

HUDSON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the December 9, 1997 Meeting

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

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** was led by Selectman Terry Stewart

3. **ATTENDANCE**

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

Staff/Others: Paul Sharon, Town Administrator; Priscilla Boisvert, Executive Assistant/Recorder; Richard Gendron, Chief of Police; Frank Carpentino, Fire Chief; Steve Malizia, Finance Director; Mike Gospodarek, Town Engineer; Keith Bowen, Recreation Director; Len Lathrop, Recreation Department member; Lt. Ray Mello, Police Department; about 25 applicants for Nominations & Appointments; Coleman Kelly, Cable Committee; Len, HLN; Tim, SUN & Signe, TEL

4. **PUBLIC INPUT**

Nancy Mayville, NH DOT -- Benson Property Nancy said she was before the Board to update them on some of the things the State is doing with Benson's. In the early 90's, the State bought the Benson property as the mitigation site for the Circumferential Highway to create about 40 acres of wetlands. There was a lot of debate with federal agencies in order to get the permits, etc. Commissioner Kenison and others toured the site during the summer so they could see what needs to be done. They were surprised at how much it had deteriorated and how unsafe things are, so they have begun mobilizing to try to clean it up and reduce the liability. A lot of people are using the site--as fast as they button up fences and block roadways, people move them out of the way. The DOT maintenance people brought in two crews in the fall and did a pretty intensive cleanup. You could hardly walk around in there because there were so many branches and things all over. A couple structures were partially fallen in and platforms and things that were badly rotten that they have cleaned up. They are getting ready to do a demolition contract to try to take down the rest of the stuff. To get ready for that, they have to remove all of the asbestos from the buildings. There are electrical transformers and hazardous material that need to be removed, so they have a specialty contractor to take care of that.

Using a display map, she said the entire site is about 165 acres. A portion of the map was marked off, which is classified as a historic district. She said they look at things over 50 years old and evaluate them for historic integrity. Most of the buildings in that section are examples of an older amusement park. The State Historic Preservation Office, Division of Historic Resources, felt that most of the buildings contributing to the district had deteriorated to a point where they lost their historic integrity, but there are six buildings they'd like to see saved, including the brick building, the red barn across from that, the elephant house, and an animal exhibit. They felt that the grouping of four preserved in a small way, the history of Benson's. Two other structures they'd like to save for possible reuse is the Bush Hill barn and the railroad station.

This winter, they plan to put out a demolition contract to take down a lot of animal shelters, wooden buildings, and things like that. The Benson house that is on the street near the office buildings on Kimball Hill Road doesn't still have it's historic integrity and it has been heavily vandalized, but it does have some historic appeal. She thinks they should try to save that. They will board up the windows and patch the roof.

They have been talking with Hudson's Historical Society, who expressed an interest in this and have been talking about how they can get it to a site so it can be used.

There are other buildings they need to button up to the weather. The red barn is in pretty good shape. They will tear down some sections of the log cabins and block in the walls that are exposed. There is a problem with the roof on the elephant house. They will close up some doors on the animal house. The Bush Hill barn is in bad shape, needing new siding, a new roof and the cupola to be rebuilt. Things are rotting and broken, and the cupola is sagging, which might not survive heavy snow. In the Spring, another contractor may fix that and do some other work on the property. The State Historic Preservation Officer would also like some of the landscaping and stone walls preserved.

There was still some electricity, including downed lines in the interior of the site, so they had that taken care of. They cleared the roadways so people can drive around, but it also makes it easier for people who shouldn't be in there, and invites vandalism. Underground storage tanks, barrels and hazardous materials that are laying around that will be removed. They will also try to button up the fencing a little better than it is now and will erect an inner fencing around the four buildings they want to preserve in order to better secure them. With fewer structures, hopefully, there will be less vandalism. They will also be breaking up and removing the slabs that some of the buildings are on and that rides were sitting on, and the demolition debris. There is an extensive water system that was used for fountains and things that they don't plan to remove. Where it comes into the buildings that will be demolished, they will cap it. There is a lot of debris lying around that will be removed. Where they take out foundations, they will loam, reseed and landscape it.

In this contract, they won't do anything with the landfill, out behind the Bush Hill Road barn. They haven't decided yet whether they will cap it or

dig it out and have it taken somewhere else. They will not be filling in any wetlands, so they won't need any permits. For the demolition contract, they expect to advertise for bids on December 16 and get them in early January. Construction is expected to start by early March. They are trying to beat the weather so the contractors will be able to get a good look at the site. The contract will be on the order of \$500,000 - \$600,000 and turnpike funds will pay for the work.

They know the Town is interested in the centrally-located site, understandably so. A number of people have been talking with Commissioner Kenison and there is an opportunity for ownership by the Town. They think that some sort of municipal stewardship is the best, especially where it is central to the Town. They would look to the Selectmen first, as they are the governing body of the Town. When they dispose of surplus property, they go through a process where they talk to federal and state agencies to see if they are interested, then they talk to the County, then to the towns. They don't see the other people in the hierarchy being interested. She is personally intrigued by this and has spent some time considering the possibilities of what it could be turned into. The State won't be a part of deciding what's to do with it, other than doing the wetlands and historic buildings. There is enormous potential for many uses, such as recreation and environmental. Someone always relates to her some childhood memory about Benson's. It's a large site, so various uses could be complimentary to each other. She is looking forward to seeing what happens.

Selectman Charbonneau asked how many acres the Town would have access to. Nancy said about 35 acres. When they were looking at the site for the full build Circumferential, they were scrambling for every acre of wetlands. Now that they are working on the partial build, they don't need as much. Selectman Jasper hoped they haven't given up on the full build scenario. She assured him they haven't. Selectman Jasper asked if they could save some of the buildings that are slated for demolition. Nancy said perhaps, if it is before Christmas, but they plan to advertise on the 16th. She suggested scheduling a site walk. They want to include Jim Gardner from the Division of Historic Resources to give them ideas of what to do with the Benson house and Bush Hill barn. Selectman Jasper said it should be done as soon as possible. Chairman Madison said she would have the office set up a meeting to find out what dates and times were good for Nancy, and the Board would arrange to be there. The Town has sent a letter to Commissioner Kenison, stating that it was the Board's intention to secure any of the available land and to have it dedicated and preserved as a park.

Selectman Charbonneau asked if there were grants available relative to restoration of the historical buildings. Nancy said it would have to be researched. Selectman Charbonneau said she was thinking about contacting Senators Gregg and Smith and Congressman Bass because it's important to restore the buildings and turn it into a museum or something. It would make a spectacular park, something they are lacking in Town.

There being nothing further, Chairman Madison thanked Nancy for coming before them.

5. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

A. FROM: Lisa Riley, Chairman, Library Board of Trustees

RE: Warrant Article

REFER TO: Warrant via Attorney Ratigan

B. FROM: Barbara Johnson, Rotary Club

RE: Donation of Care Bears

REFER TO: New Business (Public Hearing & Board Action)

C. FROM: Keith Bowen, Recreation Director

RE: Construction of Ball Field at Robinson Pond

REFER TO: New Business

D. FROM: Steve Malizia, Finance Director

RE: 1) Fire Department Emergency Apparatus Purchase

2) NHMA PLIT, Multi-Year Guarantee Program

REFER TO: New Business

E. FROM: Camp Dresser & McKee, Inc.

RE: Agreement for Geographic Information System (GIS) Services

REFER TO: New Business

F. FROM: Mike Gospodarek, Town Engineer

RE: Purchase of land along Lowell Corridor--Presentation of Mary

REFER TO: New Business

G. FROM: Jim Michaud, Assessor

RE: Various Assessing Items

REFER TO: New Business

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

6. NOMINATIONS & APPOINTMENTS (Interview session for year-end term expirations)

All candidates had been invited in advance to attend tonight's meeting, although it is not a requirement for them to do so. Chairman Madison recognized Terry Stewart, the Nomination and Appointments liaison.

A. Building Board of Appeals (1 Vacancy. Term to expire 12/31/00)

Leonard Smith (incumbent) did not wish to speak, saying he'd stand on his record.

Terry McLlarky said his name was under each category, as he is very willing to serve anywhere that the Board thinks he can be used. He believes in the Town of Hudson and has the time and opportunity to serve, and is willing to do so.

B. Cable Committee (1 Vacancy. Term to expire 07/27/00)

Don Fernandes (Incumbent) said he wishes to continue serving on the committee. They are at an important juncture in providing cable service to the Town. The franchise agreement has expired. They are negotiating with Americable, which can be trying at best. It's important that they have people with background in working with Americable. Americable has announced it's intention to sell its franchise business so whoever they deal with, the potential for new faces is there. Thirdly, the expectations of people in terms of their cable provision within the Town. A lot of people see the SciFi channel and think that all of these channels are going to be there at a very low cost. There's a disconnect between people's expectations and what the cable company can actually support to the people. With his background, from a business and technology perspective, he has experience and insights that will be helpful as they negotiate a franchise agreement with whomever. He is also a cable consumer. He has served on the committee for some time and has attended public hearings and listened to the people who have concerns about cable. He has participated in surveys and has an understanding of what people are looking for.

(Start Tape 1, Second Side)

Stephen Boucher said he was seeking the position because they are at an important juncture. There is an awful lot of technology coming down the pike. As a cable user, the current system has been very lacking, especially compared to other municipalities. What the current provider provides is usually done with kicking and screaming at the last minute. He thinks the Town can do better.

Douglas Hackett withdrew, saying that he was with impressed with what Mr. Fernandes said.

Russell Bates, Jr. said he's been a resident for nine years. He has two year old twins and he wants to start getting involved. His expertise is with computers and thinks, with the coming of the 21st Century, they must get involved with the cable to try to get Internet access for the schools.

Phyllis Milan was not present.

Terry McLlarky did not elect to speak again.

John Brunelle was not present.

C. Conservation Commission (2 Members, 1 Alternate. Terms to expire 12/31/00)

John Bilsky (Incumbent Member) was not present.

Christopher Gosselin (Incumbent Member) was not present.

Terry McLlarky did not elect to speak again.

Julie Simpson said she's lived in Hudson for six years and works for NH Cooperative Extension in Community Development. She has worked with several communities on various issues and Hudson probably has some of the same issues. She wanted to use some of her free time to work on community issues. She has sat on other non-profit boards, so she has experience. She thinks she can bring a fresh perspective to the board.

D. Greater Nashua Regional Planning Commission (1 Member. Term to expire 01)

Joseph Wozniak (Incumbent Member) was not present.

Terry McLlarky did not elect to speak again.

E. Planning Board (3 Members. 1 Term to expire 12/31/98; 2 Terms to expire 12/31/00. And (1 Alternate. Term to expire 12/31/00)

George Hall (Incumbent Member) said he's lived in Hudson for 9 years and has been on the Planning Board for five years. His experience is in real estate management and permitting, which has helped him with serving on the Board. He has worked with other communities, so he sees another perspective when working with Hudson's regulations.

Leonard Smith (Incumbent Member) feels he has a lot to contribute to the community, as he has in the past. He wanted to continue to serve on the Planning Board.

Harry Piper said he's a retired land planner-real estate consultant who has lived in Town for 31 years and is thoroughly familiar with Town zoning and subdivision and site plan regulations. He strongly feels his presence on the Board will alleviate some of the problems that they are facing.

Julie Simpson did not elect to speak again.

Richard J. Maddox said he's been a tax payer for nine years and decided it was time to get involved. His job takes him to construction, project management and problem solving, so he thought this was a Board that could use those qualities. He think he could help the Town and the tax payer.

Terry McLlarky did not elect to speak again.

F. Recreation Committee (2 Members. Terms to expire 12/31/00)

Mike Regan (Incumbent Member) was unable to be present.

Pete Heller said he is a 2-year resident of Hudson and recently purchased 52 acres of land abutting Robinson Pond by the recreation area. He was concerned about what the plans were for the recreation area and that's what he wanted to get involved. Chairman Madison said there was more to serving on the Recreation Committee than planning the use of Robinson Pond. Mr. Heller realized that and felt this would be a place where he could learn about the Town--a stepping stone.

Pamela Berube said she has lived in Hudson about 25 years and for 10 years has operated a business in Town, Elite Academy of Gymnastics. She has three children of her own and has taken care of a lot of children with recreational activities. She'd like to serve on the Recreation Committee to make sure Hudson stays active with family and community activities.

Dean Girouard was not present.

Douglas Hackett said he is retired and would like to contribute back to the community. He has lived in Hudson about 30 years and never got involved with politics or serving and would like to do so.

Julie Simpson did not elect to speak again.

Terry McLlarky did not elect to speak again.

G. Sewer Utility Committee (2 Members. Terms to expire 12/31/00)

John Bednar (Incumbent Member) said he's been a resident since 1949 and has grown with the Sewer Utility Committee. He added he didn't need to try to impress the Selectmen of his track record on the committee. He spoke in favor of reappointing Catherine Valley, who was unable to be present tonight. He said the committee has a good surplus and, without too many breaks, they will be ok. They are presently trying to identify the areas of infiltration.

Catherine Valley (Incumbent Member) was not present.

Terry McLlarky did not elect to speak again.

H. Solid Waste Study Committee (1 Member. Term to expire 12/31/00)

John Devic (Incumbent Member. Term to expire 12/31/00) was not present.

Douglas Hackett did not elect to speak again.

Terry McLlarky did not elect to speak again.

I. Zoning Board of Adjustment (3 Members. 2 Terms to expire 12/31/00; 1 Term to expire 12/31/99. And 1 Alternate, Term to expire 12/31/00)

Brad Seabury (Incumbent Member) has been a member for 18 years, and missed only two meetings in that time. He spoke in favor of reappointing fellow members, Charlie Brackett and Jim Pacocha, who were both engineers, which was very useful.

Charlie Brackett (Incumbent Member) was not present.

Jim Pacocha (Incumbent Member) was not present.

Len Lathrop (Incumbent Alternate) said he's enjoyed working on the ZBA for the past six months, and hopes to continue.

Terry McLlarky did not elect to speak again.

Julie Simpson did not elect to speak again.

Chairman Madison said the appointments would be made on December 23rd. Selectman Seabury remarked it was wonderful to see such a big turnout--even for December! All of the other Selectmen agreed.

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Water Company Issues (Rules & Regs and Tariff)

Chairman Madison recognized Paul Sharon, adding that there was a separate handout that goes along with this, which she referred to as Appendix A. She hoped the Board would consider accepting these rules and regs on a first reading, for amendment or adoption following the Town Meeting. Paul said the rules and regs were drafted by the Consultant and are a spinoff from those that the Board has been working with over the last two years. He thinks that it would be appropriate to wait until after Town Meeting for final adoption. The new rate structure should be appended to the rules and regs. The tariff is Consumers PUC-approved tariff rates, factored down by 10%.

Selectman Jasper thought it would behoove the Board to adopt the tariff outright. Going into Friday night, they should have firm figures indicating what the rates will be.

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to adopt the water tariff as proposed in the memo dated 12/9/97 by George Sansoucy to be the water tariff when and if the water company is acquired by the Town of Hudson carried unanimously.

Chairman Madison thought the rules and regulations should be adopted, as well. Paul said the Board might want to amend certain sections after the deliberative session.

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Charbonneau, to adopt the Rules and Regulations, subject to further amendments following the deliberative session.

Chairman Madison referred to Pg 6, Page 12 b, next to the last sentence, and said the first "the Town" should be eliminated. A discussion begun

concerning Charges on Pages 13 & 14, which was realized to be moot because the new rate schedule was adopted in the previous motion.

(Start Tape 2, Side A)

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

Selectman Seabury said the Selectmen have to start actively writing letters to the editors of the local papers in an effort to make sure the acquisition of the water company passes, in an effort that people don't get a snow job from other people who don't know what they are talking about. They need to be told the unbiased facts. Chairman Madison said more importantly, people should attend the meeting Friday night, because that's where it can be amended and, if it is amended, it won't go anywhere. The Board will need the support that night. This will be the only chance they have to buy Consumers Water. This opportunity probably won't present itself again. Selectman Charbonneau said if this doesn't pass, water users will be at the mercy of Consumers Water.

B. State Representative Seat Vacancy

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to request the Governor and Council to approve a special election to fill the vacancy of State Representative to be held at the Annual Town Meeting in March.

Speaking to his motion, Selectman Jasper said hind sight is 20-20 and he wishes that he had supported this months ago. They don't need to become embroiled in this controversy. It's unfortunate the timing didn't work out, which is what they were all hoping for. He wishes he had anticipated the amount of interest this has stirred up in the papers, but he has yet to receive a phone call on this issue. The other Selectmen agreed. Selectman Charbonneau asked what if two people from each party. Selectman Jasper said they they'd have to have a primary, which would occur in February. Chairman Madison said the primary shall be 34 days prior to the special election, so it would be in early February, provided they get a letter to the Governor by the week of the 15th, which is the week it would have to be approved. Selectman Jasper said the general election would be on Town Meeting day in March, regardless. Chairman Madison said it is her understanding that if there are more than two candidates in either party, there would be a primary, but if there is only one candidate in each party, the voting would occur on primary day. The other Selectmen disagreed. Fidele interjected that Chairman Madison was correct, according to information from the Secretary of State. Selectman Jasper was disappointed that Councillor Jim Normand never contacted the Board of Selectmen relative to his strong feelings in this matter; it was a surprise to read about it in the paper.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

C. Receptionist Position in Planning/Zoning

Paul said the job description for this position has been changed to update it to reflect what the position has been currently doing, such as monitoring the keys to Lions Hall, and to include duties that relate to the collection of impact fees, issuance of receipts, response to inquiries, etc. It has not been changed so substantively as to become a new position that would require action relative to union issues. Selectman Seabury asked who would supervise that position. Paul said the Zoning Administrator, which has been the practice for the past year, and the Planner, who will also has some oversight. If it doesn't work out, he said to blame him and he will make sure it works, because he's been working with the two of them to make sure it will.

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to approve the job description and authorize the Zoning Administrator to post and advertise the position carried unanimously.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Donation of Care Bears by the Rotary Club (Public Hearing & Board Action)

Chairman Madison said Care Bears were being donated to the Police and Fire Departments to be placed in emergency vehicles to be used on an "as need" basis. She opened the public hearing at 8:40 p.m. 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 receive the donation, with thanks, carried unanimously.

Barbara Johnson and Angela Ricciardi from the Rotary Club were present, who presented the Care Bears to Chief Gendron and Chief Carpentino.

B. Construction of Ball Field at Robinson Pond

Chairman Madison recognized Keith Bowen, Recreation Director. He came forward with Recreation member, Len Lathrop, and distributed a handout to the Board. Keith credited Len (who prepared the handout) with the great job he did in conceptualizing the plan for the ball park. Chairman Madison asked how far the ball park was from the water. Keith said it's behind the guard house, on the hill where the proposed parking

lot was going to go in. Paul said not to discount Presstek, as a possibility. Keith said the fencing was taken down over there and donated to the Rec Department. Len said the lot they were proposing, was the third lot in, but all of the fencing was on the first and half way into the second lot. While they realize there is still land to be negotiated at Presstek, they want to negotiate something to bring on line in the Spring.

Selectman Seabury asked if the Rec Department would be in charge of the gate. Keith said yes. She asked if the ball field would need lighting. Keith didn't think so, because games are played during daylight hours. Len compared it to Greeley Field, saying the fencing would be the same as at Lions Field and the terrain is better than at Lion's. Most of the heavy grading work has already been done by the Town. Some bulldozing work needs to be done to flatten it out, and seven trees have to be removed. He thinks a lot could be done with parking at Robinson Pond, in and away from the water and closer to the woods, to allow for about 50 cars. Chairman Madison didn't want the construction of the ball park to interfere with the possible use of Robinson Pond again in the future. Keith said the ball park would enhance the pond and vice versa. Len said they'd be glad to share the proposal with the Conservation Commission. Chairman Madison said that might be a nice gesture.

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to approve the proposal to develop a ball field at Robinson Pond carried unanimously.

C. Fire Department Emergency Apparatus Purchase

Chairman Madison recognized the Finance Director and asked why he was recommending that the amount come out of Contingency. Steve Malizia came forward and said it has to come from somewhere. He reminded the Board of their discussions with the auditor, when he advised not using premium monies from Workers Comp fund. That's why he was recommending using some money from Contingency and some from PLIT, which is what he has referred to as Option 2 in his memo. Paul concurred with that.

Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Charbonneau, to approve Option #2 and transfer \$13,093.17 from Contingency 5940-298 and \$10,560 from Property Liability Insurance Trust 5910-201 to 5610-238 carried 4-0. Selectman Jasper abstained because it was a Fire Department issue. (Steve said he will prepare the necessary paperwork for signature.)

(Start Tape 2, Second Side)

D. NHMA PLIT, Multi-Year Guarantee Program

Chairman Madison recognized Finance Director Steve Malizia, who said they received information from NHMA PLIT, which said the Town would get a reduction on the premiums of about 5% per year, over the next two years, if they sign up for a two-year program. The Town has been using this program for several years. In addition, this year, he anticipates a rebate of 2 ½% rebate for this fiscal year, or about \$3,900. Over two years, they may save a total of approximately \$20,000.

Selectman Charbonneau asked if this ever went out for bid. Steve said he has not, that the Town has been with NHMA for a number of years. Paul said this is the Municipal Trust, under the umbrella of NHMA. There are some private agencies that, in the past, have indicated they could beat what that Trust is doing, but the Town even got an apology letter from one of the brokers who was making all of the pronouncements. The Trust has done a good job for the Town. Selectman Charbonneau asked if the members who served on the advisory board were municipal employees. Paul said the Board of Directors were made of municipal elected and appointed officials. Selectman Charbonneau asked why the private sector hasn't been tested. Paul in the 70's, everyone across the country had private liability carriers and cities and towns got dumped, as a result of Supreme Court findings relative to liability issues relating to local government. In almost every state, municipal pools were formulated to avoid this from happening again; New Hampshire is no exception. Going to a private insurance carrier at this point would risk getting dropped or increased premiums. The general feeling is that this is as good as they are going to get.

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to participate in the multi-year guarantee rate program with NHMA carried unanimously.

E. Agreement for Geographic Information System (GIS) Services (Camp Dresser & McKee Inc.)

Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Charbonneau, to approve the agreement.

Chairman Madison then recognized the Town Administrator. Paul said this action is necessary to take them to the next step in the GIS program, adding that Mike Gospodarek did a lot of excellent work to come up with a proposal that would fund the most difficult part of the GIS program. This is one link in the formula Mike developed with the Planning Board controlled funds for part of it. The Planning Board has authorized the release of the funds in the amount of \$9,900. Staff all concurs they should proceed. Selectman Jasper asked what accounts the money is coming from. Mike Gospodarek confirmed they were Planning Board controlled agency fee type accounts. The photography work will be done in early Spring, before the leaves come out.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

F. Purchase of land along Lowell Corridor--Presentation of Mary

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Charbonneau, to endorse the general agreement, subject to the final bid numbers carried unanimously.

G. Various Assessing Items:

1) Abatement of Timber Tax Warrant (reissuance, 18 Par Lane, Map 4, Lot 4-50)

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

2) Disabled Exemption, Map 45, Lot 41, 25 Winnhaven Drive

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

3) Intent to Cut, Copeland Drive, Map 31, Lot 88-1

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

H. Setting Meeting Schedule for 1998

Chairman Madison said the schedule was the same as before, the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month. She asked if there were any changes.

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

Selectman Seabury said several of the Selectmen would be away during the week of February 24. The Board decided to meet the 17th instead. Selectman Jasper said he would make that as part of his motion; the seconder agreed.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Bandstand

Selectman Ann Seabury announced that she and Selectman Charbonneau met with the Bandstand Committee. Since acquisition of the Benson land by the Town might be a reality, they thought that might be a better location for the large, originally-proposed bandstand, and a smaller, modular, decorative type gazebo placed on the Town Common. Because of the potential for obtaining federal funds at Benson's, they would be able to build a larger, better bandstand up there. The committee has about half the funds for the smaller bandstand, which will be used for speakers at Memorial Day festivities, the art exhibit, etc. Selectman Stewart said there already is a bandstand at Benson's that could probably be renovated. They will look for it during their walk-through next week.

B. Petitions to Amend the Zoning Ordinance

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Stewart, to refer the petition received from Manny Sousa to amend the Zoning Ordinance to the Planning Board, and any others that the Selectmen's office receives through December 10, carried unanimously.

C. Housekeeping Measure--Two Ordinances were assigned #097-02

Chairman Madison said that on August 26, 1997 the Board adopted a sewer use ordinance as 097-02. In November, they adopted another ordinance dealing with stop signs under the same number.

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Charbonneau, to amend the Code establishing Stop Signs at various intersections to 097-03 so the records can be corrected carried unanimously.

D. Christmas Trees (Hawker/Peddler issue)

Selectman Jasper said he has seen Christmas trees for sale around Town, but doesn't remember seeing any Hawker-Peddler requests come before the Selectmen. Chairman Madison said she's already checked this out and the Planning Board is in charge of it. It comes through on a site plan. Selectman Jasper said the Selectmen still have to issue the permits. Selectman Charbonneau agreed with him. Selectman Jasper started to say the Selectmen had said that, in order for someone to sell the trees, but was interrupted by Paul, who said they couldn't locate there without the

approval of the Planning Board. Selectman Jasper said they still have to do the Hawker-Peddler's permit, and only the Board can do that. Paul said he was right about that. Selectman Jasper said they are normally done before Thanksgiving. They can't locate without the approval of the Planning Board, but the Selectmen still have to issue the permit. Hawker-Peddler permits still have to be done. Selectman Jasper said, given the late date, he doesn't have any problem with someone just coming into the office for signature. He doesn't want to close anyone down, but the people have to be told they still need to get their Hawker-Peddler permits.

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Charbonneau, to instruct the Zoning Administrator to visit vendors selling Christmas trees and inform them they need a Hawker-Peddler permit carried unanimously.

10. LICENSES AND PERMITS

Request by the Knights of Columbus to hold a raffle for 25 weeks to benefit charity

Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Jasper, to approve the raffle permit request carried unanimously.

11. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

A. BOS Minutes of 11/18/97

B. BOS Minutes of 11/25/97

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

12. COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS

12/10 7:30 Budget Committee in Selectmen's Meeting Room

12/10 7:00 Planning Board in Planning/Zoning Meeting Room

12/11 7:30 Budget Committee in Selectmen's Meeting Room

12/11 7:30 ZBA in Planning/Zoning Meeting Room

12/12 7:30 Special Town Meeting Deliberative Session at Memorial School

12/15 7:30 Conservation Commission in Planning/Zoning Meeting Room

12/15 7:00 Library Trustees in Selectmen's Meeting Room

12/15 7:30 pm Water Co Travel Team--Nottingham West Lions Club

12/17 5:00 BOS w/Labor Relations Consultant in Selectmen's Meeting Room

12/17 7:30 Budget Committee in Selectmen's Meeting Room

12/17 7:00 Planning Board in Planning/Zoning Meeting Room

12/18 7:30 am Water Co Travel Team--Rotary Mtg at Connie's

12/18 7:30 Budget Committee in Selectmen's Planning/Zoning Meeting Room

12/23 7:30 BOS in Selectmen's Meeting Room

13. REMARKS BY THE SELECTMEN

Shawn Jasper said they haven't been doing liaison updates, and there are two issues of importance that are coming before the Budget Committee: the warrant articles from the School Board for a new school and for a kindergarten. He asked for direction from the Board on how they wanted him to vote on those two matters. Chairman Madison asked where they would put it. Selectman Jasper said they're looking at the Benson land, the Demarais property across from Alvirne, and at Alvirne itself. Chairman Madison asked when it was going to be voted on. Selectman Jasper said this week or next, but before the next Selectmen's meeting. Chairman Madison wanted more information on it. Selectman Jasper said they didn't

have to vote on it, but he'd like some general direction from the Board. Selectman Seabury said Nashua has kindergarten, but they still have the readiness program. Chairman Madison said that information wasn't official since it didn't come from the School Department.

(Start Tape 3, Side A)

Chairman Madison said since they didn't have a lot of information, Selectman Jasper would have to use his best judgement. Personally, she'd like to see kindergarten, as Hudson is the only town that doesn't have it. Selectman Jasper said that wasn't true, adding that they have a lot of irons in the fire, and they only have so much money, so they have to look at priorities. Selectman Seabury said the middle school is awfully crowded, with 32 kids to a class. If they keep building schools for the smaller grades, it will put more of a burden on Memorial, which is in dire need of repairs. Selectman Jasper said the Budget Committee has approved about \$150,000 for repair work to do be done. Selectman Seabury said it's in tough shape--asbestos tile is breaking in half and students have to roll desks between classrooms in order to have enough desks for the kids. Money is never funneled into the middle school, where help is needed.

Chairman Madison asked Selectmen if he wanted one or two votes. Selectman Jasper said he hasn't seen any of the plans, so he doesn't know if the plans would show that the kindergarten would be physically attached to the school. He just wanted the general feeling of the Board. He said they hear the schools are getting crowded, but there is also the incredible shrinking schools--they all got smaller. He understands that for one disabled child at Memorial, they are taking a whole classroom to take care of that child's needs. He has no doubt they will need to build another school; he's just not sure when.

Selectman Charbonneau said, concerning Memorial, they haven't looked at alternatives. She thinks an addition could be put on, but they don't want to hear that. Once you build a new school, you have custodians and administrative staff. An addition would cut down a certain amount of staffing needs. She thinks they should come in with alternatives to the schools. She said the initial cost of \$7 million was easy; it's the upkeep that will cost the money. She asked who was going to pick up the tab for \$2.5 million when Litchfield is pulled out of Alvirne. When you start adding everything together, it adds up to big bucks.

Chairman Madison asked the Selectmen if they were in favor. Selectmen Charbonneau, Seabury and Stewart all said no. Chairman Madison announced she wasn't going to vote because she was too close to the issue.

Library's Request for Warrant Articles

Selectman Jasper asked about the Library's request. Chairman Madison said that was referred to the Warrant, via Attorney Ratigan. Selectman Jasper said it has to have a recommendation by the Selectmen.

"To see if the Town of Hudson will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$14,490 said sum to represent a 4% increase in wages and benefits for the employees of the Hills Memorial Library."

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Seabury, to send to the Warrant a request to raise and appropriate a 3% increase in wages and benefits failed. Selectmen Jasper and Seabury were in favor. Selectmen Madison, Stewart and Charbonneau were opposed.

Chairman Madison thought it should be 4%; Selectman Charbonneau suggested 2½ %. Selectman Jasper said, in view of the vote, it would come down to either 3% or 0. Chairman Madison said the 3% already failed. Selectman Jasper said it could be reconsidered. Chairman Madison asked Selectman Jasper to take the Chair.

Motion by Selectman Madison, seconded by Selectman Seabury, to reconsider carried 3-2. In favor were Selectmen Jasper, Madison and Seabury. Selectmen Charbonneau and Stewart were opposed.

Selectman Jasper turned the Chair back over to Chairman Madison.

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Seabury, to send to the Warrant a request to raise and appropriate a 3% increase in wages and benefits carried 3-2. In favor were Selectmen Jasper, Madison and Seabury. Selectmen Charbonneau and Stewart were opposed.

"To see if the Town of Hudson will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$480,000 for the purchase of land for future library expansion."

The Board was not in favor of sending this to the Warrant.

14. NONPUBLIC SESSIONS

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Seabury, 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; and 91-A:3 II (b)The hiring of any person as a public employee carried 5-0 by roll call vote.

Nonpublic Session was entered into at 9:30 p.m. and was terminated at 10:01 p.m.

Votes taken in Open Session:

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Seabury, to hire seven police officers, effective January 5, 1998: Kevin S. DiNapoli @ 14.68; John D. McGregor IV @ 15.05; Michael R. Nivan @ 15.05; Scott J. MacDonald @ 14.32; Tad K. Dionne @ 14.32; Pamela A. Julian @ 14.32; James P. Connor @ 14.32 carried unanimously. (The swearing in ceremony will be January 22, 1997 at 3:00 p.m. at HPD.)

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Stewart, that per Article 32 of the Hudson Professional Management Association contract, Merit Awards, Dorothy Carey be awarded \$500 and Lisa Nute be awarded \$500 carried unanimously.

Motion by Selectman Jasper, seconded by Selectman Stewart, that per the recommendation of the Finance Director, Joyce Williamson, a non-union, temporary employee, be granted a \$1.01 /hr pay raise to a rate of \$10.87 per hour, Grade VIII, Step 1, effective immediately, carried unanimously.

15. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Selectman Stewart, seconded by Selectman Jasper, to adjourn at 10:10 p.m. 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

