

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the June 9, 2020 Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER - by Chairman Morin the meeting of June 9, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at Town Hall.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - led by Hudson Police Department Police Officer, Matt Keller

3. ATTENDANCE

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

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

Present from the Hudson Police Department were: Officer Keller, Officer Morin, Officer Royston, Officer Topper, St. Roger Lamarche, and Cpt. Scotty of Litchfield PD, formerly of Hudson PD

4. PUBLIC INPUT

The Town Administrator read the following which was submitted for public input this evening via email.

“Good morning,

My name is Philip Gaudette and I am a resident of Hudson at [REDACTED].

I am writing today to urge the board to consider how it allocates town budget in the future. With all due respect to the members of the Hudson Police Department, I think that the funds used for the police budget could be used in other ways to keep our community safe and help our residents with their needs. While not discounting the hard work they do, they are not trained social workers, mental health counselors, or educators. It is my earnest belief that our town budget could be allocated to resources that help residents in ways that prevent crime, be it addiction prevention and treatment options, better mental health care options, financial assistance, and education opportunities. I envision a world where teachers make more than police officers, a town social worker answers a call for a domestic dispute, and a town mental health counselor answers a call for self-harm or substance abuse. I understand that this transformation won't happen overnight, but I truly believe it could position Hudson as the model for investing in community resources to empower residents instead of criminalizing them. I believe in people and I think it's time that our town budget believes in people too. Thank you for your time.

I can be reached at the email address or at [REDACTED]. I would appreciate if both my email address and phone number were not made public.

Thank you,  
Philip Gaudette”

5. RECOGNITIONS, NOMINATIONS & APPOINTMENTS

Recognitions:

Hudson Police Department 20 Years of Service Award recipients Officer Rachelle Megowen and Officer Matt Keller. Officer Megowen was not present, so the Chairman will present her a certificate at a later date. The Chairman read a brief biography of Officer Keller.

Zoning Board of Appeals - (1 alternate member vacancy which expires 12/31/23 and 4 which expire 12/31/21))

Leo Fauvel (nomination as alternate member)

Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Coutu to waive the rules and nominate and appoint Leo Fauvel as an alternate member of the Zoning Board with a term to expire 12/31/23. Motion carried 5-0.

Benson Park Committee - (1 alternate member vacancy which expires 4/30/22)

The Board reviewed an application submitted by Hudson resident, Kevin Cormier. The Board asked that Mr. Cormier be invited to their June 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting for an interview.

6. CONSENT ITEMS

Chairman Morin asked does any Board member wish to remove any item for separate consideration. Selectman Coutu made a motion seconded by Selectman Roy to approve consent items A, B, C, D, E & F. Carried 5-0.

A. Assessing Items -

1) Charitable Exemption: Map 109, Lot 10 - Southern NH Medical Center

2) Institutional Exemption: map 182, Lot 049 - Hudson Community Church, UCC

3) Elderly Exemption: Map 198, Lot 030, sub 002 - 13B A St.

4) All Veterans Tax Credit: Map 168, Lot 125 - 8 Windham Rd.

5) Veterans Tax Credit: Map 193, Lot 026 - 47 Bush Hill Rd.; Map 168, Lot 068, Sub 052 - 332 Fox Run; Map 198, Lot 057 - 6 Tessier St.; Map 216, Lot 018, Sub 032 - 42 Quail Run Dr.; Map 197, Lot 106 17 Cedar St.

B. Water/Sewer Items - None

C. License, Permits, Policies

Recommendation to Readopt Investment Policy  
Recommendation to Readopt Fund Balance Policy

D. Donations

\$100 T-Bones Gift Card donated to HPD for lunch for the Department from Tom, Hannah and Lauren Siracusa

E. Acceptance of Minutes

1) Minutes of the May 19, 2020 Meeting

2) Minutes of the May 26, 2020 Meeting

E. Calendar

- 6/10 7:00 pm Planning Board - Hudson Community Center
- 6/13 9:00 am Planning Board Site Walk - Green Meadow Golf Course
- 6/16 7:00 pm Municipal Utility Committee - Hudson Community Center
- 6/16 7:00 pm Board of Selectmen - BOS Meeting Room

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Votes taken after Nonpublic Session on June 2, 2020

Selectman Martin made a motion to seal the non-public meeting minutes of the June 2, 2020 non-public meeting. This was seconded by Selectman Coutu. Carried 5-0.

Selectman Martin made a motion to adjourn at 9:19 pm, this was seconded by Selectman Roy. Carried 5-0.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Covid-19 Update

Chief Buxton started by saying, good evening Mr. Chairman and members of the Board. We're here for our weekly covid-19 update. We have a few things to go over this evening with you. I'll start with our incident brief that was provided for you this evening. Currently in the State of New Hampshire we've had to date 5,079 positive cases with 286 deaths. Hudson alone has seen 99 cumulative cases. Currently as of today we still have 26 active cases within the Town proper. Tonight we will talk about the sun setting of the Stay at Home 2.0 order that is due to lapse on June 15<sup>th</sup>. We're going to a cautious guideline within the same rules that were set out by the Governor for 2.0. So those will become a guideline instead of being put in place. This past week reopening guidance came up for the beaches, some additional restaurant capabilities and day camps. As you're aware we've been working with the reopening working group to discuss how we believe reopening of Town departments and activities should go. Additionally we're underway with our preparation to open Benson Park on June 16<sup>th</sup>, which is on schedule and ready to go. Alvrine High School we worked with the School District to prepare and authorize public health concerns surrounding the graduation Class of 2020. It's slated to be held on June 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

Locally, unfortunately, we did see a bump. We saw five additional cases come in over the weekend. Some of those were attributed to one single residence in this community. We've seen the numbers kind of fluctuate up and down and we started to re-engineer our long-term practices and look at policies for the future.

Accomplishments for the last week, we started the working with the working group for the reopening sub-committee. It's met 5 times and they have a proposal here for you this evening that I'll present to you in a minute. One of my concerns regarding the sun setting for 2.0 is that there's 18 states that seem to be in the southern portion of the country at this point, that have actually seen some resurgence starting to take place as they started to relax their Stay at Home orders. So we'll be cautiously watching that. I know the Governor's office those activities.

We continue to reopen and finalizing guidance for Benson Park. Create long-term vision for our EMS delivery, how we're going to protect our EMT's and identify long-term facility updates and continue those activities. That's a synopsis of where we are for the week. I'm certainly willing to answer any questions on the brief if there's any at this point Mr. Chairman. There were no questions on the brief.

The first additional item to discuss this evening is in regards to Robinson Pond. As you're aware, this past week, the Governor afforded the opportunity for folks to actually sit on the beach. That was one of the pieces we had removed from the Robinson Pond recreation area. As you're also aware, the State of New Hampshire is not going to provide the water testing this year. So we've actually contracted with Nelson Analytical who's going to do the water testing for us. We will actually test the water in Robinson Pond this week. I had some discussion with the command staff and the EOC team regarding setting out the swimming area and how do we deal with porta-potty's and the attendants and those types of things, which I know the Administrator had also been working on the attendant process and the scheduling piece. If that is an action the Board would like to take, that seems to fit within the guidance the Governor has set forward. So we want to bring that to your attention this evening, if you'd like to open the beach area.

Chairman Morin asked if there were questions or comments from the Board. Selectman Coutu asked, when would it be ready to be open if we should open in. To which the Chief responded, I believe we could probably start scheduling that, I would assume, by the end of the week we ought to be able to get the swimming area established. You're talking about a small boat activity and go out and do the weighted area. I don't know about the porta-potty's and that type of stuff. The Town Administrator added, Mr. Forrence from Public Works, contacted the porta-potty company. It's a little bit hectic right now for them. So from a comfortable perspective, I think the weekend after this, we'd have it in place for that weekend, I believe. Maybe even earlier. But the concern is, we really need, in our opinion, to have porta-potty's, because it's a swimming area, we don't want people using the water as a facility. So we need the porta-potty's, we have signage, we have four attendants lined up. In other words, on the weekends, we put an attendant over there to make sure they check ids, its resident only. So Saturday, Sunday and holidays I have four Rec people who are experienced with doing this in the past, that are willing to do it, they'd get paid obviously, one person on duty at a time. It's not four people on duty at a time. They basically open the gate, check the ids, make sure the beach looks reasonably clean and that's pretty much 9am-4pm on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. So we're ready with that. We have signage, we just have to get the porta-potty's in place. Once we do that we can open. Selectman Coutu asked, you're comfortable with that? Chief Buxton responded, I am comfortable if you set a goal date of the 19<sup>th</sup> of June, which would be next Friday. They're not opening the bathroom facilities at the State Parks and the beaches, so if you have not been over to that area, they have lined all of the parking lots with porta-pottys. That's why I think the Administrator leads us down that path that there's some difficulty scheduling that. As long as we can get that in place I'll be certainly ready to go. June 19<sup>th</sup> would be the Friday. Selectman Coutu made a motion seconded by Selectman Martin to authorize the Fire Chief to continue preparations to open Robinson Pond on June 19 2020, contingent upon acquisition of porta-potty's. Carried 5-0.

Town Administrator Malizia said, I think we ought to hire the attendants right now too. That way we can get them scheduled. So if I may propose a motion to hire Nathan Beliveau-Robinson, Andrew Gora, Chevon Gora, Jay Thomas as Robinson Pond Attendants at \$11.25 per hour. Selectman Coutu said, I'll make that motion, which was then seconded by Selectman Roy. Carried 5-0.

Selectman Coutu then asked, you did not give them a start date, correct, Mr. Malizia? To which the Administrator responded its effective any date after today because you made that motion.

Chief Buxton went on to say, the second piece is, as you're aware, we had received authorization from the State for a Department of Justice grant in the total of \$34,000. Part of the detail is signing the grant agreement. Part of that process was working through a host of signatures with the Town Administrator to which their auditor kicked us back a form that we need to have authorized this evening to authorize the Town Administrator to sign documents on behalf of the Town, even though he's been in place, and I pleaded that he's been here for 19 years, they certainly didn't seem to

understand that. So we have an authorization form this evening that basically gives the Town Administrator the ability to sign those forms through this event and any future forms they may need in regards to the grant. I've offered the Chairman a vote that would be the motion for this evening that I believe is reasonable. The Town Administrator then said, so the motion would be that Steve Malizia, Town Administrator is authorized to enter into contracts or agreements on behalf of the Town of Hudson with the State of New Hampshire and any of its agencies or departments and further is authorized to execute any documents which may at his judgement be desirable or necessary to affect the purpose of this vote. Selectman McGrath moved that motion and was seconded by Selectman Martin. Carried 5-0.

Chief Buxton then went on with his update and said, probably the biggest item on the report this evening is regarding the draft document for reopening guidance for consideration of the Board this evening. As you're aware since early March the Town of Hudson Emergency Operation Center has been working over the covid-19 pandemic. As of June, worldwide, we have experienced over 7 million cases with over 400,000 deaths. We've experienced over 5,000 cases in New Hampshire with 286 deaths. As I reported earlier we still have 26 active cases in Hudson. The Town of Hudson has been operating under the Continuity of Operations Plan since early March. With the sun setting of the Governor's Stay at Home 2.0 process, June 15<sup>th</sup>, we believe it's time to start having the discussion and scheduling points of consideration in moving forward and how we reopen the government to the public. One of the processes is we established a working group that has been made up of the Town Administrator, the Police Chief, the Finance Director, the IT Director, the Public Works Director, Library and Recreation Director and the Community Media Director and myself. This document that you see this evening is prepared with additional input that was received from the Town employees. The Town Administrator acted as liaison to this building proper and the other individual department heads headed up their specific areas. A survey of the Town employees was conducted 220 surveys were sent out. We received approximately 124 employees' surveys back. About a 56% response rate. The survey was only open for five days because over the last 2.5 weeks the working group has met five times. So we had a pretty fast pace. Of those who reported 44% said they had some concern about the building being open to the public. But 55% of the employees that reported stated they were ready to start seeing some opening and providing services. Of the concerns of the employees, were the number of active cases within the community. Should we be requiring Town employees to be tested, which we cannot, we cannot force anybody to be tested. What are going to be the updated cleaning procedures for the facility? Would we encourage or require mask wearing within the building for services? One of the other major concerns was regarding public access to what we call the kiosk or the data terminal outside the Land Use/Inspectional Services area. If you're familiar with that lobby, that's a very small area for somebody to come in and check public records. So actually they've created a work-around where folks are emailing in their requests and they're emailing that information back. They would like to keep that process going until we can make that available to the public externally. 70% of the employees were not concerned about the safety and believe that we have good safety practices in place considering reopening and they were okay with considering reopening and securing the building for certain areas. So in other words, try to come up with a pathway for employee access points and the public access points. Additionally, we want to continue to push our online platform and try to get the public to do as much business with the Town staff externally to the building and utilizing the virtual platform that we're in the process of standing up. We were looking at the staggering of hours and how that would impact the operation. Public entrance points into the building. Hand sanitizer availability, protective clothing, training for the employees, HVAC upgrades and cleaning schedules. Of the greatest challenges that were labeled in the survey we asked them to rank out what they thought the biggest challenges would be as we came back. Probably to my surprise, actually encouraging fellow employees to stay home if they didn't feel well. That came back as the number one concern. Continuing to self-monitor was the second concern, mask usage and cleaning schedules. Then being able to provide social distancing. If you think about the lunch area down here that's a very small room over here and the number of employees that can fit in there at one time. In total, 71% of the employees said that they're encouraged to potentially get back to work and work their normal schedule. 60% of the employees stated they had talked with their supervisor about this in the survey and felt good about what they were providing for information.

We're offering a three step process here this evening, which would start June 15<sup>th</sup>, which is next Monday. All departments would demobilize their continuity of operation plan and we'd work next week to bring Town staff back into the buildings and to all the departments. At that point in time departments would work through the scheduling requirements of their contracts. Highway Department would have the availability to come back to their normal schedule and move forward. Town Hall would still remain closed to the public for another week.

Goals of Phase 1 would be: to provide the employees some training on social distancing, hand hygiene and mask usage. Address backlog of work that has been created over the last 14 weeks because we have been working at 50% capacity and create new procedures looking at how we're going to limit access to different areas. What are the traffic flows going to be? I think I do a reasonable job as a fire chief but I am not the Town Clerk. I am not the Town Assessor and I don't work in this building. So how the traffic flows here, they ought to have input on what those impacts are going to be. We need to hear from them and they need to be back at work for us to hear that information. That's what next week would as a big goal, is to hear from them as to what that looks like.

The EOC as of the 19<sup>th</sup> would roll back to a partial activation. That would afford the opportunity for the command staff to continue to meet, to get updates from the State EOC, and provide that information out to the departments as needed. But we would go from a full activation back to a partial activation.

Starting June 22-July 6:

June 22<sup>nd</sup> we would see the Town Clerks office starting to offer services publicly again, allowing public back into the building. Police, Fire, Public Works would be open to the public. Remainder of the Town facilities would remain closed.

On June 29<sup>th</sup> we would then phase in the next piece of the process here and open up the Community Development and the Assessing area by appointment only to add in those services. Deploy a new bill payment schedule and encourage Town residents to pay their water and sewer bill by either utilizing the drop box or the online services available to them. No more in person to come in and drop off your check.

July 6<sup>th</sup> we would be prepared for all departments to be operating in Town Hall again. Town Clerks office would continue to do their first in line/first service type model. The EOC would remain in a monitoring status as of July 6<sup>th</sup>. The reason for the monitoring status is we have several grant opportunities that we will continue to need to be managed, probably for the next several months as we get projects updated and tracking expenditures. We would also need to continue to work to come up with a long-term strategy for reestablishing recreation and senior center activities in the coming months over the summer. Then as new areas open up from the Governors opening taskforce we would need to be able to be in power to open those pieces up and provide you guidance as those pieces come forward. So that is the recommendation that is brought forward this evening.

Selectman McGrath said, I just have a couple of questions. I was at the hair dresser today and he was telling me that they've gotten information from the Governor's office that he may be extending this stay at home order. Chief Buxton responded. I expressed this to Selectman Roy last week when she asked me a question about restaurants. On March 16<sup>th</sup> at two o'clock in the afternoon I stopped talking with the Governor and he told me that he's not closing the restaurants. At four o'clock he was on TV closing the restaurants. So as things continue to morph and change, it is my understanding that he is going to afford the stay at home order to expire and then he is going to push out the guidance for at least two weeks. The State of Emergency which we need to be specific about will continue in place. The State of Emergency will stay in place to manage all the same things that we talked about here with the EOC staying at a monitoring level to manage all the grant funds and to continue to manage the reopening piece. It is my understating from discussions with the State, if they see a population bubble, meaning that right now on the 15<sup>th</sup> they're going to afford restaurants in the northern part of the State to open to 100% capacity. The southern part of the State is going to be held to indoor seating to only 50% and have tables in between. So as they manage that they're going to look at the schedule and see sort of where they hot spots are and kind of manage to that and move it around but it is my understanding they're going to afford the opportunity of the Stay at Home

order to sunset. Selectman McGrath then asked the Chief, why can't the employees use this room for a lunch room? We're not using this room during the daytime and there's plenty of room. Chief Buxton responded, I believe that you'll see this used for roll over.

Selectman Roy asked the Chief, would your expectation on June 22<sup>nd</sup> that the Town Clerk's office would open to its regular schedule or is it a phased? Chief Buxton responded, no we would open them to their regular schedule at this point. They have had great success dealing with the runner scenario we setup upstairs to relieve the pressure from the bubble. From talking with Patti we believe the numbers are going to be back where they need to be to get them back in the building. So we won't have this humongous surge of the public coming into the building up front. It will actually be more controlled. We'll be able to layout the social distancing which will be required for her staff and protect them. Their area does have the temporary guards in place. So the staff is not only protected from one another but also protected from the public and the public is protected. Selectman Roy then asked, do we have a long-term timeline to make those kinds of things permanent within the Town Hall? To which Chief Buxton responded, I have a recommendation from a contractor that I'll be reviewing tomorrow afternoon and I'll be brining that forward to you for your consideration.

Selectman Martin said, I don't have a problem with the plan. But I do have a problem with the online thing. Pushing, trying to get people to do the online payment thing. Not that people don't have access. Those fees are a killer. We already discussed, we waived them right now but the fees are killer. So is there a way that you can contact the State of New Hampshire, and ask them how they collect their fines from getting a ticket. The collect it online but when you pay it you don't pay an extra fee. I'm wondering if is that a program that they have with a special bank that maybe we can jump on board with them? So we can get rid of that, that way there it would be more easier to have the residents safely go on and pay their bills. Chief Buxton responded, two part answer to your question. The first answer is that through the end of August we have deleted the fee for the 2.9%. It is my understanding that at the beginning of September we'll receive an additional survey from the Governors committee and ask us longer term where do we see that going. So I would put that on the list of things that we would encourage them to continue to provide us that opportunity to relieve that off the resident. Secondly to that I will make that a point to see if there's any historical data that we can look at or any process changes we can bring forward for recommendations.

Selectman Coutu asked, have we seen an uptick in the online usage since the pandemic emergency orders have been in place? To which the Chief responded, that's a great question. Unfortunately I don't have that number here this evening. I apologize. Selectman Coutu then asked, the training that you're going to conduct, is it going to be community-wide or department by department? We would actually do department by department. So in other words if we have a cleaning schedule for this building put together. They would be trained on what they do within this building. If the Fire Department has a training they need to provide to their people so it would be department by department. Or building by building, per say. They are all a little bit different as you approach them. Selectman Coutu then said, in order to have consistency with the message, is it going to be the same people doing the training with each department? The Chief responded, we would utilize safety and health just like we're doing now to put the guidelines together. So yes, Deputy Paquette and his staff will do that. Selectman Coutu then said, with the opening of the Town Clerks office to its normal working schedule and customer access going back to normal, are we going to enforce the six foot distancing so we come up with some sort of marking schedule on the floor once we figure out the flow in here to make sure we're maintaining social distancing. Selectman Coutu then said, I'd like to if I could, Mr. Malizia, have an answer to whether or not there's been an uptick in the online usage? The Town Administrator said, we'll see if we can find that answer, yes. To which Selectman Coutu said, I'm sure the Town Clerk should have something.

Chairman Morin said, I just have one question Chief. I fully agree with opening up and that we need to open up, but what is the plan if we get someone that's sick, where everybody is back? Chief Buxton said, that's a great question. It's the same answer that I have from a couple weeks ago. If somebody is at work and becomes ill, we will get them out of the building and we will have to do a tracking to see if anybody had prolonged contact of over ten minutes with that employee. Then we will put all the employees in the area on self-monitoring guidance. Once we get the test result back

on the employee we would deal with whatever comes forward. If there's been direct contact, so if the Administrator and I were meeting on something and we were less than six feet apart and I became ill, he would have to be quarantined also. The Chairman then said, when we began this there was talk about cross-training for the small departments. Are we going to look into that in case that scenario happens? Chief Buxton said, that is certainly on my list of things that we need to continue to explore along with EOC training and a host of other things.

Selectman Roy asked, what about this, you talk about people in the at risk group. Supervisors having the ability to make a determination whether they're going to work remotely or. Chief Buxton said, yes, in the document that I provided you this evening. Encourage you to empower the Department Heads to support anybody in the vulnerable population that needs to work remotely and encourage them to continue to work remotely as long as it's efficient. So you have certain folks that have been working remotely for quite a bit of time now. Whether it's a few days in the office and the other days working remotely, as long as the job is getting done, at this point in time we're going to continue to encourage that process.

Chairman Morin asked, do we want to make a motion to put this plan in place? To which Selectman McGrath said, so moved. Selectman Roy seconded this motion. Carried 5-0. Motion to accept the plan that Chief Buxton presented to the Board carried 5-0.

#### B. Resignation of Firefighter/AEMT Joshua Frumkin

Chief Buxton explained to the Board, this one hurts a little bit. I've got to be honest. I have a firefighter/AEMT that has offered his resignation. Joshua Frumkin will be leaving us on July 1<sup>st</sup>. He has decided to accept a position with the Concord Police Department and is moving over to the law enforcement side of public safety. My buddy back there is not letting me forget this since I told him about it, but in all seriousness we wish Josh great things. This has been a goal of his for a long time. He was a good employee with us. We're sad to see him go but we wish him safety and a good, healthy, long career with the Concord Police Department. Selectman McGrath asked, why didn't he want to stay with the Hudson Police Department? To which Chief Buxton responded, that's a good question. I'm not in charge of the hiring at Hudson PD. Selectman Martin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy, to accept the letter of resignation from Firefighter/AEMT Joshua Frumkin, effective July 1, 2020, with the Boards thanks and appreciation. Carried 5-0.

#### C. Cyclical Data Collection Addendum #2

Chairman Morin invited Chief Assessor, Jim Michaud, to come forward. Mr. Michaud stated I'm here if the Board has any questions. I wasn't sure about the process for tonight, whether I should show up for this or not. But in case there were any questions, I'm here for those questions. The largest change is that we're proposing that the data collectors with KRT Appraisal, they're not to go inside property. If you asked me four months ago would I ever recommend that, the answer would be no. But that's not the world we're in today, so they would go up to the property, knock on the door, step back 6-10 feet. Try to have a conversation with the property owner. Introduce themselves obviously. All the same parameters we have before this started and basically get some information at the door, to the extent they can, about property attributes and then request and do a measurement on the outside and then after that the property owner would be getting a data mailer from KRT just asking "is this information accurate, please let us know if this information is not accurate". If no one is there when they go there, they'll be getting a data mailer. So they'll measure to the extent of the property that they can. But they will be getting a data mailer if they're not present. Many times in the past folks are not present. They're working and whatnot. This exterior only data collection effort is being done in communities around the State since covid-19 occurred. Over in the City of Nashua, they're doing a massive data collection there, they switched from interior and exterior to exterior only. So this is in



keeping with the changes that we've had to make under covid-19. This is the last third stage of the data collection effort before we head into the 2021 re-evaluation and that will be a contract next year to conduct that valuation phase. I think that's pretty short and sweet.

Chairman Morin asked if there were any questions. Seeing none Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to approve a second contract amendment to the Data Collection Project date 6/12/2018, said addendum to become effective July 1, 2020, as recommended by the Assessing Department. Carried 5-0.

Mr. Michaud thanked the Board and thanked the Town Administrator for getting out the addendum amendment that dealt with the data mailers.

#### D. Police Department Dispatch Emergency Exit

Chairman Morin welcomed Chief Avery to come forward. Chief Avery started off saying thank you Mr. Chairman. Good evening members of the Board. I'm before you tonight to bring to light, something that came to my attention in or around July 2019 as it pertains to our building. If you remember correctly, I had hired an outside company, MRI Municipal Resources to do a complete study of our structure in getting to preparation of the addition/renovations that ultimately did not pass the voters this year. Part of the study that came out of this was they were shocked to find that our dispatchers had one door to get out of that dispatch center, in the case of a fire or any other type of an emergency. Active shooter? Who knows what it could be. They highly recommended and per code, I've discussed it with Chief Buxton, that this is a must that should be taking place sooner, rather than later. As we've come through covid over the last three months here, as we all know, we've reduced our spending. I decided that I need to do something soon, so I went to the North Point Construction Company and had their construction foreman or supervisor come in and give us an estimate to have this door installed. Obviously I'm not in the building trade, as Chief Buxton is. I did not anticipate the cost. The first cost we got was somewhere around \$33,000 to put a hole in the wall of the brick building and put a one way door coming out. We've got that priced down to \$28,900 over some negotiations as far as seeding and putting in grass after the project that I know Public Works, Jess Forrence, will be happy to throw some loam and some seed down. We've negotiated with North Point Construction and I'm here today. I currently have in my Building Maintenance account, \$18,000 left. I'm sitting here with a \$28,900 bill that I'm requesting to have this project moved and incepted into the building. Have it done as soon as possible. Selectman Coutu said, I was just going to go look at your budget. You may have \$18,000 left in your building maintenance. What about your payroll? Overall your payroll? Chief Avery responded, we're in very good shape Mr. Coutu. As far as the exact numbers I have not looked at it, I believe, since last Monday. I had submitted a report in with our excess funding, where I have some money leftover is the gasoline usage. Why? We were short 11-12 officers for a good part of this year. Less officers on the street, less gasoline being used. So I did have some money in that account as well as a couple others. Selectman Coutu asked, this would be an exit door only, no accessibility from the outside. Chief Avery responded, none. One way door, fire door, going out from the dispatch center, if you walk into the dispatch center. Straight ahead where our sector maps are from their door, that's where the door will get punched out to the side of the building, so they can escape if need be. Selectman Coutu then said, if you recall, Mr. Chairman, when we had conversation, I'm sure you recall Chief, we promoted on HCTV, the addition to the Police Department, one of the safety concerns that arose was this particular issue. As you said, this was brought to your attention, almost a year ago and it was included in the reconstruction. I agree that it's a priority. That department for whatever reason it's housed the way it is. People do feel boxed in. there's been the issue with lunch and having to eat at their desk unlike other people. We had an issue, if you remember, a few years ago, your predecessor, had to deal with the issue of having to leave one person in the building all alone at the dispatch center on weekends and we were very uncomfortable with that situation and we resolved that. Mr. Malizia have we used any of our contingency? Our \$50,000? Mr. Malizia said, I don't believe you allocated any of the contingency. Selectman Coutu went on to say, if necessary, Mr. Chairman, I recommend that we authorize this project. I think it's a matter of safety and if he only has \$18,000 if you can pull a few dollars here and there fine but that we make up the differential out of the contingency because we haven't used any of it this year. That's typically for gasoline if the price skyrocketed. The Administrator

responded, in the past when gas was more volatile, what we had was a separate gas contingency. This is truly a contingency for things that we don't anticipate happening. We haven't had to budget for gas because quite frankly gas has been pretty cheap and stable. So the last year or two I don't think we've done the gas contingency. This is an overall contingency that would be used for something like this. Selectman Coutu then said, we could have a surplus at the end of the year as well. To which the Administrator responded, we're projecting one but don't forget we also have to worry about tax payments and cash flow issues. We've been very, very careful managing this. This is not a typical year. Selectman Coutu then said, so I would recommend that we use the contingency if this Board were to approve it to make up the difference. The Chairman asked, is that a motion? To which Selectman Coutu said, that's a motion. Selectman McGrath seconded the motion. Selectman Coutu then said, and I'll also add, to authorize the Chief to use the funds unexpended in the building maintenance line item and then the contingency. Carried 5-0.

#### E. Police Department Police Utility Vehicles

Chief Avery stated I'm before you today to ask to waive the bid process and to allow the Hudson Police Department to go with a company or group called the Greater Boston Police Council. We pay to be part of this group to purchase our cruisers moving forward. I would like to make it clear at the beginning here, this is not for an FY20 purchase. This would be for after July 1, 2020. So it will be in the next budget. The reason I'm coming before you now prior to being able to purchase these vehicles is there is a shortage of police vehicles trying to get our hands on it. Colonial has guaranteed us cars if we come in there soon. So I'm trying to get ahead of this. I was going to come in a couple months ago, but it was a little early on. So now I'm before you asking to waive the bid process to purchase three police cruisers. They will be the Ford Explorers. The only unknown at this time is whether we're going to trade in our old cars or bring them through the online auction. What we did last year was go through that process and see where we're going to get the most bang for our buck. If we were going to make more on the trade-ins we went that way and that's the way we ended up going last year. I would anticipate going that way this year as well, because we don't have to remove all of the equipment. The stickers and graphics off the side of the car. The Chairman asked if anyone had questions for the Chief. Selectman McGrath said, we've used this Colonial group before, correct? So I think it makes sense to continue with them. Chief Avery then said, we did look at the State bid this year they do not have any cars available until next year. If we went with the State bid, very similar price but we're a year out. Now we're going to be trading in cars with 115,000-120,000 miles on them, less value on the trade. Chairman Morin asked if there was anything else. Selectman Coutu made a motion, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to waive the competitive bidding requirements as outlined in Town Code 98-1 (C) and to award the purchase of three (3) replacement Police utility vehicles to colonial Municipal Group in the amount of \$101,269.80 from the fiscal year 2021 budget as recommended by the Police Chief and the Finance Director. The Town will not accept delivery or make payment prior to July 1, 2020.

After the vote the Chairman said, before you leave Chief, with the death of Mr. Floyd, and the amount of requests we've been getting on the Police policies and procedures related to Mr. Floyd's death, I know you will be appearing with Selectman Roy on Friday night, but can you give us a little bit of a presentation on that to help our residents out there understand your policies and procedures?

Chief Avery said, certainly. Thank you Mr. Chairman. The Chief then went on to say, as Chairman Morin stated and I've communicated this with a few of you, I have been inundated with emails about what the Hudson Police Department does to prevent this type of tragedy from happening here in Hudson. Board of Selectmen, and members of the public, as I put out on Facebook today, that I would be addressing this issue. Quite frankly I am appalled and embarrassed that something like this happened in the United States of America. The public should know and most of you do know, that we're a nationally accredited police agency. What does that mean? That means that we live by the best practices in law enforcement in the United States. We have a set of guidelines, rules, policies

and procedures. What they do is make sure we do what we say we do. We are audited every year where somebody from another department, from another part of the country, comes in and checks our work. One of the key areas they check on is our Use of Force reports. That is called a "high risk" area. They go through those with a fine-tooth comb. Every year I completed a report, when I was a Captain, and now that has been passed on to Captain Tad Dionne a Use of Force report and Annual Analysis Report. It is very detailed. We track race. We track age. We track the age of the police officers. We track how much training they've had. So it is very in-depth and if anybody ever wants to see one of those reports, the public can certainly reach out to me and I will get you our in-depth Use of Force reports.

The next thing I want to talk about is recruitment, and I'll talk briefly about it. We do everything humanly possible to get to every single race, gender, anywhere in this area. UMass Lowell, all the universities. We are trying to recruit people all over the place. Currently, out of 51 police officers, we have six police officers that are of different ethnic backgrounds. They include black, Hispanic, and as you all know, Cambodian. That is unheard of for a Department our size to have that many police officers. Why don't I worry about these types of things happening in Hudson? Because of our extensive hiring process that we go through, that the five of you, as well as the Town Administrator know, anytime we hire somebody, they are put through the ringer before I come before you to present their name. That includes a polygraph, a psychological exam, multiple interviews with our Detectives, Services Bureau and lastly, with me. We check their character. We check their background. We check everything that we can possibly look into, before they're allowed to sign the dotted line to work for the Hudson Police Department.

The culture in the Hudson Police Department. I saw some of the comments on Facebook, and I don't follow it closely, were outstanding from our citizens. They could not say enough positive things about every single member of my agency. To say that I'm proud sitting before you, I am. I actually am embarrassed that I have to address this because of the tragedy that happened out there. It should never happen in law enforcement. The Hudson Police Department, the men and women that serve, every single day, that go out on the street, they treat people the way they should be treated. One of the things that was told to me as a young police officer, from my field training officer, was you treat everybody the way you want your mother to be treated. Regardless of their ethnicity, their background, their political beliefs, their sex, age, you treat people with respect. That's what we push every single day. When we have new police officers come in, they go through training. But more importantly, they look up to the senior police officers that we have around this building. Example: Matt Keller, been here 20 years. You don't think they look up to him and mentor him? They do.

Biased based policing. That was one of the big questions. Do you guys train in biased based policing? The answer is absolutely, unequivocally yes. We discuss it yearly. We have a Department meeting and we talk about it all the time. De-escalation techniques. Yes. Year, during Use of Force training. Do we encourage or allow choke holds? Absolutely, positively not. If there was use of force, a deadly force situation and it was a life or death situation, and a police officer has to use that to save his life or somebody else's life, yeah, they can do whatever they have to do to get by here. But that is the most extreme situation. The police officers in Town here, don't abuse people. That I can guarantee you.

Somebody asked if we have a use of force continuum. We have a use of force continuum that we follow. Starts with our mere presence. Then it goes to your verbal commands and then all the way through, as Selectman Coutu knows, all the way through to our deadly force situation. That goes through our Taser and our pepper spray and all the other steps we go through before we get to that final destination, God forbid, a deadly force situation. These things are constantly reviewed yearly by our use of force instructors. The supervision that we have on the street that the five of you and previous Boards of Selectmen have allowed not only myself, Chief Gendron and Chief Lavoie to put into place is key. Just yesterday afternoon I'm in the hallway and a call came in for a distraught man, maybe mental health issues. My sergeant, Kevin Riley, was sitting in the Sergeants Office, he hears the call come over our speaker in there. I didn't have to say a word to Sergeant Riley. He knew that that could be a dangerous call for service. He ran out that backdoor and started for that scene. My

Sergeants and Lieutenants know what Captain Dionne and myself expect day in and day out. That they are to be at those types of scenes when they can, because they can't be in two places at once, anytime there's a propensity for violence.

People ask questions about us dealing with different ethnic backgrounds. I'll use an example and I had a conversation with this person today to make sure it was okay. Alexandro Uretha. We had meetings upon meetings upon meetings with him and the Greater New Hampshire Hispanic Coalition, and with a lady by the name of Eva Castillo, who is police commissioner for the Manchester Police Department. We wanted to bring them in to make sure we understood how that ethnicity view the police. What we learned is that if we say something to them, we may be talking down to them, even though we're not speaking down to them. Important meetings. Those people came in, they've addressed my entire Department on how we can better serve their community and better communicate with their people. We are taking drastic measures. I will discuss more on Friday night. Again, I open it up to anybody in Town. Morning, noon and night. You can ask the people that have already emailed me because the second they email me I get back in touch with them. I will spend as many hours as it takes to get through to any of them. If they want to come in and meet with me, please do. I would be happy to take any questions or concerns from the Board of Selectmen.

Selectman Roy was recognized by the Chairman and she said, I actually just want to comment on one thing you said at the beginning contacting you to get information. What I would suggest to be a more appropriate thing is if they fill out a Right to Know request for those records so that it went through the proper channels. I'm sure you'd be more than happy to fulfill the requests. So we can track what's being requested and all those good things. To which Chief Avery responded, absolutely. The Chief went on to say, the last thing I forgot to mention, Mr. Chairman, if I may, was the use of body cameras. We currently do not have body cameras. Do I think that we need body cameras? No, I don't. because I get very, very little citizen complaints about the Police Officers that serve here day in and day out. I actually hope the Federal Government makes it mandatory for all police officers to do it and with that will come some funding to help support this. I know some of my counterparts have gone to the body cameras. They love them. Why? Because they protect the police officer. Because 99.999% of the time the police officer is acting professional, polite and things just turn very quickly when you're at a domestic or at scene of an arrest as some of you know. It can turn quickly. So they do protect the police and they also protect the citizen. Any questions? To which Selectman McGrath asked, so if you decided that you wanted to have body cameras, do you have any idea what the cost would be and whether or not there might be any kind of grants that might be available too? Chief Avery responded, I've already began looking into it. The exact cost is kind of unknown because of the storage cost. I would need to bring in some reps. Don't think since the incident in Minnesota, took place that my email didn't blow up from reps wanting to sell me body cameras. They got deleted, but I know one place received them, a larger department, and the price was so high they had to get a bond to purchase them. Do I think that would be the case with Hudson? I don't think so. But it might be something we can plan on. A lot goes into body cameras. I would have to work with the Union hand in hand. If we're getting body cameras, Chief Avery is wearing a body camera. From me, all the way down so there would be 51 of them we'd have to purchase, as we sit here today. Selectman McGrath said, I'm not advocating that at this time, but in the event that we do need it or you think that we need them, I would supportive of that. Just from my personal perspective on the Hudson Police Department, I've lived here all my life. There's been good times and there's been bad times. These last years under Chief Gendron, Chief Lavoie and certainly under you, we have a Police Department that I can say, and I think every citizen can say, we're proud of. I read some of the comments. I hear comments. I've never heard anything remotely derogatory about this Department. That's something that you should be proud of because with your leadership we're going to maintain that. Under the CALEA accreditation, that's been most helpful. I think it's unfortunate. When I saw the video of Mr. Floyd being killed, its heart wrenching. But that's one person. He was directing two of the junior officers that had only been on duty for a couple of days. Two or three days. He was directing them to remain where they were. With their knees on his back, on his legs, holding him down and they could tell that he wasn't doing well, that he needed to be turned over and he didn't allow it, the officer that is going to be spending the rest of his days in prison. But our Department doesn't do things like that. So we have a lot to be proud of and a lot to be thankful for. Chief Avery thanked Selectman McGrath. Chairman Morin thanked Chief Avery for his update and for being here.

F. May Revenues and Expenditures

Chairman Morin recognized the Town Administrator. Mr. Malizia, Town Administrator said, this report is through the end of May, which is 11 months or 92%. As you all are aware we stopped non-essential spending. Obviously from that side of the house we look to be in a good position. We had a very good month for auto registration. When you look at the data, we're at 94.7% collected against the budget. So we had a very good month. I know the folks up in the Clerk's Office worked really hard to process but it appears that folks are still registering automobiles. I know there's been a lot of new car sales and incentives and whatnot so it's reflected here. A little bit down on the interest but that's to be expected. The interest environment is not as good as it was when we budgeted this. Ambulance we're going to need a couple hundred K but that's okay, we're two months off on that anyway. I think from a revenue perspective, it appears that the non-tax revenue should come in right about where we expect it to come in. which is a good sign given the difficult times that folks have had. Again, we can't predict the tax collection because they're not due until July 1<sup>st</sup>, I believe, so that would be another key indicator of how we collect the property tax. But for the end of this year we appear to be finishing right where we should be finishing. So it's been a very positive sign. I don't know if they Finance Director wants to add anything to that. The Finance Director came forward and said, you are correct that property taxes aren't due until July 1<sup>st</sup>, so we've only collected \$4 million out of \$31 million, which is like 12% but we still have three more weeks before the money comes in. We're still cautious, even though revenues and expenditures are doing well because of the freeze in spending and revenues are going to hit our target. We still are cautious of what's going to happen with our cash flow over the summer. The Town Administrator added, if I'm not mistaken, you've also worked with the School District to reduce the first two payments that are due to the School. We make payments to the School District, typically in an equal amount, over the twelve months. Ms. Carpentier, I believe you've reduced the payments by a million dollars each month. So that should also assist us, should we get into some temporary cash-flow type issues. So kudos for that. That's a very positive thing also. Seeing no questions, the Chairman thanked the Town Administrator and Finance Director.

G. Discussion -Right to Know Law/Texting during Meetings

Chairman Morin recognized Selectman McGrath who started by saying, I requested a legal opinion from Dave Lefevre (Town Attorney) because I was horrified at the meeting before last when Selectman Coutu was getting text messages and responding to them, during a Board of Selectmen meeting. Since then, I've learned from others that seems to be a common practice. I don't do it. I turn my phone off when I leave the house so I can't get phone calls, certainly can't get text messages and even if I did, I wouldn't answer nor, would I respond. I have respect for my Board members that I serve with. I have respect for the public and whatever goes on here, they should have access to that. They should be able to hear our discussion. They should be able to participate in it if they need to, but certainly not by text message. So Dave Lefevre provided his opinion and I think that we should take his advice and establish a policy.

Selectman Coutu responded saying, whenever an opportunity to put me down is available, you seize on it, but you distort the facts. Two weeks ago I received one text message. It was a question and I asked the question. You chastised me. You asked me oh, you're getting text messages? I said I just got one. Well, we have a right to know, I said I just asked the question the person asked me. When I was at home, we use a telephone to communicate here, I believe it shows up on that TV screen. If someone texts me, the text pops up on my phone. Unlike if I have it in my pocket and somebody texts me, I have to open it up to get it. But when the phone is open the text message came across. It was a simple three word question, I believe, and I asked the question. I wasn't hiding anything. You try to make us look like we're the culprits and you never do anything wrong. You do this repeatedly, repeatedly, repeatedly and I'm getting sick and tired of it. I am sick and tired of it. You came after me for election day, having to work the polls, which was my job. You come after me for anything. You come after him all the time. You like to nit-pick here and there at people. I am sick and tired of it. To which Selectman McGrath replied ditto. Selectman Coutu then said, go ahead, nit-pick some more.

Selectman McGrath said, I'm just going to say ditto. Chairman Morin asked if there was anyone else. Selectman Coutu said, typical remark. The Chairman asked, what about a policy? What's the Boards? Selectman Coutu interjected saying if I might Mr. Chairman, if you were to walk the halls of the United States Senate, the United States House of Representatives, the State Senate, the State Representative House, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Maine, I don't care where you go in the Country. These guys are walking around with their phones all the time. You watch them when there's a debate going on, on something very important like gun legislation or criminal justice. You'll see them sitting in their chairs and while the persons speaking, they're sitting there and they're texting going back and forth. We don't know what's being said and what's going on. Neither do other members of Congress. There is no law that prevents you from using your cellphone while you're sitting at a meeting. There is nothing! Unless you commit an unethical act. There's nothing wrong with it. You know it's, I've talked to other select boards and they just never heard of having a policy. They didn't feel it was necessary. Everybody does it. It doesn't make it right. It doesn't make it wrong. But there's nothing prohibitive about it. If there's going to be a policy and the majority of this Board wants to establish a policy, fine. But when someone on this Board wants a quick answer to something and a member of this Board picks up their telephone and researches it and gives us a quick answer then we won't be able to do that anymore. That was something that was being done here. Repeatedly. Meeting after meeting. Not every single meeting but whenever there was a concern about an RSA or something, it was researched on the phone. I don't see the problem. I didn't find it obtrusive. It's been going on for two years, this type of research but not that wasn't picked on. What was picked on was a simple thing that happened two weeks ago at my home. A text message showed up. I said excuse me. I did not hide it, if you remember, I said, I just received a text message and it was a question and I asked the question. But no, I'm the one that gets nit-picked on, not anyone else who picks up the phone in here. It's just not fair Mr. Chairman. It's outrageous. It's borderline abrasive to me, even though it doesn't appear its borderline it feels like I'm over the edge but I just get sick of it. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Selectman Roy was recognized by the Chairman and she said, I think it actually would be prudent for us to consider a policy because as Atty. Lefevre points out, it does become an issue with those text messages being subject to the Right to Know law. I don't know if everybody is comfortable with revealing their texts under a Right to Know request. I certainly would not be comfortable with that. I don't know what it would look like, but I think it would be prudent for us to consider a policy that limits the use of responding to text messages and using electronic devices during meetings.

Selectman Martin said, I'm looking up our bylaws. I believe I addressed it in our bylaws. I am, I'm doing it right now. There's nothing illegal about it. I'm participating in the discussion. Go ahead, I'll find it eventually. I'll comment in my remarks. To which Chairman Morin responded, okay you want to wait til remarks with that then? Anybody else have any comments on this? What do we want to do about a policy? Do we want to? The Chairman then recognized Selectman McGrath who said, I think we should have a policy. I think it's the right thing to do. It's based on advice from our Town Attorney and I have nothing to hide. I don't use my phone, as I said. The only time I ever had it on in a meeting was when my brother was dying and I needed to be available if I got a call. Other than that its stays in my pocketbook, I've got it turned off. I can't get calls. I can't get text messages. I just don't think its right. Chairman Morin asked Selectman Martin, the purpose of looking that up, what are you looking to do determine? Selectman Martin responded, I'm looking to see if I wrote it into the bylaws. If it's in the bylaws we should be following it. The Chairman then asked, so is everybody happy until he can go through that real quick and we can take it up when he has his. Selectman McGrath said, let him review that in his leisure and we'll take it up at the next meeting. To which the Chairman asked, okay you want to defer it to the next meeting? Selectman McGrath responded, yes. Selectman Martin said, I'll talk about it in my comments.

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

10. REMARKS BY THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR - Mr. Malizia said, I'd just like to thank everybody who's helped the Town Clerk's office over the last week and a half. They certainly had a backlog and everybody is to be commended for working together from all the various departments to assist them with that backlog.

Just another quick reminder, Benson Park is scheduled to be open on the 16<sup>th</sup>. I believe we'll meet that target with all the appropriate signage, playground secure and all the other things that are necessary to have that as a walking passive recreation area.

11. OTHER BUSINESS/REMARKS BY SELECTMEN

Selectman Martin - Thank you Mr. Chairman. I just want to point out to you, the Budget Committee did have a meeting last week. The Budget Committee voted not to have a July meeting but they will have a August meeting. They also voted to have a presentation, a PowerPoint presentation from the School and the Town about expenses related to the covid-19 expenditures. They did elect a new chairman. If you didn't see. Shawn Murray is now the chairman. That's all I have on the Budget Committee.

As far as the bylaws, we didn't write anything into the bylaws but I do want to point out something in these bylaws that says, members of the Board have authority only when acting as a Board legally in session. The Board should not be bound by any action or statement of individuals' Board member, except when such statement or action is at the direction of the Board. So, I'm not going to support voting for a policy that a Board member asked for a legal opinion of whether we can use this or not. And I have to agree with Roger. She thinks we're constantly on this. It makes us sound like bad people. I'm pretty much had it up to the golden gates up in heaven with it. Nit-pick, nit-pick, nit-pick. I use it for reference at a meeting. That's why this Board should have laptops. I use it for reference for things with my duties to the Board of Selectmen. Regardless of what anybody else does. That's what I do and that's what I'm doing right now Mr. Chairman. I didn't pick it up until now. But I'm had it up to the golden gates with nit-picking. We don't sit here and nit-pick what she does. We don't nit-pick and I don't point out her faults. It's not my job. My job is to come get what I represent the people do to. Nothing else. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Selectman Roy - I just want to take some time to thank, once again, the EOC Director, the Police Chief, Superintendent Russel and Principal Beals for working many hours in a very tough situation to come up with a plan to give our senior class at the high school somewhat of a normal graduation so they have that right of passage. In these times both Chiefs and Superintendent Russel and I'm sure Principal Beals, just work a tremendous amount of hours every day. For them to think it important enough for the community to take time out to come up with this plan, I think they deserve our thanks and our praise. That's all I have.

Selectman Coutu - Thank you Mr. Chairman. I want to seize on this opportunity one more time to extend my sincere appreciation to you, Mr. Chairman, Kara, Vice Chairman, the Fire Chief, the Police Chief, the Finance Director and all those who have been associated with you in the command center. I don't think the citizens realize the inordinate amount of work that is required to manage a municipality of this size, in a somewhat crisis situation. You Mr. Chairman, I don't think, expected that covid-19 would alter and change all of your plans and the same to you respectfully, Vice Chairman Roy. You've been at this 24/7. I appreciate, as I'm sure we all do, appreciate the time that you take to communicate with us verbally, to text us anything that you feel is necessary for us to know immediately. Your line of communication and I'm a good indication of that. I may return a call first thing in the morning. I may return a call at 8:00 p.m. and you're there. You're answering the phone. I said, what is this? Is he sitting in front of a phone master control panel that was provided with covid funds? So the enormity of that task has been burdensome to a lot of people but not of you have acted like it was a burden. That it was a necessity. I fully appreciate it could have happened when I was chair. God forbid, I don't ever want to see something like this happen again. I appreciate though to me it took a while to get certain things done that the citizens felt they'd like to get done probably sooner rather than later. I'm appreciative of the fact that this morning, at around 10:30-11:00 when I decided to open up all my emails, I only had one about the proposed project and I had five about Benson Park. So those were easy because we have an opening date. It's been confirmed here this evening. I'm extremely pleased that we're going

to take the steps necessary to get Robinson Pond open. That is another jewel. Especially in the summertime for our community. I hope the State has been able to find someone to be the lake host to be able to monitor the boats that are coming in and out of both Atonic Pond and Robinson Pond. With that said, I know that financially we're going to be almost on the edge, especially cash flow, come June 30<sup>th</sup> and I appreciate everything you're doing to monitor that, Ms. Carpentier and keeping us apprised of the finances because they're crucial going into a new fiscal year, if we don't even have enough cash flow to get through this year. We can't borrow on unanticipated funds into the next year.

So the citizen's appreciate everything being done. I think that I'm asking our citizens to be patient. We're going to gradually open up the building. Hopefully within a month, a month and a half, things will return to normal, but we can't predict the future. We don't know if there's going to be a resurgence of the epidemic, so I noticed, my wife and I are taking a few more chances. We've been out to a couple stores and markets. I'm noticing for the most part people are social distancing almost I'd say better than 90% are wearing face masks while they're shopping so that's good. I remind people all the time that if you continue to take these precautions in the meantime though they may be somewhat it's a different way of life, but be patient and it will all pay off in the end for all of us. God forbid any of us or our family members come down with this virus. I don't wish that on anybody. I'm looking forward, Mr. Chairman, my church is opening this Sunday I'm so thrilled about that. So I want to thank the people for being good neighbors, assisting with the food pantry and their needs. I'm reminding people that we still have a lot of people that are unemployed that typically would work a lower income bracket, if there's anything you can do if you have a spare dollar, a spare can of peas, please send it over to the food pantry here in Hudson. It's still located at St. John's. With that Mr. Chairman, thank you.

Selectman McGrath - I just have one thing. I got a phone call this morning. Typically I look to see who's calling if I recognize the number or name. There was no name associated with it. I picked it up in case and I've gotten a number of these calls. It starts with this is the Medicare hotline or something. There's a woman's voice. Then she'll say, can you hear me? I hang up. I don't say a word, I just hang up. But I looked it up because I thought about that tonight. I'm sure that I'm not the only one getting these calls. They're scams. I looked it up online. For the people that might be getting those calls and thinking that it is from the Medicare system, it is not. They will not call you under any circumstance unless you've sent them a request asking them to call you. They don't call. They'll send you a letter. Don't answer those calls and certainly don't say yes. That's all I have.

Chairman Morin - EOC has worked extremely hard to keep this Town as safe as possible. We have taken it very slow to reopen stuff. But there was a reason why, to protect the residents, whether they understand that or not, that's why we did it. There is one group that we need to recognize that we really don't. We wouldn't be where we were if it wasn't for the workers. All our people. Because they put up with a lot as we have. A lot of stress and their families have a lot of stress and we have kept this Town going pretty flawlessly. We've had some problems but if it wasn't for all of them, we as the EOC and this Board, would be nowhere so we need to thank them huge too for all the hard work they've done. We appreciate that.

I had saved my next comments for now and I missed a very big opportunity at the beginning of the meeting when we had a full room of police officers. With what has happened in this nation and happened to Mr. Floyd, I do not agree, I think it's a tragedy and it should not have happened. But people have got to remember. That's one officer in millions of officers. That can happen anywhere, from anywhere. I had the privilege to work with the officers in this Town for a very long time. I've seen them in action, I've seen what they've had to put up with. I've actually had to deal with things that they've had to deal with and people don't understand that. We have a very good group of officers. We probably have the best group of officers you can have with the certifications that they have to meet every year. I do support our officers and I would not myself support any funding coming out of them. They do the job of the social worker, of the psychiatrist, as the protector, they do all that. They may not have the specific training but they do that. I've seen them in action. I fully support them and I apologize that this didn't come up when they were here because they need to hear that because I understand that there is some stuff taking place on the streets to some of our officers as they're working and they do not deserve that. I just want to make sure that's clear. If you could pass that on Chief, thank you.



12. NONPUBLIC SESSION

Motion by Selectman Martin seconded by Selectman McGrath, 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.

(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.

(d) Consideration of the acquisition, sale, or lease of real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general community. Carried 5-0.

Chairman Morin entered Nonpublic Session at 8:28 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 8:57 p.m.

Selectman Coutu made a motion, seconded by Selectman Martin to exit nonpublic session. Carried 5-0.

Selectman Coutu made a motion, seconded by Selectman Martin to recognize Animal Control Supervisor, Jana McMillan, Attorney Joe Tessier, Captain Dave Bianchi, Captain Tad Dionne, Captain Dave Cayot, Lt. Mike Gosselin, Lt. Mike Niven, Lt. Mike Davis, Lt. Steve McElhinney, & Executive Coordinator Sherrie Kimball each with a merit award of \$100. Carried 5-0.

Selectman Coutu made a motion seconded by Selectman Martin waive the competitive bidding requirements as outlined in Town Code 98-1 (C) and to purchase a police vehicle from Toyota of Nashua at an estimated cost of \$20,470 as recommended by the Police Chief and the Finance Director. The Town will not accept deliver or make payment prior to July 1, 2020. Carried 5-0. Carried 5-0.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 9:39 p.m. by Selectman Roy 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