

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the February 23, 2021 Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER - by Chairman Morin the meeting of February 23, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the Hudson Community Center.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by School Board Member, Diana LaMothe
3. ATTENDANCE
Board of Selectmen: David Morin, Kara Roy, Normand Martin, Roger Coutu, Marilyn McGrath participated remotely from her residence

Staff/Others: Town Administrator Steve Malizia; Chrissy Peterson - Recreation Director; Bill Avery - Police Chief; Rob Buxton - Fire Chief; Jess Forrence - DPW Director; Diana LaMothe - School Board Member; Jill Laffin - Executive Assistant

4. PUBLIC INPUT

Chairman Morin asked if there was anyone who would like to speak on anything the Board has control over at this time. He explained that anyone who was there to speak about the Speedway would have an opportunity to do so during the public hearing for that topic.

5. RECOGNITIONS, NOMINATIONS & APPOINTMENTS

- A. Recognitions

Chairman Morin asked Tim Peterson, Recreation volunteer to come forward. The Chairman thanked Mr. Peterson for all of the help, time and effort he has volunteered to the Town, particularly to the Rec Department and recognized him with a certificate of appreciate from the Board.

Next the Chairman recognized Christine and John Madden of Wreaths Across America. Mr. & Mrs. Madden recognized Town staff members and Board members for the time and dedication to making Wreaths Across America successful in Hudson.

- B. Nominations

Chairman Morin asked Kate Messner to come forward. Ms. Messner has submitted an application to serve on the Town Sustainability Committee. Ms. Messner approached the mic and said, Kate Messner, 10 Third Street. Chairman Morin asked if any of the Board had any questions to which Selectman Roy said, only that I know Kate and know she'd be an asset to the Sustainability Committee. Selectman Coutu then asked, Kate, why did you select the Sustainability Committee as your point of interest? Ms. Messner said, I consider myself to be a strong environmental advocate and I've wanted to volunteer for the Town for a long time but days become weeks, become months, become years and I've been in the town a long time now and I finally said whether it's Covid or whatever, I decided go ahead and take this step and join. I talked with Debbie Putnam and look forward to getting on the Committee and learning the ropes and getting to meet in person hopefully at some point soon, I don't know when. But I hope to be able to contribute. Selectman Coutu then said, I just want you to know Kate, for purpose of disclosure we've known each other for a while now. You've been an activist in our community and I'm glad you stepped forward. I wish more people would to volunteer to serve on a committee. You certainly will have my vote and I appreciate your stepping forward. Ms. Messner replied, thank you.

Selectman McGrath was recognized and said I support this nomination.

Chairman Morin asked Bill Kallgren to come forward. Mr. Kallgren has submitted an application to serve on the Town Conservation Commission. Mr. Kallgren approached the mic and said, Bill Kallgren, 11 Winslow Farm. Chairman Morin asked, anybody have any question? Selectman Coutu was recognized and said Bill can you tell me why you chose the Conservation Commission to serve? Mr. Kallgren replied, well I got a great invite from Bill Collins to go help cleanup one of the trails and I really enjoyed it. I thought I could participate more along those lines. Selectman Coutu then asked, have you been to any of our state forests? Mr. Kallgren asked, state forests? Selectman Coutu replied, Town Forest, sorry. Mr. Kallgren replied, Town Forest, yes. I like being out in the woods. Selectman Coutu then asked, you know Bill (Collins)? Mr. Kallgren responded, I've met him on the cleanup earlier this year and I met him last year on one of the hikes that he had led. Selectman Coutu replied, thank you, I appreciate it sir. Selectman McGrath was recognized and said, I do not have any questions and I would support this nomination as well.

Chairman Morin went on to Consent Items and asked, does any Board member wish to remove any item for separate consideration on consent items?

Selectman Martin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to approve consent items A, C, D, E & F as noted and appropriate. A roll call vote was taken. Carried 5-0.

6. CONSENT ITEMS

Assessing Items

- 1) Veterans Tax Credit: Map 149, Lot 001, Sub 008 - 4 Sterling Way; Map 131, Lot 027, 1 Springwood Cir.
- 2) All Veterans Tax Credit: Map 156, Lot 006, Sub 033 - 2B Doveton Lane
- 3) Elderly Exemption: Map 147, Lot 022, Sub 039 - 11 Berkley Drive
- 4) 2020 Abatement Applications: Map 156, Lot 6-13- 27 Cricketfield Lane
- 5) Current Use Lien Releases: Map 110, Lot 12/Map 109, Lot 12-1 and Map 110, Lot 12-2, 25 Balsam Way/20 Putnam Road/2 unnumbered lots on Putnam Road

A. Water/Sewer Items - none

B. License, Permits, Policies

- 1) Tag Day Permit - Girl Scouts - Sam's Club

C. Donations

- 1) \$200 donation to the Recreation Department in memory of Jay Mousseau

D. Acceptance of Minutes

Minutes of January 26, 2021

E. Calendar

2/24	7:00	Planning Board - Hudson Community Center
2/25	7:00	Zoning Board - Hudson Community Center
2/27	11:00 - 11:30 a.m.	Supervisors of the Checklist - Town Hall
3/2	7:00	Board of Selectmen - Remote Meeting
3/9	7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Town Voting Day - Hudson Community Center

7. OLD BUSINESS none

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Public Hearing - Hudson Speedway Additional Race Days

Chairman Morin opened the public hearing at 7:14pm and said, any Selectmen like to open up with any comments before we open it up to public comment? The Selectmen replied no. Selectman McGrath stated I'd like to hear from the public first and then I'll make some comments later. Chairman Morin asked if anyone had comment to approach the mic and state their name and address for the record.

Maureen Robidoux, 29 Senter Farm Road. Ms. Robidoux stated we moved up to Senter Farm a couple years ago and we well aware of the racing. My family actually, my father in law owned two stock cars for many years and used to race at Star Speedway, Lee Speedway and Loudon. So we're not against racing whatsoever. However right now as the racing goes on Sundays many cars park up our road. Three quarters of the way up to Senter Farm Road. Many days there are trash left behind. Myself, I like to walk on the road so I go and pick up the trash. It's also a safety issue too. We do have young kids that live in the neighborhood and we have lots of people that like to walk and I really feel it can be a safety issue as well with all the traffic going up and down. It's a short road. It's not very long. We've also had issues one summer where someone dumped off three racecar tires and one of the residents on the road actually made arrangements and paid for the disposal of those racecar tires. So the parking is definitely an issue. Many of the families we plan our family outdoor gatherings on Saturday s because we know Sundays is race day. So my concern is they want to double the amount of races from what I could read. You could imagine how that would also impact the residents on Senter Farm with the noise, the traffic and quality of life. Being able to enjoy outdoors especially now during Covid where many of us are home because we don't have a choice and if we have racing every Saturday and Sunday what days on the weekends are we gonna be able to enjoy being outside so that's also a concern. Thank you.

Chairman Morin then said, just before we go to anybody else, just so the people at home that couldn't make the meeting tonight, right here I have all the emails that have been sent in to the residents and all the Board of Selectmen members have received them and have had a chance to review them. Just so everybody is aware.

Next up to speak was Jake Holden, 8 Old Derry Road. Mr. Holden said I just wanted to say that I'm for anything for the Hudson Speedway. Since the new owners been involved it's really just been great to see what they've done. I think people that have concerns about kids should bring their kids to the track. It's a great place for children. Ben just put up a swing set. It's a very family oriented place. It's a great place to be. I love having it here at the end of my road and I love hearing the cars. I know it's not everybody does but I just wanted to say I'm for it and strongly support anything for the Hudson Speedway. Thank you.

Bruce Nicholas, 5 Putnam Road. Mr. Nicholas stated I'm an abutter. I've been on that road for about 50 years. I figure another 10 years or so you might think of me as a native. When I first came I knew the racetrack was there. I always hear "well you knew the track was there you can't complain about home values or anything". And shortly after we got there we sat down with the racetrack owners at

the time and came to a reasonable compromise where yeah, they can race. Do I like the noise, no, but they were there first. Okay, I accept it on Sundays. And we've worked around it like the young lady said Saturday's that's when you have your family get-togethers. Won't be able to do that anymore. They are or want to expand it. I understand the business aspect of that essentially they'll increase profits. Part of that increasing profits would come from the decrease in value of the homes around it. Also too, the next generation there's some new families coming in. yes they know it's there. They have small children, all right. Sometimes there's some racing enthusiasts that use Old Derry Road, Putnam Road, Robinson Road to experiment with their racing abilities. Hudson Police do a good job but every now and then one of them gets by and I'd hate to see a child get hurt. If you go down Old Derry Road from Robinson you'll see one house there with a great big sign out saying Drive Like your Children Live Here. I understand that they were there first but we have a working way of doing business with them now. The expansion today propose would be onerous and dangerous. They would be more profitable and less profitable for us. Thank you.

Mary Albertson 10A Kinston Way. Ms. Albertson approached the mic and said I'd like to know what do you plan on doing? I didn't get a notice saying anybody was doing anything. Chairman Morin replied, this is the second hearing and all the proper notifications have been put out. It was put on the Town webpage and the information that was out. We were here two weeks ago with a public hearing. We will be taking all the input tonight. Like I said we received all these emails since our last meeting and we will be discussing it within the Board tonight but we will not be taking a vote tonight. It will be our next meeting. Ms. Albertson replied, yeah but what are you trying to do? Just do another racing on Saturday night? The Chairman stated, what they plan is they would like to add some dates, I don't have the calendar I believe, but yes they want to add dates and special events like maybe big truck shows other types of specialty shows. Things to that nature. Ms. Albertson interrupted the Chairman and asked, how come we didn't get notified though about these things? Cuz usually when they're building something around us we usually get a letter or whatever. I didn't get anything. A neighbor called me because two ladies were going around the neighborhood and put it between their mailboxes. The Town Administrator was recognized and said public hearings you're not required to send it out to abutters. It was advertised in the Nashua Telegraph, the Towns' webpage, the Facebook page, that's what we're required and that's legally what we did. The Chairman added, we did, the Town did what we had to do to get it out there and get the information out to the public. Ms. Albertson again interrupted and said I don't understand. I don't understand when they build the buildings back there we got a letter. This time we don't get a letter?! And you want to take our weekends away! The Chairman reiterated, again, all the proper notifications were done by the Town. At this point Ms. Albertson said, I understand, I get it and walked back to her seat.

John Sederquist 1-4 Old Derry Road. Mr. Sederquist said, I've been here since the beginning of '72 so it's not quite 50 years but its close. Like the young lady just said, she didn't get a notice, I didn't get a notice. I don't have internet. My daughter told me about it. If it wasn't for that I wouldn't be here tonight. Traffic on the road is horrendous. They do treat the road like it's a racetrack. And as Mr. Nichol's knows, my fence has been hit five times in the last ten years. Never mind my mailbox pillar. There's been two or three other accidents there one fatality right across from Nadeau's and I think anybody that was in the police department or fire department would know about that. And one turnover of a truck right in front of my fence. You know, they do this all the time. I have nothing against the Racetrack. Use it on Sunday, don't take away our Saturday's as well. That's outrageous. Try, yeah, you want to do Thursday, what are you gonna do bother the kids too for studying? I don't know, there's something wrong. I know in the last, well, I'll have to say, 2019 alone if I can read this, I've got my distance glasses on. I have a truck in my yard. Two years ago somebody backed their vehicle up, hit my truck, took off, this is while trying to park for the Racetrack. Didn't stop. Didn't say anything. I got a dent in my bumper. I just put the bumper on the week before. Couple of weeks before that they knocked my truck down into my dog house. In other words just pushed it. They treat our road like it is a racetrack. The cops, police officers do a dynamite job but they can't watch them all. They can't. I'm upset because I didn't get a notification. I live five houses away from the Racetrack. I've been there. I'm probably one of the earliest ones besides Mr. Nichols here. That's ridiculous. We should have got something. Maybe you say its right you know that you can do this but I think we should have been notified. I think we should have got a notarized letter or something saying that there's gonna be a meeting tonight so we can air our views. I did this in the last ten minutes just before coming. Probably wasn't appropriate. You know the speeding on the road, it goes

down when you have a police officer sitting on the road. Other than that they do 50, 60 miles an hour sometimes even more. What's it going to be like if they open up to Saturday and Sunday? They're gonna treat it more like a racetrack and I don't really want to see that. That's all I got to say. Thank you.

Taylor Charbonnier, 20 Senter Farm Road. Ms. Charbonnier started off saying, I live at 20 Senter Farm Road and before that I lived at 46 Old Derry Road. I can definitely appreciate some of the concerns for the traffic and disregard for public property on Old Derry Road as we have had folks come through our driveway and take our mailbox out. But I think that's also a problem of Old Derry Road that maybe we can look into. I really don't think it's because of the Racetrack. I'll say that I think that having a racetrack in our community is very unique. We have Lee. We have Star but not a lot of communities have that. I'm hoping to hear a little bit more about maybe the scheduling that the track is looking for. But I have a soon to be nine year old daughter who heard about this and she is just so excited. I think that this is a wonderful opportunity to have children spend time with their families inside of the community and I think it's such a unique experience for children. I think they can learn practical skills like how cars work. Practical life skills moving forward in life. So I'm in support of it. I think that it's a great idea. My understanding is that the children's school it was going to be regular cars and as folks have already talked about, Old Derry Road, folks do fly up and down as they do Robinson Road. I don't think the children's division would be any sort of a sound issue. That's all. Thank you.

Shawn Jasper, 83 Old Derry Road. Mr. Jasper said, the Jaspers have been in the house for 105 years so we do predate the Speedway. But I'm not here to complain about the Speedway. You know that's something that we've all come to live with. Certain Sunday's you don't hear it. Other Sunday's you close the windows and you can't talk to somebody sitting on the couch next to you. That's part of life. Sometimes all you hear is the squealing tires. Sometimes it's just the PA system. The traffic is certainly a concern. I think there are several moving parts here. You know I want to say that the current owners have done a fantastic job cleaning up that facility. It really looks you know, better than it ever has in my lifetime so I'm pleased for that. But they also knew the restrictions when they bought the Speedway and so did everybody who came in since what, 1949 or whenever. They knew the Speedway was there. So now to change the rules of the game, maybe Thursday night might not be so terrible, but I am concerned about that PA. Do we lose Thursday nights? But adding more races on the weekend, please don't do that to us. Please. We already lose virtually every Sunday during the summer. Don't take away Saturday's as well. You know, if there's a change in the schedule so some races would be Saturday and some would be Sunday but the number of weekend races wouldn't change, you know that wouldn't bother me if we knew what it was in advance. You know we're already talking about adding, well, you're talking about adding a beer garden. You know that brings back some very bad memories for me from when we were in the poultry business and people were getting liquored up at the Speedway and what that meant. I can remember my dad and Chief Pollock on a stakeout for people who were stealing chickens right after the races were closed. So there's you know, there's some bad memories with alcohol and the Speedway. But if that can be brought under control you know that's okay I guess. But, you know, you're talking about Thursday night's, Saturday night's, Sunday night's. That's an expansion of use and this is all within your power. Now there's a lot of things that have changed for the worst in terms of traffic control. Probably nobody knows that the section of Robinson Road to 102, that used to be West Road because 102 wasn't there and that was a dirt road. When it was paved the Town paved it very wide and it was supposed to be two lanes of traffic out to 102 so that one could go right and one could go left. That never actually got striped that way but that's why that was a wide road and for many years when the Speedway was in its prime you know Nadeau's parked a thousand cars there one night in I think 1978. I don't think we'll ever get back to that again, but there were announcements at the end of the race and the police were very vigilant about the fact that everybody had to exit through Robinson Road out to 102 then go along their merry way. So those things went away. There's never really been a site plan on the Speedway. But some of us will remember that on the corner of Old Derry and the corner of Robinson there were railroad ties with built up berms. Those got run over and just gone away. I know of no other commercial property in the Town of Hudson that has its entire frontage on the road open to traffic coming in and out. That's just simply not allowed. You know, my family's as I've said, we've been on the road for 105 years this year. We've owned several of the properties going back to the 20's and 30's. When we went from the poultry business to commercial we had to

have site plans done. We had to pay impact fees on buildings, even though I'll tell you, I think that on a particular building I paid impact fees on, there's probably less traffic going out of that than when we were in the poultry business.

Mr. Jasper went on to say, so what I'm saying is you do have the power and if that's where you want to go part of that would be you could require that there be site plan review on that property as part of the condition. To make sure that these concerns, just the traffic coming in and you know, several thousand feet is not reasonable. It wouldn't be allowed anyplace. You're probably not aware, and I may be wrong, but I've never seen it reconstructed, there's no septic system on that property. It's a septic tank that has to be pumped after the usage. Now if you're talking three nights a week that could present a problem if something goes wrong and the company's not able to get to get there and pump it, there's no system. So that's a concern. There are a lot of things there that should be a concern and I don't at all not want them to be able to use their property and maybe the Thursday night if the loud speakers are taken care of, and things like that, maybe that's a great use. We need, as neighbors, to be protected as well. We have rights as well and I hope that you just don't say oh well hey, this sounds great and maybe every other person in the Town is going to be okay with it but if you're within a half a mile or maybe even a mile of that property, it is really something that is a negative effect to all of us. So I would hope that you would give careful consideration this this. You know one of the mitigating things the Speedway used to do in its heyday was everybody that lived within a mile got free passes to go to the Speedway. Well, as things went down that didn't happen and that was no longer a mitigation but please put the no parking signs back up again. And enforce those. The no Speedway traffic on Putnam used to be that way. There were a number of things that could be done. But it's hard to mitigate that noise. I don't think you're...nobody's been enforcing the muffler requirement. The Board of Selectmen each year is supposed to designate what type of mufflers go on those cars. I'm sure you haven't done that. I've talked to the Board about that once before. Again, you know, it hasn't been the end of the world but if you're even considering adding race days then you really need to do due diligence on all of these things. But I don't think a site plan for an expansion of the use is at all out of the realm of being reasonable. So I guess I've rattled on long enough. Thank you very much for your time.

Robert Provost, 70B Webster Street. Mr. Provost said I've been a resident in Hudson now for 33 years. I've been racing Hudson Speedway since the early 1980's. My family's grown up at the Hudson Speedway. Uncles, aunts, they all raced. My boys been racing there since the 80's. They still race, they're in their 30's and what Ben has done to this facility has been a miracle and has been awesome for everybody. I've got a grandson that wants to go racing and the opportunity's come and we're going to let him go and do it if possible. I think Ben's done a very good job with it. Thank you.

Margaret St. Onge, 238 Fox Hollow Drive. Ms. St. Onge said, so I have two grandsons in Hudson and I have some more in the neighboring town. And they are looking forward, as young as they are, to going to Hudson Speedway and when they become of age, to participate in the Speedway. I think this is a great opportunity for the Town of Hudson to have something that's unique. Benson's is unique and I think it's something else that would put us on the map and not distract from people coming into Hudson but attract more people coming into Hudson. Thank you.

Caroline Zbawiony 6 Fuller Drive. Ms. Zbawiony said, I'll keep this very brief. I first of all appreciate everyone's time tonight and stating their opinions. But I was actually not informed of this up until this evening. My lovely neighbor informed me of today's town meeting and um, I do feel that with the noise and the traffic it would be a distraction and I really don't feel like it would be fair to have Saturday night's as well or even in the daytime. It is very noisy especially where I live. And I understand that that is something to consider when you move towards the Speedway but I just don't feel like its right. Thank you for your time and hopefully you'll consider this.

Eric Horton, 37 Senter Farm Road. Mr. Horton said, so apparently a litmus test of living in that area is that you knew the Speedway existed, which I think everyone did when they moved into that area. But as, and I don't know the official title now, but, Mr. Jasper said that was the conditions upon which people entered that area. I guess I'm not opposed to activities for youth so Thursday afternoons or something that's controlled but I am very concerned about adding Saturday's. again for what many of the other people have spoken about is we've all adjusted our time so that Saturday's is when we can work outside or have people over or participate with our neighbors and not have to be yelling over the

noise. The other thing that concerns me is, I believe the regulations allow night racing up to 10:00pm. So that's not necessarily an issue right now because they end the races by 5:00pm or 5:45pm because people have to leave. But if you move those races to Saturday, now people are going to be there til 10:00pm and it becomes extremely imposing on the community because the cars are loud and it's nighttime. I think that should be something you should consider if you do proceed down this path. Thank you.

Robert Vigeant 7 Senter Farm Road. Mr. Vigeant said, I built a house on Senter Farm a couple years ago and before I went and bought the property I asked questions from the people all around. How's the racetrack, this that and the other. Not bad it's on a Sunday. I have the same problems that everybody else has with noise, the parking, the garbage and all that stuff. We all know that it was there. We bought the houses knowing it was there. Racing one day a week. Now it's gonna be two or three? I don't think anybody, they're saying it's good for the kids, I've been racing here for years, we're not taking it away. You still got it Sunday. The problem is adding the other two days. That's the only thing I got.

Kyle Tate 83 Wason Road. Mr. Tate said, I've been a resident of Hudson my whole life and going to that racetrack with my dad growing up, everything. And it's been great. Speeding on the road, they're saying the speeding is due to the track, every road, I think, has its speeding problems. I live on Wason Road. That's like a racetrack in itself. People find a winding road and think its fun to drive that way on. I don't think they drive that way just because of the Speedway being there. Due to trash, I think that if anybody contacted the Hudson Speedway they'd be more than glad to go pick up tires or any kind of trash that was left behind. I think those are two concerns there. Ben also purchased some land across the street to provide parking and I think that would straighten out a lot of the parking issues. That's what I have.

Derek Griffith, 54 Greeley Street. Mr. Griffith said, I'm just here to say a lot of good things come from Hudson Speedway. I know some bad things might come as well. The speeding, I think Kyle touched on it pretty easily, it happens everywhere. I live on Greeley Street and there's the same crashes. People wipe out mailboxes and fences by us all the time, it's definitely a problem. But, Ben's a very reasonable guy here. In the Town of Hudson he's done a lot of good things. I think if anyone had any sort of issues and went to him those issues could be resolved very easily. The thought of having an occasional race on a Saturday I know might be concerning to some. I don't think it's going to be as much as people realize. It's going to be a handful of weekends as far as I know and the Thursday deal, I started racing at Hudson Speedway when I was 12 years old. We've done a lot of really cool things across the whole entire country from starting out at Hudson Speedway. I'd love to spend my Thursday afternoons with a couple kids, stock cars and no loud noises or anything like that. Like I said, Ben is a fantastic guy. I think he's got a lot of big plans with parking and other traffic concerns that can be solved. I really urge people that have any sort of issues to just talk to him and maybe figure something out. That's all.

Monique Boilard, 5 Fuller Drive. Ms. Boilard said, I've been there for 45 years. I know Mr. Nichols and Shawn Jasper I've known Shawn since he was younger and the Emory Farm. I guess knowing that we bought the house knowing that the Speedway was there. It's a good thing and it works for us but over the years now that it, I'm really nervous, I don't even know how to say what I want to say. I know Ben has done a lot of good things for the Racetrack. He's made lots of improvement. He's young. He's energetic. He's a good kid. He went to school with my daughter so I know of Ben. The concerns that I have is that when we bought the house we knew the Speedway was there. It's not the noise level. It's not any of that that really bothers me. It's the fact that we just found out about this. Someone left this near my mailbox on Sunday and that's the first our neighborhood has heard about this Speedway issue. For that reason, you know, we don't have the Hudson News anymore. We don't have the Telegraph anymore that lets us know what's going on in our community. So when we heard about this, it's like a shock to us. Especially because we feel like we've worked very well in conjunction with the Speedway. Having it on Sunday's and having it on holidays, we've learned to live with it. We planned our birthday parties, our family get together's anything we have going on, around the Speedway. We've dealt with it for years. We can live in harmony with them but it has to be a compromise. Taking Saturday evenings or even the day time on a Saturday, what's that do to

our quality of life? You know you're losing Sunday, you're losing Saturday and maybe now an evening during the week. What more is it going to be? The Hudson Speedway has been there as Shawn said for a very, very long time. Many years. And that being said, we have to work some kind of compromise with Ben and figure out how we can do this so everybody wins. The Speedway is a good thing. It's good for kids. It's good for people. I know people enjoy racing but there's got to be some kind of harmony here where we can, we had these regulations put in many years ago. Why do they need to change? Why do we have to add more on? I mean it's a small racetrack. It's never going to be like Lee or Star Speedway and it's gonna have its limitations. But does that mean that our neighborhood has to suffer by having it three-four times a week. That's too much. It's not fair. So my question to the Board is, I think there should have been better notification than someone putting this in our mailbox letting us know what's going on. I'm gonna be honest with you. I made a lot of phone calls to my neighbors asking them to come tonight because no one was aware of this meeting taking place tonight and this subject coming up. I just hope that we can figure out a way that we can work together. Like I said, Ben's done a wonderful job. I think we have to learn to work together and this being sprung on us like this is just shocking so I hope you take that into consideration. Thank you.

Seeing no further comment from the crowd, the Chairman closed the public hearing at 7:50pm. He then said, Board of Selectmen, anyone have any comments? Selectman Coutu was recognized and said, we're going to be able to speak once we get out of the public hearing, right? Chairman Morin said this is it for the hearing, we discuss it and make a vote next meeting. At this point Ben Bosowski and Mike Marshall of the Hudson Speedway asked to speak. The Chairman said just so you're aware we closed the hearing, okay. We're just going to allow you. Mr. Bosowski said, I was sitting in the back and I totally understand the neighbors' concerns. I'm trying not to run every Saturday. It would be once in a great while. And it would only be for special events every once in a great while. I'm not asking for every Saturday. Trust me I need a life too besides the track. The Thursdays, I just kind of wanted to clarify that because that seemed to be a...I don't think we clarified it last time we were here. There seems to be some issues, they're thinking it will be pretty much like regular racecar noises. These cars would be completely bone stock. It would be like taking my little Toyota Tacoma, putting a roll cage in it and go 30mph around the track. That's the extent of the noise on Thursday's. There will not be any announcements through the PA. There will be no spectators. It would strictly be the instructors, the students and the students' parents to watch. That is it. I know a lot of concerns were on the Thursday's because obviously it's a Thursday. No one wants to hear loud noises on Thursday's. Trust me, I don't either. So I just kind of want to clarify that. If any of the, if any neighbor...come talk to me. I'm not some big scary guy that just owns a racetrack or anything. I'm a regular down to earth guy. I've been in this community how old am I now, 33 years? I'm more than willing to work with anyone. The Senter Farm community or any other community around. I'm more than willing to work with them. That's pretty much it.

Mike Marshall said, my name is Mike Marshall. I live at 20 Senter Farm Road and I approached Ben about the Hudson Hero's. All the rules, most of the concepts were derived between me and one of my racing friends back there, Dennis, when we approached Ben about this idea. As Ben stated the exhaust systems on these cars would be completely stock. We don't want the kids to be in loud cars, we need to be able to communicate with them to let them know issues we're seeing with their driving or just praise them. We need to be able to talk to them while they're in the car. We understand that the neighbors are there. We don't want to, you know, we don't want them to listen to the cars either. They're not even going to go fast enough to squeal the tires around the turns. They're going to be limited to 30mph. there's going to be a throttle stop on them so they can't even do full throttle open accelerations. We're going to mandate the gear that they run and we're going to sit there with a radar gun and make sure they're going a safe speed. All the cars are going to have full roll cages. The kids are going to have full head and neck restraints and full driving suits. And we're going to show them, right from the very beginning, about racing. We're going to show them how to change a tire. We're gonna show them how to get in and out of the car with the helmet on, with the harness device on. How to put their seatbelts on. How to drive. How to pass people. It's a great experience for these kids to learn this stuff. There's been some comments on Facebook with a post I made about what to do with the 13-15 year old kids. That's something Ben and I touched on a little bit, but right now we felt if we focused to the 8-12, and get the show, not the show, but the school, started, as it progressed then we could start to encompass the older kids in a more, still not a racing division, but more advanced driving school where maybe they'll go 35-40mph and they'll actually do like a mock race. But that's,

we haven't even gotten that far yet. Right now it's still strictly just the Thursdays, letting kids learn how to drive. Giving them something to look forward to. Giving them something that they can work with. Accomplishments. And teach them what it's like to actually work with your hands and be productive. That's all I've got.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Bosowski and Mr. Marshall. Selectman Coutu was recognized and said, what I want to do Mr. Chairman is first of all, I want to understand was it your intent that we would have a public hearing, we'd be allowed to make comment but we will be discussing it at the next meeting? Chairman Morin said we'd be voting at the next meeting. Selectman Coutu asked, discussing it and voting on it? Chairman Morin said we absolutely can. Selectman Coutu said, okay, I'll hold my discussion then. But I want to make a comment in all fairness to the Board. The comment that I've heard expressed several times this evening was that proper notice was not sent. At this point Mr. Sederquist, a resident in the audience, started speaking loudly from his seat. Selectman Coutu replied, are you all set sir? I have the floor. Mr. Sederquist then said I just wanted to mention that on the internet it mentioned 26 additional days of racing 11 Thursdays and 14 Saturday's. Selectman Coutu and the Chairman both said, okay, we have that. Mr. Sederquist continued offering comment from your seat. Once he was done Selectman Coutu said, we have been discussing this or two months now, Mr. Chairman. This is not the first meeting. We publicize our meetings on the Town webpage. Every meeting. The topic of discussion on public hearings are so noted on the webpage. So this isn't anything new. What bothers me about hearing that comment is not so much that we didn't send you a notice, but I notified the Racetrack owner that it would behoove him to go through the neighborhood and talk to everybody. I was assured at the last meeting he was going to do that. I have received, I can't tell you how many phone calls, and we've all received a slew of emails. And today's phone calls they were numerous. Commissioner Jasper and I, matter of fact, had conversation today and I had conversation with several other people. Prior to and after my conversations with Commissioner Jasper. Everyone said the same thing that they weren't contacted. They knew about the meeting of course, that's why they were calling. So I'm not going to apologize about what was done or wasn't done but we are not obligated, every time we have a public hearing on something, to notify everybody in Town that we're having a public hearing. Other than to do it on our webpage. That's all we have left to notify people. Jill, were any ads put into the Nashua Telegraph? Jill (Executive Assistant to the BOS) replied, yes. Selectman Coutu said, I believe I saw the ad in the paper. So it was advertised in the Nashua Telegraph, I know they only have one additional now it's a Sunday edition. We did everything we could possibly do. If we were going to send out letters to everybody, every time we have a public hearing, on every subject, we'd be spending thousands upon thousands in postage. It is not a requirement of this Board to notify people for this type of public hearing. This isn't the Planning Board where direct abutters have to be notified. This is the Board of Selectmen. So please don't take it out on us. We didn't violate any rules. We didn't deliberately not tell you. We like seeing people coming to our meetings. We appreciate hearing from you. We need to know your opinions. We, as I said, have been deluged with emails so they were running, to be honest, 50/50. 50% for, 50% against. This evening the count is a little different. We've listened to you. We've heard you. The Chairman said at the next meeting we're gonna have further discussion but that will be, the public hearing is closed, so it will be between the Board of Selectmen and maybe the owners of the Track. Whatever the Chairman wishes. Then we'll make a decision at that time. So we have plenty of time to absorb what you already sent us. I'm sure there may be even more emails that might come in tomorrow and the day after. We'll read them and we'll make an assessment. I want to thank you all for doing whatever citizen should do when something affects their neighborhood, that's come before your government and let us know how you feel, we appreciate it. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Morin recognized Selectman McGrath who said, I'm all set. I'll make my comments at the next meeting.

B. Covid-19 Update

Chairman Morin recognized Chief Buxton. Chief Buxton started off saying. Good evening, Mr. Chairman, members of the Board. As promised earlier this fall, I'm back to give an update on Covid-19, specifically in relationship to the Continuity of Operation Plan (COOP) that the Town is currently operating under. The goal of the COOP was to improve employee safety and create the ability for us to provide continuous service to the Community as we continue to move our way through the Covid-19 pandemic. These goals have been accomplished to date. Most departments have had quarantined employees except one. Some have had multiple exposures and quarantines within their workforce. The Fire Department has been running a first responder optional testing program called FROST as of today we've offered 341 rapid tests to our employees. In February alone we conducted 168 tests. Out of 341 tests we've had two positive employees that were identified for quarantine and further testing.

Chief Buxton continued saying we received feedback from the bulk of the organizations and all of the departments in Town. We felt at this point their operations was continuing to provide service to the community and meeting the goal that was put in place to keep their employees safe and continue to provide service. We did have one exception to that and that was the Police Department who felt that they had some extenuating circumstances because of some employee leave that was going to be coming up that they felt they would either need to modify or discontinue their COOP. but that was because of some extenuating circumstances within their organization. I think we should continue to empower our department heads to adjust their plan and modify their plan to continue to meet the original goals and afford them the opportunity to make adjustments to keep their operation moving forward because the original goal was to provide service to the community while keeping their employees safe. I know I've talked to the Chairman on a couple different occasions about trying to change a couple processes within Town Hall. Specially to look at the operations surrounding the water and sewer bills and trying to open up that window in the main hallway the days of the week that employee is working within that office. Which I think is a very reasonable approach.

Chief Buxton continued saying to date, we still sit at 59 active cases in Hudson. That means that Hudson is still listed as a "Red" community which means that we still have high community transmission within the community. Okay? We need to get down below 50 at 49. That will drop us into the orange category which means we're getting some control around the transmission rate in the community. Fairview Nursing Home, which had an outbreak earlier in the year, has had that outbreak closed. To date the state has vaccinated approximately 228,000 people with the first doses and second doses of the vaccine. The Town of Hudson has completed the first responder vaccination program. We have vaccinated 73 first responders in this community. We continue to advocate and push for additional vaccination clinics in our community and provide service and capabilities to our constituents. I'm certainly open to any questions you may have Mr. Chairman, but that is where we are for the update this evening.

Chairman Morin asked Chief Buxton to talk a little bit about future planning to start bringing some events back and what we're looking to do with that. Chief Buxton said, we opened up conversation with the Recreation Director surrounding what would spring look like. We're coming up on the one year anniversary in a couple weeks, of the Covid-19 pandemic here in New Hampshire and what does the springtime look for us? So what we're looking to do is leverage the Recreation programs in Town and offer some different instructional opportunities in smaller groups. So it will look different. I know that Chrissy is working very diligently to bring ideas forward to make sure that we're providing opportunities for the kids in this community and try to develop a plan that may provide opportunity for summer programs and those types of things. Things that we weren't allowed to do last year. But as vaccinations take place how do we expand those services? All of those programs would certainly be supported by Police and Fire providing health guidance, documents and actual gauging, one of the ideas I heard today would engage potentially the Police Department and some basketball. Those types of programs are certainly on the drawing board as we try to bring some additional services back to the kids of this community and provide them opportunity to get outside the house and stretch the legs a bit after what has been a very long year for everybody.

C. HPD - Bulletproof Vest Purchase

Chief Avery was recognized by the Chairman. He started saying, thank you Mr. Chairman. Good evening members of the Board and asked, Mr. Chairman, if I may, before I get to the bulletproof vest purchase, I know I've previously discussed with Vice Chairman Roy and yourself, over the last 24 hours for the people in the audience and the residents at home watching, the Hudson Police Department has been extremely busy. Obviously the police officers that are out on the field on a daily basis risk their lives and do a tremendous job for this community. We are aware that there are speeding vehicles on these roads. Old Derry Road, Greeley Street, Robinson Road, Burns Hill Road. We try to address them the best we can. There are several people in this community that I will call unsung heroes that work for the Town of Hudson. They are our first responder dispatchers. Yesterday afternoon Hudson Fire Department dispatcher Anthony Patty, although sitting at a console making sure the Town was covered with EMS and Fire services, he observed a suspicious male subject outside his window with a screwdriver in his back pocket. He didn't just ignore it but made a phone call to the Hudson Police Department. Multiple officers responded to the scene. The suspect ran from the officers through several neighborhoods. If you were stuck in the traffic, my apologies, we had cruisers everywhere. Later, apprehended all the way down on Baker Street. A sergeant was injured while going through a fence and received a laceration on his hand. Mr. Patty should be recognized and I want to thank him publicly for being alert. What he did was prevent a suspect from getting away from stealing a resident's bicycle and committing several other crimes in this area.

The next group of dispatchers, they never cease to amaze me. Last night we had an extremely busy second shift in Hudson. Dispatcher Heather Poole and Dispatcher Angela Allen, I'm not going to get into the particulars of the calls for service that took place because they were very graphic. But these two individuals not only dealing with a suicidal individual, took this call but also were dealing with a possible burglary in progress in the other end of Town. At the same time they were able to log onto the internet and provide key information to our responding officers who were responding to the attempted suicide. I am so proud of these two. I listened to all the radio and phone calls and all the computer entries that these two individuals were able to do during these hectic calls for service. They singlehandedly saved this ladies life. I'm very proud of the two of them and of the officers that responded to that call for service and the Hudson Fire Department that took care of this patient. Thank you very much Mr. Chairman.

Selectman Roy was recognized and asked Chief Avery to clarify some comments made at candidate's night the night before. Particularly the evidence room and the locker rooms. Chief Avery replied yes. Last night I believe it was misspoken. A gentleman made a mistake during Candidates Night. The Hudson Police station currently has two separate locker rooms. One for males. One for females. The female locker room we are outgrowing. That will be part of the proposal, as you can see the back of the room the renderings are still there or check out our video. But we do have two separate locker rooms. The female officers are not forced to get dressed with our male officers. The second part is our evidence room. We do have a state of the art evidence room in the Hudson Police Department. We are a nationally accredited agency. We would not be nationally accredited if we did not have a state of the art evidence room which tracks people in, out, alarms go off if you enter it and it's all recorded. We are proposing, because we are out of space, to build a second evidence room that would be used for long-term storage.

Chief Avery then said, tonight I'm before the Board to purchase, unfortunately because of when people are hired, our bulletproof vests expire after five years. Thankfully we have a capital reserve account set up with the Town of Hudson. We need to purchase 17 new bulletproof vests for our officers that are due to expire in the coming months. I cannot, as you know, allow my officers on the street with an expired bulletproof vest or bulletproof shield for that matter. Each one of these vests cost \$1,100. We're asking to expend \$18,700 to purchase these bulletproof vests. We currently have, in the capital reserve account specifically for the replacement of bulletproof vests, \$66,130.31. Chairman Morin asked if anyone had questions for the Chief. Selectman Roy was recognized and said, so I just want to understand the process. Are the vests specific to the person? Chief Avery

replied, yes, every vest is custom fit to the police officer with specific measurements for each body. Selectman Roy replied, okay, that's all.

Selectman Martin was recognized and said, Chief you mentioned how much money was in that capital reserve? Did you say \$66,000? Chief Avery responded, \$66,130.31. Selectman Martin then said, okay, it seems the paper I'm looking at has a different number but you must have updated numbers. Chief Avery then said, I believe I received this from my administrative assistant who spoke with the Finance Director. Selectman Martin then said, cuz I'm looking at Capital Reserve and Trust Funds page and it says MV balance \$59,116 with an anticipated withdrawal and then a balances of \$55,561. Is there a new deposit going in there with the proposed budget? Chief Avery replied, I'm unaware of that Selectman Martin and I can get the Board those answers. The Town Administrator was recognized and he said those numbers appear to be from a list that Ms. Carpentier did before she left. Selectman Martin then said correct but of it's on here and the former Finance Director did it before she left where did it change? The Chairman asked do you want to ask Ms. Labrie to come up? Selectman Martin responded, yes please. Just so we have the right information. Finance Director Lisa Labrie approached the mic and said, I got the information from the updated spreadsheets from the Trustees of the Trust Funds. Selectman Martin replied, okay that answers my question. Thank you very much. Selectman Coutu made a motion, seconded by Selectman McGrath approve the purchase of seventeen (17) replacement bullet proof vests in the amount of \$18,700.00 from the Bullet Proof Capital Reserve Account. A roll call vote was taken. Carried 5-0.

D. Benson Park Project

Chairman Morin recognized Dick Empey, Chairman of the Benson Park Committee. Mr. Empey came forward along with Tod Blanchard. Mr. Empey started by saying, we're here to ask for your consideration and to accept to accept the donation of a project with a value of approximately \$4,500. This project will replace a deteriorating temporary wall on the south side of the kitchen building and repair some other deficiencies in the structure. Let me add that the head of the DPW has looked upon this favorably and I polled the Committee. Everyone that replied, which was a majority, was in favor of it. At this time I'd like to introduce Tod Blanchard to tell you about his vision and how he sees this project.

Mr. Blanchard started by saying, hi I'm Tod Blanchard. I live at t13 Louise Drive in Litchfield. I've grown up in Hudson. I worked at Benson's when I was a young man and I enjoy walking my dogs down through the park. We proposed to fix the wall that is deteriorating and rotting on the back of the maintenance building. There's something that would blend with the park. Be substantially more accommodating for the maintenance of the park and of course if you've seen my proposal something a little more fun also. Just to help enhance the park. I'm supplying the labor and the money and also incorporating Dick's help. He's been very instrumental in the proposal, making sure we cross the t's and dot the i's so we can make sure this project isn't just proposed but also reaches completion within the dates I proposed.

Mr. Empey then said, I guess we'll take some questions. In your packet you'll see some drawings of what it looked like originally, obviously the three open arches are not acceptable now. We have to secure those buildings. So what we've done is we've retained the three arch look and we're gonna put two sliding doors in two of those three arches to allow better access to that building and replace the personnel door. This wall was put up, I believe, in 2002 by the DOT or possibly by the Town when they sealed up the buildings. The wood was put on the ground. It's all rotting from the bottom up. This is something that's going to have to be done in the near future to secure the buildings and I think Mr. Blanchard's proposal is very nice and will really enhance the building.

Selectman Roy was recognized and said, is that building actively used right now? To which Mr. Empey replied, yes it is. She then asked, what is it used for? To which Mr. Empey replied, this is where we store all our equipment. Hand tools, shovels and rakes and that sort of thing. Our tractor, our brush mower, our trailer and some smaller lawn mowers that are used for some of the small landscaped areas. It's a building that we really need. Selectman Roy then asked, what's currently there, are you able to secure that building with what's currently there? Mr. Empey replied saying, it's secure. It's a

nonstructural wall that was put up. It's basically some two by fours and plywood and as I said, the two by fours are laying on the ground. They're not secure. The upper part of the wall is nailed to the original building but you can stand at the bottom of that wall and kick it right out. It's nothing and right now it's beginning to rot. It will suffice for probably a little while longer but I think this is an opportunity to replace it with something much more substantial and long lasting.

Selectman Roy made a motion, seconded by Selectman Coutu, to accept the donation from Tod Blanchard for the replacement and repair of the rotting temporary white plywood wall and broken and boarded up windows at the kitchen building in Benson Park in the amount of \$5,000. Chairman Morin asked if there was any further discussion. Selectman Roy was recognized and said, I just want to say thank you. I think it's great that you stepped up to do this and will help improve not only Benson's but the Town. So thank you. A roll call vote was taken. Carried 5-0. Following the vote Chairman Morin thanked Mr. Blanchard. Mr. Blanchard replied, you're welcome you won't be disappointed.

E. Assistant Town Clerk/Tax Collector Posting

The Town Administrator was recognized and said as you are all aware we have two candidates for the vacant Town Clerk/Tax Collector position that was vacated when Patti Barry left the Town's employ. They are the only two candidates so obviously one of them will win the position, the election. I thought it'd be prudent if we got a jumpstart on at least advertising and posting for the position so that whichever one is elected they will be able to review resumes and get a head start on getting the replacement for whichever one of them gets elected. I think you're all aware of how busy that office is. I think it's prudent to get a head start. I did speak to both of the candidates so they're both aware of it and they're both in favor. I am not looking to do the interviews. I'm just looking to get the process started so that they can do the interviews and pick who they recommend. Chairman Morin asked if there were any questions or comments. Seeing none, Selectman Coutu made a motion seconded by Selectman Martin to advertise for the position of Assistant Town Clerk/Tax Collector. A roll call vote was taken. Carried 5-0.

F. Senate Bill 131

The Chairman recognized the Town Administrator. Prior to the Town Administrator speaking Selectman Coutu spoke up and said, Mr. Chairman I recuse myself at this time. The Town Administrator then explained, it's been brought to our attention that Senate Bill 131 will have a hearing, next Tuesday, March 2nd. Basically Senate Bill 131 would require municipalities to cover costs in condos and mobile home communities. When I say costs the plowing, the repaving, the repair, sewer/water lines of these private developments. These are developments that were approved under the understanding that they had their own private roads and they had the responsibility for the maintenance of those roads. It was brought to our attention as our State Senator, Senator Carson, was the sponsor of this particular bill. It's actually part of an omnibus bill, there are eight other parts. This is one part of the bill. What I'm recommending is that we send a letter to the Chairman of that Committee if the Board agrees, expressing the Board's opposition to the shifting of costs. This is probably an indeterminate number at this point in time but there are over 2,400 condos alone in Town. There is no provision for us to pay for this. This bill would actually be in effect April 2022, which is next fiscal year, which we've already budgeted and we've already put in front of the voters and on ballot. We would have no ability to actually pay this if we actually had to pay for repairs or replacement. I don't understand why the bill is being proposed but it's been brought to our attention. I think it would be prudent for us to, if the Board agrees, send a letter to the Committee Chair in advance of the hearing expressing that Hudson is not in favor of this legislation. If they don't find it expedient to legislate at least put another rehearing out.

Selectman Martin was recognized and said, I do support sending that letter but I just want to say it's another way of unfunding a mandate to the towns. It's wrong. It's immoral and maybe they should have a recall to remove her from office, but that's a bad, bad legislation. Thank you.

Selectman Roy was recognized and said, I also want to support sending a letter. You know, having owned a condo I know you pay condo fees and you pay condo fees for snow removal and trash removal and septic or sewer or whatever. To shift the cost to the taxpayers and the Town is ridiculous. I can't imagine what she was thinking to make us responsible for, I wouldn't even know, there's also the undetermined costs. Do we have to hire more people to take care of those roads and sewer systems and all that stuff? I'm totally on board with opposing this legislation.

Selectman McGrath was recognized and she said, I'm in agreement with Selectman Roy and Selectman Martin in sending this letter. I was appalled when I heard this. I can't imagine what she's thinking of. First of all the condominium developments and the smaller developments like the mobile home parks, they've got increased density that's been allowed for these types of developments because it doesn't cost the Town and it doesn't cost the taxpayers of the Town. The roads aren't built to Town standards. They're built to the standards for the development. So the roads aren't, in some cases, wide enough to accommodate the snow plows that we have in our arsenal of the DPW. Its mind boggling to think that they're willing to shift all of that cost for the increased density that the developer has gained by developing these types of developments and building roads that aren't to the Town's standards and doing everything else that probably aren't to Town standards. It's appalling and every tax payer in this Town ought to be up in arms over this because your tax rate, if you think it's high now, it's going to get much higher if this gets passed. So yes, I think we should send a letter and I think we should send a very strong letter.

Chairman Morin spoke on the topic saying, I think all the Board members have pretty much hit all the points. I also agree that we should send the letter. It would be very important and it would be a great strain on our department. Selectman Roy was recognized and said, I just want to reiterate what Selectman McGrath said, I think every citizen and taxpayer should contact their elected representatives, Senator Carson in the House of Representatives and express their opposition to this. I don't know how we'd calculate an increase in the tax rate to take something like this on. Selectman McGrath was recognized again and said, yes, as far as the roadway system in these developments, if they had to upgrade to Town standards, that's an additional cost that isn't even considered. Think of building roadways through all of these developments, all of these condominium developments that have to meet Town standards. The cost would be just outrageous and that's putting that burden on the taxpayers. I'm so outraged by this and I think it's grossly unfair. I think that the letter we send should express our outrage and some of the sentiments that have been stated about roadway costs and maintenance of noncompliant roadways. Selectman Martin made a motion, seconded by Selectman McGrath to send a letter to the Chair of the State Senate Transportation Committee asking that SB 131, be declared Inexpedient to Legislate or re-referred for further study. A roll call vote was taken. Carried 4-0 with Selectman Coutu abstaining.

G. Votes Taken after Deliberative Session

Chairman Morin explained after the School Board Town Meeting, the Budget Committee, as they always do, and as the Board of Selectmen do after our Town Meeting, took a vote on all the warrant articles. In this case the support for the addition at the high school was changed to a negative. There was some question on that. The School Board put forth a question to their attorney. Their attorney came back that that is not an allowed practice. Mr. Russel contacted me and I talked to Mr. Malizia, who contacted our lawyer. You all have the answer that you got from our attorney on this vote after the meeting. I just figured we needed to have a little discussion on it to see if this Board and where we'd like to proceed. He then recognized the Town Administrator to give a little more background. The Town Administrator explained, the Board of Selectmen, and the Budget Committee, post a special meeting for after the deliberative session. At Deliberative Session, the voters, the folks that attend, can make amendments to warrant articles. They can add money, they can subtract money. They can change wording. I believe the purpose of this special meeting after the deliberative session is so that the governing body, or the Budget Committee, can review that input and determine what they want to go

forward with on the final ballot. Basically we look at recommend or not recommend. It's important that they have that opportunity at the end of the deliberative session as we've seen things change. Also, special circumstances this year, during the budget hearings, one of our selectmen was not able to attend. We had a lot of 4-0 votes. Selectman McGrath wanted to make sure that her vote was recorded so the Board of Selectmen voted on all the articles even though they didn't change, because she wanted her voice and vote to count. That's been the practice for at least 20 odd years. It is a public meeting. It's not televised but it is public. The public can observe and that has been the practice. I believe, I wasn't in attendance, but the Budget Committee convened. I believe it had been publicly and properly noticed, after the School Board meeting. I wasn't there but they did change their recommendation from recommended, I think it was 8-2 to not recommended 4-5. I believe that started the issue and we had a conversation with our Town attorney. Frankly I think attorneys can differ on what they view to be within the legal parameters of the law. So everything was done legally, it's just a question of interpretation.

Selectman Martin was recognized and he said, thank you Mr. Chairman. I just want to recognize I have RSA 32-5 open and the last change on this was August 11, 2018. So I'm suspicious that that's when that item was interjected into the RSA. I'm going to have to look back further. But anyway, regardless of that. Any Board has an inherent right if they want to make a change to the way they voted on their warrant article or whatever they voted on, you have a right to make a motion to reconsider and reconsider the vote that was taken and then vote and make another motion to vote to change your vote. I don't think this is an appropriate place for that type of telling you that you can't change if they warrant article didn't change at deliberative session. The board. School Board, Board of Selectmen, all Boards, I believe have the right to within 30 days, change their vote with a reconsideration. So I think we need to look into it more but I think everything was done legal and I'm not ready to change my vote. Thank you.

Selectman Roy was recognized and said, the language of the RSA is clear. There has to be an amendment for a revote. I'm not suggesting we go back and change what has happened in the past but I do think that we need to correct the process going forward. The Budget Committee, the School Board, the Board of Selectmen have a provided mechanism for public input prior to deliberative session. There's due process on all of those items and again, the RSA is clear. There has to be an amendment to the warrant article for a revote at the deliberative session. I think going forward we need to change our process so that we're in line with what the statute says.

Ms. Lamothe was recognized and said, I'd just like to point out, the reason why our Business Administrator thought well we should consult with our Attorney when the recommendation changed to not recommend is because of the 10% rule. Where total funding can't exceed of more than 10% of what the Budget Committee recommends. And our Business Administrator thought that meant we had to add a sentence to the beginning of warrant article one and then the School Board would have to revote on the warrant article. So that's what began the consultation with the Attorney. It was determined that no, we did not need to add that sentence to the warrant article. Then of course it became a continued conversation of the Attorney was like hey, wait a minute. This vote was not in compliance with what he understood to be according to the RSA. So I just wanted to point out what initiated the consultation with the Attorney in the first place is we wanted to make sure that we put the wording that we're required to by law, in the warrant article. It was determined we didn't have to change our wording.

9. REMARKS BY THE SCHOOL BOARD - Ms. Lamothe said, I have two comments and I'll just continue with the legislative discussion that the Select Board had. I wanted to mention, because I know a speaker at Deliberative session expressed concern about vouchers. We do have some bills coming forward for what is now called Education Freedom Accounts. HB-20 has actually been retained. So that may come back again next year but SB-130, which is very similar, again, it's regarding education freedom accounts, that is moving forward to a public hearing on March 2nd at 9:00a.m. Members of the public can register their support or opposition to that Senate Bill. I'd love to provide the link if people are interested in sharing their feedback on that particular bill. If you want to email me my email address is on SAU81.org and I'd be happy to give you the information. You can

just submit, its kind like a fill in the blank submission form to express your support or opposition to that Senate bill.

My second point tonight, I wanted to share that it was confirmed to me today, as I'm sure the rest of you are aware, that we are able to move forward with the sample ballot. The combined Town and School sample ballot. I appreciate our Community Engagement Coordinators efforts in working with Kase Printing in making sure we can get it printed and mailed in time. It should be in homes March 4th, March 5th at the latest. I hope people take time to look through the ballot and show up and vote or vote by absentee ballot with that information in their hands.

10. REMARKS BY THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR - Mr. Malizia said, a couple public service announcements. The next Board of Selectmen meeting is next Tuesday, March 2nd. You're not having one the week of the voting so it's Tuesday, March 2nd. Supervisors of the Checklist are having a session Saturday the 27th from 11:00-11:30 a.m. to register voters. I believe you can change your party affiliation. And we did agree, we are sending out the sample ballot. It should be in everybody's mailbox by the 4th and the 5th. Last thing, a reminder, voting day is March 9th.

11. OTHER BUSINESS/REMARKS BY THE SELECTMEN

Selectman Roy - I want to thank all the candidates who came out last night for Candidates Night. Thank all the citizens for all their questions. If you didn't get to see it last night you should watch it to know your candidates so when we all see you here on March 9th, you know who you're voting for. Please, make sure you vote.

Selectman Coutu - I have nothing.

Selectman McGrath - I have nothing this evening

Selectman Martin - I really don't have anything, I should have said it when they were here, but that was a great public hearing that we had this evening. Very, very strong attendance. Very strong opponents. Very strong proponents. Great discussion, more to be had. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Morin - I also have nothing tonight.

12. NONPUBLIC SESSION

The Town Administrator said, the Chairman will entertain a motion to go into non-public under RSA 91-A: 3 II (b) the hiring of any person as a public employee. (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.

Motion by Selectman Martin at 8:44 p.m., seconded by Selectman Roy, to go into non-public session. A roll call vote was taken. Carried 5-0.

Chairman Morin entered Nonpublic Session at 8:44 p.m. thus ending the televised portion of the meeting. Any votes taken upon entering open session will be listed on the Board's next agenda. The public is asked to leave the room.

Chairman Morin entered open session at 9:02 p.m.

1) Selectman Roy made a motion, seconded by Selectman Coutu to hire Beth McKee for the Town Accountant position at \$60,469, Step 1 of the Hudson Police, Fire and Town Supervisors Association contract, with an increase to Step 2 after the successful completion of six (6) month probationary period. A roll call vote was taken. Carried 5-0.

2) Selectman Coutu made a motion, seconded by Selectman Martin to deny an abatement for 2020 property taxes for Map 149 Lot 1-7, 13A Sunshine Drive, as recommended by the Chief Assessor for reasons stated in his memo. A roll call vote was taken. Carried 5-0.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 9:03 p.m. by Selectman Martin seconded by Selectman Roy. A roll call vote was taken. Carried 5-0.

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

David S. Morin, Chairman

Kara Roy, Vice-Chairman

Marilyn E. McGrath, Selectman

Roger E. Coutu, Selectman

Normand G. Martin, Selectman