

HUDSON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Minutes of the December 12, 2000 Meeting

1. **CALL TO ORDER** by Chairman Madison at 7:34 p.m.
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2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**, led by Selectman Terry Stewart
3. **ATTENDANCE**

Selectmen: E. Lorraine Madison, Rhona Charbonneau, Shawn N. Jasper, Ann Seabury & Terry Stewart

Staff/Others: Paul D. Sharon, Town Administrator; Priscilla Boisvert, Executive Assistant; Richard Gendron, Chief of Police; Capt. Ray Mello; Lt. Bill Pease; Lt. Don McCrady; Sgt. Bill Avery; Sgt. Tom Browne; Frank Carpentino, Fire Chief; Matt St. Laurent, Assistant Fire Chief; Master Patrol Officer Kevin Sullivan & K-9 Dino; Lisa Nute; Mary Wing; George Hall; Richard Maddox; Harry Schibanoff; David Bitler; Ed Caban; Don Gowdy; Brad Seabury; Len, HLN; Sue, SUN

4. **Public Input**

- A. **Recognition of CHIPS** (David Alukonis, Michele Alukonis, John Beike, Ken Cantara, Leo Dumont, Jr., Chuck Gilbert, Lee Lavoie, Sherri Lavoie, Charlie O'Donaghue, Timothy O'Donaghue, Gary Rodgers and Robert Tousignant)

Chairman Madison presented members of CHIPS (Children of Hudson Interacting with Police Services) with Certificates of Recognition for volunteering their time to foster a positive relationship between police officers and the children of Hudson by organizing events, games, dances and Fright Night in October.

- B. **Awarding of Level III Accreditation to the Police Dept. by NH Police Standards & Training Council**

Chairman Madison recognized Chief Gendron, who said several years ago, the Hudson Police Department decided to seek state accreditation. Last year, they attained Level 1 with a goal this year of Levels 2 and 3. In November, they achieved that goal. He proudly commended the team, with special recognition to the leader, Lt. Bill Pease. They plan to continue on to national accreditation. He then recognized Brad Parker from NH Police Standards and Training Council.

Mr. Parker said everyone should be very proud of this achievement by the Hudson Police Department, the second department in the state to achieve this. They invite people to come in to evaluate all aspects of the department. Each level encompasses an ever increasing rigid assessment because there are more standards to comply with. It insures that police departments throughout the state are consistent with national standards. They are doing it right, and they are doing it well. Everyone volunteers their time because they don't have much financing. He admires the Hudson Police Department, collectively and individually. With that, he presented Chief Gendron with seals for Levels II and III which will go on the Level I certificate.

Chairman Madison said they were all extremely proud of the Police Department. Recently, she accompanied the team to Burlington, VT to learn what needs to be done to achieve national accreditation. She learned a lot, including the fact that achieving accreditation is not a given. A department from another state did not receive their accreditation because they did not implement the recommendations of the evaluators, and this was after three years of hard work.

Chairman Madison asked if anyone else wished to speak under Public Input. There was no response.

5. **CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

- A. From: Richard Gendron, Chief of Police
Re: •Awarding of Level III Accreditation
•Recognition of CHIPS
Refer to: Public Input
- B. From: Frank Carpentino, Fire Chief
Re: •Job Descriptions
•Out-of-Service Fire Department Equipment
Refer to: New Business
- C. From: Tom Sommers, Sewer Utility Consultant
Re: •Lowell Road Extension Project (Dry Sewer Line)
•Sewer Allocation Requests
Refer to: New Business
- D. From: Jim Michaud, Assessor
Re: Various Assessing Items
Refer to: New Business

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to receive Items A-D, with appropriate referral, carried unanimously.

6. NOMINATIONS & APPOINTMENTS

A. Building Board of Appeals (1 Member, Term to expire 12/31/03)

Leonard Smith (incumbent) was not present.

B. Cable Committee (2 Members, Terms to expire 12/31/03)

Harry Schibanoff (incumbent) wants to stay on this committee to finish the franchise renewal process.

Michael O'Keefe (incumbent) was unable to be present.

C. Conservation Commission (2 Members & 1 Alternate, Terms to expire 12/31/03)

David Bitler (incumbent) has been actively involved since his appointment in July. He has attended every meeting and would like to continue serving.

John Bilsky (incumbent) was not present.

Donald Gowdy, a 39-year Hudson resident, is a Sanders 35-year retiree, and has been active with the Boy Scouts, Little League and his church. He applied for the Conservation Commission, Sewer Utility Committee and SWSCOM and will serve where he is most needed. He was referred by Terry McLlarky. While at Sanders, he was involved with sanitation and the disposal of chemicals and other waste materials.

D. Planning Board (2 Members & 1 Alternate, Terms to expire 12/31/03)

George Hall (incumbent) is the Real Estate Manager for Brox in MA that also has a facility in Hudson. In that position, he has the opportunity to go before other land use boards in other towns, as well as to make applications to local, state and federal agencies. That gives him a perspective on how other communities deal with some of the same issues Hudson has. He'd like to continue serving on the Planning Board.

Richard Maddox (incumbent) thanked the Board for appointing him three years ago. Before applying, he sat in on the meetings to see what he would be getting into. He appreciates all of the hard work the board does. One year, he put in 120 hours, not including field trips, the Law Lecture Series, or homework. In his three years, he missed only three meetings. For two years, he has been Vice Chairman. He brings commitment to the table and tries to look at a situation as a taxpayer owning the land, and how they will deal with the development that comes after it.

David Forman, Alternate (incumbent) was not present, nor did he confirm that he was seeking reappointment. He did not respond to repeated phone messages. Mr. Hall did not think that he was seeking the office again because a new job has caused him to miss meetings. Chairman Madison didn't want to assume he wasn't going to apply. She asked Priscilla to keep trying to contact him.

Leo Fauvel was not present. Chairman Madison had hoped he would be because she wanted to know why he wanted to serve on both the Planning Board and ZBA. Selectman Jasper said one member can serve on both boards. Mr. Sharon thought that created an inherent conflict. Selectman Jasper said the Legislature felt it was important to have a link between the two boards because they are interrelated. That person could take information back and forth.

Arnel Catalan was not present.

E. Recreation Committee (2 Members, Terms to expire 12/31/03)

Ed Caban (incumbent) said he was an alternate before being appointed to a member's position at the last Selectmen's meeting. He is actively involved in finding ball fields and with the proposed skateboard park. This is a good committee and they are having a good time and he'd like to continue to serve. Selectman Jasper asked if the Rec Committee has met with the people who were concerned with the fees. Mr. Caban said they are planning to meet with them in January and hope to resolve some of the issues. Selectman Seabury asked if he was performing a function he anticipated when he initially applied. Mr. Caban said it has taken awhile to find out exactly where he fit in, but he has started becoming more actively involved. She asked if the committee felt they were being fully utilized. Mr. Caban said they are becoming busier and he is happy with the direction the committee is heading in now.

Michael Regan (incumbent) was not present.

F. Sewer Utility Committee (2 Members, Terms to expire 12/31/03)

John Bednar (incumbent) was not present.

Catherine Valley (incumbent) was not present.

Donald Gowdy (interviewed under Conservation Commission)

G. Solid Waste Study Committee (2 Members, Terms to expire 12/31/02 and 12/31/03)

Burton MacAllister

Donald Gowdy (interviewed under Conservation Commission)

Selectman Seabury said this five-member committee was under the auspices of the Road Agent, but they don't meet on a regular basis, adding that she would like to be on that committee. Chairman Madison said when she was on the committee, they met all the time and she wants to be on the committee, as well.

H. Zoning Board of Adjustment (2 Members & 1 Alternate, Terms to expire 12/31/03; 1 Alternate, Term to expire 12/31/02)

Charles Brackett (incumbent) was not present.

Bradford Seabury (incumbent) asked if there were any questions about what the Zoning Board is doing. He recommended Mr. Brackett's reappointment, who is busy redesigning Route 3 which is probably why he was not present. He complained that adequate notice wasn't given for them to be present, other than the note that Priscilla sent out with the applications. Mr. Brackett is one of the strongest members of the board. He said he was the weakest one, "a wandering tech writer, while everyone else is a mechanical engineer, a civil engineer, a surveyor, or something good." He said Mr. Maddox did it right when originally applying for the Planning Board. He went to the trouble of finding what it is he is getting into by attending the meetings for a period of months and just listening. He is sorry that Mr. Fauvel wasn't present. There is a need for a bridge between the Zoning and Planning boards, what Mr. Fauvel probably had in mind when applying. As for himself, he has been on the ZBA over 20 years, as he is a fan of continuity. He is afraid of losing half the board and no one will remember what they did 15 years ago, even though he sometimes can't remember what they did last month.

Selectman Jasper said everyone learned quite a lesson going through Shepherd's Hill, the importance of good record keeping and putting things down exactly as they were intended. He asked for Mr. Seabury's perspective on that process, from 1988 to now, in tightening up variances that are granted. The intentions of the Board at that time may have been the best, but the results ended up being a fiasco. Mr. Seabury said he was an Alternate on the ZBA at the time Shepherd's Hill was passed and not a voting member. He agreed that it was a fiasco. He didn't think they have things tightened up to the extent that they need to be, but they have to be careful on how they tighten up. They have to be respectful of the rights of the property owners and most of them have strong ideas and predetermined biases on what they feel they ought to be able to do with that property. He's not in accord with the decision the Board of Selectmen made in that case, but he can understand why they did it. The Selectmen may not understand why the ZBA made the decision they made. Selectman Jasper said when he looks at Shepherd's Hill, he sees where they were doing it to save Benson's, but any time something is traded off to gain something else, there needs to be a guarantee that that performance is going to happen. There should have been stipulations to the effect that Benson's still had to be operating when the building permits were drawn. In reading the minutes, it was clear that the ZBA felt they were doing a service by saving Benson's, and granted the variance. Selectman Charbonneau said at that time, it was a very emotional issue and people thought Benson's was going to be saved, but the owner had different ideas. Instead of saving Benson's, land was bought elsewhere.

Richard Callahan (Current Alternate, applying for membership position) was not present.

Kenneth Dickinson, Alternate (incumbent) was not present.

Tammy McNulty was not present.

Chairman Madison said appointments will be made at their last meeting on the month.

(Start Tape 1, Second Side)

7. OLD BUSINESS (There wasn't any.)

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Fire Department Job Descriptions

- 1) **Captain**
- 2) **Lieutenant**
- 3) **Fire Fighter**

Chief Carpentino reviewed the minor changes. Chairman Madison asked the Chief to include the old job descriptions when submitting new job descriptions, so they will be in the agenda packets.

Motion by Selectman Charbonneau, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to approve the job descriptions carried unanimously.

B. Out-of-Service Fire Department Equipment

Motion by Selectman Charbonneau, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to approve donating the Miniox V Pulse Oximeter to St. Joseph Hospital for the Honduras Project, as recommended by the Fire Department personnel carried unanimously.

C. Lowell Road Extension Project (Dry Sewer Line)

Chairman Madison thought the Board already decided some time ago they did not want to continue this dry sewer line. Mr. Sharon said a petition was submitted, requesting the Board to reconsider that decision. The Sewer Consultant was asked to submit a recommendation, which he did, and that was to not proceed with the extension of the dry sewer line. Selectman Charbonneau said because of the situation in Nashua, they can't. Selectman Jasper didn't think Hudson's sewer capacity will ever increase.

Motion by Selectman Charbonneau, seconded by Selectman Seabury, to deny the request carried unanimously.

D. Sewer Allocation Requests

1) C& M Machine Products, Map 10, Lot 4

Motion to approve, as recommended by the Sewer Consultant, by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Stewart, carried unanimously.

Selectman Jasper said it may seem strange that they are saying they won't put in a sewer line, then increase the allocation, but this is based on the ordinance that they have in place and the fact that this is increasing the flow for a business that is already within the sewer district.

2) Vectron International, Map 7, Lot 37

Motion to approve, as recommended by the Sewer Consultant, by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Charbonneau, carried unanimously.

E. Assessing Items

1) Abatement Application, 10 Lexington Court, Map 10, Lot 17-49

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

2) Veterans Tax Credit and Abatement Application, 3 Fairway Drive, Map 4, Lot 4-16

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

3) Supplemental Tax Bill, UTL-8, Verizon, Inc.

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to approve, as recommended by the Assessor carried unanimously.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Health Inspector, Town Assessor, Town Administrator

Chairman Madison said Bill Oleksak, the Building Inspector/Health Inspector and Acting Zoning Administrator is the President of the NH Environmental Health Officers' Association. She thought it was wonderful that he is volunteering his time for that. Continuing, she said Jim Michaud, the Assessor, is the President of the NH Association of Assessing Officials and he also won the 2000 Manuscript Award for the outstanding article submission. The Town can be proud of him. Selectman Seabury said he is such a go-getter. And the Town Administrator, Paul Sharon, is the First Vice President of the Municipal Managers' Association and he is also on the Planning Committee for the International City Managers' Association. She said they have a busy group of people. Selectman Seabury thought that was wonderful. Selectman Jasper congratulated all of them.

B. BOS/Recreation Department Workshop

Chairman Madison said a member of the Recreation Committee called her, asking if they could set up a workshop for an off-Tuesday in January. They could like to discuss several projects and plans they have with the Board of Selectmen. She asked if they should set up the meeting, or if they should first contact the Rec Director to confirm a date. Selectman Jasper said he'd rather not do it in January because of the busy budget schedules. The Board thought it would be better to wait until after the deliberative session of Town Meeting. Chairman Madison said they could ask the Recreation Director to run the February dates by his committee and see what is available,

preferably an off-Tuesday.

C. Sexually Oriented Businesses Ordinance

Chairman Madison directed her remarks to the Planning Board liaison, Selectman Stewart. Tomorrow night, Atty. John Ratigan will be at the Planning Board and he is going to go over what needs to be done on the ordinance. This is something the Selectmen want to have passed. Last year, it went before the Town and it passed, but there were a couple of things that had not been done by the Planning Board, so it has to be brought back. The Board would like Selectman Stewart to encourage the Planning Board to send it to a public hearing as it does have to go before the Town one more time.

10. LICENSES AND PERMITS

A. Request for Hawker-Peddler License by William Weir of Weir Tree Farms to sell Christmas Trees at the Hudson Mall on Route 102

B. Request for Hawker-Peddler License by Maurice Boyer to see Christmas Trees at SAM's Club and Wal-Mart

Chairman Madison said these applications were filled out in October and November, but didn't go through the process. These vendors are already selling Christmas trees, so the Board needs to approve the requests.

Motion to approve the Hawker Peddle requests by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Stewart, carried unanimously.

11. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

A. Board of Selectmen's Meeting of November 14, 2000

B. Board of Selectmen's Meeting of November 28, 2000

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

12. COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 12/13 7:00 Planning Board in P/Z Mtg. Rm.
- 12/14 7:30 ZBA in P/Z Mtg. Rm.
- 12/14 7:00 Sewer Utility in BOS Mtg. Rm.
- 12/15 7:00 Budget Committee in P/Z Mtg. Rm.
- 12/18 7:00 Budget Committee in P/Z Mtg. Rm.
- 12/18 7:30 Conservation Commission in BOS Mtg. Rm.
- 12/19 7:00 Budget Committee in P/Z Mtg. Rm.
- 12/20 7:00 Planning Board in P/Z Mtg. Rm.
- 12/20 7:00 NRPC in Nashua
- 12/21 7:00 Budget Committee in P/Z Mtg. Rm.
- 12/25 Town Hall closed for Christmas
- 12/26 7:30 Board of Selectmen in BOS Mtg. Rm.

Dates relative to Town Meeting (Deliberative Session and Voting)

- Nov 13-Dec 13 Petitions accepted to amend Zoning Ordinance/historic district ord/building code
- Jan 9 Last day to submit petitioned articles to BOS
- Jan 24-Feb 2 Filing period for candidacy
- Jan 29 Last day to post the Warrant/Budget
- Feb 3/feb 10 Deliberative Session of Town Meeting
- Mar 13 Voting

13. REMARKS BY THE SELECTMEN

Selectman Ann Seabury said the Selectmen missed Santa's arrival on the Town Common, but she didn't even realize that Santa was arriving because they didn't get an invitation. She was disappointed about the Thumbs Down item. She doesn't think people realize the amount of hours the Selectmen put in. For instance, her daughter just gave birth today to a new baby and she'd have rather been at the hospital tonight than at this meeting. However, she felt that her public duty comes first. The Selectmen do an awful lot of work behind the scenes. People don't understand the amount of hours they put in. On Saturday, she and Selectmen Charbonneau were in Nashua at the Mayor's Round Table. They'd have preferred to have been shopping rather than listening to a discussion on tolls in Merrimack. They are all liaisons and attend various meetings. At this time of the year, there are Budget meetings three times a week to attend. They get invited to Firefighter and Police award ceremonies. They go to open houses for businesses. They put in many, many hours. Yesterday afternoon, three of them were here to interview a potential application for a Town position, and the list goes on. Santa's arrival might have been the weekend the Selectmen were at Town Hall doing the budget, or one of them many times they have to do work at Town Hall. It takes up weekends as well as week days. As a final remark, she said, "Thumbs up to the Seabury dynasty. May it go on forever." Several years ago, when Suellen applied for the Planning Board, there was a cartoon in the HLN with three sphinxes. Papa Sphinx had a flat hat on, Mama Sphinx had big curls and little Suellen Sphinx was pawing the ground,

anxious to get into the political arena. The caption called it the Seabury Dynasty. People see the Selectmen sitting in a meeting on Tuesday nights, and think that's all they do. They have no concept of how many much-loved hours they put in.

- Selectman Stewart said she is actively involved in other clubs and committees in Town. She could not make Santa's arrival because she had to work but, on Thanksgiving, she was serving meals at the Fish and Game Club. People don't realize all of the commitments a lot of them have that take up a lot of time, in addition to raising their families.

- Selectman Charbonneau said Suellen does an excellent job (on the Planning Board) because she is an attorney and has helped out many, many times. It takes time to serve on boards and she takes her hat off to anyone who does.

- Selectman Jasper reminded Selectman Seabury that no good deed goes unpunished and wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

- Chairman Madison said, regarding the Santa issue, when Mr. Bernasconi owned the Hudson-Litchfield News, he invited her every year, and she did go several years. She didn't know if it was something they could or couldn't attend and didn't give it a second thought because they didn't receive an invitation. As far as volunteering goes, when parents set an example, usually the children do the same thing. Her kids in other towns all volunteer their time. Regarding the article that appeared in the Hudson-Litchfield News about the Lions Hall, she can't call it responsible journalism when they only print one side of the story. The HLN said the kindest word that comes to mind is 'filthy.' She said the Lions Club works hard and do a wonderful job, but when the Town took over the Lions Club, the word 'atrocious' comes to her mind. The place was a mess. The Board had put in a Warrant Article as to whether or not the Town wanted to purchase the Lions Hall. The Seniors are allowed to use it free, since the Town used their money to buy it. She had several audits from the last several years and Lions Hall has not operated at a profit. It also said in the HLN because of the \$400 fee, it should be able to operate at a profit and the money should be put back into the hall. What the article doesn't say is that within weeks of the Town purchasing the hall, the Lions Club dropped the Bingo, which brought in close to \$20,000 a year. The Town had counted on Bingo to bring in money. The article commented that the bathrooms were broken down, with open, leaky pipes. She agreed that the hall needs new plumbing, but they don't have the money to do it. The latest leaky pipe occurred at a recent wrestling match and it is being fixed. The ice machine is constantly under repair. When it breaks, the Town hires someone to repair it. It is an old machine. The tables and chairs have been washed several times, but when something is extremely old, it will not look any better no matter how many times it is washed. A lot of things need to be fixed. There are problems in the kitchen. There are groups who have not cleaned up like they should and that is the Town's responsibility and they need to take care of that. They offer the hall to the Lions Club at a reduced rate in exchange for them doing some project there each year. This year, they chose to do the painting. The Junior Women's Club was going to do landscaping there, but ended up helping the Lions Club with the painting. She asked the HLN to try and get the other side of the story. While she did not always agree with the previous owner, they would usually try to get both sides of a story. She wished the new owners would.

- Selectman Charbonneau said voting to buy Lions Hall was the biggest mistake of her life. She did not realize there were so many expensive things wrong with the building, including the roof and heat. She doesn't feel they should give a reduced rate of \$150. If the Town has the money they can do needed repairs. When the ice machine goes, she wouldn't get it repaired. Chairman Madison said when they took over the Lions Hall, there were serious problems with the foundation, the heating and the roof, which took quite a bit of money. They are not operating at a profit, but it is a good building and they hope to upgrade it. She wished everyone a Merry Christmas, dittoed by Selectmen Charbonneau and Seabury.

- (Start Tape 2, Side A)

14. NONPUBLIC SESSION

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to enter Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (a) personnel issues and (b) the hiring of any person as a public employee carried 5-0 by roll call vote.

Nonpublic Session was entered into at 8:47 p.m. and was terminated at 9:35 p.m.

A. Motion by Selectman Charbonneau, seconded by Selectman Jasper, to approve the merit awards, according to the Police Department contract, as recommended by the Police Chief, for Dorothy Carey, Capt. Ray Mello, Lt. William Pease, Lt. Don McCrady, Lt. Don Breault and the Animal Control Officer, Jana MacMillan carried unanimously.

B. Motion by Selectman Charbonneau, seconded by Selectman Jasper, to hire Michael Coulombe as a part-time Dispatcher in the Police Department @ \$12.34 per hour, effective December 17, 2000 carried unanimously.

C. Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Seabury, to hire Loring Child as a Firefighter/EMT-I, effective December 31, 2000 @ \$24,876.83 and, after successful completion of probation, to \$26,648 as a member of IAFF Local 3154 carried unanimously.

D. Motion by Selectman Seabury, seconded by Selectman Charbonneau, to hire Tim Upham as a Call Firefighter, without seniority, at a minimum of \$10.50 per hour, effective December 13, 2000 carried 4-0. Selectman Jasper, a Call Firefighter, abstained.

15. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Seabury, to adjourn at 9:40 carried unanimously.

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

HUDSON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Chairman E. Lorraine Madison

Rhona Charbonneau

Shawn N. Jasper

Ann Seabury

Terry Stewart

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