

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the October 13, 2020 Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER - by Chairman Morin the meeting of October 13, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at Town Hall.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Selectman Morin

3. ATTENDANCE

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

Staff/Others: Steve Malizia - Town Administrator; Larry Russel - Superintendent of Schools; Rob Buxton - Fire Chief; Jess Forrence - DPW Director; Elvis Dhima - Town Engineer; Diana Lamothe - School Board Rep.; Jill Laffin - Executive Assistant

4. PUBLIC INPUT

There was no public input this evening.

5. RECOGNITIONS, NOMINATIONS & APPOINTMENTS

Resignation of Jennifer Parkhurst, alternate member of the Conservation Commission.

Selectman Roy made a motion, seconded by Selectman Martin to accept alternate member Jennifer Parkhurst's resignation from the conservation Committee with the Board's thanks and appreciation. Carried 3-0.

Chairman Morin went on to Consent Items and asked, does any Board member wish to remove any item for separate consideration on consent items? Seeing none. Selectman Martin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to approve consent items A, B, C, D, E & F as noted and appropriate. Carried 3-0.

6. CONSENT ITEMS

A. Assessing Items

B. Water/Sewer Items

- 1) Sewer Abatement S-UTL-21-02 33 Constitution Dr.
- 2) Sewer Abatement S-UTL-21-03 17 Tolles Street

C. License, Permits, Policies

- 1) Hawker/Peddler/Itinerant Vendor's License - Emmy & Jax's Hot Dogs & Catering, LLC.
- 2) Raffle Permit - The Bar

D. Donations - none

- E. Acceptance of Minutes
 - 1) Minutes of September 15, 2020
 - 2) Minutes of September 22, 2020

- E. Calendar

- 10/14 7:00 pm Planning Board - Hudson Community Center
- 10/15 7:00 pm Board of Selectmen Budget Review - BOS Meeting Room
- 10/15 7:00 pm Benson Park Committee - Buxton Meeting Room
- 10/19 7:00 pm Conservation Committee - Hudson Community Center
- 10/19 7:00 pm Citizen's Traffic Advisory Committee - Buxton Meeting Room
- 10/20 7:00 pm Municipal Utility Committee - Buxton Meeting Room
- 10/20 7:00 pm Board of Selectmen Budget Review - BOS Meeting Room
- 10/21 6:00 pm Library Trustees - Hills Memorial Library
- 10/21 7:00 pm Planning Board - Hudson Community Center
- 10/22 7:00 pm Zoning Board of Adjustment - Hudson Community Center
- 10/22 7:00 pm Board of Selectmen Budget Review - BOS Meeting Room
- 10/26 7:00 pm Sustainability Committee - Buxton Meeting Room
- 10/27 7:00 pm Board of Selectmen - BOS Meeting Room

- 7. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Votes taken after the non-public session on 9/22/2020

- 1) Selectman Coutu made a motion, seconded by Selectman Martin to promote Master Patrol Officer Bryan Genovese to the position of Sergeant at \$38.42 per hour according to the Hudson Police Employee Association Contract (step 6). This elevation in rank would be effective on Sunday October 4, 2020. Carried 4-0.
- 2) Selectman Coutu made a motion, seconded by Selectman Martin to promote Sergeant Roger Lamarche to Lieutenant at \$89,811 per year, in accordance with the Hudson Police, Fire, Town Supervisors association Contract (Step 5). This elevation in rank would be effective on Sunday October 4, 2020. Carried 4-0.
- 3) Selectman Roy made a motion, seconded by Selectman Coutu to hire Chrissy Peterson as the Recreation Director effective 9/23/2020 at a rate of \$52,000 per year with a review at six (6) months. Carried 4-0.
- 4) Selectman Martin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to adjourn at 8:05 pm. Carried 4-0.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Conversation with Superintendent Russell

The Chairman said, good evening sir. Thank you for coming in tonight. We appreciate it. We're just looking for your input on how the whole COVID event has gone and what we can do, where we're going. Superintendent Russell started by saying, in the very beginning, back in March, it was a little bit alarming to go into the remote learning that was set forth by the Governor of the State. Quite frankly we had to scramble to get our act together and make sure that students were having the best remote experience as possible. In the process we had to make sure our staff was safe and that we were taking all of the appropriate precautions with that.

Around the same time the EOC was organized and we were graciously invited to contribute to that Committee. At that time it was myself, Karen Burnell our Business Manager, and Sarah Munsey who is currently the interim principal at Hills-Garrison right now. At that time she was assistant principal. I can't tell you how invaluable that contribution to our School District was from that Committee. It forged a good relationship between the people in the Town that we needed to speak with frequently, most notably Chief Buxton, and it helped us very much with the guiding document that we used for the reopening taskforce eventually. As we went through the remote learning experience, it certainly wasn't what was best for kids being out of school and us not being as prepared as we could be. We certainly didn't know what to expect and what to put into place. We learned overtime. That experience got better, but it certainly wasn't a good experience for the kids or the parents. Everyone was taken off by that. We closed school on June 5th and we were able to put together the School Reopening Taskforce and Chief Buxton was very gracious in joining us on that. He made every single meeting. Every day, he was there with us that we had the taskforce going. We did a lot of work over the summer securing PPE, getting our protocols in place in case we did have to open up remote. We had to devise a model over the summer. We knew that, through a lot of input from parents, that they needed their kids in school. Other parents said that they weren't going to be sending their kids to school regardless of what's setup in that time. So working with everyone on the Committee, working with the State, working with DHHS we were able to develop a pretty solid plan. Originally we were going to open up full in Prek-8 and do a hybrid model at the high school. There was just wasn't enough room at the high school to have everyone there at one time. Towards the 3rd week of August we had to go to a hybrid model at the middle school too. There just wasn't any way to get everybody on the buses at that grade level and get them into lunch. We made that a hybrid model also. We delayed the beginning of school by about eight days and that allowed us to have the teachers trained as well as possible to have some do remote learning. Others to put the safety protocols in place that allowed us to go full in Prek-5 and the hybrid 6-8.

The beginning of the school year I thought went off rather well. There's absolutely some angst in the teaching ranks and anybody who's a staff member in the schools. It's a very difficult thing to go into the unknown. We worked very diligently at making sure that there are three layers of protection. We have masks, social distancing and some protective shields for the students. We do the same thing for the secretaries and the teachers who have asked for them. So far, so good. I don't know if this is wood or not but (knocked on wood). Right now we are one of two communities in south central New Hampshire who have not had a positive case yet. I think it'd be naïve to think that we're never going to have one. Also, I think it'd be naïve to think that at one point in time somebody who was COVID positive probably has entered the schools, for all I know. But I think with the safety protocols we have in place it's not easily transmitted. So I think that's what's been keeping us going as well as we have been. Like I said, if the eventuality is that somebody is identified as COVID positive in our schools, I think that we're pretty well prepared for that, to react to it, to do the contact tracing that's required, working with DHHS. And I reach out to Chief Buxton continually with questions and he connects us with the State EOC. We think we have a good plan in place in order to react to a.) If there's a positive case on campus, b.) If we should have to go into remote, we think that we have the software, the personnel and the hardware in place to make that as smooth a transition as possible.

That's sort of up to date where we're at right now. The relationship between the Schools and the Town is vital at this point because if we don't have the checks and balances that go with both sides of that then we're certainly not going to be successful. We do appreciate what the Town has done. The Town has reached out to the School District, which we do appreciate. We have asked for some favors and they certainly have been given by the Town, we do appreciate that. The use of the Community Center for some of our meetings and things like that. So we do appreciate that. I think that one of the overarching reasons that we have been as successful as we have been is because the Town has taken this pretty seriously. I know there's been a recent uptick, in numbers, but many days this Town is at zero, one or two. The students, the parents and our teachers and everybody have been very compliant with the safety measures, the mask wearing, and things like that. We thought that was going to be a problem and it hasn't turned out to be a problem. So, I'm grateful to the Town itself, to the Town Department, if you will. It really helped the School out, so we do appreciate that.

Chairman Morin said, thank you. First of all, before we entertain any questions, I just want to thank you, the School Board, the Teachers and all the staff because you guys had a lot tougher job than we did. We really did. Things are going very well. We appreciate the Town and the School working very well together. I was at the EOC and everything went very smoothly. We did have some bumps in the road, but when that happened everybody got together and took care of it and things have gone pretty well. We are going to have a critique type of situation at some point, but unfortunately, it looks like we're gonna get right back into the middle of it again, so this may not be the time. But, is there anything off the top of your head that you could use, we should look at anything to that effect? Superintendent Russell replied saying, the only thing, if in the carrying out of your work and your preparing for the Town, if you see any opportunities for us to have the availability for PPE, we'd be appreciative of that. Right now we have about a three month supply and we are doing an analysis on the burn rate so we can know when to re-up our orders and how much we're gonna need. So anything in that area would be great. If the Town is fortunate enough to get funding or grant money or whatever the case may be, and any of that could be shared with us, we would appreciate that just for the PPE. Right now, at our last Board meeting we did freeze the budget. Which doesn't mean that we're out of money, it only means that we're going to be very cautious with it. So I would just like to get by a little bit easier than just squeaking by. It's not comfortable to squeak by for anybody. Anything along those lines would be greatly appreciated. Continue to help us out while we're trying to practice safe entry to and from the Schools. The Town, the Police, everybody has been helping with traffic flows and parking ideas and things like that. Anything along those lines that you have ideas with we'd greatly like to work with you with. But I think that's everything for right now.

Selectman Martin was recognized and he said, I asked the Fire Chief a question the other day. I'm sure he connected with you. Are you able to submit anything to the CARES Act to get reimbursement? Superintendent Russell replied, we absolutely have, yeah. We determined that the "cost" of doing business in COVID was about \$1.8 million dollars. We got about \$454,000 of which about \$50,000 went to PMA because part of our grant goes to private schools in Town. So we put in for all of that and then the Board saw in its wisdom to take care of some business at the end of last year which helped get a boost into this year. We've been trying to take advantage of everything we can. One thing we did not do, and it turned out to be fine is that there was supposedly FEMA money out there, which other towns had depended on and it did not come through. So that was not something we depended on and did not get. Anything other than that, we've gone after everything that we can. We've tried to look under every single rock that we can and we continue to work with the State. The Chief and I have talked about having a letter talking about that the Town contributed to the School District and show what the contribution was so that we can go to the DOE and say to them, this is what we've gotten, but this is still all the costs we have. So that's going to support us to hopefully get more funding from the State if it becomes available. Selectmen Martin then said, anything we can do to help, and we will help.

Chairman Morin then added, just to round it out, we will continue to work as close as we possibly can with the School Board and yourself to make sure you guys get through this as well as we can. Again, we want to thank you for the use of Memorial School. We understand the undertaking that's going to be for your people and what the possible exposure could have been and we appreciate the use of the

school for voting. Thank you very much. I appreciate your time. Superintendent Russell replied saying that's my pleasure. I think this is going to be a monumental election and we want to make sure that the Town has every availability to get in there and vote and we feel that's our civic duty to make sure that does happen. I can say that I am very grateful for the relationship between the Town and the School District and how it's fostered over the last year or so. I think it's a win-win situation for everybody. Lastly, I want to say that one thing I'll always say about the Town of Hudson, is when the chips are down, this Town pulls together. It came in spades this time too. Everyone just pulled together. Everybody didn't worry about themselves, they worried about everyone else and that's the true character of this Town. I'm proud to be the Superintendent of this Town.

B. Tax Collector/Town Clerk - Request for Abatement

Chairman Morin recognized the Town Administrator. Selectman Martin interjected saying, Mr. Chairman I make a motion to approve the abatement for the costs associated with map/lot 100-015 as presented by the Town Clerk/Tax Collector. Selectman Roy said, I'll second for discussion. The Town Administrator then said, this is some leftover funds from when Patti had done a billing. Monies that have been pooling money and accruing interest. We should have put it under consent but it made its way into the regular agenda. It's basically just to clear the books of this \$92.00 of interest that's accumulated over the last couple of years. Seeing no further discussion, a vote was taken. Carried 3-0.

C. Engineering/Public Works - Speare Road Culvert

Chairman Morin welcomed Town Engineer, Elvis Dhima and Public Works Director, Jess Forrence. Mr. Dhima. Mr. Dhima started off by saying thank you Mr. Chairman, good evening everyone. As you all know we experienced some issues at Speare Road with the culvert due to significant run-off. Public Works did what they do best and took care of business, went out there when they could and they fixed the pipe. Most of the pipe on the upstream side. We conducted an evaluation of the remainder of the pipe under the road and we found out that even from previous evaluations that we continue to have some gaps between sections of the pipe under the road. We believe that the best approach is to go and line the entire section to buy the Town some time. Could be a year, could be ten years. Basically trying to keep this culvert there for a little bit longer in the safest way possible. If we do this we'll avoid any gaps, any sinkholes or losing the road entirely if we have another massive run-off like we have in the past. The project will be similar to Pelham Road if it gets done full scale and it will be pretty expensive, over a million dollars. So we believe that this approach is the best approach for now to buy the Town some time as we do have other things more important to handle and trying to pace these projects out a little bit.

Selectman Roy asked, how long would that buy us I guess? Mr. Dhima replied, it could be a year, it could be ten years. Selectman Roy then asked, so what's the plan? Why would you propose that you do the real? Mr. Forrence then responded saying if we get the funding to do the lining we won't have to worry about the pipe. The pipe is going to be there beyond our life expectancy. The only thing we'll have to do, which Elvis and I talked about, is do something with the headwall further down the road. but us doing this part right here, we feel very comfortable keeping the Circumvential Highway open, because man there is some traffic on that road. But I think this will get us through. For \$31,500 I think we'll be in great shape for a while.

Selectman Martin was recognized and he said so, taking into account the 67 new homes that are being built right now, is the traffic the problem with this road or is it deterioration or the weather? Mr. Dhima replied, no it's just a cut through. It's the Circumvential Highway basically. People are using this road as a cut through Hudson to get to 111. Mr. Malizia interjected saying, I think he's asking why this might be failing. Is it because of more traffic? Mr. Dhima said, no, it's not because of that. It's just people put it on their GPS and find the path of least resistance. Speare Road is one of those roads that gets used. No different than Wason Road, Kimball Hill, Burns Hill. Selectman Roy asked, did that contribute to

the breakdown of this pipe? Mr. Dhima responded, no, this is an old culvert. What happened is it used to be about 15-18 feet wide. Then they widened it. It used to be a concrete pipe and then they put a galvanized pipe next to it but it was not really matched the right way. So right at that piece that piece failed. So what we did, we went back and replaced it, we built a drainage manhole upstream and another pipe on top of it to make it right. It was just basically something put together probably during a weekend. So as Mr. Forrence said, the pipe will stay there. It's just a matter of putting in reinforcement within that existing pipe to buy us some time. The only weak point after this gets done, if it gets done, would be the downstream side of the retaining wall. They did not build that like you would a retaining wall. It's just boulders. So again, it could be there a year. It could be there ten years or a hundred years. We don't know. It's one of those things we need to keep an eye on. As far as the pipe itself, this should take care of the integrity of the pipe under the road.

Selectmen Martin then asked, do you have a plan in case of failure or a plan for the future? Mr. Dhima replied, yeah, jersey barriers. *laughter erupts* Mr. Forrence replied, if there was a problem just what happened during the flood, we ended up just blocking the road off, closing both ends and just repairing it. We'll do the same thing all over again. But I think this will get us through...Selectman Martin interrupted saying, as far as, my question is, guaranteed replacement. A replacement that a firm like this is going to come in and do it all. You guys are going to be sweeping the streets and sawing wood and whatever you do out there. Is there that kind of a plan where you would go? Mr. Dhima replied, yeah, that would be ideal but we have other things in the works. As you know we have the twin bridges that's in the works. We also have a bridge that we're gonna talk about during this fiscal season that we're going to have to do the design that's under first brook on Lowell Road. That's a priority. Speare Road, unfortunately, is not a priority for the amount of money we're talking about. We're talking somewhere between half a million to \$750,000 for a culvert. And if I have to pick between a culvert on Lowell Road and this on Speare Road, I'd go with Lowell Road. That's a priority and something that's going to have a bigger impact than Speare Road being closed. Selectman Martin asked, and you're going to be talking about this during your budget? Mr. Dhima replied, yes, it's been identified. It's the only one that the Town of Hudson has on the red list. I walked the culvert. It's in good shape, but we are going to plan for the design phase for this coming up fiscal year and then on the next one we're going to be doing the construction which is not closing the road but just lining that at the bottom. Similar to what we did on Central Street. It basically buys us 15-20 years without having to gut out the whole road. That's a priority and then the twin bridge is obviously a priority. As far as Speare Road, it's on the to do list, we'll keep an eye on it but it's not something we need to do right away. There's going to be a lot of balls in the air. We need to make sure we're prioritizing as there's only a certain amount of money.

The Chairman then said, the repair on Speare Road would be what you did on Pelham Road and that was a very large project. That was basically putting in a bridge. Mr. Dhima said, yes, closing the road for 8 months, gutting it all out, building it. It's a massive undertaking and if I had to put that much money into it I would be...it's not like Pelham Road. It's not like Lowell Road. It's Speare Road. I don't think anyone would care if it's a dead end on both sides to be honest with you, except for PD and Fire for response time. The neighbors would probably love a dead end cul-de-sac. It's one of those things. We have other things in the que that is going to need more attention. Chairman Morin went on to say, what really brought this about was in the spring when the culvert got blocked up and the water was 25 feet deep there. With kids in the neighborhood, we had a lot of meetings down there to look at it. Public Works went down there a few months ago and actually we could go down into where the Brook was and the job was unbelievable what they did down there. They even put a backup spillway in case we had runoff. At this point with all the work that they did and the use of that road it's worthwhile doing this for now. This is the next step. Selectman Martin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to the lining for the Speare Road culvert to Ted Barry Company, Inc. in the not to exceed amount of \$31,500, using Account #5585-225 (\$16,500) and 5554-406 (\$15,000). Carried 3-0.

D. Public Hearing - Acceptance of the FY2019 SAFER Grant

Chairman Morin recognized Fire Chief, Rob Buxton. Chief Buxton started by saying, Good evening Mr. Chairman, members of the Board. Tonight we're here to discuss the 2019 SAFER grant award. In May the Town formally applied for the SAFER grant for the 2019 season for four additional firefighters. This was supported in the March 2020 Deliberative Session through the vote and passed with a 2,844 yes and 1,214 no vote. The cost of this project is \$363,000 and we're here tonight to work through the acceptance. The public hearing has been posted by law you're required to hold a public hearing and then take action on whether you would like to accept the grant or not.

Chairman Morin opened the public hearing at 7:28pm. There was no one in the room with comment. The public hearing was closed at 7:29pm. Chief Buxton went on to say, this evening I would ask you to consider formerly accepting the 2019 SAFER grant for four additional firefighter/AEMT. One of the changes to the rules that have taken place since the COVID event has started, the federal government changed the rules to the program. Basically in a positive way for us, this grant will be 100% funded for the three year period which means there will be no match for the three years. So we'll be receiving the \$363,568 dollars each year for the first three years of the project before the salaries and benefits come on to the Town's budget. Originally the Town had put aside \$90,000 for a match this year. We will be required to look at PPE, radios, physicals, those types of things for these employees, so some of that money will be utilized for those expenses and the cost of putting on the five week recruit school that's associated with the project. Selectman Roy made a motion, seconded by Selectman Martin to authorize the Fire Chief to accept the FY2019 Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response grant in the amount of \$1,098,456 as recommended by the Fire Chief. Carried 3-0.

E. Fire Department 2008 Pierce Saber Pumper Truck Discussion

Chief Buxton started off by saying Mr. Chairman, this evening we're here to open discussion with you regarding the growing concerns regarding the truck frame and tank saddle supporting structure on our 2008 Pierce Saber. I provided you this evening in your package a small slide show that has comparison pictures between the 2008 and the 2010 frame and the damage that we're seeing on the frame today. I believe that everybody has had an opportunity to review those. This truck operates out of Central Fire Station. It currently has 87,787 miles on it. It has 6,512 engine hours. The cost of repairing the frame would require us to take the body off of the truck along with the pump and the engine and all the engine mounts and reattach it to a new frame structure along with building a new support structure under the tank. The cost of that is estimated to be over \$200,000. So we're asking you this evening to give consideration to fully replace the truck. We gave you some options this evening. 1) would be to put the truck out for a significant amount of time for a long-term refurbishment 2) would be to lease purchase a pumper truck, similar to engine four, utilizing the same contract that we utilize for engine four through the Houston Galveston Purchasing Group. The trade in value for this truck will be very, very, very minute, if anything at all. The vendor has not given me a formal trade in value of that truck yet because they cannot resell the truck. They will not resell the truck. So that means that basically the truck will be scrapped at the end of this project. This is one of the three pumpers that we own. So the deletion of this truck from our fleet would impact our ISO insurance ratings for the community and would remove a pumper from the Central Station. So we want to make sure that we're keeping that in service and ready to go. I'm opening some dialogue with you this evening, I'm going to ask you to consider moving forward with this.

Selectman Martin was recognized and said, so, are you telling me that rehabbing this truck by taking it off and doing all that ugly work would be like purchasing it a second time? Chief Buxton said, yes. Selectman Martin said thank you. That's all I have. Selectman Roy asked, Chief, what's the lifecycle of this vehicle? Chief Buxton replied, the lifecycle is expected to be 20 years. We will not make 20 years with this current truck, even if we were to refurbish it. If you put a new frame under the truck you're still dealing with the same motor, the same pump and you're not going to get any more life out

of it. You'll limp along to the 20 year mark and we're 12 years into it already. Selectman Roy then asked, how much time do you anticipate it be off the road if we didn't do anything. Would you send it out on a call today I guess? Chief Buxton responded, the truck is inspected, it does have an inspection sticker on it. It is in service. My concern is as we go into the winter months, and into the spring, we're gonna continue to see more deterioration as we head into sand and salt season. And if we get any major issues with the truck it will be removed from service from a safety perspective will not be responding. At this point, where the truck sits today, I will leave it in service, but if there's any damage done over the wintertime, we will end up having to make the hard decision on removing that truck from service if we don't have a plan in place.

Selectman Martin was recognized and he said, one other question Chief. How often are you sending that out? Chief Buxton replied, that's a great question. So with the activity that you just took with authorizing the SAFER grant to be accepted you're going to add some additional staffing to the Central Fire Station and that truck will be the primary response unit as a pumper out of Central Fire Station today. Currently that truck runs secondary in this district because we run the ladder truck out of Central. But that will be the primary response unit out of Central Fire Station for fire calls. Selectman Martin then said, that scares me for safety reasons, so I'm prepared to make a motion if there's no more discussion. Chairman Morin said, there's no motion to be made. You've got to wait til the second part for that. Seeing no further questions, Selectman Morin went on to New Business Item F.

F. Fire Department 2021 Seagrave Fire Apparatus Pumper

Chief Buxton said, we would encourage the Board to consider purchasing a 2021 Seagrave Fire Pumper from the Houston Galveston purchasing conglomerate. For the last 30 years have gone out to public bid to bid out these projects and they have contract numbers we can pull from and purchase that truck. We've given you two motions tonight, one is to waive the bidding process for here locally and the second is to afford us the opportunity, sorry three motions, afford us the opportunity to move forward with a lease payment this year for \$67,209.72 and then the Town Administrator/Finance Director/Welfare Officer/all the other duties he's picked up this week *laughter in the room*, and basically we've identified a funding plan for the first years payment because this was not budgeted but it will be added to our budget next year. So these are the line items that we would look at or come up with the \$67,000. Selectman Roy said, so this project, this Seagrave, do you anticipate that we'll get a full lifecycle out of it? Chief Buxton responded, yes, and that's a great questions, Selectman Roy. One of the things that we reviewed prior to the meeting was the construction practices of the Seagrave contract and how they go about rustproofing. During construction of the frame, all the holes are put into the frame and drilled in prior to a salt retardant material being placed on the frame. So the entire frame is dipped in a tank and it puts a protective coating on it. As the frame is assembled, no additional drilling is done to the frame itself. Everything needs to be pre-engineered. Matter of fact even though it's a contracted truck, I'll need to review that with the manufacturer and sign off on it that we're not going to make any additions. As they put the truck together they repaint all the bolts and all the areas where the connection points are made to increase additionally. So there's no wear and tear. No flat edges are exposed which has led to a lot of the decay that we have on the 2008 Pierce. Selectman Martin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to waive Chapter 98-7 Bidding Procedure of the Hudson Town Code for the purpose of lease purchasing a 2021 Seagrave Fire Apparatus Pumper. Carried 3-0.

Selectman Martin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to authorize the Town of Hudson Fire Department to award the purchase to Houston-Galveston Area Council HGACBuy with an annual lease purchasing payment of \$67,209.72. Carried 3-0.

Selectman Martin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to authorize the first year payment to be paid from: \$38,700 5821-104 Recreation Supervised Play, \$28,510 Fire Department Operating Budget 5730-204 Large Equipment Maintenance 5730-205 Large Equipment Repair 5730-321 Hose and Equipment. Carried 3-0

G. 2021 BOS Meeting Schedule

Chairman Morin recognized Town Administrator, Steve Malizia. Mr. Malizia stated this is the schedule for next calendar year for the Board's meetings. You'll notice in March, we put that meeting on Monday because the Town Vote, Town Meeting, is on Tuesday the 9th. I don't believe there are any other elections so there are no other anomalies to the normal Tuesday schedule. Typically this is approximately the time you approve this schedule. Selectman Roy asked, do you need a motion? Selectman Martin interjected saying, I would like to suggest that our March meeting, instead of having it the Monday night before, why don't we put our business meeting on the first Tuesday and not have a meeting on the following week. Selectman Roy then said, so do it on the second and then not have a workshop date. We can do that. The Town Administrator said, that's certainly your prerogative. Selectman Martin added, it only makes sense. This way here we're not meeting on Monday and then have a long day on Tuesday and then have to take time off to recover on Wednesday. So that's what I'd like to see if we all agree. Chairman Morin then said, just put that in the motion then. Selectman Martin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to approve the Board of Selectmen meeting dates with March 2nd being the first regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen in March, versus the 8th. Carried 3-0.

H. 2021 Scheduled Holidays

Chairman Morin went on to the 2021 Scheduled Holidays. Town Administrator Malizia explained, this is the calendar of scheduled holidays. All of these are articulated in the union contracts so this is just a formal approval of the holiday schedule. Just to take into account that in the occasion you have a holiday on a weekend you either take it the day before if it's a Saturday or the day after if it's a Sunday. Selectman Roy made a motion, seconded by Selectman Martin to approve the 2021 Scheduled Holidays. Carried 3-0.

I. November 3rd Election Location Mailer

The Town Administrator explained at the last regular Board meeting the Moderator came in and talked to the Board or tried to convince the Board to send out some sort of mailer to all of the households in Hudson. As we're well aware, we're changing location for the Presidential Election from the Community Center to the Hudson Memorial School. It seems like not everybody has that message. Quite honestly not everybody has Facebook, not everybody has the internet, and not everybody watches cable TV. So we looked into some pricing with postage and a postcard type thing with the information on it. You could send it out for a little bit less than \$3,200. So if the Board wants to do that, we would do that. Selectman Martin was recognized and said, my question is, how long to print them and how long to get them out because we're running short on time. The Town Administrator replied, more than likely they could be printed pretty quickly and we'd get them out the week before the election. You don't want to mail them out too early, you don't want to mail them out too late. We're looking at the week before the election. There's at least a couple of local firms we've been dealing with. We could also put on there about the masks. A reminder. Those kinds of things are important to get out there. It would get mailed to all the residences. Not all the businesses, which is about 9,200. Selectman Roy made a motion, seconded by Selectman Martin to mail a post card to all town residences notifying every one of the voting location change for the November 3, 2020 Presidential Election at a cost not to exceed \$3,120.48. Carried 3-0.

J. September Revenues & Expenditures

The Town Administrator was recognized and said, we're through the first quarter of the year. Expenses are on pace basically, as I talked before, we encumber things like the trash contract. We've also had an expense, or we booked the PO for the things we need to do upstairs in the Clerk's Office, Assessing, Fire Administration in anticipation of getting that reimbursed. But we still, none the less, put a purchase order on this. So you'll see a little bit of skewing in the percentage when you look at the Town Hall or Town building operations. Other than that everything else is pretty much on course for the first quarter of the year. Automobiles continue to do well. They're at 26%. Which is about \$75K more than they were last year at the same time, which helps make up for the interest that we're not really making yet this year. So it all sort of levels out. But motor vehicles are still strong. Which is amazing. At this point in time things seem to be going on course.

9. REMARKS BY THE SCHOOL BOARD - Ms. Lamothe started off by saying, as Superintendent Russell happily reported, there are no COVID cases for students and staff as of today. I just want to recognize, with appreciation, all the time and effort that's been put forth by all the staff, the students, the families and the Town. They made that possible. Also, in September the District created a dashboard on it's website to share the status of several categories within each of the Hudson Schools. If you're interested you can go to SAU81.org click on the news button and it will show you the latest update. It says things like staff availability, PPE supplies, adequate spacing in facilities, transportation, items of that nature. This is a great tool that will enable the District to switch to full remote learning or make changes as necessary to ensure the safety of the students and staff in the schools.

We also have sports and music activities underway at the middle and high schools with an abundance of caution. Instruction is going well. I heard better than anticipated. Especially with the hybrid models at the middle and high school. It's a plus for COVID prevention, but it's a minus in the way of student's general learning and social experiences. There's not as much contact. At any time we can adapt and keep everybody safe and healthy. Again, I wanted to just acknowledge with appreciation, all the time and effort that goes into making that possible.

10. REMARKS BY THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR - I don't have a lot. I just want to remind everybody that the Fiscal Year 22 Budget Meetings will start on Thursday. This Thursday. If the public would like to follow along, if you go on the Town webpage under the Budget Committee you can follow the actual budget. The entire budget is put up on the webpage under the Budget Committee link on the Town's webpage. So for the people who like to follow at home, that's where you can find it.

11. OTHER BUSINESS/REMARKS BY THE SELECTMEN

Selectman Martin - Thank you Mr. Chairman. Just a couple things. I want to remind the voters that on November 3rd we will have our wonderful elections. I will remind everybody that we are now gonna vote this year, at the middle school, which is at 1 Memorial Drive. We ask that you wear your masks. If there's any delays be patient with us because we're in this together. And I look forward to Thursday.

Selectman Roy - So I just have an announcement. The Town Moderator will conduct a drive thru absentee ballot drop off and new voter registration on Saturday October 17th from 12-3PM at the Hudson Community Center. So if you're not registered to vote or you want to drop off your absentee ballot, you can do that on Saturday October 17th between 12-3PM. If you are dropping off an

absentee ballot for somebody else, you have to be prepared to show and identification. That's all I have.

Selectman Morin - I have nothing tonight, so we will go into non-public.

11. NONPUBLIC SESSION

The Town Administrator said, the Chairman will entertain a motion to go into non-public 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. & (b) The hiring of any person as a public employee.
A roll call vote was taken. Motion by Selectman Roy at 7:38 p.m., seconded by Selectman Martin, to go into non-public session Carried 3-0.

Chairman Morin entered Nonpublic Session at 7:48 p.m. thus ending the televised portion of the meeting. Any votes taken upon entering open session will be listed on the Board's next agenda. The public is asked to leave the room.

Chairman Morin entered open session at 8:10 p.m.

Selectman Roy made a motion, seconded by Selectman Martin, to hire Scott Descheneau as a truck driver/laborer in the Public Works Department at a rate of \$20.12 per hour (Grade VIII, Step One) in accordance with the Hudson Public Works Department Local #1801 AFSCME agreement. Carried 3-0.

Selectman Roy made a motion, seconded by Selectman Martin, to hire Timothy Cassin as a truck driver/laborer in the Public Works Department at a rate of \$20.12 per hour (Grade VIII, Step One) in accordance with the Hudson Public Works Department Local #1801 AFSCME agreement. Carried 3-0.

Selectman Roy made a motion, seconded by Selectman Martin to hire Christopher Pervere for the position of Firefighter/EMT in the Fire Department at the contracted starting salary of \$16.93 per hour (Step1). This assignment will be a non-exempt position in accordance with the International Association of Firefighters Local #3154, as per the union contract. Carried 3-0.

Selectman Roy made a motion, seconded by Selectman Martin to hire Timothy Lafortune for the position of Firefighter/EMT in the Fire Department at the contracted starting salary of \$16.93 per hour (Step1). This assignment will be a non-exempt position in accordance with the International Association of Firefighters Local #3154, as per the union contract. Carried 3-0.

Selectman Roy made a motion, seconded by Selectman Martin to hire Patrick Chamberlain for the position of Firefighter/AEMT in the Fire Department at the contracted starting salary of \$21.17 per hour (Step1). This assignment will be a non-exempt position in accordance with the International Association of Firefighters Local #3154, as per the union contract. Carried 3-0.

Selectman Roy made a motion, seconded by Selectman Martin to hire Christopher Perrin for the position of Firefighter/AEMT in the Fire Department at the contracted starting salary of \$21.17 per hour (Step1). This assignment will be a non-exempt position in accordance with the International Association of Firefighters Local #3154, as per the union contract. Carried 3-0.

Selectman Roy made a motion, seconded by Selectman Martin to hire Adam Lebor for the position of Firefighter/AEMT in the Fire Department at the contracted starting salary of \$21.17 per hour (Step1). This assignment will be a non-exempt position in accordance with the International Association of Firefighters Local #3154, as per the union contract. Carried 3-0.

Selectman Roy made a motion, seconded by Selectman Martin to allow the IT Director to buy back 400 hours of vacation time at her current salary. Carried 3-0.

Selectman Roy made a motion, seconded by Selectman Martin to retain the services of former Finance Director Kathy Carpentier for up to three (3) months starting October 13, 2020 at the rate of \$50.000 per hour without benefits. Carried 3-0.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 8:14p.m. by Selectman Martin seconded by Selectman Roy. Carried 3-0.

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

David S. Morin, Chairman

Kara Roy, Vice-Chairman

Excused

Marilyn E. McGrath, Selectman

Excused

Roger E. Coutu, Selectman

Normand G. Martin, Selectman