

## HUDSON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

## Minutes of the August 10, 1999 Meeting

1. **CALL TO ORDER** by Chairman E. Lorraine Madison at 8:19 p.m. in the BOS Meeting Room at Town Hall, following an Attorney-Client Session that started at 7:00 p.m.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**, led by Selectman Ann Seabury

3. **ATTENDANCE**

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

Staff/Others: Priscilla Boisvert, Executive Assistant; Steve Malizia, Finance Director; Mike Reynolds, Town Planner; Frank Carpentino, Fire Chief; Lt. Todd Hansen, Fire Department; Elisa Benton, Fire Department; Lt. Dave Morin, Fire Department; Steve Benton, Fire Department; Lori Lorman, Nashua Transit System; Library Trustees: Lisa Riley, Arlene Creeden, Lenny Smith; Jack Minch, SUN; Fidele Bernasconi, HLN

4. **PUBLIC INPUT** (Five minutes per person, not to exceed 30 minutes total)

Fidele Bernasconi, 122 Bush Hill Road, *Special Education—A Non-Binding Resolution* – Fidele distributed a handout and said the information was compiled by the School Department, the State Board of Education and some came from the Congressional Record in Concord. If this can be implemented in Hudson, it would mean 95¢ per \$1,000 on the tax rate. In 1975, IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Act), or as it is known today, Special Ed. They promised to fund 40% of this mandate, but did not. In 98-99, they funded 11%; prior to that, 9% and 7%. He asked the Selectmen to review the material he passed out and to call him with any questions and asked them to pass a non-binding resolution to be sent to the presidential candidates. This issue is on the next Governor and Council's agenda. If the funding is obtained, it would mean over \$1 million for Hudson; for the State, it would mean over \$72 million. Selectman Charbonneau said it should also go to the Legislative Delegation.

Howard Dilworth, 36A Old Derry Road, *Funding for Nashua Transit System* – Howard read a prepared statement, opposing NTS' request for additional funding. (Copy attached to the Original Minutes.)

George Gile, 277 Lowell Road, *Sewer Issues* – Mr. Gile said he was representing a group of citizens who reside on Lowell Road regarding the sewer expansion issue. At the last meeting they attended, the State reviewed the widening of Lowell Road and pointed out where the water and sewer lines were going to be. He had thought the State was going to have to put in the sewer line, but because of something involving Mr. Brown's land, the State no longer has to do that. Also, in conversations with some of the Selectmen, he understands there is talk about limiting the amount of sewage being sent to Nashua and he'd like to know about that. They've got problems and eventually the Town will have to listen to them. Their homes are surrounded by commercial activity and no one would want to buy those homes. He hoped the sewer line would be extended to their property and the time to do it is when the new road goes in. The expense to do it at a later time would be tremendous.

Ralph Burgess, 283 Lowell Road, *Sewer Issues* – Mr. Burgess said he, too, was speaking for the three residences between Sprague Road and Bruce Street. About two years ago, a statement was made that the Town was disappointed that those property owners did not donate their property to the Town. He felt that that was an insult. They have tried to sell their property, but because of the road construction, they can't. They can't sell it as residential; it has to be considered as commercial property, but the properties are undersized for commercial. His is the largest parcel at .89 acres. No one in Town has given them any encouragement to stand by them and allow them waivers to sell commercially. If Town sewer isn't put in, which is required for commercial use, they are, in effect, causing entrapment of those residences. Because of that entrapment, the Town could be legally liable. The Town has been negligent in addressing the residents' situation.

Roger Jette, 286 Lowell Road, *Sewer Issues* – Mr. Jette said he was at the meeting on June 8 at Nottingham

West when the State came down. There is a large church being built off Dracut Road and the sewer line should go in there, otherwise it will take an awfully large septic system. They are always trying to prevent affluent from going into the ground. He hoped Town sewer would go in.

Michelle Robinson, 8-B Colson Road, co-owner of 281 Lowell Road, Sewer Issues – Ms. Robinson said currently she rents out the property and has a difficult time finding tenants. Eventually, it will have to be sold as general use or commercial use because it's not a desirable area for someone to live. She was in favor of Town sewer.

Dr. Russell Lawson, 279 Lowell Road, Lawson Veterinary Hospital, Sewer Issues – Dr. Lawson said he was standing with his neighbors on this issue. He would find a sewer system much more desirable than the current septic system he's on. Since the State is going to take a large amount of his land, it will create a parking problem and traffic hazard. They will need to use some land in the back, which is now a leach field, for parking. Without a sewer system, he doesn't know what they will do.

Selectman Jasper said there were specific issues raised, such as the State going to do one thing and now they're not and he thought the residents should be given some idea when they would have answers. Chairman Madison said it would go on the August 24<sup>th</sup> agenda. Selectman Jasper thought the questions should be forwarded to the Engineering Department. Chairman Madison agreed.

## **5. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

A. From: Mike Reynolds, Town Planner

Re: • ISTEIA Sidewalk/Bicycle Project

• Application for Additional Funding

Refer to: New Business

B. From: Fire Department Issues

Re: • Drive

• Acceptance of a Donation

• Memorial Presentation

Refer to: New Business

C. From: Lisa Riley, Chairman, Library Trustees

Re: Vacant Library Trustee Position

Refer to: New Business

D. From: Jim Michaud, Town Assessor

Re: Various Assessing Items

Refer to: New Business

E. From: Terry McLlarky

Re: Appointment to Boards

Refer to: New Business

*Motion by Selectman Charbonneau, seconded by Selectman Jasper, to receive Items A-E carried unanimously.*

## 6. OLD BUSINESS

### Nashua Transit System Funding

Chairman Madison recognized Town Planner Mike Reynolds, who introduced Lori Lorman from the Nashua Transit System. Selectman Charbonneau felt that the \$13,500 the Board originally funded was sufficient. She was not in favor of increasing the appropriation.

*Motion by Selectman Charbonneau, seconded by Selectman Seabury, to stay with the \$13,575.*

Chairman Madison clarified that Nashua Transit would cut back on the current level of services without the increase but, even with the extra funding, the current level of services would not be increased; the increase would just maintain the current level of service. Lori said that was correct. Chairman Madison asked who would be dropped. Lori did not know, saying they did not address that because they were hoping for the funding. Selectman Seabury said she heard that there were three NTS buses at Alvirne Day Care for a pickup. She asked why there were so many and why couldn't only one bus be used. Lori said one bus goes from Bush Hill to Blueberry Lane; another bus picks up Nashua and north end people; and a third bus takes the south end people. If they only sent one bus, someone would end up riding up to three hours and they try not to do that with the elderly and disabled. Selectman Jasper asked if people who ride the bus pay anything. Lori said yes. From Hudson to Hudson, \$2; Nashua to Merrimack, \$4; Merrimack to Hudson, \$6. Chairman Madison wanted to know where the service was going to be cut because the Day Care serves a lot of towns. Lori said the services would be cut for Hudson residents, as Nashua and Merrimack are paying for their residents. Chairman Madison asked how NTS would determine who would be cut. Lori said that's the hard part. They had considered doing as many people as they could within a certain perimeter. The further away someone lives, the more costly it is to transport them. They also considered letting the computer choose random addresses. They don't want to have to choose between a Hudson resident attending the Adult Day Care versus a Hudson resident going to a work site. Chairman Madison clarified that the \$18,500 that they were looking for was only going to service those who are currently using the system; no one new would be added. Lori said if they can, they will. If they have time and space available, they can probably pick up one or two people. They just won't be able to expand in any large capacity. They've been putting people on hold because they were waiting for the Board's decision.

(Start of Tape 1, Second Side)

Selectman Jasper asked how many were on the waiting list. Lori said about six. Chairman Madison asked if the extra people she was talking about picking up would be on an existing route. Lori said that was correct, that they would not add a new route, but they would pick up people along the way. They would probably cut out-of-the-way stops, or maybe they would cut down on the time they are in Hudson. They have one route at 7 am, another one at 8, 10, 1, 2 and 3, so they may eliminate one of those times they would normally go to Hudson.

Chairman Madison said she had to vote for the funding. She could not vote to eliminate pickups of people who are currently using the bus system. Selectman Jasper said he was going to be wishy-washy. At the last meeting, he was ready to say ok, but now he is torn. They really don't have a complete picture. They've been level funding without really looking at it. They don't know how many of the pickups are a necessity versus a convenience. Someone who takes the bus at 7:00 may be able to take it at 8:00 and accomplish the same thing. They don't know the number of those who really need to use the system or the number of those who would just like to be at a certain place at a certain time. That's the type of additional information they need. It's unfortunate they didn't realize they had the opportunity to speak to this during the budget process. Chairman Madison said when they came before the Board of Selectmen, she clearly asked if anyone had any changes or questions. Selectman Jasper said he would change his mind from last week and vote in favor of the motion. If NTS is truly adversely affected, the Selectmen can always revisit this in a couple of months when it's time to do the budgets.

Selectman Charbonneau said when she had asked how many people were using the service for medical purposes, she was told it was only three to four people a week. She was opposed to approving the request. Chairman Madison said not everyone was lucky enough to have a car or be as affluent as some of them are. She felt that this was a service that was needed and she would vote for it.

Selectman Seabury said they approve community grants by lump sum amounts. When someone asks for extra money outside of the normal budget process, but provides no additional backup of what they are getting for the money. She understands that even with the additional \$5,000 some people may not be picked up. She wants to know the exact routes and where the money is going. She questioned why three buses were needed at one stop and wanted to know how many people were on the buses. Chairman Madison said some of those buses carried Merrimack and Nashua residents. Hudson was only paying for Hudson residents. She reiterated that if the extra funding was provided, there would be no reduction in the current service. Lori said that was correct. There would be no addition, either.

Lori said they had to charge each town 30% across the board, and had nothing to do with how many buses were sent. She said she can provide any information that is wanted. She can provide the exact routes, the times and the number of people on each bus, but no one asked for that information. She didn't know the Board wanted to know the specific operation. She drove for many years before taking her current position and she knows that people need the service. Selectman Seabury said when NTS comes before the Board during the next budget cycle, she'd like to know how many people in Hudson are using the service; what the income NTS realizes from their fees for riding the bus; and a mapping of the routes and the times. Chairman Madison said a lot of that information has already been provided. It's in their budget books under Community Grants.

*Vote: Motion carried 4-1.* Selectman Madison voted in opposition to the motion to stay with the current funding.

## **7. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. ISTEA Sidewalk/Bicycle Project** (Route 102, between Evergreen Drive and Old Derry Road)

*Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to release \$286.56 from the 1050-091 Route 102 improvements account for the balance due on the sidewalk project carried unanimously.*

### **B. Application for Additional ISTEA Funding** (Sidewalks and bicycle lanes proposed for location south of Evergreen Drive, Enhancement Funds Project w/a deadline of 8/31/99)

Selectman Jasper said he had great reservations about the last project that was done regarding the shoulders, traffic, etc. and has been pleasantly surprised with the results. The only problem is placing the mailboxes at the front of the sidewalks, instead of at the rear like the telephone poles, so the Highway Department can't just drop the plow and clean the sidewalks like they hoped to do. In the future, they need to take care of that, too.

*Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Jasper, for Mike Reynolds to write the application carried unanimously.*

### **C. Firefighters' Boot Drive**

Selectman Stewart said in the past couple weeks, it was brought to her attention by Selectmen Charbonneau and Jasper that the recent Boot Drive was held at the very busy Sagamore Bridge intersection. Back in May, she had remarked to Selectman Jasper that she didn't remember the Board authorizing the Boot Drive, which has always gone before the Board. She later found out that it had been approved by the Town Administrator. She has since met with representatives of the union to express the Selectmen's concerns. Selectman Charbonneau said she was concerned with the safety of the firefighters because of the road construction in that busy, heavily traveled section of Town. Selectman Stewart said another concern was the use of fire apparatus, which is Town-owned property, at the boot drives.

Lt. Todd Hansen was recognized and stated he wanted to provide the Board with some

history. The Local started this project in 1997 as a community service project and as a way of giving something back to the largest charitable organization that firefighters in the United States contribute to every year. Last year, they donated more than \$11 million to MD. In 1997 and 1998, Hudson firefighters raised more money for MDA than any other town in the State of NH. They conducted two boot drives in 1999, and are considering a third. On April 30<sup>th</sup>, they forwarded a memo to the Chief, requesting two dates to conduct the boot drive. On May 7<sup>th</sup>, it was forwarded to the Town Administrator. During the week of June 5<sup>th</sup>, they received a copy back of the Chief's memo, with the Town Administrator's approval. On June 23, they forwarded another memo to the Chief, requesting a third date. On June 25<sup>th</sup>, they received a copy of a letter sent by the Fire Department Secretary to the Town Administrator, regarding the date request. On July 24<sup>th</sup>, they conducted their second boot drive. At that time, Selectman Charbonneau stopped and expressed displeasure with the event. On July 29<sup>th</sup>, they received a letter from the Chief regarding the request for the third date and the sudden concerns about safety, the use of the apparatus and suggested that the Local attend this meeting. One July 30<sup>th</sup>, they cancelled the boot drive, which was scheduled for August 7<sup>th</sup>. On August 3<sup>rd</sup>, they met with Selectman Stewart to discuss the concerns and on August 4<sup>th</sup>, forwarded a letter to the Board of Selectmen, requesting to meet with them tonight.

Chairman Madison asked the date of this year's first boot drive. Lt. Hansen said June 5<sup>th</sup>, but due to a shortage of personnel, it lasted only two hours, so they requested a third date. The second one was July 24<sup>th</sup>. A normal boot drive lasts six hours. Chairman Madison asked when they plan to have the third boot drive. Lt. Hansen hoped they could hold it August 28<sup>th</sup>, which would still enable them to make their presentation during the telethon on Labor Day weekend. They understand the safety concerns relative to the Sagamore Bridge intersection because of the road construction in that area. They didn't have any problems in the previous two years. Traditionally, they collect money from traffic that has a red light. That doesn't preclude cars from stopping in other lanes, but they try to discourage that from happening. They put out an abundance of signage well before the location in order to forewarn the motorists. On the third date, they would move to the Chase/Derry/Ferry intersection by 7-Eleven, where the first drive this year took place. They usually conduct a drive at each location. The medians are larger at the 7-Eleven location and there are sidewalks in the area. Because it's a local function and not associated with their employment, they consulted with their attorney he drafted a release of liability to take some of the burden off the Town. They would not, in any way, intend to hold the Town responsible in the event that something should happen. They are also looking at the possibility of utilizing reflective traffic vests to increase their visibility out on the street.

Selectman Jasper felt that the 7-Eleven intersection was much safer. He dropped off some money at the boot drive on the 24<sup>th</sup>, but was concerned with safety issues. One guy was out in the middle of traffic, trying to make change from the boot when the light changed, and he had to cross over another lane of traffic that was moving. He didn't want to see it out there again. It only takes one slight problem. Lt. Hansen said they've not had any problem in the three years they've conducted a drive. This year, the Sagamore intersection was more chaotic than usual.

Chairman Madison asked if they would be using Town equipment. Lt. Hansen said they were a little confused why there was a change in the minds of the Board since, for three years, they have utilized Fire Department apparatus which, he thinks, complements the event. It gives it some meaning because people recognize the truck and signage from MDA is tied to the truck. It also verifies the legitimacy of the event. The truck is in service at all times. The people that are there are on their own time, at no expense to the Town, but are prepared to respond to a call at any time. Chairman Madison said they Board hasn't had a change of mind. In years past, the Board has approved this, but this is the first they heard about the boot drive this year.

(Start Tape 2, Side A)

Lt. Hansen said when they had their discussion with Selectman Stewart on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, the subject came up whether or not authorization would be granted for use of the fire truck at Old Home Days. The Union pays for a booth space for use by the Local to collect funds for MDA, but the Town and the Fire Department get good PR from it. He hoped that this practice would be able to be continued. Selectman Charbonneau asked if the firefighters were on or off duty. Lt. Hansen said off duty by volunteers. Selectman Stewart asked if the banners were from MDA or the Union. Lt. Hansen said both. Selectman Stewart said she has a problem with Union banners on Town equipment.

Fire Chief Carpentino said this was unfortunate because the request was made, as in years past, through his office and then it was forwarded, and a reply was received back. He couldn't fault the Union because they followed the steps they did in the past and, in good faith, they acted upon that. Relative to the sign on the truck and as a compromise, he asked if it would be acceptable to have the Town of Hudson and the Local on the signs. This is a major benefit to the Town of Hudson, to the Board of Selectmen, to the Fire Department and to the citizens—and to the local. It's not just IAFF that collects the money; he also does, as well as his wife, the Explorers and PMA members. He asked if it would be acceptable if the sign was altered to include the Town or other parties. Lt. Hansen said the sign that goes on the truck only says Professional Firefighters Hudson Local 3154, in conjunction with MDA. It doesn't promote union propaganda or anything like that.

Selectman Stewart asked where they intended to park the equipment at the 7-Eleven boot drive. Lt. Hansen said in years past, they put it on the median strip across from the Prudential Office, the first building on the left hand side of Derry Street.

*Motion to approve the MDA boot drive that is conducted by the Fire Department in conjunction with their local union for August 28, 1999, subject to what has been discussed, and upon executive of the Release from Liability document, by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Stewart.*

Selectman Jasper thought the release from liability draft should be referred to the Attorney for review and that it should be executed prior to the event. Selectman Seabury said to add that to her motion.

Selectman Stewart asked that all future requests come to the Board of Selectmen. Chairman Madison said they are all supposed to and it doesn't need to be included in the motion. Selectman Jasper said that's an internal problem. Chairman Madison agreed, saying she would take care of it personally. It's not the Union's fault it didn't come to the Board.

*Vote: Motion carried 4-0, with one abstention.* Selectman Jasper, a member of the Fire Department, abstained.

Lt. Hansen asked for clarification on the signage. Chairman Madison said the Board agreed with the Chief's suggestion, that the sign would include the Town of Hudson. Lt. Hansen asked if the Town would provide the sign. Selectman Jasper said they were authorizing the use of the truck, what more did they want. Chief Carpentino asked if the Board would show some leniency and to let the Local use the same sign they've used in the past and, for next year, they can locate a different sign. Chairman Madison asked the Board if that was ok. Everyone replied in the affirmative.

Lt. Hansen asked if this included Old Home Days. Last year they made just under \$8,000 for

MDA; this year, they hope to hit \$10,000. Right now, they are way out in front of any other town in the State.

Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Seabury, to allow the Firefighters to participate in Old Home Days, with equipment so the kids can climb all over it, carried 4-0, with one abstention. Selectman Jasper, a member of the Fire Department, abstained.

#### **D. Acceptance of a Donation from Balzers of 17 Thermal Coolers to the Fire Department**

The 17 coolers are valued at \$212.50.

Motion by Selectman Charbonneau, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to accept with thanks, carried 4-0, with one abstention. Selectman Jasper, a member of the Fire Department, abstained.

#### **A. Firefighters' Memorial Presentation by Lt. Dave Morin**

Lt. Dave Morin gave a verbal presentation, accompanied by a slide presentation, of the proposed Firefighters' Memorial and said it cannot be located at the site of the current Highway Facility because the flag poles would interfere with the PSNH high tension lines. He had a sample brick to display, as well as a scale model of the memorial.

Motion by Selectman Charbonneau, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to approve the location at the corner of Lowell Road and Central Street carried 4-0. Selectman Jasper, a member of the Fire Department, abstained.

#### **B. Library Location**

Selectman Jasper said the reason he asked to put this back on is to make sure they all go forward from here together, recognizing that the Library Trustees have no interest in looking at a different location. He respects that position and apologizes for not really having concentrated on some of the things he thinks are important when they initially talked about the location. He's had conversations with Lisa and he thinks they are on the same page, to a certain degree. Before they go forward and ask the Town for more money to buy more property, they need to do a complete mapping of the asbestos that exists on the properties that they are looking to buy. They know on one lot, roughly the location of the asbestos and how deep it starts, but they don't know how deep it goes. Depending on where they put the building, that may or may not be important. The other thing they had talked about and the Board had endorsed is that the building not be attached to the existing library. He had it in his mind that the building was going to go on the new property, but they really didn't talk about that. Technically, the new building could go 10' from the old library, but that's something that ruins the aesthetics of the building. He would like to see some architectural plans and renderings and conceptual site plans before they invest more in the property and that's what they are looking for. The Trustees don't really need the Board's endorsements on any of those things, except that when there is a warrant article, it is going to be either recommended or not recommended by the Board of Selectmen, and that's why he is bringing this up. He thinks the new building should be located at least 100' from the library so it doesn't overwhelm it. Some of that is going to be a function of how much asbestos there is, where it is and all of that. He's asking the Board to endorse the concept of complete mapping of the asbestos in terms of location and quantity and to ask that a conceptual site plan be the next part of this project.

Chairman Madison asked if he was suggesting that the Board send a letter to the Library Trustees with this information. Selectman Jasper said yes. Selectman Stewart agreed with Selectman Jasper that there is no conceptual drawing to show the voters what they would be getting. Chairman Madison said they do need to know how much asbestos is there and how much it will cost to clean it up. Selectman Seabury asked if the Library Trustees still had the originals when it went before the Town. Lisa Riley said they still have the expansion addition drawings. Selectman Seabury asked if that was attached to the building. Selectman

Jasper said yes, and it got turned down twice.

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to send a letter to the Library Trustees, recommending that the Board feels that the next step in this process would be to do a complete mapping of the location and quantity of the asbestos and suggest that they go along with the previous recommendation that the building be not attached to the current library and that several versions of a conceptual site plan be ready for the voters before they purchase more property.

Selectman Seabury said when she was first elected to the Board of Selectmen, she said the pecking order was the Police Station, then the Highway Facility, and then a Library. They're down to the third thing now and this has to be accomplished this year. She didn't mind going forward and they had the directive from the Town; they want it in that area.

Lisa Riley agreed that the next logical step was the mapping of the site, which was always their intention. They will ask for money at the next Town Meeting for an architectural engineer to do what Selectman Jasper has suggested. She didn't want to do it now because the Warrant Article was written specifically to purchase land and she would have to consult with the attorney to see if they can use the money for another purpose.

(Start Tape 2, Second Side)

Selectman Jasper wants to see a library built, but it won't happen if they're not together. Chairman Madison agreed that a new library was needed. Selectman Seabury said there was funding in Planning that has been collected. Lisa said she's talked to Mike Reynolds about the impact fees and he said there's over \$9,000 in there, so that's a possibility she'll look into.

Chairman Madison recognized Library Trustee Lenny Smith, who said they want the area mapped to find out where the asbestos is, and then they want different architects to provide concept drawings of what it would look like in various places, and the cost to build it in that spot. The people should decide where they want it and if they want it attached or detached. They shouldn't be tied down to the 100' that Selectman Jasper wants. Chairman Madison didn't think that was his intention, it was only used as an example.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

### C. Vacant Library Trustee Position

Chairman Madison said they have a letter from the Trustees, asking the Board to fill a vacancy by appointment, in accordance with the RSA's. The Selectmen's established procedure is to advertise the vacancy. She asked for the will of the body.

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to advertise the position for interviews at the first meeting in September carried unanimously.

### H. Assessing Items

#### 1. 1998 Abatement Application, 11 Tracy Lane, Map 41, Lot 6-7

Motion by Selectman Charbonneau, seconded by Selectman Jasper, to grant the abatement and sign the appropriate forms, as recommended by the Assessor, carried unanimously.

#### 2. Veteran's Tax Credit Application

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

#### 3. 1998 Abatement Application, 46 River Road, Map 5, Lot 10



Motion by Selectman Charbonneau, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to grant, and sign the appropriate forms, as recommended by the Assessor, carried unanimously.

## **I. Serving on Town Boards** (Terry McLlarky)

Selectman Jasper said he was going to ask that Mr. McLlarky's letter be read into the record for the benefit of those present, but most everyone had left, so copies can be made. He regrets that he didn't attempt to defend Terry the night the remarks were made, but he really didn't have the ammunition in front of him to do that at the time. At the time, he thought Selectman Seabury was complaining that Terry didn't vote the way she thought was appropriate, but actually he voted the way she wanted him to, based on the fact that he had been given new information. Selectman Jasper said he is flabbergasted because every one of them have done that; they've gone into a discussion feeling a certain way and then someone said something they didn't realize, and they changed their mind. That's exactly what they want on boards and commissions in Town. They don't want people on boards with a certain mindset who are unwilling to change, regardless of the facts. They want people who are willing to change their minds when they hear facts they hadn't considered. He's ashamed at what happened and he's glad Selectman Seabury wrote a letter of apology.

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Stewart, that the Board apologize to Mr. McLlarky for the comments that were made and they reaffirm his appointments as an Alternate to the Conservation Commission and as a Member of the Sewer Utility carried unanimously.

## **1. OTHER BUSINESS**

### **A. Planning/Zoning Department Issues**

Selectman Stewart said that on Friday, she receive a call from an upset resident, who did not get a warm and fuzzy feeling from the Planning and Zoning Department. The person wants to remain nameless because if their name is released, they couldn't build a dog house in town. The staff member she spoke with kept pushing one engineer for this person to use. She asked Selectman Stewart if she had to use that engineer. Selectman Stewart told her no and recommended two others. She said this is an ongoing problem that department. People need to get that warm, fuzzy feeling, to be stroked. Chairman Madison thought it might be more appropriate to handle issues like this in Nonpublic Session.

Selectman Jasper thought this should be thoroughly investigated to find out if someone on staff is pushing a private contractor. In all his years of being involved with the Town, he's had more calls in the last four, five months, all regarding to the same department. He thinks they need to work on this issue because it's a recurring theme, which they've talked about in the past. They have to do something soon because he didn't like getting those calls. Chairman Madison asked how many he's received. Selectman Jasper said about half a dozen on the same type of issue, but in different locations. People don't feel that they have a friend in that office.

Chairman Madison said it happens in others offices at Town Hall, too. The most important thing this Board could do is to make sure everyone that works for the Town ensures that the resident they are dealing with feels like they are the most important person in the world. That doesn't happen, and they hear about it month after month. Selectman Jasper realizes they can't make everybody happy, but it goes beyond making them happy because people have concerns and things that bother them that staff or the Board can't make right. Selectman Seabury said a lot of people think they can do whatever they want to do with their land, and they can't. They don't understand that. Selectman Jasper said the people that have been calling him have legitimate concerns with things that other people are doing, generally their neighbors--enforcement issues. They don't feel there's anybody there to help. Chairman Madison asked

Selectmen Stewart and Jasper to catalog the calls so they can be tracked and she'll take it from there. Selectman Jasper said he knows who they are.

Selectman Charbonneau said if staff was doing this and nothing was being done, nothing will change. If someone is being rude, or whatever, they should be brought on the carpet and something put in their file, or else it will never be corrected. Unless they deal with it in Nonpublic Session, they will never think they did anything wrong. If there's unhappy people out there, it will continue and nothing will get solved.

### **B. Incentive Funds**

Selectman Charbonneau is disappointed that the Recreation Department didn't apply for the incentive grants in NH. She went out of her way to make sure they got the application. It's a benefit that doesn't cost the Town anything. The other areas are getting all of the money. Chairman Madison thinks they really need a grant writer in Hudson. Selectman Charbonneau said in order to get incentive funds, you only need to fill out an application. They have good programs and it's important to keep kids off the street. She didn't understand why the Director didn't reply. She's placed several calls to him, but he hasn't responded to her. Chairman Madison said she'd add that to her list.

### **A. Carpeting at Town Hall**

Chairman Madison said one of the first things she was hit with when she got back from vacation was the choice of color for the new carpeting in the Town Clerk's office. When the Town Clerk asked Selectman Jasper, he said he didn't care, so other Board members were asked when they came in to Town Hall. Selectman Seabury and Selectman Stewart had said they didn't care. Chairman Madison said Town Hall is a place of business and it should be carpeted the same. They shouldn't have mauve in one place, green in another and blue somewhere else. She has no problem with a light color paint on the walls, but she does have a problem with a different color carpet, reminding everyone that this is a professional place of business, not someone's living room. Selectman Charbonneau said she was the Town Clerk's liaison, and she was never even called. Selectman Stewart said the Town Clerk didn't call her, either, Priscilla asked her. Selectman Jasper said the Town Clerk still thinks he's her liaison, and he couldn't remember who it was. Selectman Charbonneau said she went in to see Cecile, but she was on vacation at the time. She agreed that everything should be uniform because it wouldn't look good. Selectman Jasper said this was the most ridiculous thing to worry about. They work in there and it's not like half of the room will be a different color. Chairman Madison said it's getting switched over so everything will be the same, such as with Planning and Zoning. If she wasn't on vacation and the Town Administrator not out, it would have been handled differently and never have gotten to the Board. Selectman Charbonneau said three Selectmen were asked, but it was not in a meeting. Selectman Jasper said no one has ever brought the issue of carpet color to the Board meeting. Chairman Madison said that's because the Town Administrator usually handles it. Selectman Jasper said three Board members can't decide, but the Administrator can decide all by himself. Chairman Madison said she brought it up tonight because she didn't agree with what they were doing. Since the building is being remodeled, she thought it should be consistent. She asked someone to make a motion so they could have a paper trail. Selectman Stewart wanted to know if Selectman Jasper is the one who wanted mauve. Selectman Jasper said it doesn't matter to him, but if those that work in an office all day long want a certain color, it doesn't make any difference to him.

Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Seabury, that all the carpeting in the Town Hall building be uniform carried 4-1. Selectman Jasper was opposed.

## **D. Trees (Henry's Corner)**

Selectman Jasper said two weeks ago, he mentioned Henry's Corner and the fact there was a problem there with sight distance and they should maintain the rural character of the Town. There was some nice trees within the Town right-of-way. Selectman Seabury, innocently enough, relayed that message at a Planning Board meeting and, subsequently, Mr. Turmel came in and got a copy of the Minutes and then on Saturday, the same trees started coming down. Selectman Jasper called the Police Department and they came out. Mr. Turmel claimed they were his trees, but the police got him to stop. There was one nice, big tree that was still up near the house when the police left, but by Sunday morning, it was gone. They claimed that it was already cut, but Selectman Jasper said it had been still standing. He thinks it's a shame as it was a beautiful tree. Staff has obtained a copy of the deed, so they'll see where this goes.

## **E. Water Ban**

Selectman Stewart asked if the water restriction was still even/odd. She was told that it was. She said the residents need to be reminded of that fact because she has noticed in her neighborhood that sprinklers are going--on both sides of the street. Chairman Madison said Public Works needs to check that out and asked Steve to talk to Kevin. Selectman Jasper said when the water bans go into effect, it should say, "Per order of the Board of Selectmen."

## **F. Letterhead Uniformity**

Selectman Jasper said when Howard was on the Board, he made the motion about having uniform letterhead, but not all departments comply. Chairman Madison said she'd add that to her list. Selectman Charbonneau asked if he wanted the Fire Department to include the State of NH. Selectman Jasper said all letterhead was supposed to be the same. Chairman Madison said they can check the Minutes. Priscilla recalled that a supply had been ordered before the motion had been made. Selectman Jasper said Frank wasn't the Chief then, and more has been ordered since.

### **1. LICENSES AND PERMITS**

#### **A. Request by Michael Gendrean to hold a Block Party on August 14 from Noon to 9:00 p.m.**

Selectman Jasper said this is not a Town-accepted street, so the Board has no authority to grant a permit.

#### **B. Renewal of License to Purchase Scrap Metals by Bargains Unlimited**

*Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Jasper, to grant carried unanimously.*

### **1. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

#### **Minutes of the BOS Meeting of July 27, 1999**

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

### **2. COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

8/11 7:00 Planning Board in P/Z Mtg. Rm.

8/12 7:30 ZBA in P/Z Mtg. Rm.

8/12 7:30 SUC in BOS Mtg. Rm.

8/16 7:30 Conservation Commission in P/Z Mtg. Rm.

8/16 7:30 Cemetery Trustees in BOS Mtg. Rm.

8/17 3:30 BOS in BOS Mtg. Rm.

8/19 7:30 Budget Committee in P/Z Mtg. Rm.

8/20-22 Old Home Days

8/24 7:30 BOS in BOS Mtg. Rm.

**3. REMARKS BY THE SELECTMEN**

Selectmen Stewart and Seabury welcomed back Chairman Madison.

**4. NONPUBLIC SESSION**

*Motion by Selectman Charbonneau, seconded by Selectman Jasper, to enter Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3 II (a)The dismissal, promotion or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a meeting and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted; and 91-A:3 II (c) Matters which, if discussed in public, likely would affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the body or agency itself, unless such person requests an open meeting carried 5-0 by roll call vote.*

Nonpublic Session was entered into at 10:20 p.m. and was terminated at 10:50 p.m.

*Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Charbonneau, to seal the Minutes carried unanimously.*

**5. ADJOURNMENT**

*Motion by Selectman Seabury, seconded by Selectman Jasper, to adjourn at 10:50 p.m. carried unanimously.*

**Recorded and Transcribed by Priscilla Boisvert**

**Executive Assistant to the Board of Selectmen**

**HUDSON BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

\_\_\_\_\_  
E. Lorraine Madison

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Rhona Charbonneau

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Shawn N. Jasper

Ann Seabury

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Terry Stewart