

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the March 9, 2020 Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER - by Chairman Morin the meeting of March 9, 2020 at 7:01 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at Town Hall.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - led by DPW Director, Jess Forrence

3. ATTENDANCE

Board of Selectmen: David Morin, Marilyn McGrath, Kara Roy, Normand Martin

Staff/Others: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator; Elvis Dhima, Town Engineer; Jess Forrence, DPW Director; Police Chief Bill Avery; Fire Chief Rob Buxton

Absent: Selectman Coutu, Executive Assistant - Jill Laffin

4. PUBLIC INPUT

Chairman Morin asked does anyone in the audience wish to address the Board on any issue which the Board has control of at this time. Seeing none.

5. RECOGNITIONS, NOMINATIONS & APPOINTMENTS - NONE

6. CONSENT ITEMS

Chairman Morin asked does any Board member wish to remove any item for separate consideration.

Motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to approve consent items A, B, C, D, E and F as noted or appropriate, carried 4-0.

A. Assessing Items

1) All Veterans Tax Credits: map 151, lot 027, sub 001 - 13A Rangers Drive

2) Disabled Exemption: map 178, lot 13, sub 069 - 32 Mobile Drive

B. Water/Sewer Items - None at this time

C. Licenses & Permits & Policies

1) Tag Day Permit - Humane Society for Greater Nashua

2) Tag Day Permit - Teen Challenge New Hampshire

3) Outdoor Gathering Permit - Car Show/Motorcycle Swap - Hudson Speedway

4) License to Purchase Scrap Metals - Granite State Salvage

D. Donations - None

E. Acceptance of Minutes

1) Minutes of the February 25, 2020 Meeting

2) Minutes of the March 3, 2020 Workshop Meeting

F. Calendar

- 3/10 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. Town Election Day - Community Center
- 3/11 7:00 Planning Board - Buxton Meeting Room
- 3/12 7:00 Zoning Board of Appeals - Buxton Meeting Room
- 3/17 7:00 Municipal Utility Committee - BOS Meeting Room
- 3/18 6:00 Library Trustees - Hills Memorial Library
- 3/19 7:00 Benson Park Committee - HCTV
- 3/23 7:00 Sustainability Committee - Buxton Meeting Room
- 3/24 7:00 Board of Selectmen - BOS Meeting Room

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Votes taken after Nonpublic Session on February 25, 2020

Selectman Coutu made a motion, seconded by Selectman Martin, to hire Emma Durand and Charlotte Cooper both as Camera Operators for HCTV as recommended by the Director of Community Media. Carried 5-0.

Selectman Coutu made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to promote Daniel Clarke Jr. to the position of Traffic Technician at Grade XIV (14), Step 6, \$29.91 per hour in accordance with the Hudson Public Works Local 1801 contract. Carried 5-0.

Selectman Martin made a motion to adjourn at 10:21p.m., seconded by Selectman Roy. Carried 5-0.

B. Reconsideration of Zoning Board of Appeals Appointment

Selectman McGrath made a motion to reconsider the appointment of this applicant, seconded by Selectman Roy. Carried 4-0.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Request for Approval of Funds from Corridor Accounts

Chairman Morin recognized Town Engineer, Elvis Dhima. Mr. Dhima started off explaining to the Board I am in front of you tonight to ask for a Corridor expenditure related to the last traffic intersection in Town, Lowell and Birch. You approved this item a while ago. Due to limited funding we waited for this a little bit. The funding is available right now. This is 100% paid for by Corridor fees collected by the Planning Board. The Planning Board did approve this and I'm in front of you tonight to ask for final approval to move forward with this last intersection. I'll take any questions you may have.

Selectman Martin made a motion seconded by Selectman Roy to wave the bid process and sole source this work to Electric Light, Inc. for the following reasons:

1. They have been and currently are our traffic light consultant and contractor. 2. They are currently the only company that provides expertise and equipment in such system platforms. 3. They currently provided support services for such systems.

Carried 4-0.

Selectman Martin made a motion seconded by Selectman McGrath to approve and proceed with the intersection upgrade project using Corridor Account # 2050-000-915, not to exceed \$9,778.51. Carried 4-0.

Selectman Martin made a motion seconded by Selectman Roy to approve and proceed with the intersection upgrade project using Corridor Account #2070-000-090, not to exceed the amount of \$1,281.98. Carried 4-0.

Selectman Martin made a motion seconded by Selectman Roy to approve and proceed with the intersection upgrade project using Corridor Account # 2070-000-701. Not to exceed \$11,166.29. Carried 4-0.

Selectman Martin made a motion seconded by Selectman Roy to approve and proceed with the intersection upgrade project using Corridor Account # 2070-000-702. Not to exceed the amount of \$17,990.72. Carried 4-0.

B. DPW Employee Resignation

Chairman Morin recognized DPW Director, Jess Forrence. Mr. Forrence explained to the Board, last Monday I had a gentleman come in stated that he wanted to give his two weeks' notice, he's going to go to another town. Good guy. I'm going to miss him. He gave me it in writing yesterday, so I'm here to have you people accept his resignation. Chairman Morin asked if he gave a reason. To which Mr. Forrence replied, he's going for a better position, a little bit more money. I told him to sit tight, we'll see what tomorrow brings. The vote tomorrow could help out a little bit, but he was pretty adamant about it. So, there was not much I could do.

Selectman Roy made a motion seconded by Selectman McGrath to accept the resignation of Brad Hatfield. Carried 4-0.

C. DPW Request to Advertise Truck Driver/Laborer Position

Chairman Morin again recognized Mr. Forrence. Mr. Forrence said, with that (motion to accept resignation of Mr. Hatfield) I come before the Board to get permission to advertise to fill the Truck Driver/Laborer position which he will be leaving.

Selectman Roy made a motion seconded by Selectman McGrath to allowing Mr. Forrence to advertise for the Truck Driver/Labor position which will be vacant with Mr. Hatfield leaving. Carried 4-0.

D. EMS in the Warm Zone Equipment Grant Application

Chairman Morin recognized Fire Chief Rob Buxton. Chief Buxton explained to the Board tonight we have two grants in front of you. The first is the EMS In the Warm Zone grant. This is a continuation of a grant funding program the State had last year. They had excess money so they put out for a second distribution of funds for \$6,000 on a first come, first served basis. So we put out application in and came in to ask for ability to apply and accept all in the same evening but it was a competitive process and we needed to get on the stick or lose the funding. What will the grant do for us? It will provide us the opportunity to provide protection for all of our on duty staff currently right now we only have 50% of the staff with ballistic gear for coverage for this process. Again, this isn't to perform any law enforcement function, this is strictly EMS functions so we're in the warm zone piece.

Selectman McGrath asked, does that include helmets that are bullet proof? To which Chief Buxton replied yes and chest and back protection along with some traumatic EMS equipment. Selectman McGrath went on to say, I told you before I saw a report somewhere in the country that they're taking shots at firemen, so thank you.

Selectman Martin made a motion seconded by Selectman McGrath to authorize the Fire Chief to apply for the EMS in the Warm Zone Equipment Grant Program and accept the award of up to \$6,000 for the purchase of equipment used in response to active shooter events. Carried 4-0.

E. Assistance to Firefighters Grant Application

Chairman Morin again recognized Chief Buxton who explained, the second application before this evening is the competitive Assistance to Firefighters grant. If you remember last year we put in for respiratory protection along with the compressor for the breathing apparatus. The compressor was cut from the award by the Federal Government encouraging us to come back, so we're moving forward with the piece of the operation again. We'll be replacing a 13 year old compressor that was utilized as a bridge, a 26 year old compressor failed last year and we needed to do something in the immediate space, so we're looking at a full upgrade this year for \$82,470. So our match would come out of the operating budget next year so we're requesting permission to apply.

Selectman McGrath made a motion seconded by Selectman Martin to authorize the Fire Chief to apply for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant for the purpose of obtaining funding for the replacement of our SCBA air compressor and fill station. Carried 4-0.

Prior to Chief Buxton setting away from the microphone Chairman Morin asked that he take a second to talk about the Corona Virus. Chief Buxton said the Chairman asked me to put a couple of words together this evening for a little bit of an update. We had our second conference call today with the State of New Hampshire, Homeland Security and Emergency Management Group, globally the number of active cases has grown to 113,584 with approximately 3,900 deaths. In the United States we have 607 active cases with 22 deaths. Where is the State moving forward? The State has announced that they will open a joint information center tomorrow out of Homeland Security, they're going to bring all the public health, emergency management, schools, health facilities, all under one umbrella, and have one facility, one contact point so the messaging kind of gets streamlined here. It's a very dynamic situation, changes every day. Internally we have changed, you'll notice on the Town website now there's a Corona Virus update that if you hit the click will bring you to the website on the backside, so the public can gain access to it. Last Monday, the State of New Hampshire first started testing. To date they've tested 47. We have 4 active cases in the State. So we continue to move forward. I shared a little guidance piece with the Administrator this morning for polling tomorrow for folks coming out to the polls, hand washing and hand sanitization is the big deal. But please come out and express your vote, go from there and you should be safe.

Chairman Morn asked, are our responders at some point going to look any different to our residents? Chief Buxton replied we actually have a leadership team meeting tomorrow. Upon the first hit in Hillsboro County, we're staging our response internally from EMS wise. Protocol at State 911 has

changed so as they're questioning folks who call in on the phone, if you're having respiratory distress issue, they're going to have some additional questions to ask you. Whether you've an exposure, you've done some traveling outside the country, and what those are. There are five countries right now that they're basically targeting and asking you not to travel to, so Iran, Japan, South Korea, Italy and China. So they're the five hot spots. One of the things I will tell you, yes, first responders will look differently. That exposure could be face masks, eye protection, gowns, that type of stuff for protection of themselves. If you pay attention on the CDC site, China has actually stabilized their increases. They're still at 80,000 but when you look at the way they were exploding somewhere around Valentine's Day, they were getting 15,000 new cases a day. So they have stabilized. Selectman Martin asked me before the meeting, regarding how long before we see the peak in this area. Public Health is basically telling us that our practices in the United States are so good in regards to mitigation, meaning we're already practicing because it's flu season, wiping down public spaces, masks and those types of things, we're probably not going to see a humongous spike. What you're going to see is little blips over time. Which will make that go on actually longer. The United States is in for probably more of a marathon, than it is a quick spike and then going away. They're unsure what the impact will be to the heat now they're actually backing off of that. They had said it gets to summer season and we'd see a decline, they're unsure if that's going to be the case. Still a lot of fluid things out there that we're tracking. Trying to work with our public health officials and stakeholders to get that information out.

The Chairman asked if there were any questions for the Chief. To which Selectman McGrath stated, not a questions, just a comment, before I left the house I had the news on. Italy has closed its borders. So they're not letting anybody in or out. Chief Buxton closed by saying, if you have any questions, please reach out and we'll get you the information if we don't have it.

F. NH VFW Post 5791 Loyalty Day Nomination

The Town Administrator started off by saying this is an annual award, this is for an employee of the Town. The Police and Fire have separate nominees. So this is a Town employee. This year we'd like to nominate Chrissy Peterson. For those of you who know Chrissy she works at the Rec Department. She puts in a lot of extra time doing things like Father/Daughter and some of the other programs that they run. She puts a lot of effort and energy into that and making the Rec very attractive to folks. So we'd like to nominate Chrissy Peterson for this year's Loyalty Day Award.

Selectman Roy made a motion seconded by Selectman McGrath to nominate Chrissy Peterson, Office Administrator at the Recreation Department, for the 2020 Hudson VFW Post 5791 Loyalty Day Award. Carried 4-0.

G. Policy - Appointments and Reappointments to Town Boards and Committees

Town Administrator, Mr. Malizia explained that at the last meeting you asked that propagate a policy for your review. I've done so. This policy I ran by the Attorney to make sure that it passed muster. It's brief but gets to where you want to get. So this one I did run by Attorney Lefevre he thinks its brief but right on point. The Chairman asked if anyone had questions. Seeing none, Selectman McGrath made a motion seconded by Selectman Roy to approve the Appointments and Reappointments to Town Board and Committees policy as prepared by the Town Administrator. Carried 4-0.

H. Policy - Town Administrator's Absence

Town Administrator, Mr. Malizia stated, that the Board asked me to prepare a policy. This one is very simple, I didn't run it by the Attorney because I didn't think I needed to. It's quite simply put. What happens if I'm absent? I'll make some sort of appointment and let everybody know, that's basically what it says. Chairman Morin asked, is that what we want to do? Selectman Roy responded saying, it does the trick. If it's an emergency we appoint, but normal circumstance he would pick whoever. Selectman Roy made a motion seconded by Selectman McGrath to approve the Town Administrator's Absence policy as prepared by the Town Administrator. Carried 4-0.

I. Revenues and Expenditures

The Town Administrator explained that we are 2/3 of the way through the year, 67%. No major hiccups in any of the expenditure lines. Autos continue to be strong. Auto registrations are at 72.6%. They're running ahead that's really good news for us. Interest is a little bit down, not a big number, but the auto registrations will more than cover that. When I take the ambulance, we're always a month behind, we're right on with that too. So, revenues look strong, continue to look well and hopefully we're passed the winter season. If we are then good for us.

9. REMARKS FROM THE SCHOOL BOARD - no School Board member present

10. REMARKS BY THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Malizia started his remarks by saying, I'd like to pass something out to everyone, if I may. Lorrie in my office has worked very hard to produce a monthly newsletter to get information to the residents of Hudson. This is a sample of what it looks like. We're going to put this online, probably tomorrow morning, after you take a look at it. It's intended to be informative, to give people just a snapshot of what's going on, what the various things are in Town. We're going to do this once a month probably at the beginning of every month so the data is somewhat fresh. It's just another resource to try to get information to people. This will be online, we'll make black and white copies for the Senior Center. We'll put some at the Community Center, we'll have them at Town Hall. It's just a way to try to get info out to people in an easily digestible form. Selectman Roy said, good job! This looks nice! Mr. Malizia went on to say that Lorrie has a background in publishing and newspapers. She seemed to be the perfect person to do this. Chairman Morin added, she's been doing a lot of work on this, keeping me updated on this when I came in. I would like to send our appreciation to Lorrie from the Board for all her hard work on this.

Mr. Malizia finished his comments saying good luck to all the candidates running tomorrow.

11. OTHER BUSINESS/REMARKS BY SELECTMEN

Selectman Martin - Get out and vote tomorrow. That's all I have.

Selectman Roy - I hope I see everyone out there tomorrow. Get out and vote

Selectman McGrath - So, I'm not going to be as brief. I've prepared some things for tonight's meeting. I know there are members from the Police Department anxious to get up here but, but you'll just bear with me for a few minutes.

I want to comment on the current slate of candidates for the Board of Selectmen and the School Board as well as some of the Warrant Articles. I watched with some amazement and dismay at the Candidates Night. I wasn't able to attend, but I did watch it. I actually watched it about three times to make sure that I really got an understanding of where people stood. So I'm going to go by candidates.

Ms. Chiquelin. It's apparent to me, based on her comments at Candidates Night, that she doesn't own property. She lives in a condo that's owned by her parents. She stated that at the meeting. And therefore, I think she may find it difficult to understand the budgetary decisions and the impacts that those would have on the actual tax payers of this Town. This is a big part of our job here. She also advocates for lower income housing developments throughout Town. Additionally she provided false information to the voters by stating that the Board of Selectmen almost sued the School Board last year. That's simply not true.

Mr. Simmoneau on the other hand, is a local developer. He was denied two approvals for sewer acceptance due to failure to comply with Town standards and requirements. He actually sought to have the Town Engineer's decision overturned and he failed at that measure.

Selectman Morin on the other hand, has provided what I consider to be strong and sound leadership since his election. His ethical conduct by not participating with the Fire Department or Police Department negotiations, and he's demonstrated a genuine concern for the residents and then impact of his votes. He has sought donations of food and Christmas gifts for those in need, serviced by St. John's Food Pantry by creating and leading a successful telethon on HCTV over the last two years. Furthermore, one of the School Board candidates took a cheap shot at Selectman Morin. He referred to the employment of Selectman Morin's daughter with the Police Department. So I took a look at that. Selectman Morin's daughter was hired by the Hudson Police Department in 2015. Selectman Morin at that time and subsequently, was an employee at the Fire Department in Hudson. He retired in 2016. Sought election to the Board of Selectmen in 2017 and was successful. Furthermore, an ethics complaint was filed by a citizen of the Town against Selectman Morin, concerning his daughter's employment with the Police Department. The ethics committee reviewed that complaint and found that Selectman Morin had not done anything that violated ethical rules of conduct. I am pleased to support Selectman Morin for reelection. He has done more for this Board in the few years he has been here than I've witnessed in past years. So I support his reelection to this Board.

For the School Board candidates, I wanted to focus on Mr. Beals, the junior. He graduated from college about two years ago. He currently works as quote "the project manager for the Alvrine CTE expansion project" although not having experience working on a project of that magnitude. Also, he too, does not own property in Town and therefore does not pay property taxes. So making decisions about the impacts of budgets on property taxes, I think is probably beyond his understanding.

A request was hand delivered last week to request that the School Board investigate whether his employment presents a conflict of interest with the code of ethics adopted for School Employees or School Board members. I'll read you what was sent to the School Board so that it's part of the record and so people that are watching can understand. This was written by me and reviewed by Town Attorney and then voted on by this Board to send.

Review of the School District Code of Ethics which states that "School District employees shall, actively avoid the appearance of or the fact of, conflicts of interest, discharge their duties without favor and shall refrain from engaging in any outside matters of financial or personal interest incompatible with the impartial and objective performance of their duties. Not directly nor indirectly seek nor accept personal gain, which would influence or appear to influence the conduct of their official duties. Not use public property or resources for personal gain".

That's policy GBE-Staff Ethics paragraph F out of the Code of Ethics for the School District.

"It appears that there is a potential conflict of interest with Hayner-Swanson's involvement in the project and that's the company that Master Beals is employed by. Or at least there's potentially a

reasonable inference given the close family relationship between the principal, Steven Beals and the Project Manager, Ethan Beals, an employee of Hayner-Swanson incorporated. The Board of Selectmen recognizes that we have no jurisdiction or oversight relative to the School District, however as members of the Board of Selectmen and our capacity as the governing body and more importantly on behalf of and as citizens and taxpayers of the Town of Hudson, we do hereby request that a public inquiry by the School Board be undertaken and your findings be provided to us and the public in a timely manner.”

So, to go further, I've also sought legal advice from the Town Attorney concerning whether a conflict of interest for the candidacy of Ethan Beals, the following has been advised by the Town Attorney. “The common law of New Hampshire identifies a conflict of interest where a potential exists for a public officer to influence the outcome of a matter in which he has a direct personal and pecuniary interest. Such conflict normally arises in a context where an official is acting in a judicial and legislative capacity. However the general principle underlying this law applies to all public servants and hinges on the idea borrowed by the Common Law of Trusts that those in public employment have an obligation to act solely in the interest (this is Latin so I can't pronounce it) but it means the public. As a general rule public officials should not have a personal interest in the business transactions in which they are engaged for government nor should they exploit their influence or acquaintances with persons who conduct transactions so that businesses in which they have a personal interest, are profited. In New Hampshire the requisite personal interest has been defined as a pecuniary interest which is immediate, definite and capable of demonstration. Not remote, uncertain, contingent or speculative. That is such that men of ordinary capacity and intelligence would not be influenced by it. Whether or not a conflict of interest exists is ordinarily a question of fact and depends on the circumstances of a particular case. He cites Marsh vs. Hanover 113NH667, 672-73 1973 citation and quotation omitted. Based on the foregoing there may be circumstances in which Ethan Beals would have to disclose the actual or apparent conflict recuse himself and refrain from participating in various matters. Given the factual nature of the inquiry, it would be necessary to evaluate each instance on a case by case basis. The School District does have a conflict of interest policy which would be applicable.

So the next candidate that I'm going to talk about for the School Board is Peggy Huard. She was the only School Board candidate at Candidate's Night who talked about the importance of education and that it should be a priority for the School Board. She questioned whether the full day kindergarten petitioned warrant article that was defeated by the voters last year, and that has been added to this year's school budget was the proper way to present that to the voters. She suggested it should have been presented as a warrant article so that the voters would know exactly what they were voting on. Two of the other candidates, Ms. Whiting and Ms. Langlois dismissed that criticism by stating the petitioned warrant article last year was confusing to the voters and by placing it in the budget the voters would need to watch School Board and Budget hearings to know exactly what was in the budget and what they're voting on. Pretty sad.

So now onto the warrant articles. I'm sorry, I'm trying to be as quick as I can.

Warrant Article #1 Alvrine High School Renovation. I talked with our Finance Director and got the impact to the tax rate and what it's going to cost the voters. So, Warrant Article 1 for the School Board is the Alvrine High School Renovation. The bond amount of \$17.5 million dollars carried over 30 years at 4.25% estimated interest. The first year estimated tax rate is .14 cents. The average assessment of a home in Hudson is \$300,000. So that would cause a \$42 tax impact in year one. Second year estimated tax rate is .42 cents per thousand times the \$300,000. That would equate to \$126. An increase of \$84 for each subsequent year. So it would be \$126 for the next 29 years of the 30 year bond. For those that would compare the Hills Garrison bond which is supposed to expire next year, the amount for fiscal year 20 that they're paying now is \$78. For Fiscal year 21 it's \$72. But that would be taken over by the \$17.5 million bond. So the tax impact to the voters isn't going to be lessened it's going to be increased. I believe that this is a wanted expansion/renovation, so I'm not going to be voting in favor of this warrant article.

This renovation will not improve the education standing of Alvrine. I did a little bit of research and I came up with the following. In 2001 Alvrine Principal Brian Lang was awarded the Secondary School of Excellence New Hampshire Excellence in Education. Wilbur Palmer of Alvrine was awarded the

Administrator of Vocational Education, Joan Mountford was awarded the Distinguished Career Achievement Award in English and Dorothy Pelletier of HO Smith was awarded School Nurse of the Year. In 2002 Mark Romano, Hudson Memorial Middle School, was awarded Technology Education Teacher of the Year. In 2004 Alvrine Principal Brian Lang was awarded the Secondary School Principal of the Year. 2010 Girard Bastien of Alvrine was awarded the Distinguished Music Educator of the Year. 2011 Alvrine Principal Brain Lang was awarded the Secondary School Excellence in Education award. And Alvrine Bill Huggin was awarded the Guidance Counselor of the Year. Despite these awards over this course of time, Alvrine is now ranked as 47th out of 74 high schools in the State of New Hampshire. It's a sad commentary for a school that has been awarded the Secondary School of Excellence in 2001 and 2011. What happened?

So, Warrant Article #2 the Operating Budget for the School. Estimated tax rate impact of .45 cents calculating the \$300,000 assessment for a home would be \$135 tax impact. If the focus of the Schools leadership was on improving the education for all students and if the voters were again given an opportunity to vote on full day kindergarten by warrant article, I would support this article. Sad to say, I cannot.

Warrant Article #5 Fund Balance Retention. I consider this warrant article to be nothing more than a slush fund and should be defeated. The School last year transferred over \$200,000 from their budget to purchase furniture and other items that were not budgeted. Just think of what they'd spend if given an additional 2.5% of the current year's fiscal net assessment. Which is how the warrant article reads.

Now I'm onto the Town. I'm happy to get there. The Police Department.

Warrant Article #5 the Police Facility Expansion and Renovation. The bond amount is \$4.9 million dollars over 20 years at 3.75% estimated interest. The first year estimated tax rate impact would be three cents. Again, multiplied by \$300,000 would be a \$9.00 tax impact to the citizen's. The second year estimated tax rate is .13 cents. Again, calculated at \$300,000 would be a \$30.00 increase and it would be a total of \$39.00 for the next 19 years. I think that this particular expansion and this warrant article is a needed item. Not versus a want. So I therefore support this wholeheartedly. The Police Department needs an expansion. They're in close quarters and I believe that the voters would be in favor of that as well and I urge them to be.

Warrant Article #9 the Hudson Police Employees Association contract. The tax rate impact is .12 cents. Again, calculated at \$300,000 assessment would be a \$36.00 tax impact. The Hudson Police Department, since 1996, has been nationally accredited with distinction. This award is indicative of excellence in every aspect of their duties.

Public Works Department. Warrant Article #10 Hudson Public Works Local 1801 Union Contract. The tax rate impact is three cents. Again, calculated at the \$300,000 is a \$9.00 tax impact.

Warrant Article #11 Hire Two Truck Driver/Laborers. Tax rate impact of four cents calculated at \$12.00

Fire Department, Warrant Article #12 Hire Four Firefighters/AEMT the tax rate impact is three cents, again, calculated at \$9.00.

Warrant Article # 25 the Rangers Drive project that people are promoting and encouraging people to make it part of the Town Forrest. Selectman Coutu has done a public service announcement for lack of probably, the correct term, encouraging people to vote no on this article. Our Town Attorney was at the Deliberative Session and urged people to vote no because there's a question about whether or not in the deed for that proper, the owner of the property that donated it to the Town designated that it be used for the Circumvential Highway. So if this passes, our Town Attorney will have to go to court and get a ruling as to whether or not it was an appropriate vote and whether or not it actually happen. I think that that's probably a sad commentary and in addition, when that was presented at the

Deliberative Session, two of the proponents, I've learned, based on where their property is located, would profit by an increased property value if this were to pass. So that's the incentive going forward.

Warrant Article #26 Increase of Conservation Members. The Conservation Commission is a Board that, they give advice. They don't make decisions, they have no real authority to take any actions. But there was a resident that sought guidance from that Board for wetland buffer impact. I saw the plans. I've since looked at them and I talked to Elvis tonight. The man wanted to build a garage adjacent to his house. A small corner of the upper part of his garage was going to be within the wetlands buffer, just by a small amount, Elvis didn't have the exact measurements. He showed me the plans and it looked like it was a foot or two. The land has already been disturbed. The Conservation Commission put it off. They set up a site walk to go and look at the property. I reviewed the minutes, I reviewed all of the records. Only two members went on that site walk. The current Chairman and current Vice-Chairman. They went back to the next meeting expecting to act on it when one of the Conservation Commission members that didn't go on the site walk, objected and wanted more information. The homeowner, after spending about \$5,000 by hiring a wetland scientist, soil specialist, threw up his hands and walked away and said that's it, I can't do this anymore. It's a shame, so, if five members can't act on a residents request for assistance and guidance to another Board, they don't need a few more members to add to that chaos.

Selectman McGrath closed by saying, I'm done, thank you very much. Sorry I took so long. To which the Chairman replied, thank you very much, I appreciate your words very much. Thank you.

Selectman Roy stated that she has two comments and I'm going to disagree with my fellow Select Person. I honestly don't see the School warrant article for the expansion as a want. Everything I've read and seen about it, they need that. And there is actually a direct correlation between facilities and student performance.

The other thing I feel compelled to comment on is, it hasn't been since the mid 1800's that property ownership has been a requirement to participate in town government, or any government at this point. I would hope that people are not using that as a criteria of who to and not to vote for. That's all I have.

Chairman Morin asked if there were any other comments. Seeing none, he went on with his remarks.

Chairman Morin - First of all, I know people go out and do this every single day, but we really don't hear about it every day, but a Mr. Josh Roberts who lives over on Old Derry Road, took the time today and cleaned up about a mile of Old Derry Road. I saw some pictures of all the trash that he picked up and I very much appreciate what he did out there today to make our roads look better.

The second thing I've got, the two chiefs are probably not going to like, but I got to talk about their performance. Two weeks ago, it happened to be in the same day I believe, Chief Avery was on his way to work and there was a call for a medical emergency. When he arrived on the scene the gentleman was in cardiac arrest. The Chief, at this point, being in a non-descript car on his way to work didn't have to go that way, but he actually did. He arrived on the scene first and did a considerable amount of CPR until additional officers and the ambulance arrived. Again, that's something we would have never know. He took the time to try to save a residents life.

Then, later on in that afternoon, our Fire Chief responded to Londonderry and when he got on the scene, the Chief there had requested that a line be taken into the burning building. Being a fire chief his usual duties are to stand outside and do command and control and that's usually how all the earlier Chiefs' work, but our Chief decided that due to the circumstances and the extent of the fire he actually jumped on the line with our firefighters which included two probationary firefighters. He worked with them and our crew did an outstanding job knocking down the fire and saving the house. So I just wanted to recognize the two Chiefs for the jobs that they did that they don't need to do. That's very much appreciated.

Next thing if you'll bear with me. I just got this this afternoon, so it's a letter. If you don't mind I'm going to read off my phone.

"Chairman Dave Morin, I just wanted to touch base with you regarding the outstanding job by Chief Bill Avery and his team did for my Captain, Ryan Phaneuf during the entire day. Ryan was under my direct command. You and the entire Town should be so proud of your entire police department. I and your country thank you and them for everything they did so darn professionally. I may take a special moment to thank Sargent Roger Lamarche. He personally assisted me and should not be only recognized but if he were also under my command I would be making him a Lieutenant. Words cannot say just how compassionate he was throughout from the start to finish. You and the whole Town should be proud of the entire PD there. I am sure there are some others that I am missing. A Captain for example, but unfortunately I did not get their names. Please accept my deepest thank you on behalf of the United States Air Force. You indeed have a wonderful town and should be very proud of your entire police department. They truly should make you proud. Best Regards, Your Continued Success with the Police Department and the People of Hudson New Hampshire, God Bless Colonel Carlson".

Chairman Morin went on to say, I received that this late this afternoon. The final services for Captain Phaneuf took place today. Two of our firefighters, two police officers and Selectman Coutu attended the services.

Last but not least, this is going to be my year up for my Chairman position. I just want to take a moment to thank the residents, all the department heads, all the employees and you, the Board. Without all the work and the team, Mr. Malizia how did I forget you? I spent more time in your office than the principal's office when I was in school. For all the work because if we didn't have all of us working as a team, the year wouldn't have gone as well and we wouldn't have accomplished as much as we did and I very much appreciate everybody's help. Thank you.

12. NONPUBLIC SESSION

Motion by Selectman Martin seconded by Selectman Roy, to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (a) The dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a meeting and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted.

and

RSA 91-A:3 II (c) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a fee, fine, or other levy, if based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant.

Carried 4-0.

Chairman Morin entered Nonpublic Session at 7:48 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 is asked to leave the room.

Chairman Morin entered open session at 8:39 p.m.

Selectman Roy made a motion, seconded by Selectman McGrath to seal the non-public minutes until resolution of a personnel matter. Carried 4-0.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 8:41 p.m. by Selectman Roy seconded by Selectman Martin, carried 4-0.

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

David S. Morin, Chairman

Kara Roy, Vice-Chairman

Marilyn E. McGrath, Selectman

ABSENT

Roger E. Coutu, Selectman

Normand G. Martin, Selectman