

HUDSON BOARD OF SELECTMEN Minutes of the March 24, 1998 Meeting

1. **CALL TO ORDER** by Chairman E. Lorraine Madison at 7:30 p.m.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**, led by Selectman Terry Stewart
3. **ATTENDANCE Selectmen**: E. Lorraine Madison, Rhona Charbonneau, Shawn N. Jasper, Ann Seabury and Terry Stewart

Staff/Others: Paul D. Sharon, Town Administrator; Priscilla Boisvert, Executive Assistant; Steve Malizia, Finance Director; Frank Carpentino, Fire Chief; Richard Gendron, Chief of Police; Lt. Ray Mello, HPD; Sgt. Al Semple, HPD; Officer Kevin Sullivan & Dino, HPD; George Hall, Planning Board; John Drabinowicz; Howard Dilworth; Nancy Regan; Len, HLN; Signe, Tel

4. **PUBLIC INPUT A. Brad Seabury, 4 Meadow Drive--Grouping of Zoning Questions on the Ballot.** Brad was concerned that if members of the Planning Board came to talk to the Selectmen, they might sound defensive. He thinks the Planning Board has been unfairly accused of making inappropriate grouping decisions. Since he is one of the people who told them to do it, he feels it was an appropriate, defensible and necessary thing to do. With regard to the articles involving telecommunications antennas, the only protection the Town has with antennas is height, which is limited to 100'. Lately, towers has been an issue in New England. Last year, ZBA and Planning Board members and the Zoning Administrator developed/reworked the ordinance pertaining to such things, going through several revisions and coming up with a complicated matrix evaluation system for siting and determining the heights of towers. If that ordinance passed, they no longer needed the one that says antennas can be 100'. So the Planning Board, quite rightfully, grouped those two. If the new ordinance had not passed, the Town would still have the protection it always had. But if it did pass, the Town no longer needed the first one. All they did was take out three words: "communication," "tower," and "antenna." Regarding the other grouping, until recently, most people were not aware that any lot in Town can be 25% wet. The people who are empowered to measure it have difficulty determining whether it's 25% wet or slightly less or slightly more. Consequently, some awfully damp lots came before the Planning and Zoning boards. That culminated last year when a property owner in Alvirne Estates brought in a lot that he wanted to put a house on, but what he really had was a bunch of hummocks in a swamp. For the past few years, NHMA has been pushing the idea of no wetlands on a minimum buildable lot. The Planning Board agreed. Once they got into it, Mr. Hall realized that sections were in conflict with each other and they should all be made to agree. Their Minutes of January 7, 1998 show that that is just what they tried to do. The idea is if you got a tiny piece of property, and you want a pond, put it on extra land that makes your lot bigger than the minimum buildable area. After the Planning Board did that, he realized that if some articles passed and others didn't, it might effectively do away with the first ordinance that has been protecting the Town for years. The Planning Board agreed, but because of Senate Bill II, which pushed everything up, and with related complications of getting things through, and various deadlines, some things got overlooked. The printing of the Annual Report was already done by the time the Planning Board grouped the questions. He didn't think the Planning Board was guilty of anything but trying to make this Town a better place.

Selectman Jasper wanted to respond, but Chairman Madison said this was Public Input and that it was on the regular agenda for discussion. Selectman Jasper hoped Mr. Seabury would stay for that.

B. Howard Dilworth, 36A Old Derry Road--Nashua Combined Storm Overflow (CSO) and Sewer Rates

Mr. Dilworth read a prepared statement. He was concerned about the method by which the City of Nashua wants to pay for their \$110 million project to separate sanitary sewers from the storm water system. Sewer bills consist of the rate and flow charges. Flow charges are based on the cost of treating the sewage. The amount that Hudson users pay is determined by Nashua, who bills the Town who, in turn, bills the customers. He has read that Nashua intends to pay for their EPA problem by increasing the flow charge portion of the sewer bill, which he fears will also be assessed against Hudson, which will be passed on to the individual sewer users. He thought that was unfair because Hudson already corrected their CSO problem in the 70's, and now may be expected to help Nashua correct theirs. He asked the Board to take the necessary steps to prevent this from happening.

5. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

A. FROM: Richard Gendron, Chief of Police
RE: ·COP Cards/Donation
 ·Police K-9 Unit/PetsMart
 ·Regional Emergency Response Team (ERT)
REFER TO: New Business

B. FROM: Assessing Department

RE: Various Items **REFER TO:** New Business

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

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

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. Election of Officers

Chairman

Motion by Selectman Seabury, seconded by Selectman Jasper, to nominate E. Lorraine Madison carried unanimously.

Vice-Chairman

Motion by Selectman Charbonneau, seconded by Selectman Seabury, to nominate Terry Stewart carried unanimously.

B. Discussion of Ballot Recount Issue

Chairman Madison said a couple of issues needed to be discussed. She asked for a motion to ratify that the grouping, as it appeared on the ballot, was approved by the Board of Selectmen. Selectman Seabury so moved, seconded by Selectman Stewart. Selectman Seabury said that Attorney Ratigan recommended this action to prevent anyone from complaining that the Selectmen were not in favor of this and, since the Townspeople voted overwhelmingly for it, there was no question that they understood what they were voting for. Selectman Jasper did not agree with, "was approved," because the Board never discussed the issue as a Board prior to tonight.

Motion by Selectman Seabury, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to ratify the grouping, as it appeared on the ballot, carried unanimously.

Chairman Madison said she would support asking for a declaratory judgement, but she would not support holding a Special Town Meeting. She would like to see the article, as it was presented to the voters, stand as approved. Selectman Jasper said all of the questions that were passed by the voters are extremely important and they have to have them. He understands why the Planning Board did what they did--and agrees with what they did, but he has a problem with the process and how it was done. The Warrant was signed by the Board of Selectmen, posted and then it was changed, without the knowledge of the Board of Selectmen. No one has the authority to do that, not even the Board of Selectmen. The law allows the Planning Board the final say in how the questions are worded, but the Planning Board's final public hearing was after the Board's posting deadline. There was also a lot of confusion this year with the changes to Senate Bill 2, and the water company acquisition. But there was a procedural problem that needs to be corrected and they shouldn't expect taxpayers to spend their money to challenge it. The question of the grouping is less severe. If the question didn't have numbers in front of them, there wouldn't have been such confusion, but renumbering would have thrown everything out of sequence, plus the fact that the Warrant had been posted on the final day allowed for it and the Ballot was already set. If the numbers were not there, the questions could have been worded to include all the verbiage to amend the sections. If the judge rules there was a procedural problem, the law allows the Town the ability to hold a Special Town Meeting to correct it. The problem was that the Warrant was changed, and the Board wasn't aware of it. He thinks the questions are so important to the Town that they need to get the ordinances enacted if, in fact, the flaws were found to be fatal. The Board needs to ask for a declaratory judgement and get an answer to the question.

Selectman Seabury said everything would be thrown into jeopardy and she could not understand why the Town should pay to take it to court. Selectman Jasper said it was going to be in jeopardy anyhow because someone would take it to court and the Town will have to defend itself. If anyone thinks two lawyers battling in court is cheaper than by presenting a case to a judge for a ruling has never been to court. The Town should do the honorable thing and not force someone else to spend their money.

Selectman Seabury said this was ironic. The first petition the Board received asked for a recount of the ballot, which would cost the requestor big bucks because it was at State level and she wondered about that because the petition wasn't asking for anything specific. Then another petition came in, with different signatures, asking for a recount of the zoning questions. She did some investigating and called one of the signers to ask them what they were really asking for, and they didn't know--they just signed the petition without really knowing what it was about. She then heard via the grapevine that the petitioners were objecting to the grouping of the questions, which they said was illegal, but not the result of the vote. She said that sounded pretty good until she found out that that has been done before in the past. A whole zoning ordinance got voted in on just one question. Now she hears another tactic being tried, and it's illegal because of something else. She wanted to know if they were going to keep stepping around the issue until they find what fits.

Selectman Jasper felt he was being attacked and that aspersions were being cast upon him. Selectman Seabury said the petitioners are dancing around to find out what issue will really take and he was picking up the ball on it. She didn't think taxpayers should be expected to foot the bill on this. Selectman Jasper said the Selectmen knew what the petitioners were looking for, but the form was improper. He has consistently said the problem was with the process because the Warrant was changed and there was a question of grouping. He has always felt the most severe problem was the Warrant was changed after the Selectmen signed it and he has not changed on that one iota. The Town will pay one way or another because it *is* going to court. The Warrant *was* changed after it was posted. It's only a question whether or not it is a fatal flaw, and the judge will have to decide that.

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to petition the court for a declaratory judgement on the issue of the Ballot questions relative to the changing of the Ballot after the Warrant was posted and whether or not the grouping of the numbered questions was permissible.

Selectman Charbonneau said this should be clarified so that the school district could not do the same thing. Selectman Jasper said he personal felt that's a red herring and he didn't think they relate.

(Start Tape 1, Second Side)

Selectman Seabury wondered what the difference in costs would be between asking for a declaratory judgement and being taken to court. Paul thought a declaratory judgement would be minimal, particularly since Town Counsel has been involved in the case. Selectman Seabury asked if it was taken to court and the Town won, if the petitioners could be made to pay for the cost to the Town. Paul said the Town may have a difficult time showing that frivolity was involved.

Chairman Madison didn't have a problem with the Town seeking a declaratory judgement, but she wanted the motion to say the vote stands as is; the issue was how it was presented, not the result of the vote. She'd also like the motion ask for a ruling on whether or not this can be done in the future.

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to petition the court for a declaratory judgement on the issue of the Ballot questions relative to the changing of the Ballot after the Warrant was posted and whether or not the grouping of the numbered questions was permissible; the Town Attorney should make it clear to the judge that the Board of Selectmen fully supports upholding the vote of the residents of the Town of Hudson and does not want the vote to be overturned and request guidance for the future carried unanimously.

C. COP Cards/Public Hearing for Acceptance of Donation

Chairman Madison recognized Chief Gendron, who said Sgt. Semple has been instrumental in the continuation of this program, which is in the third consecutive year. It's expensive, but extremely beneficial in the community policing effort. He asked the Board to accept the \$4,500 donation which will cover the cost of printing 40,000 cards. (Each officer will have 1,000 cards.) Chief Gendron asked if the Board wanted a group shot of them to be included. Chairman Madison thanked him, but didn't know if they would or not. She thanked Sgt. Semple for doing such a good job.

Chairman Madison opened the Public Hearing at 8:05 and asked if anyone wished to speak on the donation by Rick McCartney of Baystate Welding and Fabrication and Manny Sousa of Sousa Realty and Development of \$2,250 each and Don Himsel of the Telegraph, who volunteered to take the photographs. There being no response, she closed the hearing.

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

D. Police K-9 Unit/PetsMart/Public Hearing for Acceptance of Donation

Chief Gendron and Officer Kevin Sullivan and Dino came forward. Chief Gendron said Dino, the second dog in the department, has completed schooling for attacking and tracking and is traveling to Boston two days a week for narcotics training and is doing extremely well. PetsMart, located at the Royal Ridge Mall in Nashua, has a nationwide policy to sponsor police K-9 programs. They already sponsor the Nashua's K-9 unit and have offered to do so with Hudson's. They will donate the food through a company called Authority Food, will give discounts on various pet products and will provide free grooming services. In exchange, PetsMart is asking for two dog demonstrations a year, a picture of the dog for the store and that a PetsMart window decal be placed on the K-9 cruiser. Chief Gendron said they approached the company that currently supplies dog food to see if they would match this offer, but they were unable to.

Chairman Madison opened the Public Hearing at 8:10 p.m. and asked if anyone wished to speak on this issue. There was no response, so she closed the hearing.

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

E. Regional Emergency Response Team (ERT)

Chief Gendron and Lt. Mello were present. The Chief said it is difficult for smaller towns, such as Hudson, Derry, Windham, Salem and Londonderry to put together a group of highly trained officers to handle high risk warrant service or apprehensions. If they have a barricaded individual or if they are going to serve a high-risk warrant, ie, someone who vows they will not be taken alive, they will call the state police or Nashua police, but they sometimes have to wait a long time. The Chief said the smaller towns would like to combine resources, such as fire departments do when there is a chemical spill, and put together a regional response team, which is a practice commonly used throughout the country. Massachusetts has regional response teams. For about two years, he has been meeting with Chiefs in Salem, Windham, Derry and Londonderry to figure out how to do this. Director Earl Sweeney from NH Police Standards and Training Council is very supportive of this effort, which will give them 20 highly trained officers to handle situations such as barricaded individuals, hostage situations, dignitary protection, armed

robbery response service, etc. The end result hoped for is that no one gets hurt and the person involved is apprehended. They discussed issues of training, selection and payment.

If Hudson has an incident that requires the team to go out, Hudson would pay the cost for all of the officers involved. The rate would be an amount agreed upon, such as \$25 per hour per member. If a situation was in Derry and Hudson officers went there, Derry would foot the bill. They considered having each town pay their own men, but didn't think that would be fair because the smaller towns, with only a couple of officers on the team, would end up paying a lot less. The officers would train together and each town would pay an initial fee of \$2,500 to join. The following year, each town would pay another \$2,500 and then after that, 10¢ per capita, (or about \$2,200 a year for Hudson) to belong to the regional team. Hudson would have to provide a minimum of 10% of the complement of officers, or four officers. If possible, they will train five. Lt. Mello would be a scene commander. There is no way he can put together a 20-member team in Hudson. He has five highly training officers, but all five people won't always be available all the time, plus sometimes, five people are just not enough. By combining forces with other towns, they are getting the best of the best.

Chairman Madison understood he had looked at a team like this on Cape Ann. Sgt. Mello said the Northeast Massachusetts Law Enforcement Council involves 27 towns and operates in northern Massachusetts. She asked what the average amount of time was they used these teams. Lt. Mello said each department would be different. For instance, Lawrence or Lowell uses the team more often than Chelmsford or Burlington.

Selectman Charbonneau thought this needs to be looked at further before they commit to it. She hadn't heard of many of these teams in the state. Chief Gendron said the only SWAT teams that exist are in Nashua, Manchester, Portsmouth, Dover and the State Police. This would be the first regional team in the state. If it works in the southern tier, it will crop up in different areas. The other towns are also meeting with their Selectmen to try to sell the idea. Selectman Charbonneau asked how many times the Nashua SWAT team has come out. Chief Gendron said the last time was for the incident on Dumont Road when an individual started shooting from her house. It was a tense situation because it took awhile to get Nashua. If they had gone in there or if something had gone wrong and she fired on them, they would have returned fire and there might have been a problem. If the Town gets a call from the FBI that someone is holed up in a local motel, claiming that he won't be taken alive, the Chief would feel better knowing he has trained officers to do that function. He estimated using the team two or three times a year, judging by history.

Chairman Madison thinks the benefits far outweigh the cost. Paul asked if the rolling stock and specialized equipment would come out of the initial fee. Chief Gendron said they already have some equipment that has been purchased over the years. They also picked up an Army ambulance a couple years ago for only \$25 which could be used as Hudson's contribution to the group.

(Start Tape 2, Side A)

They will be purchasing radios down the road and will apply for grants since it is a regional task force. Chairman Madison asked if any of the other towns have approved this concept. The Chief said he was the first, but they all plan on it.

Paul asked where they would train. Lt. Mello said the North Shore group has offered to help with the formation of this group, to provide training sites and to train with them. Selectman Charbonneau asked if this would be on regular or overtime. Chief Gendron said if they were on duty, it would be regular time; if off duty, overtime. Selectman Charbonneau said it sounds like a good idea, but there are too many unknowns regarding cost. She thought there should be more explanation. Sometimes something that sounds simple ends up not being simple. She thinks more information is needed.

Chairman Madison asked how overtime would be calculated as it pertains to the \$25 fee per member. Chief Gendron said if Hudson sends four people to Londonderry for an incident, Londonderry would pay the Town of Hudson for those four officers at the rate of \$25 per hour. Hudson would be reimbursed, similar to a road detail. If an officer's time and a half rate is \$22, then the Town would make out; if it was \$26, the Town would have to ante up the extra buck. They have to do something like that because there is such disparity in the rates between the towns. Each town would pay their own, but would get reimbursed the bulk of the cost by the town that called them out.

Chief Gendron said Lt. McCrady has set up some training with International Association of Chiefs of Police and Hudson will be hosting some of the training. For the practical exercise training, Director Sweeney has offered the use of their range and facility. They will also travel to the North Shore facility and will work with the FBI.

Chairman Madison asked what would happen if the other towns didn't approve this. Chief Gendron said if a town didn't want to participate, they would be dropped. If some other town wanted to be included, they would pay the startup fee and start training with them. But they need a minimum of 20 people to make this happen.

Selectman Jasper said he was in favor of this and they already have officers in training. These guys are out on the street and don't know what they will come up against. They owe it to the residents and to the police officers to try to do the best job they can. Hudson has five people with some level of training, but you can't run a SWAT team with five people. The cost is an issue that can be dealt with through the budget process. He thought what the Chief was proposing was reasonable and hoped the Board would support it.

Chairman Madison asked where the money would come from. The Chief said from his training account. Selectman Stewart asked why Pelham wasn't included. The Chief said they weren't asked. Selectman Seabury asked what would happen if two of the four men were on vacation. Chief Gendron said they would send what they could, but that's why they need a full complement of 20. If an incident goes down, they expect it will take about 10 guys to get the job done. It could be a situation where only one officer from Hudson is available. Selectman Stewart asked if the K-9 Unit would be a part of this. Chief Gendron said maybe, depending on the situation.

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to approve the Hudson Police Department joining the Regional Emergency Response Team, as outlined by Chief Gendron.

Chairman Madison asked the Chief to provide an update in six months. She also asked that approval be subject to a full complement of 20 officers. Chief Gendron said by the end of April, he'd know the status of the other communities and would inform the Board. He will also give a status report in six months. After everyone is on board, there will be a selection process. Everyone who is in it will have had to pass a test first. Paul asked who would command it. Chief Gendron said Lt. Mello was a commander, but the other towns had commanders, as well. About three commanders have received training but only one commander will be called to a scene. The Chiefs will decide the actual team. If they come to Hudson, Lt. Mello will oversee it and the Chief will be there. One of the Chiefs will oversee the training. Chairman Madison asked Selectman Jasper if he would include a six-month update and a 20-man minimum contingent in his motion; he and the seconder agreed.

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to approve the Hudson Police Department joining the Regional Emergency Response Team, as outlined by Chief Gendron, to provide an update in six months and to ensure there is a 20-officer contingent minimum carried 4-1.

Selectman Charbonneau said she was opposed to this because there were too many unknowns and they weren't getting a real clear picture of what this is going to cost.

F. Assessing Items:

1) 13 Totally Disabled Property Tax Exemptions--Requalification

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

2) 75 Elderly Exemptions--Requalification

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

3) 6 Elderly Exemption--New Applicants

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

4) Notices of Intent to Excavate Earth (Brox Industries, Map 30, Lots 7, 9 & 20)

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

5) Current Use Releases (Rocky Heights Subdivision, Map 11, Lots 35, -2, -3, -4 & -7)

Motion to sign, as recommended by the Assessor, by Selectman Seabury, seconded by Selectman Jasper, carried unanimously.

6) Application for Current Use (Floyd Gorveatt, Kienia Road, Map 39, Lot 72)

Motion to sign, as recommended by the Assessor, by Selectman Seabury, seconded by Selectman Jasper, carried unanimously.

7) Warrant for the Collection of Yield Taxes (Floyd Gorveatt, Griffin Road, Map 36, Lot 9)

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

G. Acceptance of Resignation of Road Agent

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to accept the resignation of Leo Lessard, with regrets, and authorize Paul Sharon to advertise the vacancy carried unanimously.

H. Authorizing the signatories to execute Water Co documents

Chairman Madison said she was going to Exeter to pre-sign the Water Company documents on Thursday, but in case she can't make it, she suggested Selectman Jasper be designated as her backup.

Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Charbonneau, to authorize Chairman Madison to sign the Water Company documents, with Selectman Jasper as backup, carried unanimously.

Chairman Madison said she will sign all of the documents on Thursday, including the ones that were to be done on Friday. If there are any additional ones that she doesn't get to sign, she will sign them on Monday. She hoped all of the Selectmen would be present on Monday at 10:00 am, as it isn't every day a town takes over a water company.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Bandstand

Selectman Seabury said thanked Selectman Charbonneau and her family, who donated substantially to the bandstand fund. Selectman Seabury said that today, Selectman Charbonneau did some telephoning and was able to raise some money for the cause. Mrs. Boucher called the contractor and, hopefully, the project will become a reality by the July 4. She thanked Selectman Charbonneau for all of the work she has done. Selectman Charbonneau said they haven't raised quite enough yet.

B. Nashua' Sewers/Water System

Selectman Jasper said it's important that Hudson not be charged for the pipes in Nashua. This may be an opportunity for Hudson to talk with Nashua about buying a higher percentage of their plant. There is a tremendous amount of inflow going into the system from storm drains and if they get rid of that, it will free up capacity. This may be an opportunity to help Nashua out and solve some of Hudson's capacity problems at the same time. Chairman Madison said that was an excellent idea. Selectman Charbonneau asked about the I & I study. Paul said Tom Sommers has got the grant money secured. They want to measure the spring thaw flow. Selectman Charbonneau said Mayor Davidson was in Washington, trying to secure grants for the project.

C. Supplemental Tax Warrant (Chester & John Sojka, Atwood Ave and Brenton Ave)

Chairman Madison said the property owners' attorney informed the Assessor that the Town is assessing only a partial real estate interest to this property and the Town should be assessing the whole interest. The Assessor received confirmation from the Town's legal counsel, Atty. Woodman that the property owner's attorney is correct. There is an April 1 deadline associated with this filing.

Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Seabury, to sign the supplemental tax warrant, as recommended by the Assessor carried unanimously.

9. LICENSES AND PERMITS

Request by Marathon House of Dublin to sell raffle tickets in various Town stores from April-July

Chairman Madison said this has been approved in the past.

Motion by Selectman Seabury, seconded by Selectman Jasper, to approve the request, contingent upon authorization by the businesses.

Selectman Stewart said she had a problem with outside interests coming into Town to raise funds. Who is to say that East Overshoe Fundraisers of Methuen, Mass won't come in and stand outside Market Basket? Selectman Seabury said they already do. Selectman Stewart said the Town has their own groups, Boy Scouts and things, and wondered if this group hits every community from here to Dublin. Selectman Seabury thought that Hudson uses Marathon House. Chief Gendron confirmed that Hudson does use it.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

10. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

A. BOS Minutes of March 2, 1998 w/Dept. Heads

B. BOS Minutes of March 3, 1998 w/Fire Dept.

C. BOS Minutes of March 9, 1998

Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Seabury, to receive the Minutes as presented and refer to file carried unanimously.

11. COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS

03/25 7:00 Planning Board in P/Z Mtg Rm
 03/26 10:00 a.m. Signing of Water Co documents in Exeter w/Consumers
 03/26 7:30 ZBA in P/Z Mtg Rm
 03/26 7:30 SUC in Small Conference Room
 03/27 10:00 a.m. Signing of Water Co documents in Exeter w/Pennichuck
 03/30 10:00 a.m. Ceremonial execution of Water Co documents @ Town Hall
 03/30 7:00 Library Trustees in P/Z Mtg Rm
 03/31 7:00 HEDCorp in P/Z Mtg Rm
 04/01 7:00 Planning Bd in P/Z Mtg Rm
 04/02 7:00 Cable Cmt in P/Z Mtg Rm
 04/07 7:30 Recreation Committee at Rec Ctr
 04/08 7:00 Planning Board in P/Z Mtg Rm
 04/09 7:30 ZBA in P/Z Mtg Rm
 04/13 6:30 Visioning Committee in P/Z Mtg Rm
 04/14 7:30 BOS in BOS Mtg Rm

In addition to the listing, Chairman Madison said there was a strategizing session scheduled with Fire Chief Carpentino, Steve Malizia, Paul Sharon and the Board (sans Gary Wulf) for April 21 at 7:00 p.m. Chairman Madison asked if the Board preferred an afternoon meeting. Selectmen Stewart and Jasper said evening meetings were preferable.

(Start Tape 2, Second Side)

Paul reminded the Selectmen that some time ago, they talked about changing their strategy going into collective bargaining sessions. He's had several sessions with key department heads and they would like the opportunity to sit down, prior to the economic-setting session with Gary, with the Board, the Finance Director and him. Selectman Jasper said he'd like to sit down with all of the department heads at one time to talk about things in general. He didn't think it was specific to a department. Paul asked when they wanted to do that. Selectman Jasper said it could be on the 21st. After they all talk about things in general, then they can sit down with Chief Carpentino to deal with his specifics. Chairman Madison said that on the 21st, they would meet with the key department heads and then they will meet with the Fire Chief. Selectman Jasper mentioned that the only additional person that would be brought in is Chief Gendron because Leo has resigned.

12. LIAISON UPDATES

Budget Committee

-- Selectman Jasper said he met with the Budget Committee last Thursday night. The previous month, nobody from the Town showed up to give any information. This month, it was the school's turn, but nobody showed up to give any information, so it was a brief meeting. He did ask that they wait to elect their officers, since he was no longer going to be the Budget Committee rep and he thought it was only fair that the person who was going to sit there for a year have a say in who the officers were going to be.

Planning Board

-- Selectman Stewart said that at the last meeting, they said a sad goodbye to Cynthia May.

Ethics Committee

-- Selectman Seabury said the Ethics Committee is meeting tomorrow night about Lisa Riley, but she didn't think it was going to be a lengthy meeting. Lisa cannot attend, as she has to go to a class.

Recreation Department

-- Chairman Madison asked how things were going. Selectman Seabury said she hasn't heard any complaints.

SWSCOM -- Chairman Madison asked how things were going with SWSCOM. Selectman Seabury said there hasn't been a meeting. She turned in the Minutes to Chairman Kelly. Chairman Madison said she talked with Leo about SWSCOM and the Spring Cleanup will be May 9, which will be a big cleanup because of the early snow last Fall. The landfill will open the previous week, but that will all be noticed in the paper.

13. REMARKS BY THE SELECTMEN

Rhona Charbonneau said, concerning the bandstand, Manny Sousa and Lenny Vigeant have also donated.

Shawn Jasper said he was going to bite his tongue for the next two weeks. Chairman Madison commented that she guessed she has missed something. Selectman Seabury said she didn't get it, either.

Ann Seabury thanked the people who donated to the bandstand. The committee met this afternoon with Wood Visions and he suggested 'hitting up' his landlord. Chairman Madison asked who his landlord is. Selectman Jasper said he is. Selectman Seabury said Lucille was getting nervous because they were operating under a deadline, so when Rhona came in, she made some calls. Selectman Charbonneau and her son were very generous; then she proceeded to call her other friends. Selectman Seabury said she personally hates asking for money, so while Selectman Charbonneau was making the calls, she ducked out of the room and ate jellybeans! She thanked Selectman Charbonneau very much.

Terry Stewart said they may need to keep an eye on Thurston's Landing development. They had a real tough time meeting requirements for driveways and slopes. There's real problems out there and the developer advised at the last Planning Board meeting that, as development goes on, the problem will get worse.

E. Lorraine Madison thanked the Board for electing her Chair again. She will try to live up to everyone's expectations.

14. NONPUBLIC SESSIONS

Motion by Selectman Seabury, seconded by Selectman Charbonneau to enter Nonpublic Session under 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: (b) The hiring of any person as a public employee; (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 9:00 p.m. and was terminated at 10:25 p.m.

A. Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Charbonneau, to hire Christine Curtin as the Water Utility Clerk at \$10.41 per hour, Grade VII, Step 1, effective March 29, 1998 carried unanimously.

B. Motion by Selectman Stewart, Seconded by Selectman Charbonneau, to hire Alex Flagler as a Call Firefighter at the appropriate rate of pay, effective immediately, carried 4-0, with one abstention. Selectman Jasper abstained because this is a Fire Department issue.

C. Motion by Selectman Charbonneau, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to authorize the Fire Department to advertise for the full-time dispatch position carried unanimously.

D. Motion to authorize a change of rate of pay for part-time dispatchers in the Fire Department to \$7.50 an hour during training and \$10.00 after training is complete carried 4-0, with one abstention. Selectman Jasper abstained because this is a Fire Department issue.

E. Chairman Madison announced that Kevin Burns was promoted to Acting Road Agent, effective March 29, 1998, until a Road Agent is hired.

15. ADJOURNMENT *Motion to adjourn at 10:30 by Selectman Seabury, seconded by Selectman Stewart, carried unanimously.*

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

HUDSON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

E. Lorraine Madison, Chairman

Rhona Charbonneau

Shawn N. Jasper

Ann Seabury

Terry Stewart