

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the January 14, 2020 Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER

By Chairman Morin for the meeting of January 14, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at Town Hall

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Officer Taylor Morin of the Hudson Police Department.

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; Rob Buxton - Fire Chief; Elvis Dhima - Town Engineer; numerous members of the Hudson Police Department and Hudson Fire Department

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. Recognitions

Chairman Morin recognized Reverend David Howe for his 35 years of service as Hudson Police Chaplain and his 31 years of service as Hudson Fire Chaplain. There were many members of the Hudson Police and Hudson Fire Department present as well as Reverend Howe's family. Upon receiving his certificate he received a standing ovation from the crowd.

Chairman recognized Hudson Fire Captain, Kevin Blinn and Hudson Fire Deputy Chief Paquette for going above and beyond the call of Duty on December 15, 2019. On December 15th Cpt. Blinn, Deputy Paquette and FF Andrew Perkins were attending a funeral in Nashua when a woman from a residence across the street came running in asking for help for a family member in distress. The three raced across the street where they were able to perform CPR and call for an ambulance. On behalf of the Town of Hudson and Board of Selectmen the three were given certificates of commendation.

B. Interviews

Zoning Board of Appeals - (1 vacancy; 1 member term which expired 12/31/19, 4 alternate terms all which expire 12/31/21)

Brian Etienne (incumbent alternate wishing to become member) Mr. Etienne was present. Selectman McGrath had praise for the job Mr. Etienne has done as an alternate member of the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy, to suspend the rules and nominate and appoint Brian Etienne as a member to the Zoning Board of Appeals with a term to expire 12/31/22. Motion carried 5-0.

Municipal Utility Committee - (1 vacancy; 1 member term which will expire 4/30/21)

Dawn Lavacchia

Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Coutu, to suspend the rules and nominate and appoint Dawn Lavacchia as a member to the Municipal Utility Committee with a term to expire 4/30/21. Carried 5-0.

Citizens Traffic Advisory Committee - (2 member vacancies; which expire 4/30/22, 1 alternate vacancy)

Harry Schibanoff was present, though the Board did not have any questions for him, Selectman Coutu and Selectman McGrath both had great praise for the Mr. Schibanoff and how valued he's been as a member on different Town committees to date.

Selectman Coutu made a motion, seconded by Selectman McGrath to suspend the rules and nominate and appoint Harry Schibanoff as a member to the Citizens Traffic Advisory Committee with a term to expire 4/30/22. Carried 5-0.

Citizens Traffic Advisory Committee - (2 member vacancies; which expire 4/30/22, 1 alternate vacancy)

Mike Pitre was present. Selectman Coutu and Selectman McGrath praised Mr. Pitre for previous service to Town committees. Though they both questioned if appointed to the Citizen's Traffic Advisory Committee, would Mr. Pitre be fully committed to his seat. Mr. Pitre assured the Board that his job now requires far less travel than in the past and that he is committed to serving on the Citizen's Traffic Advisory Committee.

Selectman Coutu made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy, to suspend the rules and nominate and appoint Mike Pitre as a member to the Citizens Traffic Advisory Committee with a term to expire 4/30/22. Carried 5-0.

Nashua Regional Planning Commission - (1 member vacancy which expires 12/31/23)

James Battis (incumbent member) was present. Selectman Coutu praised Mr. Battis for his work and commitment thus far, as a member of the Nashua Regional Planning Committee.

Selectman McGrath made a motion to suspend the rules and nominate and appoint James Battis as a member to the Nashua Regional Planning Commission. Carried 5-0.

6. CONSENT ITEMS

Chairman Morin asked if any member of the Board wanted to remove any Consent Items for separate consideration. Chairman Roy stated she wanted to remove, under Assessing Items, Veteran's Tax Credit for 4 North Ridge Road and 15 Schaeffer Circle. Selectman Roy wanted clarification from the Assessing Department as to the branch of service for each address as well as the type of discharge resident at 4 North Ridge Road received. The Town Administrator stated he would find out the info and report back at the next meeting.

A. Assessing Items

1) Veteran Tax Credits: Map 184, Lot 032, Sub 061-2 Graham Ct.; Map 242, Lot 062 - 14 Gowing Rd; Map 248, Lot 001, Sub 006 - 12B Nichols Cir.; Map 147, Lot 017, Sub 007 - 37 Lexington Ct.; Map 139, Lot 013 - Map 168, Lot 068, Sub 037 - 317 Fox Run Rd.; Map 149, Lot 001, Sub 030 - 27 Glasgow Cir.;

- 2) Blind Exemption: Map 208, Lot 004 - 152 Bush Hill Rd.
- 3) 2019 Tax Abatement: Map 157, Lot 66-47 - 96 Barbara Lane
- 4) 2019 Tax Abatement: May 116, Lot 98 - 29 Senter Farm Road
- 5) 2019 Tax Abatement: Map 168, Lot 68-26 - 306 Fox Run
- 6) 2019 Tax Abatement: Map 204, Lot 6-138 - 138 Fox Hollow Drive

Selectman Coutu made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy, to approve all Assessing Items with the exception of 4 North Ridge Road and 15 Schaeffer Circle. Motion Carried 5-0.

B. Water/Sewer Items

C. Licenses, Permits and Policies

- 1) Hawker/Peddler/Itinerant Vendor's License - Spring Hill Catering, Inc.
- 2) Hawker/Peddler/Itinerant Vendor's License - Jimmy's Catering
- 3) Hawker/Peddler/Itinerant Vendor's License - Just Coffee Plus

Selectman McGrath stated she wanted to defer voting on approving Spring Hill Catering, Inc. until next meeting as she received a resident complaint about this vendor and wanted to follow up with the Zoning Administrator. Selectman Coutu made a motion, seconded by Selectman Martin, to approve licenses for Jimmy's Catering and Just Coffee Plus. Motion carried 5-0.

D. Donations -

- \$100.00 donation to the Hudson Fire Department from Sean and Linda Dyken
- \$100.00 donation to the Hudson Police Department from Sean and Linda Dyken

E. Acceptance of Minutes

- 1) Minutes of the December 10, 2019 Meeting
- 2) Minutes of the December 17, 2019 Meeting

Selectman Coutu made a motion, seconded by Selectman McGrath to approve Consent Items B, D, E and F as noted and appropriate. Motion carried 5-0.

F. Calendar

- 1/15 6:00 Library Trustees - Hills Memorial Library
- 1/16 7:00 Budget Committee - Hudson Community Center
- 1/16 - 7:00 Benson Park Committee - HCTV
- 1/21 - 7:00 Budget Committee - Hudson Community Center
- 1/21 - 7:00 Municipal Utility Committee - BOS Meeting Room
- 1/23 - 7:00 Zoning Board - Buxton Meeting Room
- 1/27 - 7:00 Sustainability Committee - Buxton Meeting Room
- 1/28 - 7:00 Board of Selectmen - BOS Meeting Room

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Votes taken after Nonpublic Session on December 10, 2019

Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to approve the hiring of Mike Rotast as Deputy Assessor within the Assessing Department at a rate of \$29.02 per hour, in accordance with Step 2 of that position classification within the Hudson Police, Fire and Town Supervisors Association Contract.
Vote 5-0, carried.

Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to approve the recommended Grade Adjustment of the Deputy Assessor position.
Vote 5-0, carried.

Selectman Coutu made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to promote Jeremy Faulkner to the position of Street Foreman at Grade XVI, Step 7 at \$33.59 per hour in accordance with the Hudson Public Works Local 1801 contract.
Vote 5-0, carried.

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

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

Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to approve the Finance Directors request to buy back eighty (80) hours of her vacation time.
Vote 5-0, carried.

Selectman Martin made a motion, seconded by Selectman McGrath to approve the Fire Chief's request to buy back one hundred (100) hours of his vacation time.
Vote 5-0, carried.

Motion to adjourn at 10:14 p.m. by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Martin, carried 5- 0

B. Votes taken after Nonpublic Session on December 17, 2019

Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy, to approve hiring of Mike Rotast as Deputy Assessor within the Assessing Department at a rate of \$31.38 per hour, in accordance with Step 5 of that position classification within the Hudson Police, Fire and Town Supervisors Association Contract., Carried 4-1 with Selectman Coutu in opposition.

Selectman McGrath made a motion to adjourn at 6:53 p.m., seconded by Selectman Roy, carried 5-0.

- C. BOS to reconsider petitioned Warrant Article - to increase membership to the Conservation Commission
Chairman Morin to recognize Town Administrator, Steve Malizia

Chairman Morin recognized Mr. Malizia. Mr. Malizia stated that at the December 10, 2019 meeting of the BOS stated that they wanted to revisit this topic. The Board decided at this time that they do not want to reconsider the petitioned warrant article to increase the membership to the Conservation Commission.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Public Hearing - Warrant Article D - Bond Police Facility Expansion and Renovation

Chairman Morin opened the Public Hearing on Warrant Article D - Bonding of the Police Facility Expansion and Renovation at 7:30 PM. Seeing no public present to comment, the Public Hearing was closed by the Chairman at 7:31 PM. Mr. Malizia stated that this public hearing is a formality and no motion is required as this article has been forwarded to the Warrant already.

Selectman McGrath was recognized by the Chairman as wishing to speak on this item. Selectman McGrath went on to explain that after speaking with Town Planner, Brian Groth, it's been determined that CAP fees can now be used towards any municipal project of importance. With that being said Selectman McGrath went on to say that the Police Department expansion would be one of these projects. If these funds were used that might help the Town not need to bond as much for the project. Selectman Roy asked if Warrant Article D was left as is, we can go up to that, right? Mr. Malizia said, yes, up to that.

Chairman Morin asked if there was anything else. Selectman Coutu said this will be the first of many appeals that will be made by I'm sure, all of us, relative to our infrastructure. This is a vital link in terms of having a housing unit for a group of municipal employees who are constrained by the size of the building in its present set up. This expansion will afford the Police Department ample room. You'll be hearing this throughout the campaign. I plan on doing a couple of interviews on television relative to this warrant article. I think it's that important. We want to have a structure that is able to house, without cramming, the various units within the Police Department. One example would be the interrogation room, is totally, it is way too small. Not a very pleasant or comfortable environment to be doing that kind of interview. And our evidence room is so cram-packed, we have an obligation to the courts, to the people who are charged with a crime that we are in possession of their evidence that we care for that evidence with the utmost care and consideration for justice. So those are just two of many areas that we're going to be addressing. I hope that even though we're going to have a lot of Warrant Articles on the ballot that the citizens of Hudson will vote yes on Warrant Article D. Please realize that this is not a wish list for the Town of Hudson, this is a tremendous improvement that's going to benefit all of us as citizens.

B. Request for Approval of Funds from Corridor Accounts

Chairman Morin recognized Town Engineer, Elvis Dhima. Mr. Dhima explained the first item for you tonight is the Corridor Expenditure. Fox and Lowell Road is the last intersection that has a grid-smart camera that does not have a traffic count on it. That is for the daily traffic count that tells us how well the intersection is working. A lot of our intersections have this. This is a one-time purchase. It went before the Planning Board for approval. The recommended the expenditure to the Board of Selectmen. I can take any questions you might have.

Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to waive the bid process and sole source this work to Electric Light, Inc. for the following reasons: 1. They have been currently are our traffic light consultant and contractor. 2. They currently provide support services for such systems. Carried 5-0.

Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Martin to approve and proceed with the purchase of one license using Corridor Account # 2000-2070-000-090, not to exceed \$2,252.49. Carried 5-0.

Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Martin to approve and proceed with the purchase of one license using Corridor Account # 2000-2070-000-702, not to exceed \$2,147.51. Carried 5-0.

C. Derry Road Sewer Main Acceptance

Chairman Morin recognized Town Engineer, Elvis Dhima. Mr. Dhima explained as you all know there has been a four lot sub-division on 25 Derry Road, currently known as Lee Way. That particular project consists of 4 single family homes that will be served with Town water/Town sewer. Because the road is going to remain private the sewer will also remain private as well. So the portion within the sub-division. The portion that is under a right of way will be transferred to the Town. That portion is 50 feet and the first item for you tonight is to accept the 50 feet as Town property. That comes with a one year warranty. This was done in accordance with our specs. Public Works, Engineering and Municipality has signed off on it. I'm in front of you tonight to recommend acceptance of 50 feet of the sewer main under Derry Road.

Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to accept the sewer main as recommended by the Town Engineer, DPW Director and Municipality Utility Committee. Carried 5-0.

D. Lee Way Private Sewer Main Acknowledgement

Chairman Morin recognized Town Engineer, Elvis Dhima. Mr. Dhima explained that this portion is the private portion or the portion within the sub-division that will remain private. We still have to acknowledge that this was done in accordance with our rules and regulations but this will remain part of the association's responsibility. It comes with a one year warranty upon your acknowledging this was done in accordance with our regulations. I'm here tonight on behalf of Public Works and MUC to recommend you acknowledge this was done in accordance with our rules and regulations. Selectman Martin asked that means the developer or that association maintains it if there is a broken pipe on the street we don't go in? Mr. Dhima said that is correct.

Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Martin to approve sewer main acknowledgement as recommended by the Town Engineer, DPW Director and Municipal Utility Committee. Carried 5-0.

Chairman Morin stated, if the Board doesn't mind, we did get an update on the "blue light" on Lowell Road if you don't mind, Mr. Dhima could update us. Mr. Dhima went on to explain that we've been in discussion with the DOT. As you all know we met in November and December first at the NRPC, second at the site. The intent was to provide the Town with the specs related to this blue light and the cost for it. We were not very lucky receiving any information from them. This was due to lack of funding, staff and resources. So at the end of the day we took the steps to figure out what we need to do and we can do this ourselves for a little less than \$3,000. The DOT is okay with what we have provided. I intend to go in front of the Planning Board and ask to utilize Corridor Funds to improve the safety of this intersection and coming in front of the Board of Selectmen at some point to get the final approval. But it appears that, for the blue light, we will take care of this ourselves. And the blue light will be installed in all four directions so every single face, not just the traffic coming from the Sagamore, but also Lowell Road, will be on detection of blue light. We'll have a total of four and we intend to use all four of them.

Selectman McGrath said I'm all for this. If this saves one life, if it saves one really bad accident that can cause life-long injuries to someone, it's a small price to pay. It's disappointing that the Department of Transportation for the State of New Hampshire, who's responsible for this light, and for dumping all of the traffic onto Lowell Road at that intersection, fails to contribute any money towards that. It's disappointing,

it's infuriating and the voters of this Town ought to take notice and talk to their representatives about it. But, as someone that travels that part of the road on a regular basis, and I see, just a couple weeks ago, five cars raced through the red light. If someone on the northbound side of the traffic pattern started to go, they would have been killed. So, I think it's something we need to do. We need to step up and take control of it but shame on the State of New Hampshire. Shame on them. But, I have a question for you too. I know you didn't get any feedback from them lately, but what about the rumble strips? Mr. Dhima said, we're still going to move forward with the rumble strips in the spring. I felt that this could have been addressed now as far as the specifications go, but after waiting for three months and having no movement whatsoever, I didn't feel it was going in the right direction. The rumble strips are already something that they already have, it's just simply dropping them because it's the temporary ones. This one I think, we will be the first community in New Hampshire to utilize something like this, I don't know if they're just nervous or what, but we were able to figure out which one we need to do. Our consultant spent some time in Florida, he saw those out there everywhere. When he came back he said I know which ones we need to use. And that's what we will utilize. The rumble strips are still in the queue to get done. But I feel like we can do this, ourselves within four to six weeks instead of waiting six months for them to do it, if they can even do it. It wasn't the amount of money, I think, it's the fact that they can't put people together to put it together.

Selectman McGrath stated that Mr. Dhima deserves a lot of credit because you've gone after this. You and I talked about this a while ago. If it weren't for Elvis, if we had somebody from the State sitting up in that office, we wouldn't be getting any action at all, So Elvis deserves a lot of credit for really taking this task on and seeing it through. Mr. Dhima said we'll probably get a lot of heat for being the first ones putting this up. Selectman McGrath said, you know what, people can complain all they want, but if they were driving through that intersection and got t-boned by a tractor trailer that was tearing through the red light, they wouldn't complain so much. Mr. Dhima said that we're going to send this back out to the Town staff. The Police Chief, Public Works Director, as everything moves forward. Selectman McGrath asked so cap fees will pay for this? It's not taxpayer money? Mr. Dhima said, 100%. He said to your point earlier, Selectman McGrath, it appears that the Cap Fees can be utilized not just for volume or related but also safety and other means as well for different projects for municipalities including design consultations. So this is something that would be recommended to the Planning Board to utilize. Absolutely. We were also able to install the light and get the camera up at Executive and Oblate as of today and they will be on flash tonight. Chairman Morin stated that the Police Chief did get a decision from a judge on the legality of that and it was approved.

E. Petition Warrant Article - Replace Roof of Kitchen Building at Benson Park

Chairman recognized Town Administrator, Steve Malizia. Mr. Malizia explained we received a petitioned warrant article on January 7th to replace the kitchen roof at Benson Park. It's pretty self-explanatory, you can read it, but basically it's looking to raise \$80,000 which is the cost of replacing the roof of the kitchen building with a clay-tile product that's mandated by the State Division of Historical Resources. This is a valid petition, it has valid signatures on it, and it will go to the Warrant. The question is whether you recommend or not recommend it, but it will go forward as it is appropriately and properly petitioned. Chairman Morin gave a little background; the building definitely needs a roof before we get to the point where it gets a lot of damage. There is some question to whether we could put a temporary roof on it, but again that's just putting it off til later on, the expense will get greater. At this point the State will not allow us to do anything but a tile roof or a finished roof and it has to be the clay tiles. They looked into the plastic type and the different designer tiles that look like clay and they said no. That's why we're in the position we're in now with the \$80,000 because they must be clay because it is a historical building.

Selectman Martin addressed the Board stating, I know I spoke my piece about this when it was presented to us, I can't support it. I don't know if there's people at the Historic Commission are employees or volunteers but I can't have the State tell me they can't even fund a blue light on a south end of town. They won't even help us get something of this \$80,000 and they're mandating that we use only three vendors. I can't support it. We have a lot of more important things than an office building in a historic district to worry about. I can't support it.

Selectman Roy was recognized by the Chairman and she said I think we discussed it, but is there a plan for the rest of the building? To refurbish the rest of the building? Chairman Morin said actually the interior is in very good shape. They've taken good care of it. They use that as a meeting room and where all the volunteers gather when they have their cleanup days and things to that nature.

Chairman Morin asked if there was anyone else wishing to comment. Selectman McGrath said, I'll just make a comment. I remember having the discussion about this. And again it's disheartening that the State of New Hampshire is mandating to us that the materials we have to use, the vendors we have to use and they don't consider the tax payers. We have a number of items that the people are going to be voting on. Money items. Big money items. The School is one of them. They could have waited to put that off for another year. Instead they chose to put it on this year. We've got the police expansion, which I think is a critical item that should be number one to be voted on. This item, this \$80,000, and, to ask the voters to pay for that at this time, I think is, I'm having a really difficult time. I think it's inconsiderate at so many levels. Not just this. I'm talking about the school, this item, the State of New Hampshire, not willing to install a light that will potentially save lives and countless injuries, and they're not willing to come up with \$3,000. We have to come up with \$80,000 to put on a tile roof. It doesn't make sense to me. I'm having a hard time supporting this.

Chairman Morin said and I'll tell you that due to the fact of what we need, I won't support it either. But I do want to say, for the committee, the Bensons Committee, they're doing what they were tasked to do. Okay, it's not their fault. They're looking to make sure they preserve the buildings, the State put this mandate on us when we got the Park. The Town agreed to it at that point and that's what they've been working under. They're trying very hard. I can tell you, a lot of them aren't happy with it themselves. But at this point, that's where they feel they need to go. And again, we can do a temporary roof, but it's just going to cause us later on to cost us more and that's what they're trying to avoid.

Selectman McGrath interjected and said when I say inconsiderate, I'm not pointing at the members of the Benson Park Committee, and I'm pointing at members of the State government that is mandating this nonsense. It's absolute nonsense. In my estimation maybe when the building is done and they put those glorious tiles on the roof that everyone can go and look at and just look and wonder at these tiles, they'll say "oh, wow, that was worth \$80,000 of our taxpayer money that could have gone to something that was much more necessary." But I'm not pointing at the Benson Park Committee, or the volunteers. I understand their positions. The State of New Hampshire, we need to make some serious changes up north.

Selectman Martin was recognized and said I concur with Selectman McGrath. It is not the people that is on this Committee. Like she said, they're doing their job, it's the fact that we're putting our hands on the fire and do it, but we can't do that to them up there. So, I don't have a hard time not supporting it, I am not supporting it. I think the members are doing a great job up there, it's the fact that my hands are being held to the fire and I won't let them burn.

Chairman Morin recognized Selectman Coutu for comment. Selectman Coutu said Mr. Chairman, and with all due respect to you Mr. Chairman and you, Selectman Martin and Selectman McGrath, I think you're kind of wavering right now. But again, with all due respect, Mr. Malizia can attest I believe, to the fact that, the Department of Transportation, has a list of vendors that they have properly vetted for different types of construction work, rehabilitation work, so that municipalities, such as Hudson, are not taken over the hurdles by some shoddy vendors. So for specific tasks of historical nature, they have a list presently for this type of work, roofing, they have a list of three. They weren't selected on the basis of somebody's friend at DOT, they were properly vetted and have to show their certifications, their license, and their insurance because a lot of these private contractors who do this kind of work, aren't even insured. They come in under pretense of being insured, we in a municipality, when a license is required, we mandate that they present a copy of their license. So, that's number one. Number two, in terms of its historic significance, and why it has to be done the way it is done, is that when we purchased the property, we signed an agreement and the deed specifically states that we would abide by the historical RSA's and guidelines for buildings that are designated as historical. Those buildings in that area are considered historical. Three, you said it Mr. Chairman, we could put a temporary roof on it, but we're only kicking the can down the road. \$80,000, if it's not passed this year it will come back a year and a half from now we're going to be up to \$90,000. It's a preventative measure because you attested that the interior of that building is relatively good. If the roof starts leaking, it's not going to be good it's going to be a bigger mess

and then we'll be looking at \$150,000 or more to redo the interior. The members of the Benson's Committee, thought about this very carefully and felt that there was a need to speak to some of the things you eluded to, Selectman McGrath, the School never hesitates to put any kind of item that's on a wish list on the ballot for the voters. And they get millions of dollars. We have never asked for millions of dollars. We built the Senior Center at very little cost to the tax payer. We renovated an added 15-20 years of life to the Central Fire Station at no cost to the taxpayer. We built a new fire station at no cost to the tax payer. It seems that every time we want to do something that improves the structures within our municipality, it seems we're begging people and it should come very naturally. I don't want to see us. The voters are ultimately going to have a say because it's a warrant article. Even if we don't recommend it, people do respect how we vote. I have people ask me "why did you, did the Board, not support this" and I've explained it to them if I have the explanation readily available to me or I remember it. But in this case. I don't want to keep kicking the can down the road, just on the basis of what you said, if the interior gets damaged it's going to cost us a hell of a lot more than \$80,000 and I think in the scope of things it's a small amount of money. I don't think it's going to adversely affect the addition to the police department. People vote, they have a lot of common sense and they realize that public safety is our number one priority and if they feel generous enough, they'll vote to give \$80,000 to have the Benson roof repaired. I am going to support it on the basis of the three points I made. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Selectman Martin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy, to not recommend the petition warrant article to raise and appropriate the sum of \$80,000 to replace the roof of the kitchen building at Benson Park.

Chairman Morin stated, I do want to say you bring up some very valid points, with the amount of things that are on our side and the school side and the cost. I have some serious concerns that we're asking a lot. But you do bring up a valid point and that was my selling point earlier for the police station. If we had done it right the first time we wouldn't be paying all this money now. So, I agree with you, Selectman Coutu. Any other discussion? Selectman McGrath said I'll just add again, I agree, trying to defer big ticket items ends up costing us later. But my fear is that something that is greatly needed is going to be lost by adding more, high ticket items to the warrant. You know I understand both sides of it. In the back of my mind I'm thinking about the school coming in. They requested to keep over a million dollars in their budget as a slush fund. We voted on that the last time that we're not recommending that but they're going to push forward with that. They're requesting \$18 million for the renovation of Alvirine High school after they got \$18 million for the CTE building, by the way, I'll be coming back in at the next meeting with some findings about that, They've added over a million dollars to their budget for full day kindergarten that was denied as a petitioned warrant article last time. So now they have it in the budget. How many people in this Town, how many voters, how many tax payers, actually look at the budgets and look at the line items like we do? They don't. They don't have the time, they don't have maybe the interest, they look at the bottom like to see how much it's going to affect them, but those are big ticket items. That's over \$20 million dollars right there. \$18 for the school renovation, a million dollars is the slush fund and a million dollars for full day kindergarten. Plus countless other things. I can't even imagine how much that's going to be. So when the voters are faced with those types of things, they're going to pick the one that they think is most acceptable to them. And if the school manages to get out a large contingent of parents that they've convinced that the renovations at Alvirine are needed and all of these other things are needed, I'm concerned that the Police Department may end up being on the losing end and that would be a shame. So, I can't support this. I just can't.

Chairman Morin asked if there was any further discussion. Seeing none, he reiterated the motion which was Selectman Martin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to not recommend the petition warrant article to raise and appropriate the sum of \$80,000 to replace the roof of the kitchen building at Benson Park. Motion carried 3-2 with Selectmen Coutu and Chairman Morin in opposition.

F. Petitioned Warrant Articles

Chairman recognized Town Administrator, Steve Malizia. Mr. Malizia explained that this was a "place holder" on the agenda because today was the last day for petitioned articles and sure enough, you have a petitioned article. It's a valid petition in that it has 25 registered voters' signatures, so therefore goes on the warrant. At this point in time, similar to the last discussion, you need to determine whether you recommend or not recommend this article. There is no money being raised an quite simply put for the voters, it says "by petition of 25 or more eligible voters of the Town of Hudson to see if the Town will repeal the ID requirement for volunteers and members unpaid committees." Mr. Malizia went on to say, I

took the liberty of forwarding this to our attorney along with the policy for id badges. He has not had an opportunity to vet this because we got this, this afternoon.

Selectman Coutu said I'm going to tell you that he's going to find that this is not a valid, it would be like saying, having a petition warrant article that all women can't wear pants coming to work in Town Hall. They can't dictate this kind of policy. I think the attorney is going to find that. Mr. Malizia said, I presume that but none the less it still has to go forward to the warrant because it is a valid petition. Selectman Coutu said it looks like the Republican Committee is submitting this. And most of them are friends of mine, but that's what it looks like. Anyway, what do you want us to do with it right now? Mr. Malizia said at this point you have to either recommend or not recommend it and forward it to the warrant.

Selectman Coutu made a motion, seconded by Selectman McGrath to not recommend the petitioned warrant article. Selectman McGrath made the comment, if you look at the names that are on this list, a lot of them are State Representatives, the ones that are supposed to be working on our behalf up in Concord. I have not been in favor of this policy but it is a policy that was adopted by this Board with plenty of discussion and consideration. Anyway, I'm willing to recommend this to the voters. Selectman Coutu said can't get a blue light because they're too busy worrying about whether or not our employees should wear a badge when they're out in the field.

Chairman Morin said, I do have to say, that if memory is right, they wear ID tags at the State House. Second is, that this was done for safety reasons not only for our people, but the people that we serve. So when someone knocks on your door from a committee, because they're doing conservation work or things to that nature, people have an identification, just as our auditors do, as our police officers do, our firefighters and all of our Town employees here. I actually had comments from some of our volunteers that have told me that the badges have worked out very well. They took a lot of concern out of the people they were trying to talk to, specifically several members of Conservation Committee who are trying to build a bridge on Musquatch Road and have to access land of one of the owners that abuts that property. With the Id's it made it a lot easier. So I'm totally against this. I think I'll leave it at that.

Selectman McGrath added, for the land use boards, the volunteers that go out and Sustainability Committee that goes out into the public domain doing work on behalf of the Town of Hudson, I think that it's necessary. It's just some of the other internal things that I'm not too thrilled with.

Chairman Morin circled back to the motion made by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman McGrath to not recommend the petitioned warrant article. Motion carried 5-0.

G Warrant Article - NH Lottery Commission Request to Allow Sports Betting in Hudson

Chairman recognized Town Administrator, Steve Malizia. Mr. Malizia explained that the Board received correspondence from the New Hampshire Lottery. New Hampshire Lottery is recommending that we put something on the warrant, similar to Keno a couple of years ago, that will allow sports betting. It doesn't mean we're going to have sports betting locations, it just means you could have them. I believe there's a representative from the Lottery if you have any questions.

Charles, "Charlie" McIntyre, New Hampshire Lottery Executive Director came forward to answer questions the Board may have.

Mr. McIntyre introduced himself and explained that the State House authorized sports betting. It was launched as of the 30th of December for Mobile. The law authorized up to ten (10) physical locations where sports betting could be done in physical terms in mostly sports bar type atmospheres. The law says at most ten, so there's not a guarantee that there would be one here. Cities voted first because of the election calendar and then towns vote in the spring. We notified a bunch of towns that maybe geographically would be advantageous and Hudson obviously is one of them. So that's my brief summation as to the suggestion. This is not a recommend do or not do, it is just if you're interested you would need to vote on your warrant for the citizens to vote in favor of it if you so chose. It doesn't guarantee one would be here, it just means it would be available to a business if it wanted to apply for one. It would still go through the normal permitting process of a business. You'd still have approval there.

This is just the Town, saying sure, we don't mind if one is here. I'm happy to answer the questions you have. I've been director 9.5 years. Before that I was Citizen Director of the Mass Lottery and before that I was an organized crime prosecutor for a number of years outside Boston, so I'm quite familiar with sports betting.

Selectman Coutu said Charlie, your nine years are starting to show. I remember when you first started. Charlie, the funds that are going to be collected from the sports betting, and it's off to a good start, and people in Massachusetts are hungry for legal sports betting. We beat them to the punch, again. Per capita, we do exceptionally well compared to Massachusetts. The monies that are derived from this which would obviously be the revenues taken in, minus payout, and administrative costs, the net receipts go to the Department of Education for distribution. Mr. McIntyre agreed. Selectman Coutu asked if there was a formula that would prohibit Hudson from benefiting from the additional revenue, or does it become all-inclusive with all of the revenues that go to the Department of Education and is distributed on a per capita basis, I believe, student population, things of that nature.

Mr. McIntyre thanked Selectman Coutu for the question and said in that context, I have the best job in the State. I just make a barrel of money every month and leave the State House and back away. They decide the formula to spend. The reps and senators through the Board of Education decides how the money gets distributed. It's my understanding though that NH Lottery funds fund adequacy education. All revenues that we raise, from last year's \$105 million dollars, go to cities and towns adequacy grants. This is an estimate, but my sense would be that the money you got for education is about \$2 million dollars in lottery funds. And so by the Constitution, all of our revenues are required to go to fund education in the State. It cannot be diverted, it's quite literally sacred. It's article 6B of the State Constitution. It's lottery revenues minus expenses, equals profitability to the Education Department.

Selectman Coutu went on to say that when Charlie first became the Director of the Lottery, we had many conversations having Keno in the State of New Hampshire, which has also been proven to be very profitable for the State of New Hampshire. I was looking forward, when I had a business at the south end of Town, as one of the border stores, to having Keno in the store but because of health reasons I had to close down the business. I will be supporting this for two reasons. 1) I want to see Charlie to continue to succeed at the Lottery, he's done exceptionally well. He's brought it full circle and made it very profitable for the State and very profitable for school education. Not in the sense that it's profitable, but in the sense that the money that's provided for education, through the Lottery, are monies that local towns and cities and towns don't have to come up with. That helps offset our educational costs. Anything that's going to bring more people into our retail outlets, especially here in Hudson, and help them to grow, if the opportunity avails itself they eventually could have a mini sports betting parlor or a way to tie it into the whole lottery system. A compressed area for lottery. I support whole-heartedly. We have several businesses in Town whether it's a restaurant or a convenience store that can do it, would benefit greatly and we as a community will benefit from the additional revenues if not initially, ultimately we will benefit by it. Thank you for coming Charlie.

Chairman Morin asked Mr. McIntyre could you tell us how the betting is done. What are the requirements of the location? Do they have to have a separate room? How that's going to work?

Mr. McIntyre explained, there's a lot of cash involved. As you can imagine, every time there's cash involved there's concerns. There are cash management requirements. Internal controls related to depositing funds, holding funds, how much is allowed, those kind of things. We're not going to let someone from New Jersey with half a million dollars in a brief case, to make a bet. That lends itself to problems. So, Draft Kings and us will craft quite literally a template of what you're required to do in order to be a sports book in the state. The first four locations will be identified by contract on February 1st. Then, thereafter we'll expand as needed. So, we can tell where you were when you placed your bet in the State because we have to make sure you were in the State. So you can't be in Boston placing bets. You have to drive up here and do it. The amount of border traffic coming up to place sports bets is absurd. The Pheasant Lane Mall is ground zero essentially. Along with a couple other places in Salem and Portsmouth where folks drive over, place a bet and then drive away. So, we would work with the business and say you need to do these things. You need to have internal controls, you need to have dual accountability for funds, you have understand you can't take these kind of bets, I need background checks on folks to make sure this isn't laundered money, for example, you need to have surveillance equipment in place. So those are the kinds of things we'd require of a business that wanted to do this. There's no permitting fee. There's no application amount. We'd just say, if you're interested, here's the package you would need to have. Are you interested or not interested? I can tell you, that Nashua shockingly voted against it. I think they're

shocked themselves because Manchester said yes and a few other cities said yes. Berlin, Laconia, Franklin. So a business would have a unique opportunity. It can't get on the ballot again in Nashua for two more years. I'm fond of saying the best kind of money is out of state money because it wasn't our citizens that had to spend it, it was folks from another state. So, that's a long way of answering your question Mr. Chairman. Chairman Morin asked, enforcement is on you or the Town? Mr. McIntyre answered, criminal enforcement is on you, logistical enforcement, we have a number of auditors and investigators, would be on us. We would liaison with local, state and federal law enforcement if needed. But if Keno is a canary in the coal mine, we haven't had a single complaint on Keno since we launched. We canvased our Keno locations and in three quarters of the locations said that Keno had increased their other businesses up to 30% in terms of food and beverages. It's been a profit center driver for those businesses as well. Folks stay longer, order dessert, whatever.

Selectman McGrath had a few questions. She first stated, I don't bet but I watch a lot of news. Am I to understand that sports betting is on the teams? Whether it's football, baseball, is it that type of betting? Mr. McIntyre went on to explain that this is correct, and explained some of the different ways you could bet on a sports team. He also said that some folks prefer the actual physical location. They're built out to be sort of high-end sports bars. Good food, beers, the kind of place you'd have a bachelor party, birthday party. They just like the environment of watching live sports and betting on it. It's just something some folks like to do. You bet on a team, the result etc.

Selectman Roy asked if this includes horses and dogs or is that a separate thing. Mr. McIntyre explained that is a separate thing. The law only allows sports.

Selectman McGrath said, my other questions are, and Dave touched on this about crime, and how prevalent is that and what type of crime would we be facing? Mr. McIntyre said, ideally, we'd be converting crime. I can submit to you with a certainty approaching death and taxes, that there are thousands of your citizens who wager on sports now, illegally. We're looking to decrease the amount of gambling in the state and legitimize it and derive a revenue source for the State from it and legalize it. Mr. McIntyre said once you operate outside the bounds of the law you lose the protection of it. My hope is all the folks who now wager illegitimately, will wager with us now. Even something as simple as the Final Four, basketball, we'll have options for that as well. Going through us, instead of illegal gambling.

Selectman McGrath said, so the money that you take in, if I heard you correctly, you said that Hudson about Two Million Dollars towards education. Mr. McIntyre explained that this is a guestimate, it could be more or less, but I'm estimating. There are some towns that get none of our money. I won't name them but you'd see they have a very high property value they don't need the funds. So based on population count I made a rough estimate based on last fiscal year. The Town gets about two million now. Anything else coming from sports betting would be in addition to that. Selectman McGrath asked if that two million dollars is geared strictly for education purposes, like programs, books, teachers or can it be spent on oh, let's say, an expansion of the auditorium so that you can have concerts, can it be spent on a sports program. Mr. McIntyre explained that he is out of his element with this but what he understands is that they provide the Adequacy Grants that towns and cities get so whatever comes with those is what you're limited to. Selectman McGrath then asked if this would open the doors for communities to have casino gambling. Mr. McIntyre said, this, no, absolutely not. This law is very limited in terms of its application it's sports betting only and it's only ten places that can do it. Selectman McGrath then said and my last question, and I'm gonna be a wise guy, can you divert \$3,000 to the State DOT for a blue light? Mr. McIntyre laughed and explained the distribution for State Lottery funds.

Chairman Morin said so you're going to allow ten allowed places? Mr. McIntyre said ten max. We haven't publicly announced them yet. These are going to be sub-contractors of Draft King. Draft Kings is going to be the brand name at the place. So they're working through them. There's two identified now and they're working on a third and fourth one. So we're looking at the map. If you were to put a pinhole in say Plaistow and do a half an hour drive, in each direction. There's like 600,000 people north of that, including Maine and New Hampshire. There's a million-five south of that which is all Massachusetts. So as you can imagine, the reason we chose Draft Kings, is in their database they have half a million Massachusetts residents already involved in their fantasy sports. They have active email lists and customers so they'll be sending messages to them telling them come up to New Hampshire to play. So the locations will be geared towards attracting those folks. Chairman Morin stated, so Nashua gave it up per say, which is okay for us, but you got Salem right down the street which has better highway access. So what would be the chances of Hudson being given one of those ten spots? Mr. McIntyre explained I don't know. There's nothing on the books close to you. Only cities have voted so far. But there's nothing near you that is on

the books already. We didn't ask 220 communities. We reached out to about thirty and said that you'd make a good location if you're interested.

Selectman Roy asked there's ten physical locations but there's also internet access and then there's traditional lottery? So could you go and place a bet at Hannaford? Mr. McIntyre said no. Traditional lottery channel is related only to parlay gambling. He gave an explanation as to the type of betting allowed at a Hannaford type retail location in comparison to a physical sports betting location.

Selectman McGrath said, back to the school question, two million, I'm stuck on the two million, that's a lot of money, is that an annual amount? If the proceeds that this betting allows increases then that two million dollars will increase? Mr. McIntyre said in 2011 the lottery revenues were sixty-two million. Last year they were one hundred and five million. So they have increased, pretty dramatically. It's almost doubled.

Selectman McGrath said, so I'll use the two million and estimate that that's in perpetuity as long as sports betting continues and the revenue stream continues. Mr. McIntyre said as long as we exist as a lottery the revenues will be sent to education and how that gets dived up by the State House is up to the State House folks. They're elected, I'm not. But it gets sent out by the formula they dictate. Selectman McGrath went on to say, I find that incredibly interesting. I don't bet, I don't even buy a lottery ticket.

Selectman Coutu said I just want to clarify one thing so there's no misnomer. What the State has done is they've reached out to a number of communities. So let's assume that we're going to put it on the ballot and we all recommend it. It is conceivable, that after it passes, that Hudson will only be selected by King Sports if there's somebody that's willing to do it. It's conceivable that no retailer in Town will want to do it. It doesn't decrease the amount of revenue that we still get as a result of the proceeds that the lottery receives. But Hudson New Hampshire would be a great, if you're drawing the circle of an hour. Hudson is what, forty minutes to Logan Airport? We get the Boston market. Selectman Coutu gave a few additional examples of how this could potentially come to Town. Mr. McIntyre explained that Draft Kings has a robust real estate department. They have folks who look for the things they're looking for. It's got to be a nice place, carpet, leather couches, nice tvs, food etc. so to your point, yes, you're correct.

Selectman McGrath stated that as this continues to unfold, all I can think about is traffic.

Upon no further comments, Selectman Roy made a motion, seconded by Selectman Martin, to forward the following warrant article to the warrant to allow sports betting in Hudson, "Shall we allow the operation of sports book retail locations within the town?" Motion carried 5-0.

H Warrant Article - Hudson Cemetery Association (Sunnyside Cemetery)

Chairman recognized Town Administrator, Steve Malizia. Mr. Malizia stated that the Town recently received a notice of decision in the matter of the Hudson Cemetery Association in which the courts were in favor of reviving the association which basically owns the Sunnyside Cemetery on Central Street. That cemetery had fallen on some hard times because the previous ownership had didn't have resources. It looks like there's an opportunity to take over ownership of that cemetery. One of the steps would be to have a warrant article for the public to vote whether we vote to take over that cemetery or not. I would suspect that if we don't do that this year it's going to at a minimum come back next year. I believe that Mr. Aloukonis from the Cemetery Trustees is here. But if a cemetery is not able to be under private ownership it comes to us either as a petition or you can take a positive action. At this point I'm recommending that you take a positive action. It's going to come our way. It would be under the Cemetery Trustees similar to the other ones and I think we owe it to the folks in that cemetery to make sure we manage and maintain that properly. If you have any technical questions, Mr. Aloukonis can answer those.

Chairman Morin thanked Mr. Aloukonis for all the work he and the Committee had done in real quick time. Mr. Aloukonis gave an overview of the revived Hudson Cemetery Association which owns the Sunnyside Cemetery. He explained that many cemeteries have seen the same thing happen. That is the legal entity no longer exists. They were required to file returns with the State going into the eighties and they never did. But regardless, there is no longer a legal entity to transfer. So the way to go forward was to bring people together, petition the probate court to reinstate the Hudson Cemetery Association. We started that back in late summer and I really didn't anticipate being here before the election because by mid-December we hadn't heard anything from probate court I thought that essentially all was lost for this year and on December 30th we got notice and last week I was able to turn it around at the Secretary of State's office and we are reinstated. The Hudson Cemetery Association exists and it has been our plan to work towards getting the Town to take this cemetery over. They're no longer lots available to be sold but it is an active cemetery in that there are burials there. We had one this last year, so that is a different way of

operating. We had an eighty year old mow that whole cemetery last year one day. And I don't want to see that happen again. Certainly as we move to the future we have a great contractor taking care of the cemeteries, because that's the Highway Department and they do a marvelous job. Certainly if we move forward they would likely be the organization and certainly there would be additional effort required of them. I can't answer for them of what that would be.

Chairman Morin said we spoke with the Public Works Director earlier in the year and he was all set with it. I did call him again today to make sure and he was still of the same mind that it would not be a problem and they could handle it.

Selectman McGrath asked so what about opening and closing graves? Is that something that we're going to put on our DPW department? Mr. Aloukonis said, no, we have someone who works out there and he is an exclusive grave digger. Mark Coulum is his name and he does work at a number of cemeteries throughout the Nashua area including Hills Farms. It would be my hope that we would continue with him to be the exclusive guy because he's been doing it for so many years, excuse the pun, he knows where the skeletons are buried and he knows the lot lines and where things may be and honestly with any of these old cemeteries it's kind of a guessing game when you do open a grave. But these have been in use 200-300 hundred years in some cases and records were not that prevalent. Selectman McGrath asked is he younger or is he reaching an age where he's not going to be able to continue to do that and if that's the case where would we go? Mr. Aloukonis said he is younger and this is what he does is primarily work with cemeteries. Mr. Aloukonis gave an example of how thorough Mr. Coulum is at the job he does and how he would work with the funeral director to get the job done. So the Town would be strictly maintenance. I would hope that the Hudson Cemetery Association would continue as sort of a friends of to take care of some of the historical record keeping and bringing us forward. We really don't have records. We're working to gather the records on every plot out there. We have maps but they need to be updated and made electronic.

Selectman Roy asked what about repairs? Like repairs to signage or stone walls or things. Who becomes responsible for that? Mr. Aloukonis said he would think the Cemetery Trustees. We have a small budget and what we have done in the past is we've taken care of stones that are broken, that have fallen down, we work to fix them. Highway Department has done some work with stone walls and taking trees down. Certainly there is some work for the future. Sunnyside does have some paved roads that are falling apart, I'm not saying that we should repave them, but maybe there's some other way of doing them out there. There are water lines that don't work. I don't know if it's because they were turned off or if there were breaks to those water lines, I'm not saying we need water lines out there. As we move forward we'll certainly find something. The walls seem to be in good shape. I think it's mostly maintenance at this time.

Selectman McGrath asked if there are a lot of people who visit that cemetery. To put things on graves and maintain the graves. Mr. Aloukonis said he lives right down the street from there and walks through that cemetery on a regular basis and in the morning there are lots of people that walk through but there are a number of family that are there. The people that I'm working with are all people that have family members there. So yes, they are there. Selectman McGrath said the water lines might be a want for the families there. With no further questions Selectman Coutu made a *motion, seconded by Selectman Martin, to forward an article to the warrant to accept a deed from the Hudson Cemetery Association conveying title to the Sunnyside Cemetery. Carried 5-0.*

I. Fiscal Year 2021 Town Warrant and Warrant Article Speaker Designation

Chairman recognized Town Administrator, Steve Malizia. Mr. Malizia explained the first part of this discussion is this is the proposed order of the ballot for the warrant. If you've noted basically the first article is for the voting announcement. The date for the deliberative and the official voting Town Meeting. We have I believe three zoning amendments that are going to be coming in so they take up spots two, three and four. Then we start with the Police Facility Expansion and Renovation as a Bond Article it is required to be the first monied article. After that we follow the basic order that we follow every year where we do the operating general fund, sewer fund and water fund budgets followed by labor contracts. This year police and then the Public Works union and typically when we're looking for additional personnel, large ticket items, funding capital reserve funds working our way down to things that may not have a fiscal

impact such as putting the tax rate impact on the ballot or appointing as opposed to electing the Town Treasurer the Lottery and this cemetery will probably be articles 23 and 24 and move the petitions down. Petitions are at the end. So the last one you received will be the last article. This is the proposed order of the warrant which is the standard nomenclature we have been using for quite a few years. So what I'm looking for is do you concur with this or do you want to do something different?

Selectman Roy made a motion seconded by Selectman McGrath to approve the order of the Fiscal Year 2021 Town Warrant. Carried 5-0.

After the vote Mr. Malizia explained that the last two pages of section I in the Board's agenda packet were information only. These pages articulate who's going to be the introductory speaker for each warrant article at the Deliberative Session. Mr. Malizia went on to say that these are typically assigned by the Board's liaison assignments with the exception of the general fund which is always the Budget Committee chair. The rest of them, I've looked at your assignments to make sure they're lined up and in the case where the article really didn't have an assignment, I tried to make sure you all had some equal exposure. So I think the numbers are relatively equal. One person is not going to do one and someone else is doing all the rest. This is again for you to look at if you have any concerns or questions. Petitioners will do their petitions. It's not your responsibility. So if somebody petitioned it they're expected to go speak to it. Again, others can speak this is just the person who introduces it as we've done.

J. Designation of Selectman to Post the Warrant

Chairman Morin recognized Town Administrator, Steve Malizia. Mr. Malizia said we need someone to post the warrant so one of the Selectmen needs to be designated it needs to be posted in public places, the polling place which is the Community Center, Town Hall, the Rogers Library and we put it in the Post Office. It's required to be done on or before January 27th. That is the legal requirement. Typically one Selectman volunteers, I can assist, but somebody needs to be responsible for posting. Selectman Roy said I'll be happy to.

Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Martin to designate Selectman Roy to post the Fiscal Year 2021 Town Warrant and Budget on or before January 27, 2020. Carried 5-0.

K. Annual Report Dedication

Chairman recognized Town Administrator, Steve Malizia. Mr. Malizia said that we're in the process of preparing the Annual Report and most typically we dedicate that report to some notable citizens, most who have passed away. I believe one year we dedicated it to Brad Seabury while he was alive but the practice has been to honor an individual or individuals that have made community contributions. This year I'm recommending that we dedicate the annual report to Harry Chesnulevich and Gary Webster but the Board is certainly free to change that or add or subtract.

Chairman Morin recognized Selectman McGrath who said I'd like to add one. I looked up his obituary. Paul Lessard. Probably most if not all of you don't know him. But I'll read from his obituary. I knew him, well and I served with him on the Town Council. He died on October 11, 2019. In 1974 he moved to Hudson and played an active role within his community coaching youth sports, serving on the Suicide Task Force for ten years and was an elected Council member for the Town of Hudson. One of his proudest accomplishments as a Council Member was implementing an insurance program for volunteer coaches. So I think it's appropriate to add him to the list.

Selectman Coutu made a motion, seconded by Selectman McGrath to dedicate the 2019 Annual Town Report to Harry Chesnulevich, Gary Webster and Paul Lessard. Carried 5-0.

L. Citizen's Traffic Advisory Committee Purpose, Membership, Responsibilities and Guideline's Update

Chairman recognized Town Administrator, Steve Malizia. Mr. Malizia stated that Selectman Roy brought this to his attention. This had never been vetted by the Town Attorney. So I took the opportunity to send it to Attorney Lefevre just to fine tune this. You'll see the first three or four pages are just his edits. You can see them clearly. The last two pages are edited. This also has the membership reduced to five. You'll remember you did that. So this reflects that. So this is as updated as it's going to get.

Selectman Coutu asked, do we have alternate? I forgot if I read alternate in here. Mr. Malizia said alternate is in here sir. Five regular members and one alternate.

Selectman Roy said I would just propose one change and it's under the Committee bylaws, number one. All communications between Committee and Town staff be through chair or in the chair's absence through the vice-chair. I would propose that we put the chair or their designee. So if they have a sub-committee that wants to seek out information they don't have to go through the chair to come to a Town employee to get the information. He can designate it at individual within the committee to talk to a Town employee. Selectman Coutu said it usually falls down to the vice chair automatically. Selectman Roy said what if it's another person that's not the vice chair. That's what I'm saying. If it's a sub-committee or it's just hey can you find out how many cars go through a certain intersection or whatever. Chairman Morin said we've run into problems with that in the past and I would like to see that we just follow the chain of command because that's how we handled the problems we've had in the past. Because they were just coming at the people. I understand what you're saying but due to problems we've had in the past it hasn't worked that way. Selectman Roy said okay.

Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Martin to adopt the updated Citizen's Traffic Advisory Committee Purpose, Membership, Responsibilities and Guidelines as recommended by Town Attorney Lefevre. Carried 5-0.

M. Revenues and Expenditures

Chairman recognized Town Administrator, Steve Malizia. Mr. Malizia stated we are halfway through the year. We're 50% done. Motor vehicles are at 51.3% so even with that increase that the Board put in we're doing well against that. Interest is a little bit lagging but I'm not too worried because that's not always a divisible by twelve. It depends on when certain investments mature. Ambulances is about one month behind but if we calculate that month in we'd be a little bit ahead. Again, we're halfway through the year. We're basically starting or restarting the winter. At this point I don't have any cause for alarm. We're still early enough in the year that at this point I can't predict that we're going to be behind. But things can change.

Selectman McGrath said I just have a question. Have we noticed any kind of a reduction for fees for the cable? Cable television. Mr. Malizia said we get a certain percentage of those so cable gets the lion's share of it. We're at almost \$39,000 vs. a budget of \$88,000 so at 45%. Is it a reduction? I'm not sure how they come in. It comes in quarterly so it's not always equal. Selectman McGrath said I'm aware that there's a lot of people cutting their cable. I'm one of them. I know others that are doing the same thing so that might have an effect on our cable.

Selectman Coutu said last page, 15, the only thing I don't understand, this is the General Fund interest. In July it lists as 0%. Mr. Malizia said zero money. We didn't recognize any revenue in that month. That's not uncommon. It's happened before if you look. Selectman Coutu said since we hired this investor we had a zero interest return for a bond? Mr. Malizia said this is the money from the Treasurer not the Trust Fund or any of those folks so the professional money managers are the ones that do trust funds. This is solely the Treasurer. I don't want to imply that we're not making any money on our investments where we have the professional money manager is for trust funds. Selectman Coutu said I just don't understand how we're making a low of \$13,000 to a high of \$42,000. Mr. Malizia said \$42,000 more than likely was a couple of months. It's just the month they book it into the system. It's not always a linear thing. It depends when investments mature.

9. REMARKS BY SCHOOL BOARD

Upon no representative of the School Board present, Chairman Morin asked do you know if they're not coming anymore. Selectman Roy replied it was recommended that they stop coming. Selectman Coutu asked why? Which Selectman Roy replied quite frankly the Chairman wasn't thrilled with the way you spoke to Dr. Orellana when she was here? Selectman Coutu, said who is Dr. Orellana? To which the Chairman explained Darcy, she's a School Board member. Selectman Coutu said that was way back. Chairman Morin said they haven't been here since that's why I was asking. Selectman McGrath said they have been here since. To which Selectman Roy replied yes, Diane's come up a couple of times but not at the Chairman's recommendation. Selectman Coutu said so the Chairman of the School Committee is recommending that they don't attend our meetings. Really. Selectman Roy said yes. He felt that you attacked her and you were not appropriate. Selectman Coutu replied I didn't attack her. I asked a question she couldn't answer and I couldn't understand why she didn't have an answer. It's as simple as that. It's frustration.

10. REMARKS BY TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Malizia said I'd just like to remind everyone that the budget hearing for the Town and School are going to be held Thursday, January 16th starting at 7:00PM at the Community Center. This is an opportunity for the public to share your opinion, let the Budget Committee know how you feel. They will be taking their final vote that will be put to the Deliberative Session. I know it's a little early but Deliberative Session for the Town will be Saturday February 8th at 9:00 AM at the Community Center with a potential weather date of Sunday, February 9th at 2:00 PM at the Community Center. Hopefully we don't have to do that.

Just one other note the training we're doing with the Police, Fire and Staff for the mental health, will be kicking off with a session tomorrow and there will be sessions next week and will be ongoing. So that training will be occurring.

11. OTHER BUSINESS/REMARKS BY THE SELECTMEN

Selectman McGrath: Two items. I'm going to reiterate what I said earlier about the open house for the Police Department. I would encourage anyone that wants to go and see what the conditions are at that department that they take advantage of this. It's January 29th 6-8:00 PM. And I mentioned earlier that Brian Groth has been reviewing our policies and procedures concerning planning and they came across something. I think you'll see a difference in the notification process. They don't have to go out by certified mail. The notifications to the abutters. So that's a difference which will result in a savings. That's one of the examples. I don't remember all that he told me. But he's doing a great job and finding a lot of things, practices we've done over the years that he doesn't know that they were actually the right thing to do. So it will be interesting to see what he comes up with and changes that he makes. But that's a big one. And the notifications process in publications. They can post notifications for meetings in different locations. I suggested Senior Center as one of the places as well as the Library and Town Hall and they've got some other places they're considering.

Selectman Roy: I would like to encourage everyone to take the tour of the police station. Reach out to the police department if you can't make that date. I'm sure they can arrange something. I also would encourage voters to look at all the warrant articles and vote with what they think is best. We take a long time, department heads take a long time crafting these things and doing research on what the Town needs. This is what we came up with. I hope people take the time and do the research and vote appropriately.

Selectman Coutu: Couple of things. Most recently it has become obvious that our local weekly newspaper will no longer be publishing. Are we using the Nashua Telegraph as our? Mr. Malizia said actually we're looking at the Union Leader because we've negotiated a lower rate with the Union Leader than the Telegraph. It looks like it's in our interest to go with the Union Leader. Selectman Coutu asked they have a better circulation in Hudson? Mr. Malizia said I think they have an acceptable circulation in Hudson. Selectman Coutu said I've heard the Telegraph has a negative number of people receiving the paper. I think the Lowell Sun has more papers delivered here than the Nashua Telegraph does. Mr. Malizia said we think there's a pretty good readership of the Union Leader and again it is a paper of record in the State. And their rates that they've offered us are better than the Telegraph. We've already started posting there as it's a legal requirement. Mr. Malizia said at some point that might have to change because I don't know what the future of newspapers will be quite frankly. But right now we comply with the law.

Selectman Coutu also said as you know we've had a busy weekend at funeral homes. I want to extend publicly, Condolence to Police Chief William Avery, his mom Edna passed away. And another notable, we attended the wake at, it seems, but we bumped into each other at Claire Gagnon's wake. Claire Gagnon was very active in the local Grange. She had done a considerable amount of volunteer work in our community assisting people in need, families in need. Going to visit people who had no visitors in hospitals. That was a real shocker. She and her husband Dick were good friends and they will be missed.

I noted last night, Mr. Chairman that a young man that I watched grow up from almost birth, Matthew Izzo, presented himself before the Conservation Commission, with an Eagle Scout project. We'd like to see Matt come here, making his presentation. I was so impressed with his presentation. He's a very serious young man. What you see is what you get. He's very active in our church, as I am. A great kid. That was fantastic.

Selectman Martin: A couple things. First thing, I have two contracts in hand from the School Department. First contract is the Hudson School Board and the Teamsters. Which seems to be janitors. I don't know if it's janitors or what it is but it's between the School Board and the Teamsters. It's a three year contract. It's 2.75%, 2.75% and 3.00%. I just need a consensus on how the Board would like me to vote on Thursday because I have abstained from these because I didn't have any information from the school side on this.

The Board was in consensus to support this.

Selectman Martin went on to say the next contract is the Leadership Team which is all the principals and assistant principals I believe. That's a two year contract with a 2.25% and a 2.25%. The Board was in consensus to support this as well. Selectman McGrath was hesitant to agree, she asked how does this relate to our department heads. Because that's what they are, they're department heads for the schools. Mr. Malizia said last year you negotiated a five year deal with your department heads that averaged 3.00%. When I say department heads I refer to the folks that are in the Hudson Supervisor/Town/Police/Fire. I believe we adjusted some of the steps in the out years. So that 2.25% is .75% less per year than we gave or you gave to the supervisors unit last year. Selectman McGrath said she'll agree to the 2.25% but if this were higher she wouldn't agree.

Selectman Martin also said, come on down Thursday evening and see us at the Community Center and Happy New Year to everyone. And I just want to say thank you to our Police, our Fire department and our Public Works department for the safe holiday we had. Luckily there was no snow emergencies or things going on with the snow. Great job to the employees who were working the holidays while we were home. So thank you.

Selectman Morin: I just want to mention the Public Works. Those were two very trying storms that they've had so far between the ice and the long duration and again they got things done and got us opened up and out. And the other thing is with the passing's, since just before Thanksgiving, right up to the other day, with relatives within Police and Fire there has been a considerable amount and we lost Firefighter Don, Doc, Mason. We lost Harry Chesnulevich and then Mrs. Gagnon just the other day. She actually did 52 years on the Grange and did a lot for the community. She was the one that spearheaded all the awards for our employees every year. She's a great loss to the community. We have the wife of a firefighter tomorrow. We've lost a son, mothers, it's been a very tragic two months for the Town departments.

12. NONPUBLIC SESSION

Selectman Martin 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. Chairman Morin asked for a roll call vote. Motion carried 5-0.

Nonpublic Session was entered at 9:23 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 9:50 p.m.

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.

13. ADJOURNMENT

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

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

David S. Morin, Chairman

Kara Roy, Vice-Chairman

Roger E. Coutu, Selectman

Marilyn E. McGrath, Selectman

Norman G. Martin, Selectman

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