

HUDSON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Minutes of the September 5, 2000 Meeting

Attorney-Client session from 7:00- 7:30 p.m.

1. **CALL TO ORDER** by Chairman E. Lorraine Madison at 7:30 p.m.

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2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was led by Shawn N. Jasper

3. **ATTENDANCE**

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

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Staff/Others: Paul D. Sharon, Town Administrator; Priscilla Boisvert, Executive Assistant; Frank Carpentino, Fire Chief; Kevin Burns, Road Agent; David Yates, Recreation Director; Len Foy; Kenneth Dickinson; Nancy Regan; Sarah, Derry News.

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4. **PUBLIC INPUT**

Peter Hickey had signed up to speak to the Board about ambulance costs, but he was not present. Chairman Madison asked if anyone in the audience wanted to speak, but there was no response.

5. **CORRESPONDENCE**

A. **From:** David Yates, Recreation Director & Frank Carpentino, Fire Chief
Re: Acceptance of Incentive Fund Grant Money
Refer to: New Business/Public Hearing

B. **From:** Kevin Burns, Road Agent
Re: Solid Waste Bid
Refer to: New Business

C. **From:** Kevin Burns, Road Agent
Re: Sewer Access, 148-150 Derry Street
Refer to: Old Business

D. **From:** Frank Carpentino, Fire Chief
Re: Dive Team Equipment & Gear
Refer to: New Business

E. **From:** Jim Michaud, Assessor
Re: Various Assessing Items
Refer to: New Business

Motion by Selectman Charbonneau, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to receive the Correspondence, excluding Item C, which will appear on a future agenda, with appropriate referral carried unanimously.

6. **NOMINATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS**

A. **Building Board of Appeals** (2 Members, terms to expire 12/31/01)

B. **Cable Committee** (1 Member, term to expire 12/31/02)

C. **Conservation Commission** (1 Alternate, term to expire 12/31/01)

Kenneth Dickinson

D. **Zoning Board of Adjustment** (1 Alternate, term to expire 12/31/00)

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Kenneth Dickinson

Chairman Madison asked Mr. Dickinson his reasons for applying. He said he has recently moved into Town. He graduated from

Bishop Guerton High School, went to college and is now a landscape architect. He is interested in the development that occurs within the Town in which he lives. Selectmen Jasper thought it would be appropriate for the Board to waive their rules and to make the appointments tonight. Advertising has been done for some time, and they haven't gotten anywhere until now. This is a good candidate, and they should appoint him before he changes his mind.

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Charbonneau, to appoint Ken Dickinson to the Conservation Commission as an Alternate, with a term to expire 12/31/01 and to the Zoning Board of Adjustment as an Alternate, with a term to expire 12/31/00, carried unanimously.

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Chairman Madison congratulated Mr. Dickinson and said once he is sworn in by the Town Clerk, he would be able to serve on the two boards. Selectman Charbonneau asked Mr. Dickinson if he'd have time to serve on both boards. Mr. Dickinson asked how much time is involved. Chairman Madison said the Conservation Commission meets once a month and the ZBA meets twice a month. Mr. Dickinson said he would probably be able to give four or five hours a month. Selectman Jasper suggested that Mr. Dickinson keep in touch with the committee chairmen, who should know whether or not all the members would be present. He wouldn't be required to be at every meeting. The ZBA appointment expires in December, which will give him a chance to figure out if he wants to serve. Mr. Dickinson said he will give it a try. He likes to do a good job to prepare for the meetings, which he thinks is important. Selectman Jasper said Selectman Seabury would be able to swear him in at the meetings, if he isn't able to get in to see the Town Clerk.

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Parking at the Meadows

Chairman Madison said this was deferred on August 8, and asked for the will of the body. Selectman Charbonneau asked for a recap of this issue. Mr. Sharon said this goes back to the time when the Town tax-deeded the Meadows and there was still a coffee shop at one end of it. During that time, the businesses around where Terry used to have her travel agency were using that for spill-over parking. They phased out the business operation, but parking continued along Central Street. At that time, the Board demanded that staff get rid of parking at the Meadows. At that time, there was also some concern expressed by not only the tenants in the small commercial area, but some of the commercial services across the street to continue to be able to use that. The parking/no parking policy has been very inconsistent. They have tried to skate the middle road and kick people out that have parked along Central, but look the other way when the parking is related to a commercial entity, which puts the Police Department in a very bad position. Selectman Jasper said he was glad Paul was coming around to his way of thinking. On March 11, 1997, he said there shouldn't be any parking there at all, but Paul had suggested No Parking signs in areas that interfere with current operations. Mr. Sharon said because that was the request at that time, and it has caused no end to problems. In that same set of minutes, a former Selectman was promoting that position.

Selectman Charbonneau said it isn't fair to make someone leave the area, then allow other people to park there. She has been getting calls about it. They cannot continue to be inconsistent. Chairman Madison agreed with Selectman Charbonneau, saying the current policy makes it tough on the Police Department. It should be one way or the other. Selectman Jasper said he feels the same way he did three years ago, and asked if that parcel is, in fact, the Town's. Mr. Sharon said it is still in litigation. Selectman Jasper said there is a Supreme Court decision that just came down that will probably complicate the issue. Because of that, they shouldn't have anybody parking on land the Town doesn't fully control. The Planning Board allowed businesses to go in there with only about 10 parking spaces.

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Charbonneau, that the whole of the Meadows property be posted as No Parking and be strictly enforced by the police carried 3-1. Selectman Stewart abstained because she was a previous tenant of the property that abuts the Meadows.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Public Hearing and Board Action on the Acceptance of Incentive Fund Grant Money

Chairman Madison opened the Public Hearing at 7:45 and asked if anyone wished to speak. There was no response, so she closed the hearing.

Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Jasper, to accept \$10,000 grant from the Hillsborough County Incentive Grant Program for the Recreation Department to be used to refurbish Greeley Street basketball courts and establish a teen basketball program and an \$11,000 grant to the Fire Department to continue with its public education programs.

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Selectman Jasper questioned Section 9, which said, "By accepting these funds, Grantee (the Town) agrees that all persons furnished by Grantee to implement, manage and/or administer any program arising from use of the funds allocated herein, shall

be considered Grantee's employees or agents and that Grantee shall be responsible for payment of all unemployment, social security and other payroll taxes including contributions from them when required by law." He wasn't sure how this money was going to be spent, if it was going to use only Town personnel. He asked if the court is going to be repaved by Town Personnel. Mr. Sharon said that's the intention. Road Agent Kevin Burns said the Town doesn't own a paving machine. Chairman Madison said then it would have to be someone hired from the outside. Selectman Charbonneau said a lot of this was in-kind service, using volunteers, or whatever. They give out incentive funds to keep juveniles out of trouble. There are no strings attached.

Vote: Motion carried 3-0. Selectman Charbonneau, a County Commissioner, abstained.

B. Solid Waste Bid

Chairman Madison recognized Road Agent Kevin Burns, who was seeking authorization to advertise for bids. Mr. Burns said he hoped to have a firm price before they are too far into the budget process. He's bidding the 12 cleanup days at the landfill as a per-day item instead of lump sum. That might give them a little flexibility; as 12 may be too many days. He bid the solid waste collection separately from the curbside recycling so they can see what they are actually paying for the recycling. Last time, when they backed out the recycling, they didn't leave the contractors any way to account for the tonnage. If the Town didn't recycle, those recyclables would have gone into the regular trash. The Town did recycle; therefore, they may be paying for some of that tonnage twice. He met with several of the interested contractors. They will have a mandatory pre-bid and he's expecting a fairly substantial price increase, so he's asking them to be creative. They will bid the package, but will also submit alternative bids. He hopes someone will come up with some program to avoid such a large increase.

Selectman Jasper said the Town made a big mistake back in 85, when they went to curbside pickup instead of a transfer station. He thinks its time they give the voters the option of a transfer station. He thinks there would be a substantial savings. Ultimately, it would be a reduction in tonnage because people would opt to go with private haulers. They have the time now to look at that option. They could start off with the same tonnage they are looking at now and then keep track of it, with some incentive there to reduce the tonnage. They've got to do something because the costs will continue to rise.

Chairman Madison asked when the present contract expires. Kevin said at the end of this fiscal year. She asked if that would give them time to get a transfer station up and running. Kevin didn't think they'd have time to get something operational within that time frame. Chairman Madison said they could put this out to bid one more time and put a proposal for a transfer station before the voters.

Kevin said if you take the number of stops the contractor currently picks up, it comes to \$2.89 per household per week. If they were to do a transfer station, it would cost more per household. They are really getting a lot for the money. Chairman Madison said several years ago, they paid for their own trash pickup. They had coupon books with stickers. She asked how they got away from that. Selectman Jasper said when frantic Fran Parkhurst was running around saying the State was going to close the landfill, and they didn't have time to do anything else. He's sure, however, if they worked with the State, they would have been given the time to get a transfer station up and running. As for the numbers Kevin put forth, Selectman Jasper said they sound nice, but the tax rate pays that, which means it's totally disproportionate to the amount of trash put out. They've got to do something to reduce the stream of trash. One way is to work into a pay-as-you-go program, pay so much per bag. In theory they may be getting a great deal, but it's based on the assessment, which is totally inequitable.

Chairman Madison said part of the problem is they have never enforced recycling. When Donna O'Hanian was on SWSCOM, she knew every area in the State that would handle whatever went out in the trash. No one else has had the time or been interested in doing that since she left the committee. Not a lot of people in Hudson recycle. About ¾'s of trash could be recycled, but people don't do it. Mr. Sharon said times have changed in the recycling market. It's no longer a net benefit, it's a debit. Environmentally, it makes a lot of sense, but not fiscally. There are options other than a transfer station, such a paper bags. If Hudson decides to do a transfer station by itself, it becomes another department that Kevin has to operate, generally done during weekend hours. He doesn't know if that is ultimately the solution, either.

Selectman Charbonneau said she's seen up to 20 barrels out and questioned if that was a private home or a business. She knows a lot of businesses are using this service, but nothing is being done about it. A deal was struck years ago to pick up condo trash. That is wrong. Hudson is the only town in the State doing that.

Selectman Jasper said he was suggesting they start looking at their options, pricing them out and getting suggestions. A transfer station could be run by the waste hauler, so the Road Agent wouldn't have to worry about it. He's not opposed to a per bag or per barrel charge. That might be the way to go. Kevin looked into Pay as You Throw, but condominiums have dumpsters and there wasn't any way to manage that. They are having trouble with Pay as You Throw appliances. People leave them out all over the place. They also have a lot of rental units in Town. Often when tenants leave, they just leave their trash. The Highway Department ends up cleaning it up. There is still a refrigerator on Trigate Road. Some people won't pay \$10 to have their

appliances hauled away, so he questioned if they'd pay \$3 for trash bags. There would be an unbelievable litter problem and every municipal dumpster would be overflowing.

Chairman Madison said they need to authorize the Road Agent to advertise for the solid waste program and, at the same time, look into a proposal for a transfer station. Kevin will try to revive the Solid Waste Committee to get something going. Because of the low percentage of recycling that the Town is doing, they might consider drop-off recycling. They sell specialized bins with compartments for different material. They could do that at the Town garage and it might offset the cost of collection. It costs \$130 a ton to recycle and \$100 a ton to throw it away. He is actively looking at solutions to keep the cost down.

Selectman Stewart said there is a transfer station in Windham. Mr. Sharon thought Pelham was considering a joint transfer station. Selectman Charbonneau asked what would happen if they accept a bid and then development occurs, such as Shepherd's Hill, and it ends up not being enough. Kevin said whatever is built in Town during the time of the contract, trash is collected. He tried to give them a build-out of what is planned. There would be no increase. Chairman Madison said whatever is built in Town during the course of the contract is what they pick up, but all of those units won't be up within the next two years.

Selectman Jasper said while the Town Council made a deal with condo developments, there's nothing that prevents the Selectmen from changing that, particularly with future projects. They could say henceforth, the Town is not responsible for trash pickup for any new condominium projects or apartment complexes. Chairman Madison said they could also go back to paying for their own trash, as they did at one time. Selectman Jasper said he sees trash all over Town because people are just dumping it off. If they have the option of going to the transfer station, they will go there instead of dumping it in the woods. Selectman Charbonneau asked how much of an increase he anticipated. Kevin said probably around 25%. Chairman Madison didn't think that was an appropriate question for something that's going out to bid.

(Start Tape 1, Second Side)

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to authorize the Road Agent to go out to bid and further to direct him to solicit proposals for alternate methods of trash disposal in ensuing years carried unanimously.

C. Dive Team Equipment & Gear

Chief Carpentino said Nashua Fire is interested in getting a dive team up and running and possibly purchasing some of Hudson's equipment that is no longer being used. He thinks selling it is preferable to letting it just sit, which is of no value to anyone. Nashua would like to come over and look at the equipment in order to make a proposal. Chairman Madison thinks they should sell it. By the time Hudson might use it again, it would be outdated and worthless. Chief Carpentino suggested keeping the two boats because there are a lot of waterways in Town. He said the Town never charged anyone for using the dive team and he doesn't think that Hudson should be charged in the future if we need the services of this dive team. He's already talked with Nashua Fire Department and they don't have a problem with not billing Hudson. Hudson always provided this service as a courtesy and he expects the same thing in return. There is a possibility that some of the former Hudson dive team members will be on the Nashua dive team, which will be a plus. They are prepared to have the equipment appraised, but wanted to talk to the Board first.

Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Charbonneau, that in accordance with Chief Carpentino's memo of August 21, 2000, to authorize the Chief to solicit a proposal for the sale of the dive team equipment to Nashua carried unanimously.

D. Assessing Items

1) Reclassification of Exemption, 25 Alpine Avenue, Map 058/Lot 020

Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Jasper, to rescind the vote taken to grant the Elderly Exemption for this property owner that was granted in error on August 22 and grant a Totally Disabled Exemption, as recommended by the Assessor, carried unanimously.

2) Veteran Tax Credit Application, 22 Wason Road, Map 011/Lot 003

Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Jasper, to grant the Veteran's tax credit application, as recommended by the Assessor, carried unanimously.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Petition re. Safety Concerns at 102 & West Road

Chairman Madison said the petition regarding safety concerns at Route 102 and West Road will be on the September 19 agenda.

B. Road Work on Winnhaven Drive

Selectman Stewart said the Road Agent asked her to announce that Winnhaven Drive will be closed from 9/11 to 9/29 due to road work.

10. LICENSES AND PERMITS

A. AMVETS Post #8 request to sell Poppies on November 4 & 5, 2000

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

B. Block Party Request by Mike Girouard for a block party on Richman Road on September 23, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

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Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Jasper, to approve carried unanimously.

11. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Minutes of the Board of Selectmen's Meeting of August 22, 2000

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

12. COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS

9/06 7:00 Planning Board Workshop in P/Z Mtg. Rm.
9/11 7:30 Special BOS Meeting re. Dispatch & ALS in BOS Mtg. Rm.
9/12 Primary Day – Voting at Lions Hall from 7 am – 8 pm
9/12 7:00 Trustees of the Trust Funds
9/13 7:00 Planning Board in the P/Z Mtg. Rm.
9/14 7:30 ZBA in the P/Z Mtg. Rm.
9/14 7:00 CIP in the BOS Mtg. Rm.
9/18 7:30 Conservation Commission in P/Z Mtg. Rm.
9/18 7:00 Visioning Committee in BOS Mtg. Rm.
9/19 7:30 BOS Meeting in BOS Mtg. Rm.
9/20 7:00 NRPC in Nashua
9/21 7:00 CIP in BOS Mtg. Rm.
9/21 7:30 Budget Committee in P/Z Mtg. Rm.
9/26 7:30 BOS Meeting in BOS Mtg. Rm.
9/27 7:00 Planning Board in P/Z Mtg. Rm.
9/27 7:00 CIP in BOS Mtg. Rm.
9/27 7:30 ZBA in P/Z Mtg. Rm.
9/30 8–Noon, Household hazardous waste collection @ Highway Facility

13. REMARKS BY THE SELECTMEN

Selectman Rhona Charbonneau said Seniors' money was used to help purchase Lions Hall. She thinks they should put in a Warrant Article to give the Seniors back \$70,000 so they can build their own place. Then Lions Hall should be used for the youth. The Rec Center is too small for the kids that use it in the summer and the teenagers need a place where they can go. She is amazed with what Litchfield does for their kids and teens. They are keeping 130 kids a day off the streets. Hudson has very little for the kids and the Selectmen should do something about it. Hudson has a population of 22,000 and Litchfield has only 8,000.

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Selectman Shawn Jasper said it's overstating the situation to say Hudson is not doing anything. One look at the Recreation Department budget will show that they are doing a substantial amount. The Recreation Director is doing a great job and has been instituting more programs. There is a lot going on in the summer, ball games and a lot of other activities. They might not be doing enough, but they are not doing nothing.

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He was watching the Telethon this weekend and two members of the Hudson Fire Department were on, giving three checks totaling over

\$14,000 to the Telethon, and that was great. They did a fantastic job; it's a wonderful project that the Fire Fighters Union takes on. But watching the Telethon, and listening to what was said, you would think that it was *just* the professional fire fighters that raised that money, and he wanted to go on record saying that the whole Fire Department was involved. The Chief was out collecting money in a boot, as well as at least one Captain, probationary fire fighters, and call fire fighters, all working together, supporting the union. The Union did a fantastic job organizing and running the fundraiser, but since they didn't do it all by themselves, credit should have gone to others, as well.

Chairman Madison said it is the budget season, so if anyone has any proposals for the Rec Department, bring them forward so the Selectmen can take a look at them.

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Selectman Charbonneau commended Mr. Yates for doing an excellent job, but the Town is lacking facilities, ball fields, etc. She didn't mean to imply that he wasn't doing a good job. The Town has activities for the kids, but they need more. Chairman Madison said they can't do a lot of the things they'd like to do without the taxpayers' support. Selectman Charbonneau thought that the taxpayers *would* support this effort. There are all kinds of grants available, but they're not getting them. Selectman Stewart said, as she brought up at the last meeting, the other organization is private, no different than the Lions Club, Kiwanis, etc., and it's only 8-1/2 weeks in the summer they are asking for the facility. Lions Hall holds 500 people and that group has only 23, 30 people. When the Recreation Department has 680 children on a rainy day, it's an unsafe situation. It's not like they would take the building away permanently.

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Selectman Jasper said there was money for a grant writer in the budget and asked about that. Mr. Sharon said proposals have been solicited for grant writers, and a number of people have responded, but this bears some relationship to the other position they're trying to fill and there ought to be some coordination after that.

14. NONPUBLIC SESSION

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Motion by Selectman Charbonneau, seconded by Selectman Jasper, to enter Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (a) Personnel matters and (b) The hiring of any person as a public employee carried 4-0 by roll call vote.

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Nonpublic Session was entered into at 8:30 p.m. and was terminated at 9:00 p.m.

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Charbonneau, to seal the Nonpublic minutes carried unanimously.

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Motion by Selectman Charbonneau, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to hire Jeff Sands as a Fire Fighter EMT-I, starting September 17, 2000 at \$24,876.83 and then to \$25,623.14 according to the Local IAFF 3154 Union contract, after successful probation, carried 3-0.
Selectman Jasper, a Call Fire Fighter, abstained.

15. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Selectman Charbonneau, seconded by Selectman Jasper, to adjourn at 9:04 p.m. 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