

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the April 28, 2020 Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER - by Chairman Morin the meeting of April 28, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at Town Hall.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - led by Chairman Morin

3. ATTENDANCE

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

Selectman Coutu participated remotely from his residence due to the covid-19 pandemic

Staff/Others: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator; Rob Buxton, Fire Chief; Bill Avery, Police Chief; Kathy Carpentier, Finance Director; Jill Laffin, Executive Assistant

4. RECOGNITIONS, NOMINATIONS & APPOINTMENTS

Cable Utility Committee - (6 member vacancies - with terms to expire 4/30/23)

Dianne Cannava (incumbent member)

*Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy, to suspend the rules and nominate and appoint Deb Putnam as a full member to the Cable Utility Committee with a term to expire 4/30/23. A roll call vote was taken. Carried 5-0.*

5. CONSENT ITEMS

Chairman Morin asked does any Board member wish to remove any item for separate consideration. Selectman Martin requested that Item 5C-1 be removed for separate consideration. *Selectman Martin then made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy, to approve consent items A, D, E and F. A roll call vote was taken. Carried 5-0.*

A. Assessing Items

1) Tax Deferral Application: Map 151, Lot 005, Sub 002 - 38B Barretts Hill Rd.

2) Gravel Tax Warrants: Map 140, Lot 1 - Brox Industries; Map 141, Lot 1 - Brox Industries; Map 122, Lot 2 - Nash Family Investment Properties Inc.

3) Charitable Exemption Application: Map 237, Lot 57 - 30 Richman Drive

4) 2019 Abatement Application: Map 242, Lot 3 - 22 Sanders Rd.

B. Water/Sewer Items - None

C. License, Permits, Policies

1) Tag Day Permit - Hudson VFW

Selectman Martin removed this item from consent. It will be brought back to the next Board of Selectmen meeting to see if the Governor makes any changes to executive orders that could affect this Tag Day.

D. Donations

1) \$500.00 donation to the Hudson Police Department for Comfort Dog, Haven, from St. Mary's Bank

E. Acceptance of Minutes

- 1) Minutes of the April 7, 2020 Meeting
- 2) Minutes of the April 14, 2020 Meeting
- 3) Minutes of the April 21, 2020 Meeting

E. Calendar

5/5 7:00 Board of Selectmen BOS Meeting Room

6. OLD BUSINESS

A. Votes taken after Nonpublic Session on April 21, 2020

Selectman Martin made a motion to adjourn at 7:53 p.m., seconded by Selectman Roy. A roll call vote was taken. Carried 5-0.

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. Covid-19 Update

Chief Buxton started his update saying good evening Mr. Chairman, members of the Board. We're here for our weekly update regarding the covid-19 incident. I've provided three documents for you this evening. One is a Selectmen's briefing, two is a financial package that the finance director will review with you after I'm done and the third is the incident action plan for the week. As of today the US is now over a million cases in the United States. We have over 56,000 cases in Massachusetts with now more than 3,000 deaths. There was 150 deaths announced this afternoon in the State of Massachusetts alone. Probably the biggest thing, before I left to come over here, we announced 82 new cases in New Hampshire. So our total now goes to 2010.

One of the things I did look at before coming over this evening was our numbers from last week just so we could get a perspective. There was 398 cases in Hillsboro County last week when we reported out. There is now over 850 cases in Hillsboro County. So we are still continuing to see the community transmission take place, and they're tracking that. Some of that certainly can be attributed to the additional testing that has started to roll out. The State of New Hampshire has received a \$17 million

dollar amount of funding from the federal government to increase enhanced testing. This week the Governor announced that he was requesting Department of Health and Human Services to have a target goal of trying to achieve 1500 tests per week moving forward. We have engaged conversations with our regional health group over in Nashua. EMS Supervisor Rudolph has been assigned to this project. We're working on lining up for some testing. As of today the testing that would be available when we schedule this would be for the targeted groups. So what are the targeted groups? Above age 60, healthcare takers within the home, those with slight symptoms. Basically they would be done on an appointment basis. This is not generalized healthy 25 year old come in and get a test. I need to emphasize this is also sampling of where you are today. Not antibody testing. That is not available. We asked that question again on Monday and that is not available in the State of New Hampshire. They still feel that they need to target those high risk groups and that's where they're continuing to move. So we're going to utilize our Code Red system to target our 55-60 plus developments to try to identify groups of areas to advertise and get out a general advertisement that would be done through appointment scheduling. We'd take our POD plan off the shelf, which is utilized through our health system and have a site that you'd do drive through testing. Probably be two days in process. The sampling would be done by paramedics or National Guardsmen right on site. They do the sample, collect the sample and send it forward. As of today, there is a 3-5 day waiting period before the sample results are fully tested and move forward. We learned this afternoon that the State of New Hampshire is moving forward with a company called LabCorp. You probably heard that on the news, regarding increasing their testing capability of samples. The public health lab in Concord can only push through 150 tests per day. LabCorp has the ability, with their infrastructure, to move through 80,000 per day. So that's why they entertained the contract. To try to increase the response and get the results out that much faster.

We continue to move forward with our PPE program. We actually are working on a mask usage policy for all the Town owned facilities. This week we were fortunate enough to announce that we have received a donation from two groups, to provide cloth masks to Town employees and School employees, from the Bedford Sewing Battalion and local Hudson residents that have dropped off cloth masks. It would be a similar mask as you see here, in front of me, and would go into place. The cloth mask is being utilized to basically, we would wear it as an individual. So I'm knocking down whatever I may be breathing out, and not necessarily protecting me from what you're breathing towards me, but what I'm pushing out towards somebody else. So we look to have that put into place Thursday is our distribution for guidance changes so we look forward to having that done this week. Our wellness group continues to move forward with support programs for our employees. Stress relief, sleeping, and general health and wellness issues.

This past week the Governor extended the State of Emergency for another 21 days. That takes us out to approximately May 15<sup>th</sup>. They are currently in the process of revisiting the Stay at Home order which we believe will have some sort of augmentation from May 4<sup>th</sup>. What they're really trying to figure out how to deal with is hospitals and the elective surgeries that haven't been available to try to get the health care system back moving. Along with some targeted areas. I heard today that potentially barber shops and hair salons are on that list. That would be important for everybody.

The Finance Director and myself attended a webinar last week on recovery efforts and how to recover our monies. That will be handled through a grant process through FEMA. We stood up a grants management group so they have specific people that work through the FEMA grant program before to write narratives and those processes. So that will continue to grow.

The Police Department is working through their re-engagement of seven officers that were out on quarantine and coming off. Then they have two more potentials that have come on this afternoon.

The business group, the paycheck protection program, has had some additional funding put into that. Brian Groth has updated our website to support that. And we continue to develop separation plans for the workspaces upstairs, and identify those requirements.

We do have, and they started to identify in more clarity, we do have 40 confirmed cases in Hudson itself. So that is definitely an increased number. If you remember we were at 20-49 last week, we have 40 cases.

We also have for you this evening, a weekly goal, which was have the Administrator work with the Rec Director, regarding the future of recreation programs and what that would look like through the summer. Implementation of six goals of the command staff which was highlighted out of the surveys last week. Additionally for our recovery efforts on money, we are also working with the Food Pantry to identify funding opportunities to give them some enhancement. The numbers continue to climb. I think we had two additional today. Last week we had six. We continue to see more and more families.

I'm certainly willing to have conversation or answer any questions that may come up and go from there.

Chairman Morin asked the Board if they had any questions, which they did not. Chief Buxton then said, the only question is review of the Rec Directors program for recreation programs. Right now he has worked through his selective cancelations which would be dances, school activities, spring lacrosse, senior center remains closed through the state of emergency. Probably the biggest piece on here is regarding the summer program. I know the Town Administrator had a conversation with the Rec Director but what is the feasibility of getting that program stood up, if anything was to be released moving forward, and that didn't seem to be feasible at this point. The Town Administrator added, I don't know how we would even think to socially distance children. Unfortunately you get to a point where you have to make a call. You can't keep putting it off. I think in theory you might have a couple more weeks, but I don't see what's going to change. We've kind of went around and around on this. We just don't know how we can keep the kids and the counselors safe. It's tough. It's a great program but we've got to think of that safety. It's maybe not the kids, it's who the kids go home to; grandparents, parents. I don't know how we socially distance them. Chief Buxton added, again, with adult softball being postponed at least into the fall and then fall soccer, they would make a determination in August what that would look like for the coming fall season.

One of the things that we have started to talk about internally as we look at our grant monies and what we can recover for efforts is, what is the feasibility for planning for resurgence this fall? So, if you get to September, October, as we start closing the windows right now they're talking about seeing a resurgence of the cases move forward. Which is basically, any of the Federal money that they're identifying is to put in long-term solutions. We have an opportunity to identify a solution that will help us as first responders or as a community, today, and moving forward, to make sure we're prepared for what is going to come down the road. Remember a vaccine at this point is probably another 10-18 months out. So when you start talking about that planning section moving forward, we need to identify those long-term solutions to change the way we do business today.

Chairman Morin asked if the Selectmen have any questions. The Board did not have any questions for the Chief at this time.

The Town Administrator asked the Board, would it be appropriate to discuss the rec program? Do we want to make a motion? What would you like to do with it? This is the Rec Directors recommendation. Do we want to adopt this? Do we want to approve this? Do we want to have more information? Selectman Coutu interjected saying he did not have a copy of this page in his packet. Chief Buxton reread the information from the Rec Director. Chief Buxton went on to say, so the Rec Directors proposal moves forward with the cancellation of the following efforts: dance and social activities will be canceled until the State of Emergency is rescinded. Spring lacrosse programs have been canceled with refunds being processed for any registered players. Senior Center programs will remain closed through the end of the State of Emergency. Then they will start with a soft opening for the first month of Monday, Wednesday and Friday limiting the number of participants per activity and stressing social distancing. No large scale activities i.e.: bingo, field trips, will be offered during the soft opening. So that is his opening plan for the Senior Center as we move forward. The summer program, although the most difficult decision as he states, is canceled, for this coming summer. If something was to change course he does think that there may be an opportunity to look at a weekly camp, but that would be very limited to get off the ground. Adult softball has been postponed. Canceling the first half of the softball

season and will be reevaluated as the Governors restrictions on June 1<sup>st</sup> to see if they're listed. Fall soccer determination will be made as of August 3<sup>rd</sup>. depending and based on Hudson School direction for September start. So what does the start of the school year going to impact fall soccer. Then they were going to continue all of their virtual recreation page activities, improvise and continue to offer social distancing activities for the recreation activities in the community.

Chairman Morin asked if there were any questions from the Board. There were none. Selectman Coutu made a motion to approve the recommendations of the Recreation Director as per his plan dated 4/21/2020. This motion was seconded by Selectman Roy. A roll call vote was taken. Carried 5-0.

## B. Covid-19 Budget Update

Chairman Morin recognized Finance Director, Kathy Carpentier. Ms. Carpentier started off by explaining, what I planned on discussing with you tonight is three parts. But I also added a little discussion on the Trustees of the Trust Fund for the Capital Reserve Fund. So the first document I want to discuss is the Covid-19 Cost Recover Summary Page. To date we have spent about \$22,000 in purchases; police, fire, public works and about \$26,000 in overtime. A total of \$48,000. If we were to get back a potential 75% reimbursement it would be about \$36,000. We have, as of April 17<sup>th</sup>, submitted a piece of this about \$19,000 in overtime and about \$15,000 for four decontamination units. So we have submitted that hoping to get a reimbursement for a little over \$34,000. So we haven't had a lot of financial cash outlay on covid-19 as of this point. But we are looking at some other equipment for teleconferencing, some technology type things, decontamination units, so we will be spending more. Hopefully we don't have a lot of overtime backfilling positions for people who are quarantined. So this is the first piece of my presentation. You've seen this before and it hasn't changed a lot. If you don't have any questions, I'll go on to part two. The Board did not have any questions.

The Finance Director went on to say, the second part is the cash flow projection. Six weeks ago the Governor declared a State of Emergency. So we don't have a lot of history to go on. But as of this point we have cash on hand of \$13.3 million dollars. We have anticipated cash flows for encumbrances which are liabilities already encumbered. The Benson property, phase one of the communication system, we have 10.5 weeks of payroll yet to be paid out by June 30<sup>th</sup>, other expenses, things that have been budgeted for and one more SAU June payment. So that cash outflow is about \$9.3 million dollars. Our anticipated cash flow is about \$1.4 million, just for the big ticket items. Motor vehicles permits about \$790,000, building permits, highway block grant, ambulance revenue and some money from the capital reserve funds. So if our cash flow was to go as predicted, all these numbers are very fluid, we would hope to have about \$5.5 million dollars at the end of the year, which puts us in a good cash position for fiscal year 20 which ends on June 30<sup>th</sup>. One item to note on this paper is motor vehicle permits. We are trending low there. I'm not sure that we'll be able to meet that \$790,000 cash inflow to hit our budget. As of today, April is only \$296,000. Last year it was \$562,000, so it's quite low. We still have two more days of receipts to take in. But we would need \$395,000 in May and June in order to hit our budget. So we might be a little light there. Motor vehicles is about 20% of our revenue but it's not going to hurt us because we've had some unanticipated revenues come in. So as far as a cash-flow for fiscal 20, we're in a good position. What we need to talk about in probably the beginning of June, Chief Buxton, Town Administrator and I, have been talking about it, we might need to come back and talk about delaying some projects because on June 1<sup>st</sup>, hopefully tax bills will go out. July 1<sup>st</sup> the bills are due. We can't anticipate the delinquency rate. The Town of Hudson usually has about 1% delinquency rate. If we were to have about 10% delinquency rate because people are unemployed, and just don't pay their taxes or can't pay them by July 1<sup>st</sup>, we could have like a three million dollar cash issue. If the State doesn't give us their State aid, that's another \$2.1 million dollars. So we could be five million dollars light on our cash starting off the new year. So we plan to come back and ask you to defer some projects in the beginning of June.

So my picture to you is right now we're in a good cash flow position. We can't anticipate what's going to happen with taxes, but we have to start preparing in case our delinquency rate is higher than normal.

Chairman Morin asked if there were any questions from the Selectmen. There were not.

The Finance Director then went on to say, the next page is on March 18<sup>th</sup> the Board made a motion to the Department Heads to put a hold on discretionary spending unless it involves purchases relative to the Emergency Operations Center. With that motion the Town Administrator and I have asked Department Heads to give us a list of things, potential funds, that would be available or things that haven't been unspent because of that motion made by the Board in March. We've identified \$492,000. It's a long list. Some of this is variable, whether we spend more on gas or office supplies, that type of thing. Unless a big ticket item happens, we might be able to return \$492,000 to the voters, or, use the money to buy items for the emergency pandemic that we're in. If we need to buy more technology or welfare spikes up, that type of thing. So as budgeted we have identified \$492,000 of excess funds. We also have to get through May and June so we have two more months of this fiscal year. And we also have a contractual obligation for employees for accrued time payouts in June, which we can't identify how much that would be at this point. But this is a long list. Some of them are small items, but some we haven't touched, like the contingency, the Board has not made any motions to use that \$75,000 which is included in here. So it's just a place holder at this point, unless the Board sees things on here that they want to direct to a different project or an emergency, that's my presentation.

Chairman Morin asked, have you got any requests that are a must? To which the Finance Director replied, no, I specifically didn't ask if there was any needs, all I did was ask if they had excess funds. I believe that they're going ahead and still doing contractual things or equipment things or uniform things, especially the two Chiefs, they are continuing to have to operate business. But if you look there's some loam, gravel, traffic light maintenance, office supplies, some training, those are the type of things that we didn't need to really spend at this point. I'm unaware, it hasn't been brought to my attention, any issues that like roofs need to be fixed, or anything like that. Chairman Morin then asked if there were questions from the Board. The Board did not have any questions regarding this portion of the Finance Directors presentation.

The Finance Director went on to say, so the last thing I'd like to discuss, I was asked to give a review of where the Trustees of the Trust Funds are right now on Capital Reserve Funds. So if you'll allow me to read a couple quick paragraphs. I believe this is from the bookkeeper, who is the Trustee of the Trust Fund chair.

"On March 23<sup>rd</sup> the stock market saw a record low. Lower than during the crisis in 1997 or 2008. As March numbers were posted, the Town had a loss of 10.5%. The stock market had fallen worldwide. This number was tempered as we have over the years placed more and more funds into bonds. About 60% of all our funds are in bonds. Those funds have increased by 2.5% which negated the 40% stock holdings that lost about 20% equities.

The Trustees have been involved with several phone conferences to the money managers and the senior staff of People's United Bank that is our money managers. We should remember that the crisis is a main street event versus what happened in 2008 where it was a Wall Street issue with banks and financial institutions failing. The US Government has acted quickly to both cut interest rates and to stimulate the economy with loans and payments to tax payers. All believe we will recover. And those who can look back at '97 or '08 know we recovered from those crashes.

Last Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, the Hudson funds had recovered to a negative 7.48 as the market looks to over 24,000 this week. Our balance distribution has kept us in a better position than a lot of other investors. No principal funds have been lost across all capital reserve funds and trusts. The current 7.48% loss is interest we have made over years. These bottom line numbers reflect market changes, money spent, fees paid and deposits made from the Town and School income earned. In November of '19 the Trustees had \$22 million dollars. December they had \$22.3 million, January \$22.4 million.

As of February it decreased to \$21.6 million. As of March it went to \$19.9 million dollars, which is a \$2.5million dollar decrease. We have now captured \$800,000 of that back so as of March 24<sup>th</sup> we had \$20.7 million in the accounts.”

The Finance Director went on to say, I believe the Trustees are watching this closely. Again, they believe that it will correct itself. If you have any questions, I'd be happy to entertain them.

Chairman Morin asked if there were any questions from the Board. The Board did not have any questions. The Finance Director added, again, that concludes my financial snapshot as of now. We'll probably be back in the beginning of June to maybe discuss deferring, without knowing where tax delinquencies will go, whether we need to start deferring some projects that were already built into the budget. We wouldn't be stopping them. We would just be deferring them. If it were to hire people or start a bridge project or that type of thing. We don't necessarily need to start them in July if we need to protect our cash. We're still going to get the cash in based on the tax bills, but it's the when are we going to get it in that we need to protect. If you have any questions I'd be more than happy if you reached out to me on an email I can follow up. And I'll plan to be here in a couple weeks to go over fiscal 21 with you.

Selectman Martin asked, are these documents available to send the Budget Committee to update so they have everything too? Chairman Morin replied, yes, and I had talked to the Chairman and told him to watch tonight because she was going to give a full report. We're going to discuss them shortly. Chairman Morin thanked the Finance Director.

### C. Boards and Committees

Chairman Morin started by saying, I talked to the Chairman of the Budget Committee the other day. They have tentatively scheduled a meeting for May 6<sup>th</sup>. There was some discussion on a virtual meeting. When we talked they were going to limit it to 35-45 minutes. One of their things they wanted to discuss was the report that the Finance Director just gave us. They're also in the position within their committee that they have to pick their new chairman and things to that nature. There's a couple ways we can go. We can go virtual. That's got to be set up for everybody and I see this, if we let this one committee go, we may get all the committees requesting us to do it and we want to overload Lisa where she can't work with the EOC.

The second is, we can stay with our initial directive that there will be no meetings. They do not fall under the RSA's or anything. Or Chief Buxton threw around a couple ideas that we can look at. I'll turn that over to the Chief just to talk about that a little. Chief Buxton said, so the Chairman and I had a brief conversation earlier today and where we're expanding our protective clothing utilization within the Town facilities, what we thought was, is there an opportunity to maybe set up a separate location for meeting space. 1) Potential utilization of the Community Center where you could create a better social distancing mechanism than we have in either of these meeting rooms, first off. 2) if Town staff and committee members were already wearing a mask anybody from the public that would come in for the meeting we would have disposable masks available for them to utilize on site. So basically you would have both the committee members and the public wearing a mask within the facility. Trying to set the room up to provide as much social distancing as possible and look at that. That does get a little labor consuming for HCTV who would need to set up for that type of an event. So this isn't a normal event. You would have some technology pieces that would need to also fit into that plan. So if that's someplace the Board wanted to go, we would need to get notice and get a plan together as quickly as possible. You could attempt to utilize the meeting room next door and do a partial virtual meeting and go with that format or something similar to your doing this evening. But being a true public meeting, you need to be able to provide that process for somebody to come in if they're going to entertain public comment. I don't know exactly where that works with that group and what they're doing. Those are the options that you basically have.

Chairman Morin then said, what the Chief's talking about, as you have seen on your desk tonight and Selectman Coutu is going to discuss shortly, there is a project coming that there's probably going to be considerable public input that we're going to need to make some type of arrangements for that. To which Selectman McGrath said, well, we're talking about the Budget Committee right now. Selectman Morin replied, right, yes, but in the future. Selectman McGrath said, well, I understand that projects going to generate a whole lot of interest we may have to move it to the State House up in Concord to accommodate the people that are going to show up. She then added, but for the Budget Committee, we don't need to be there for them to nominate and appoint their chairperson. To which Chairman Morin replied, no the concern here was them gathering. Or at this point if we said no they could still run their committee with the officers they currently have until we get to a point where we may be looking at next month that this all kind of slows down a little bit. There was several options we could bring to the Board. They have requested a meeting and that's why it's coming forward.

Selectman Roy asked, is their only intent to nominate new officers or did they have anything else on their agenda? Chairman Morin responded, originally they were going to discuss where we were at with the spending of the virus. I don't know if watching tonight may have answered the questions they may have had in the discussion. When I spoke with the Chairman the other day they also stated that they had to pick their new chairman and vice chairman. He said he would make it as short as possible. Selectman McGrath stated, I suggest we forward the documents that KC provided to us, to the Budget Committee and that would eliminate the need to have a public meeting about that. Selectman Roy added, I'm inclined to agree with Selectman McGrath. As long as they don't have any other questions about this that need to be discussed in public that they can't send an email to KC. I don't see a need for them to violate the policy that we already put in place. Selectman Martin asked, seeing that they are elected by the people, like we are, can we tell them no. Chairman Morin said, yes, we have a document here from the Town lawyer that we had checked today. Chairman Morin read "the issues and concerns I see with the motion are as follows (this is the motion that we made about all other meetings), first if meetings can be conducted entirely virtually then the reason for underlying this motion i.e.: to prevent the spread of the virus would be someone oviviated. Second the motion would have to apply equally to all Boards and Committees. That being said, given the unprecedented situation we are dealing with, I would support the motion from purely pragmatic perspective. In other words, I can find no legal authority to support this action, but I think the action is temporarily reasonable and warranted under the circumstances. If the action were to be challenged in court I think it would be comfortable defending the intention. Even if a judge were to rule that the Selectmen did not have the authority." That's from the lawyer today. Selectman Coutu added, I agree, if they're just going to elect officers I don't think it's imperative that they have a meeting right now and we should continue the policy that we have before us. The Town Administrator said, I believe we need to check the emergency orders. I believe there is something in there that speaks to if you're electing officers you can defer that. I don't think it's imperative that they meet. I believe there was some relief granted in the emergency orders we could just find which one it is. Selectman Roy said, I think it was one at the beginning when they started talking about.

Town Administrator Malizia added, we would send them this document (document Finance Director reviewed). I gave you a memo. I believe the last memo was through the end of April. Do you want to extend that based on this document that I provided? In other words, the ban on other meetings. Do you want to go past April? Selectman Martin made a motion which the Town Administrator read "the State of New Hampshire remains in a State of Emergency through at least May 15, 2020 due to the covid-19 pandemic. Please be advised that during the State of Emergency or any subsequent extension of the current State of Emergency by the Governor due to the covid-19 pandemic. The Board of Selectmen directing that all Town Board and Committee meetings, other than the Board of Selectmen, be canceled during the State of Emergency to protect the health and safety of the public, employees and the members of the Boards and Committees". Selectman Martin said, I make that motion Mr. Chairman. Selectman Roy seconded. A roll call vote was taken. Carried 5-0.

Chairman Morin asked the Board, before the Chief steps down, do we want him to look into the possibility of using the Community Center for future meetings where we're in the middle of this and what we've got coming up? Selectman Roy said, I think we have some time. Do we have any indication of what might happen on the 15<sup>th</sup>? Chief Buxton replied I don't. I know that Brian has



another Planning Board meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup>. So if you wanted to make a move to move that project. It's going to take a little time to set up. So that would be the only piece. Chairman Morin said, I understand that they're going to try to get in here as soon as possible. That came up tonight and I spoke with the Chief today. Selectman McGrath said, depending on whether that application is going to be heard at a May meeting of the Planning Board, there may be enough feedback that I don't know if the Community Center is going to be large enough. But that is something to consider and looking at other venues that maybe larger. Because this is going to generate a whole lot of angst.

Chairman Morin said, I know we just went over the budget and a couple of other towns have already done it. Do we want to just cancel the Memorial Day Parade? To which the Board agreed yes. Selectman Roy made a motion to cancel the 2020 Memorial Day Parade. This was seconded by Selectman McGrath. A roll call vote was taken. Carried 5-0.

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

9. REMARKS BY THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR - none at this time

10. OTHER BUSINESS/REMARKS BY SELECTMEN

Selectman McGrath - no comments

Selectman Roy - no comments

Selectman Martin - I just have one comment. I thought I saw some advertisement going around for the Drive by Food Donations. Is that happening? It's Sunday. I just wanted to remind the people in the community that if you don't see your street on the list you can email Chrissy Peterson at the Recreation Department and she will make sure your donations get picked up. That's all I have Mr. Chairman.

Selectman Coutu- I'll pick up with that. What they're going to do is the Recreation Department. I want to thank Dave and Chrissy Peterson for putting this together. They're going to do the same route that they used for the Easter drive by with the Easter Bunny. It started at Ayotte's and ended at Alvrine High School. They're going to go up and down those streets as they did. If anybody has any donations for the Food Pantry, you can watch for the drive by and they will pullover and pick you your donation. All of the donations are going to St. John's Food Pantry here in Hudson. If your street was not on the Easter Bunny drive list, you email Chrissy Peterson at [cpeterson@hudsonnh.gov](mailto:cpeterson@hudsonnh.gov) all of the email requests should be in by April 30<sup>th</sup>. They will go directly to your house to pick up the donation. I want to thank the Recreation Director, Dave Yates and his staff. This is going to help the food pantry tremendously.

I spoke to the Police Chief about some of the calls that they've been getting as of late at the Police Department. I noticed a late news item that came out around 3:00 this afternoon from the Nashua Police Department stating that their domestic violence calls are way down as of late. With my conversations with the Chief, he made it very clear that we the Town of Hudson definitely started seeing an uptick in domestic violence and disturbance calls. There is no doubt that everyone's stress is elevated due to the pandemic. But we want to remind people to be patient with their loved ones, family, and friends as well as with complete strangers. If everyone continues to be kind to each other we will get through this together. Also the chief wanted me to remind people that the Hudson Police Department is there to help people and if anyone needs any resources or assistance, that victim witness advocate, Jerry Cloutier, can be reached by contacting the HPD.

Here at home it's just Doris and I and it gets stressful sometimes. I don't know how it would be if we were raising our four children and we were all confined to our home and limited access to the public and means of communicating other than using cell phones and computers. We'd probably be at a loss and be under stress. The Police Chief wanted me to remind and he emphasizes every time we speak, he is always available, his department is available, not to be reluctant to call. We have one of the better group of young men and women working in our PD and we are so proud of them. We thank them for all they've done to keep the peace and public safety in our community during this stressful time.

I had conversation also, with our Town Planner relative to a potential development. He put together an announcement. I'm going to read it verbatim. I will not engage in any discussion beyond what this statement states. "Last week the Planning Board received an application for a large commercial industrial development. We look forward to learning more about the application in the coming weeks and reviewing the proposal over the course of the next few months. Also it is our understanding that the developer will be sending post cards to Hudson residents with information about their proposal. So please keep an eye out for that. Information on the proposal will be provided on the Towns website as well".

Lastly, what I'd like to say, Mr. Chairman, when I'm out and about, and it's very, very limited, I might run down the street for a gallon of milk. I want to remind people to please cover your face while you're in public. Please wash your hands frequently, don't take anything for granted. Please wear protective gloves when you're shopping. It's imperative. We don't know where this is going to take us and we need to be prepared. Finally Mr. Chairman, I just want to extend my sincere appreciation to all of our municipal employees. Again, I know what they're going through. I can appreciate their anxieties and their frustrations. It's a different world and we will get through this together. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Morin - I have nothing tonight.

11. 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. A roll call vote was taken. Carried 5-0.*

Chairman Morin entered Nonpublic Session at 7:55 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 9:43 p.m.

*Selectman Martin made a motion, seconded by Selectman McGrath to exit nonpublic session. A roll call vote was taken. Carried 5-0.*

*Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to seal the nonpublic meeting minutes from tonight's meeting. A roll call vote was taken. Carried 4-0-1 with Selectman Coutu abstaining.*

13. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 9:45 p.m. by Selectman McGrath seconded by Selectman Martin. A roll call vote was taken. Carried 5-0.

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

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David S. Morin, Chairman

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Kara Roy, Vice-Chairman

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Marilyn E. McGrath, Selectman

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Roger E. Coutu, Selectman

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Normand G. Martin, Selectman