

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the January 28, 2020 Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER  
By Chairman Morin for the meeting of January 28, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at Town Hall
2. MOMENT OF SILENCE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE  
Prior to the Pledge of Allegiance, Chairman Morin read a statement and asked the all in attendance to participate in a moment of silence in honor of Officer Katie Thyne of the Newport News, Virginia Police Department. Officer Thyne was killed in the line of duty last week. She was a graduate of Alvirine High School.  
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Bill Collis, Vice-Chairman of the Conservation Commission.
3. ATTENDANCE  
Board of Selectmen: David Morin, Kara Roy, Roger Coutu, Marilyn McGrath, and Normand Martin  
Staff/Others: Steve Malizia - Town Administrator; Jill Laffin - Executive Assistant;  
Jess Forrence - Director of Public Works; Rob Buxton - Fire Chief; Bill Avery, Police Chief, Master Patrol Officer Jason Downey; Police Sgt. Roger Lamarche; Gary Gasdia - School Board Representative; Bill Collins, Vice-Chairman of the Conservation Commission
4. PUBLIC INPUT  
Chairman Morin asked if anyone in the audience wished to address the Board on any issue which the Board has control of at this time. Seeing none
5. RECOGNITIONS, NOMINATIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS
  - A. Resignations:  
  
*Motion made to accept the resignation of Mike Pitre, member of the Citizen's Traffic Advisory Committee. Motion carried 5-0.*  
  
Mr. Thomas Barrett was scheduled to come before the Board this evening to be interviewed and appointed as a member to the Citizen's Traffic Advisory Committee. Due to illness he will be interviewed and appointed at a future meeting.
6. CONSENT ITEMS  
Chairman Morin asked if any member of the Board wanted to remove any Consent Items for separate consideration. No consent items were removed for separate consideration. Upon reviewing the upcoming calendar, the Board decided to cancel their February 10<sup>th</sup> meeting and instead hold a meeting on February 4<sup>th</sup>.
  - A. Assessing Items
    - 1) Veteran Tax Credits (deferred from 1/14 mtg.) Map 139, Lot 013 - 4 North Ridge Rd. - Map 253, Lot 065-15 Schaeffer Cir.
    - 2) Veteran Tax Credits: Map 216, Lot 014 - 44 Reflection Road; Map 127, Lot 003 - 18 Hopkins Drive
    - 3) All Veterans Tax Credits: Map 177, Lot 050 - 49 Bear Path Lane
    - 4) 2019 Property Tax Abatement: Map 173, Lot 18 - 17 Tolles Street
    - 5) 2019 Property Tax Supplemental Tax Bill: Map 245, Lot 8 - 31 Fairway Drive

### Water/Sewer Items

- 1) Water Abatement W-UTL-20-01 - 13 Hickory Street w/ recommendation to approve

### Licenses, Permits and Policies

- 1) Hawker/Peddler/Itinerant Vendor's License - Lix Ice Cream
- 2) Tag Day Permit - Girls Scouts of the Green and White Mountains
- 3) Outdoor Gathering Permit & Raffle Permit - Ice Fishing Tournament - Hudson Kiwanis Club
- 4) Hawker/Peddler/Itinerant Vendor's License - The Blushing Rose

### Donations

- 1) \$831.58 to Hudson Recreation Department from AAT Photo
- 2) \$400.00 to Hudson Fire Department from Sparkling River Condo Association of Hudson

### Acceptance of Minutes

- 1) Minutes of the January 14, 2020 Meeting

### Calendar

- 2/4 7:00 Board of Selectmen Workshop - BOS Meeting Room
- 2/1 9:00 School Deliberative Session
- 2/5 8:30 Highway Safety Committee - Buxton Meeting Room
- 2/5 7:00 Budget Committee - CANCELLED
- 2/8 9:00 Town Deliberative Session
- 2/10 7:00 Cable Utility Committee - CANCELLED
- 2/10 7:00 Conservation Commission
- 2/10 7:00 Board of Selectmen (note this meeting is on Monday as Tuesday, 2/11 is the Presidential Primary)

Selectman Coutu made a motion, seconded by Selectman Martin, to approve Consent Items A, B, C, D, E and F as amended. Motion carried 5-0.

## 7. OLD BUSINESS

### A. Votes taken after Nonpublic Session on January 14, 2019

- 1) Selectman Martin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy, to approve the hiring of Andrew Silver for the position of Firefighter/AEMT in the Fire Department at the contracted salary of \$20.55 per hour (step 1). This assignment will be a non-exempt position in accordance with the International Association of Firefighters Local #3154 as per the union contract. Carried 5-0.

- 2) Selectman Coutu made a motion to adjourn at 9:50 p.m. This was seconded by Selectman Martin. Carried 5-0.

- B. Hawker/Peddler/Itinerant Vendor's License which was deferred from 1/14/20 Meeting -Spring Hill Catering

Mr. Malizia informed the Board that there was correspondence in front of them regarding this application. Selectman McGrath stated I requested that that be deferred so we could determine whether or not they were in compliance with the Zoning Board special exception and the stipulations of approval. I talked to Bruce. I had also received a complaint about that particular business. So I filled out the complaint form, I talked to Bruce, he did an inspection and talked to the property owner and they are in compliance so we can move forward. Selectman Coutu made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy, to approve Hawker/Peddler License for Spring Hill Catering. Carried 5-0.

## 8. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Public Hearing - Acceptance of the 2020 Exotic Aquatic Plant Control Grant from NHDES

Chairman Morin recognized Bill Collins, Vice-Chairman of the Conservation Commission. Mr. Collins went on to explain that is time to review the aquatic plant controls at Robinson Pond and Ottarnic Pond. The State has supplied us with the new level of funding for this year with a total grant amount up to \$22,634.00 the grant will be divvied up between Robinson Pond and Ottarnic Pond for both chemical treatment and diver assisted suction harvesting. The chemical treatments will take place mainly in June at Ottarnic Pond and Robinson Pond. The diver assisted plant harvesting will take place from April through November. I'm here today to see if you guys will accept the current grant. Also the difference will be paid for from the Conservation Commission professional services fund. Chairman Morin opened a public hearing at 7:10 p.m. Seeing no one present to discuss the matter at hand, Chairman Morin closed the public hearing at 7:10 p.m. Selectman Coutu made a motion, seconded by Selectman McGrath to accept the Exotic Aquatic Plan Control Grant from NHDES. Carried 5-0.

- B. Contract Approval for DASH and Herbicide Treatment for removal of milfoil at Ottarnic Pond and Robinson Pond

Chairman Morin recognized Bill Collins, Vice Chairman of the Conservation Commission. Mr. Collins went on to explain that this is for the contract approval for DASH and Herbicide treatment removal of milfoil at Ottarnic Pond and Robinson Pond. The current contract is Solitude for the chemical treatments and Aqualogic who did the work last year at Robinson Pond. Aqualogic was out on site last year for a couple of days. I was out there and I was able to observe their operation. They seem to do a reasonably good job in harvesting all the plant matter from around the boat launch area and some of the other areas of the pond. The chemical treatments will be pretty intense at Ottarnic this year. They're going to try two different chemicals to try to treat the species out there. But there will be no DASH dives taking place over there. Chairman Morin asked if there were any questions for Mr. Collins. Selectman Roy made a motion, seconded by Selectman McGrath to approve and sign the attached 2020 Contracts for Solitude Lake Management for herbicide treatment for Robinson and Ottarnic Pond not to exceed \$33,977.00 and Aqualogic for DASH work for both Robinson and Ottarnic Ponds not to exceed \$22,600.00. The cost of these contracts will be covered by the NHDES Exotic Aquatic Plant Control Grant at 40% cost match up to \$22,643.00, and the Town portion will be covered through the Conservation Commission Professional Services account (acct. #5586-252). Carried 5-0.

C. Donation Acceptance for Police Comfort Dog, Haven

Chairman Morin welcomed Master Patrol Officer, Jason Downey and Sgt. Roger Lamarche. Officer Downey said that he is here to acknowledge some of the very generous donations from corporations in Town. Bay State Welding donated \$2,500, Mike's Pie's donated \$250.00, American Legion Post #48 donated \$250, Sons of the American Legion donated \$25.00 and Officer Downey's aunt, Paula Downey from Weymouth Massachusetts, donated \$25.00. A total amount of \$3,050.00 Officer Downey said that he was just made aware that Selectman McGrath made a donation as well. He wanted to thank her personally. He went on to list some additional expected donations that the Department will be receiving in the near future. Officer Downey went on to tell the Board that the donations the Department is receiving for Haven are going towards her future vet bills and incidentals such as toys, beds, waste bags etc. Selectman Martin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Martin, to accept the donations in the total amount of \$3,050.00 from the businesses in the community. Carried 5-0.

D. Public Works Request to Advertise for Traffic Technician Position

Chairman Morin recognized Jess Forrence, Director of Public Works. Mr. Forrence went on to explain that when the previous traffic technician was promoted to foreman at the DPW, it created an open position. Mr. Forrence went on to explain that this is a busy position that he would like to get the position posted in house. The position has been in there for twenty years. It's a well-deserved, well-earned position. With the stuff that the Town Engineer has come up with it keeps him quite busy. He'd like to post this in house and fill it in house if all the candidates meet the job description we created, including some of the new traffic stuff but I think we've got a pretty good shot. Selectman Coutu made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to authorize the Public Works Director to post, in house, the position of Traffic Technician. Carried 5-0.

9. REMARKS BY SCHOOL BOARD

Chairman Morin recognized School Board member Gary Gasdia. Mr. Gasdia thanked the Board for having him. He had a few things to inform the Board and public of. First being the "Penguin Plunge" where a large number of students are going to be jumping in the ocean to raise money. It is an annual event where a lot of money is raised. Mr. Gasdia also wanted to remind everyone that the School Deliberative Session will be this Saturday, February 1<sup>st</sup> at 9:00 a.m. at the Community Center. He also went on to say that he thinks the partnerships between the Schools and the Town have made a lot of progress. He especially wanted to thank Selectman Roy and Mr. Malizia for joining the monthly HCTV show with Mr. Russell.

10. REMARKS BY TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Malizia said we've cut the purchase order for the blue light on Lowell Road and Sagamore Bridge intersection. It will probably take a couple of weeks for that to come in. He also explained that there is a hearing tomorrow at the Senate for the bill that was talking about the County Fees. He believes Mr. Michaud is going up to attend. I also put something on your desk this evening. There's a letter and an invoice to the DOT. Back on the 16<sup>th</sup> of January we had to go out and take care of Kimball Hill Road. There was an accident. It was very serious. So I think we should bill them. At least send something back that way. I put something on your desk. If this is acceptable I'll have the Chairman sign and send it off. Discussion ensued about the time and cost of fire and police personnel to be on the scene of the accident on 1/16. It was decided that the Mr. Malizia will work with fire and police to find out the cost accrued by the Town and will include that in a revised letter.

11. OTHER BUSINESS/REMARKS BY THE SELECTMEN

Selectman Coutu: Selectman Coutu said apparently the commissioner herself should be coming to Hudson to talk to this Board with Senator Carson. Chairman Morin said, I was going to discuss that under my comments but go ahead if you want to bring it up now while we're talking about it. Selectman Coutu said well, I just did. The Commissioner of DOT is coming to Hudson to discuss with us. I know what is going to happen about the check because I already had discussions with the Deputy Commission about the check but as you're aware Mr. Chairman, this is nothing new. This is repetitive year after year after year we call

them and guess what the excuse is always the same. We don't have enough truck drivers to man all the plows and I made it very clear to the Deputy Commissioner. You need to come up with something better because this is what you tell us every year. And one year, I believe it was like four years ago, the trucks were parked by Cookies in the parking lot and the road was loaded with snow and cars were slipping and we had to call them to get somebody down here to wake these guys up to tell them they're supposed to be plowing, not parked at Cookies having coffee and smokes. And that's what they did. They had to send out of Bedford, which I think is where their office is, they had to send a supervisor down here to tell them to get the trucks out of the parking lot they had a complaint. So every year it's basically we don't have enough truck drivers. That's the excuse they use in the summer sometimes as well for road clean ups. Oh we don't have enough people or they cut our budget. I'm so sick of hearing it and they were upset at me because I had sent Governor Sununu a picture of the vehicle on its roof and something to the effect thank you governor, this guy might have lost his life because our state didn't plow their road. And they said you didn't do that but I said yeah, that's exactly what I did. So, I hope we have a response from the Commissioner so she can know it's not just one or two of us complaining. We represent the Town and I think we're all in accord that if they're supposed to be plowing the road, get the plows out and get it done.

Chairman Morin said, you're all familiar with the incident we're talking about. What I got I had one of our legislators and Senator Carson actually both contacted me and they both had contacted the Deputy Commissioner. In the email that was written back to the State I don't know what the problem is. The Town roads were worse than our roads. Which, that never happens. Selectman Coutu said that was the Deputy Commissioner. The person he spoke to at our level at the Bedford office said I went down there to look at the incident and I noticed that the roads in Hudson were worse than our road. I was livid when I read that in my email. That our roads were worse. I've never heard anyone say that Hudson roads are bad. They're the best around. They're not compared to the State for sure. Chairman Morin said okay, I will speak to Senator Carson. I just wanted to make sure I talked to everyone tonight before we did that. She said she would set up the meeting and she asked if we'd invite the Chiefs that night also and we will get that. We'll do it at one of our workshops.

Selectman Martin: Mr. Gasdia said it all. We're going to be there on Saturday at 9:00 a.m. Come down and have coffee and donuts with us and then we'll have a meeting. A productive meeting I hope. Hopefully we don't go into the wee hours of the day and then our Deliberative Session and that's all I have.

Selectman Roy: Just a couple of things. I'll reiterate, the School Deliberative Session is on the first of February at 9:00 a.m. in the Community Center. Town Deliberative Session is on February 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. in the Community Center and the Presidential Primary is on February 11<sup>th</sup> at the Community Center. The Community Center is going to be a very busy place. And the polls are open 7:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.

Selectman McGrath: I just have one thing. Reminding everyone that is watching this meeting that the Police Department is having their open house tomorrow evening from 6-8PM and I would encourage all of you that are interested and plan to vote in the election, and hopefully favorably for the expansion of the Police Department, to take the opportunity to tour and see what the conditions are there.

Selectman Morin: Speaking of the polls, there will be a group touring the Memorial School tomorrow to plan out how things will go for the presidential election. On the 7<sup>th</sup> we're going to Nashua to meet with the mayor to discuss the train station.

## 12. NONPUBLIC SESSION

*Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to go into non-public meeting session under RSA 91-A:3II (b) the hiring of any person as a public employee, RSA 91-A:3, II (a) strategy or negotiations with respect to collective bargaining, and RSA 91-A-2, II (d) consideration of the acquisition, sale or lease of real or personal property, which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interest are adverse to those of the general community. Chairman Morin asked for a roll call vote. Motion carried 5-0.*

Nonpublic Session was entered at 7:35 p.m., thus ending the televised portion of the meeting. Any votes taken upon entering open session will be listed on the Board's next agenda. The public was asked to leave the room.

Chairman Morin brought the meeting back into open session at 8:21 p.m.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Roy, to deny the Step 2 Grievance filed by the Hudson Public Works Union, AFSCME Local 1801 for the Class Action Hours of Work and Overtime Double Time. Carried 5-0.

Motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman Coutu, to hire Raymond Abair for the position of Inspector in the Fire Department at the contracted salary of \$24.07 per hour (step 1). This agreement will be a non-exempt position in accordance with the Hudson Support Staff Union, AFSCME Local 1801 as recommended by the Fire Chief. Carried 5-0.

Motion by Selectman McGrath, seconded by Selectman Roy, to accept the offer, in the amount of \$40,000, from 4NH Homes LLC to purchase Tax Deeded property located at 151 Robinson Road.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Selectman McGrath made a motion to adjourn at 8:23 p.m. This was seconded by Selectman Roy. Motion carried 5-0.

Recorded by HCTV and transcribed by Jill Laffin, Executive Assistant.

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David S. Morin, Chairman

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Kara Roy, Vice-Chairman

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Roger E. Coutu, Selectman

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Marilyn E. McGrath, Selectman

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Norman G. Martin, Selectman