS in BOS Mtg. Rm.
12/20	7:30 Budget Committee in CD Mtg. Rm.
12/25	Town Hall Closed for Christmas Holiday
12/27	7:30 ZBA in CD Mtg. Rm.
12/28	7:00 Budget Committee @ HPD
12/29	7:00 Budget Committee @ HPD

**11. LIAISON REPORTS**



**Selectman Charbonneau** has talked with Chief Carpentino. Everything seems to be going well with the Benson's Committee. They are not meeting in December.

**Selectman Clegg** said that Road Agent Kevin Burns is doing a great job in the Highway Department, especially in keeping the streets plowed and he hasn't gone over budget on salt and sand, which is good.

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**Chairman Seabury** asked if they should bring up the Library's request to designate some amount of surplus to the Library. Selectman Charbonneau was opposed to doing that. Chairman Seabury said next Tuesday, they are going to be doing Warrant Articles. Mr. Sharon said the Police, Fire and PMA contracts should be ready for voting. They also have to decide Nonunion salaries and (not discernable). Chairman Seabury said there was also the Benson's article. Mr. Sharon said that was in the budget.

12. **REMARKS BY THE SELECTMEN** (There were none.)

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(Start Tape 2, Second Side)

13. **NONPUBLIC SESSION**

Motion by Selectman Clegg, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to enter Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (a) personnel issues; (b) hiring of personnel carried 4-0 by roll call vote.

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Nonpublic Session was entered into at 9:55 p.m. and was terminated at 10:20 p.m.

Motion by Selectman Clegg, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to hire Angela May Allen as Police Dispatcher, effective 12/2/01 @ \$12.95 per hour, in accordance with the union contract carried unanimously.

Motion by Selectman Charbonneau, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to hire Amy Cormier and Leonard Mannino as Police Dispatchers, effective 12/9/01 @ \$12.95 per hour, in accordance with the union contract, carried unanimously.

Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Charbonneau, to hire Linda Johnson as Part-Time Dispatcher, effective 12/9/01 @ \$12.95 per hour carried unanimously.

Motion by Selectman Charbonneau, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to hire Carole Whiting as Part-Time Animal Control Officer, effective 12/9/01 @ \$10 per hour, w/increase to \$12.35 after successful completion of probation carried unanimously.

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Motion by Selectman Clegg, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to seal the Nonpublic Session minutes of November 13, 2001 carried unanimously.

14. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn at 10:25 p.m. by Selectman Clegg, seconded by Selectman Stewart, carried unanimously.

Recorded and Transcribed by Priscilla Boisvert  
Executive Assistant to the Board of Selectmen

**HUDSON BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

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**Chairman Ann Seabury**

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**Rhona Charbonneau**

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**Robert E. Clegg, Jr.**

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**Shawn N. Jasper**

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**Terry Stewart**

