

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the May 25, 2021 Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER - by Chairman Coutu the meeting of May 25, 2021 at 7:02 p.m. in the Hudson Community Center.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Selectman Gagnon
3. ATTENDANCE
Board of Selectmen: David Morin, Kara Roy, Marilyn McGrath, Roger Coutu, Brett Gagnon
Staff/Others: Steve Malizia - Town Administrator; Bill Avery - Police Chief; Tad Dionne - Police Captain; Rob Buxton - Fire Chief; Jim McIntosh - Dir. of Community Media; Diana Lamothe - School Board Member; Jill Laffin - Executive Assistant
4. PUBLIC INPUT - none
5. Recognition, Resignations, Appointments and Interviews

Recognition of Alan Winsor, 20 Years of Service with HFD

Chairman Coutu called Alan forward and read "Al was hired on 5/13/2001 as a full-time Firefighter/EMT. In April of 2017, he earned his AEMT license and serves as a Firefighter/AEMT to this day. For the past several years, Al has served as an advisor for the Hudson Explorer program. His mentorship of the youth participating in this program and the knowledge he is able to share is invaluable in educating younger generations on the fire service. Always one to be involved, he enjoys taking groups on station tours and teaching all those who are interested about the department and the day-to-day life of a firefighter. A man of many talents, his knowledge in the IT area has assisted the department with several program enhancements and he is often sought out for IT related advice. An avid car collector, Al enjoys working on his cars at his home in Litchfield and enjoying time with his significant other Lisa. We thank him for his 20 years of dedicated service and commitment to the Town of Hudson and the members of the Hudson Fire Department." The Chairman thanked Al for his years of service.

Resignation:

Resignation of Chairman Coutu as Planning Board Liaison

Chairman Coutu then said, we're going to take up the matter of a resignation, I have submitted my resignation as the Board liaison to the Planning Board. In my stead, I believe that Vice-Chair McGrath would move into my position and we would need a nomination to serve as alternate to the Planning Board. Does anybody wish to volunteer or nominate someone for that position? Selectman McGrath made a motion to nominate Selectman Morin. This was seconded by Chairman Coutu. Carried 5-0.

Appointment:

Sustainability Committee (4 member vacancies. 3 expire 4/30/24, 1 expiring 4/30/22. 3 alternate vacancies to expire 4/30/22, 4/30/23, 4/30/24)

Sarah Repeta (new applicant)

Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Coutu to appoint Sarah Repeta as a member to the Sustainability Committee with a term to expire 4/30/24. Carried 5-0.

Interview

Ed Thompson, new applicant to serve on the Sustainability Committee

Chairman Coutu invited Mr. Thompson forward and asked him to tell a bit about himself. Mr. Thompson said Ok. I've live in Hudson. I moved to Hudson in '93. So if you do the math, it's about 28 years. I'm not married, no kids, but an engineer, mechanical engineer. For 32 years. I work down in Mass for a company that builds lasers for the dental industry basically to take the place of the rotary drill. No Novocain, very expensive piece of equipment, very technical. My expertise is in design, but I'm also in a manufacturing role right now. But I've got a lot of experience in materials and adhesives and things like that. And anyway, there, getting around to the Sustainability Committee. I think I mentioned to you at one of the meetings that I met Linda (Kipnes) and I met Deborah Puttnam a few years ago when I turned on the Burns Hill Road and they got my attention and I watched a few meetings and I saw that they clearly made a difference in the town. Not a big time thing, but it's still had a big impact. So I thought, you know, I was on Water Utility many years ago for a couple of years, and I got off because I couldn't make the meetings. They started at five o'clock and I was working in Woburn. So, you know, I think it's time to start giving back a little. Chairman Coutu replied, you said that you would you wanted to step up and do something for the Town and that you had been impressed with, Linda and I appreciate you coming forward. And I know that once you commit, I'm sure that you'll do an outstanding job. Heard a lot about you that you enjoyed talking with you. So it's been a pleasure. Mr. Thompson responded saying, in No way am I trying to fill Linda Kipnes shoes, you know. I know those shoes aren't going to be filled. The Chairman said any questions from any other members of the Board, please? None. All right. At this time, the Board is going to review your application further and a decision will be made. I'm sure that our administrative assistant will get a hold of you at the next regular Board of Selectmen meeting. Again, I thank you for stepping forward on behalf of the Town.

Sandra Rumbaugh, new applicant to serve on the Conservation Commission

Chairman Coutu recognized Ms. Rumbaugh and said Sandra Rumbaugh said I was on the Conservation Commission for about 10 years a while ago. And at that time I needed to step away because we had some elderly parent caregiver issues and out of the four to have passed and one is very well taken care of in Washington. And I have my mother with me here in New Hampshire. So I now have time to come back to what really is my passion, conservation and the environment. And it's not really what can I do. It's more how can I help? And one of the things I had on my bucket list for this year, I wanted to learn more about the Abenaki culture. So I read some books. And for Mother's Day, I went to the Kearsarge Indian Museum, which is absolutely a cool place, but adjacent to the building they have in their woods something called the Medicine Woods Trail. And what I would like to bring if I get on Conservation is more of an education and outreach, a fun aspect. My first time around, I pretty much I was around protection policies, writing plans and I can still do that. But I want to make it fun. I want to make it fun. People are out there enjoying the outdoors if I want to make it educational, fun, safe, but also respectful to the environment. And that's what I'm hoping to bring this time around.

Chairman Coutu said, you did explain what you had done in the past for the job. I like the idea, by the way, of educating. The more people are educated about our environment and the beauty of our surroundings, the more apt people are to be conservationists and want to protect wildlife and brooks our streams, our trees and our ponds. So I think I admire you for wanting to tackle that as a project. Any other questions or comments?

Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said you mentioned outreach. Do you have any ideas of what you might do for that? Because I greatly support that. I think it's a fabulous idea. What would you do to do outreach?

Ms. Rumbaugh replied, one example, my husband and I have been walking Beaverbrook and one of their trails they have is a wildlife wildflower trail which identifies wildflowers. And we have a Town

Forest. I mean, do we have anything that identifies what is within the town for us? You know, what tree? You know, what's an oak? What's a birch? What's, you know, that kind of thing. So it's that type of education and outreach. I think I looked at the the the website for conservation and I think maybe adding something more to the pamphlet, maybe like fun facts, something maybe that would appeal to the younger generation. Seeing no further questions the Chairman thanked Ms. Rumbaugh for coming in and told her the Board would vote at their next regularly scheduled meeting.

Bill Cole, former Planning Board member, application to be reappointed.

The Chairman said you should have received a copy of a couple of emails front and back as a result of a request for information. I believe that based on an email that I received it seems he doesn't intend to come and he feels that we should just take it up and based on his email, and appoint him. So what is the wish of the Board? Do you have any questions relative to the emails? I know that the Town Administrator was acting on behalf of a request from a member of the Board of Selectmen with reference to asking questions about how our attorney felt about the potential impact of appointing him after we had removed him because he refused to recuse himself. Any questions? Go ahead, Selectman Roy, it's not so much a question as a comment. I guess I did not agree with Mr. Cole's assertion that this was a reappointment. Removal of him for lack of a better phrase, for and therefore he should have to reapply, as if he were never appointed. So I'm not willing to entertain any reappointment, Chairman Coutu asked, any other questions or comments? Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said I read over this, I'm kind of going back and forth. I generally see what our Town Council has said and I sort of agree with it. You know, no hard feelings to Mr. Cole. I think if you volunteer for another position or another board, I certainly welcome that. But the Planning Board might still be a little sticky, and that's all. Mr. Chairman.

Selectman McGrath was recognized and said we got from the Town Council, and I think that we need to listen to our Town Council in all matters. The Chairman replied, I don't disagree. So what is the wish of one Board at this time? Selectman Roy made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin that we not appoint Mr. Cole to the Planning Board as an alternate member with a term to expire at 12/31/21. Carried 5-0.

Chairman Coutu asked if there were any consent items that anyone wishes be pulled for separate consideration. Selectman Roy asked that Item 6A-3 be removed for separate consideration.

Selectman Gagnon made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to approve consent items A1, A2, C1, E & F as noted. Carried 5-0.

Selectman Roy was then recognized regarding Consent Item 6A-3 and she deferred to Selectman McGrath. Selectman McGrath said one of the properties listed here is my property so I will be recusing myself from this vote. Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Gagnon to approve consent item 6A-3. Carried 4-0 with Selectman McGrath abstaining.

6. CONSENT ITEMS

A. Assessing Items

1) 2020 Tax Abatement: Map 151, Lot 5-2

2) 2020 Abatements DOT Properties: Map 217, Lot 34-1, 5A Mark Street, Map 217, Lot 34-2, 5B Mark Street; Map 223, Lot 31, 39 Wason Road; Map 223, Lot 32, 37 Wason Road

3) Residence in Industrial or Commercial Zones: Map 198, Lot 17 - 89 Lowell Road; Map 198, Lot 148 - 104 Lowell Road; Map 234, Lot 31 - 281 Lowell Road; Map 234, Lot 42 - 2 Davenport Road; Map 234, Lot 43 - 4 Davenport Road; Map 251, Lot 17 - 81 River Road

B. Water/Sewer Items - None

C. Licenses & Permits & Policies

1) Saint Kathryn Parish - Raffle Permit

D. Donations - None

E. Acceptance of Minutes

Minutes of the May 11, 2021

F. Calendar

5/26 7:00 Planning Board - Hudson Community Center
5/27 7:00 Zoning Board - Hudson Community Center
6/1 7:00 Board of Selectmen Workshop - Selectmen Meeting Room
6/2 8:30 Highway Safety Committee - Buxton Meeting Room
6/2 7:00 Budget Committee - Buxton Meeting Room
6/3 6:30 Recreation Committee - Selectmen Meeting Room
6/8 7:00 Board of Selectmen - Selectmen Meeting Room

7. At this point the Town Administrator read off Item 7A Old Business, votes taken after the nonpublic session of the May 11, 2021 Board of Selectmen meeting.

1) Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Gagnon to approve the draft agreement with Sousa Realty to facilitate the relocation of the Firefighter's Memorial to Benson Park and to authorize the Fire Chief to sign the agreement on behalf of the Town. Carried 5-0.

2) Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to recognize, a list of employees agreed upon by the Board, with a letter of thanks and a gift card for going above and beyond their regular duties during the Covid-19 pandemic. Carried 5-0.

3) Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to seal the nonpublic meeting minutes of May 11, 2021. Carried 5-0.

5) Motion to adjourn at 10:52 p.m. by Selectman Morin, seconded by Selectman Roy. Carried 5-0.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Senior Center - Reopening Plan

Chairman Coutu recognized Recreation Director Chrissy Peterson and also Fire Chief Rob Buxton. Ms. Peterson explained in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Senior Center has been closed since March of 2020. The Town took immediate and needed action to keep the Senior Center members safe during the height of the pandemic. Over the last year, I've been committed to finding creative ways to still connect to our Senior Center members. That has resulted in a lot of one on one conversations where I have learned that many of the members had been vaccinated. This has led me to believe that. I think that we've come to the point in time that it's safe to reopen the Senior Center with safety protocols in place in your package. You should have a copy of the Senior Center reopening plan to list a few points. The plan consists of a soft opening, which what that means is three days a week rather than five. It would be noncontact programming to start. We would have programming time staggering for beginning and end time to avoid any type of potential crowding. And in accordance with the Town's policy, we would require masks to be worn by the members as well as the employees. The main objective is to reopen the Senior Center gradually. I think that is the best option at this point. Allow the senior citizens to adjust to the Covid-19 policies while having the opportunity to participate in senior programming in a safe environment. In August, and the months that would follow along with the emergency operation center command staff, we would re-evaluate where we are with Covid-19 and consider if we're able to possibly increase the days of operation to four days and then potentially five days would be the ultimate goal. I have recently received the EOC stamp of approval on the reopening, the soft reopening plan, I should say. And my hope is to receive the Board's approval tonight and be able to open the doors to the Senior Center and welcome our members back. I know that they've missed being there and we have miss seeing them. If you have any questions,

Chairman Coutu joked, I take it by no contact. You mean we won't have a senior wrestling program this year? Selectman Roy was recognized and said, correct me if the Director is still furloughed at this point. The Senior Center Director, is she still furloughed at this point? Yes, that's it. I hope so. Would she have to come back and should that be part of the motion so that we're not publicly to discuss that OK with the board to get the board approved? Ms. Peterson replied, I've had a couple of conversations with her, I believe so. I just haven't had a formal one until I get permission from the board to invite the senior coordinator service back. The Town Administrator said this item is on the nonpublic agenda for this evening. Selectman McGrath was recognized and said I think that this is wonderful news for the seniors. I'm sure that they've all missed their time at the Senior Center and kind of they'll renew friendships. So it's a good thing. The Chairman added a lot of seniors have been knocking on my door, believe it or not, asking when we're going to open. So I'm looking forward to it. A place to take my wife. All right. Any other comments seeing none, Selectman McGrath made a motion seconded by Roy to reopen the Hudson Senior Center following the reopening plan proposed by the Recreation director, effective July 2021. Carried 5-0.

B. Recreation - Summer Program Cancellation

Ms. Peterson said in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Hudson Community Center has been permanently set up for standing committee meetings to provide a location that was safe and socially distanced. Additionally, it has been the primary location for the Hudson Logistics Center meetings, which is required a large venue for the amount of in attendance in those meetings because it was unknown when the priority of the Community Center building hosting meetings would end. The Recreation Department was unable to advertise summer staff positions, conduct interviews and hire in the month of March that we normally would. The uncertainty of where we would be during the summer months kept us at a standstill and prevented us from securing staff from a program that we were not sure we were going to be able to offer this summer. Now, at the end of May, we do not have the sufficient time that is required to post our job applications, interview, hire, conduct background checks, which is kind of a lengthy process, CPR certified counselors in cities. These steps that we're required to take place in March, they would have been both unethical and unfair and to offer positions to two counselors when we did not have certainty that we were going to be able to have the building back and offer this program.

Ms. Peterson continued saying, aside from the staffing issues following and abiding by the State of New Hampshire Covid-19 guidance for day camps and schools, we face extreme challenges here. Our summer program is not a licensed summer camp. It is essentially a summer program, which is 90% inside and 10% outside here in this building when dealing with an average of 200 children a day. Even if we were to lessen the amount and cap it daily, we're still set up in a one room setting. So it would be extremely challenging to instill the many health and safety precautions that are required during this time. The recommendation to cancel the 2021 program, to be completely honest, has weighed heavily on me the past couple of weeks because I know better than anybody that this program is of value to the community and the residents and even people that don't live in Hudson. However, due to the time needed to staff a quality program and the endless obstacles we're facing, abiding by the covid-19 guidance in a one room setting, it's just not something feasible this year for us. So I am unfortunately seeking the Board's approval tonight to cancel the summer 2021 program.

Chairman Coutu then said With regard to your request to have the flexibility to offer occasional daily events or any events, I think the Board would like to have the assurance that any and all events that you would recommend for the summer program, you will discuss with the obviously you'll abide by EOC and you'll be discussing with the Fire Chief before you'd be willing to implement them. And you would not do so without his green light, correct? Ms. Peterson replied, absolutely. The Chairman then said, okay, and I had told you in the course of conversation we talked about this, I believe was about a month ago that if I can be of any service to you to assist you with developing some type of smaller group programs, that would have to be on a first come, first serve basis. Whoever registers first would get first opportunity to come in so that we don't have favoritism. We don't have to have a raffle or just whoever registers for us gets first opportunity. And the group should be contained very small size. And it might just be taking, you know, half a dozen kids down to the point that might be taking them fishing over to Benson Park, maybe even taking a group. And we'll have so many more and join and we'll do the 911 Memorial with the kids and maybe give them a little picnic.

There's a lot of things that we can do on a small scale. All right. Any questions or comments from any member of the Board? If not, I will ask that we entertain *a motion to give the recreation director the flexibility to offer occasional daily events under the direction of the Recreation Department, but with EOC oversight motion by Selectman McGrath, seconded by Selectman Gagnon* Carried 5-0. Chairman Coutu then said to Ms. Peterson, Thank you and thank you for everything you've done up to now. I know it's been very difficult. I don't think a lot of people know what you've been doing through this pandemic to reassure the seniors, the handing out of grocery bags and you're still doing that. And a lot of the little things that you've tried to plan and I know that this is heartbreaking not to have a summer program, but I think come fall, once the dances start again and we'll be in full swing. And I know you'll do an outstanding job. Thank you.

C. HPD - Request to Advertise Fulltime Police Officer

Chairman Coutu recognized Chief Avery and Captain Dionne. Chief Avery began saying, Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good evening. Members of the Board. We're here before the board tonight for probably the 15th time in the last two years to request permission to advertise to run a police test. This time, we're going to try doing something a little bit different with where our advertisement is going to be a short advertisement and then right into a test in late June. And also get your permission to keep this an open advertisement as we move through the summer months and through next year with the state of law enforcement in the United States. It is not a job that a lot of people are coming out of the woodwork to join. And quite frankly, I don't blame them. But we are going to do everything possible to get recruits into the Town of Hudson and good, solid recruits. I'm not going to hire somebody just for the sake of putting a body in uniform. That will not happen in this town. So I'd like to continuously advertise looking for recruits. And in turn, our services division will be running a test whenever we get two to three candidates coming in the door, run a test instead of waiting to do, what, every six months or every year.

Chairman Coutu then asked you feel more comfortable doing it that way? Obviously, we knew we could have predicted maybe a year ago that it was inevitable it was going to come to this, that it's not an appetizing position to want to have today for a younger generation in light of what's going on around the country. But I can assure people out there, speaking on behalf of the town of Hudson, we're a relatively safe community to be serving in. The atmosphere has been great so far. We have our day to day operational problems in terms of crime and things like that, not unlike any other community. But I certainly like the idea of having an open enrollment type program where you can get him tested immediately. So let me let me ask you. You run an ad and four people apply and you're going to test the four of them. You will only go come to the Board of Selectmen to recommend someone for appointment and then go off to the academy. Chairman Coutu asked how many sworn officers the Department has. Chief Avery replied 51 total sworn and we have three vacant.

Selectman Morin was recognized and asked I see Manchester hiring all the time. Are they doing this type of program where they because I see both police and fire are always bringing new people with our whole, you know one general test? Is that a program they're doing? Chief Avery replied, they're doing it. National police went to it as well. I think they have since stopped doing it. It's time consuming selectmen moron. But I think we have to do it at this stage. But I know Nashua and Manchester are both hiring this way. And, you know, I can speak for the other chiefs there. They're all short police officers and there aren't a lot worse shape than we are here in Hudson. Selectman Morin said, I just see it as if you get somebody, and you can get them before somebody else grabs them. Chief Avery replied, that's correct. Absolutely. And that's a reason why I'm moving in that direction. Chairman Coutu asked salary wise, are we a little more competitive now that we've got to scale a little bit? Chief Avery said It is the best I can tell, Mr. Chairman. And thanks to the residents and obviously the Board in the Budget Committee, I believe we are one, two or number three in the state. His salary goes. And at the end of this contract, we will be one or two pending that other departments don't get a large increase. But our patrol officers salary is very competitive and all the way through the ranks.

Chairman Coutu replied took us a while to get there, but we're there. All right. Thank you. Any other questions? Anyone on the board saying none. I'll entertain a motion to allow Chief Avery to advertise for a full time police officer on an as needed basis. A motion by Selectman McGrath, seconded by Selectman Gagnon. Carried 5-0.

D. HFD - Replacement of Light Duty Fleet

Chairman Coutu recognized Chief Buxton and said members of the board, Mr. Chairman, I'm here this evening to review with you the purchasing of three flight duty fleet vehicles that were highlighted in the FY21 budget. We're looking to purchase one command vehicle and two support vehicles. One of the vehicles will be a Ford F 150 Responder, which will be the command vehicle. And then the other ones, the two others will be Ford Rangers for the support vehicles. We reviewed both the Chevy and Ford products. And we're recommending tonight that we move forward with purchasing through Londonderry, Ford currently. 99% of our fleet and our medium sized fleet in our light duty fleet or Ford vehicles. So we're looking to continue this. We've had good luck with those. They're running the responder model as of right now. So we'll looking forward to do that again. We're looking to also outfit those vehicles with the appropriate lights and emergency warning systems, and we're looking to put all three of the vehicles underneath one lease and move forward. Leasing2 would be our leasing company. Again, I believe the Finance Director offered a lot of support this evening and we're looking forward to getting those in place. Selectman Morin was recognized and asked, Chief, I'm sorry, I thought the pickup truck was going to replace the utility? When you say command vehicle, what do you mean by that? Chief Buxton replied it's going to take the place of most likely my vehicle, which is getting up over 80,000 miles now. So that'll go to a backup vehicle and that'll become a command vehicle. Use the back bed for command space. Selectman Morin then asked, so you'll be driving that? Chief Buxton replied, most likely. Selectman Morin then said, OK. All right. So the two other vehicles, those for the Deputies? Chief Buxton replied, that's Inspectional Services, the Deputies are staying in, the two Tahoe's that they're in right now, those don't come up for replacement for another two years. Selectman Morin then said, Ok, so when you get the command vehicle, it's going to be a command vehicle, sort of like what Nashua's got is what you're looking at? Chief Buxton replied, yeah we're looking at something along that style. We're not convinced whether we're going with a cap or with a flatbed cover, but there'll be a slide out try in there that'll have the command center in it. And so like the back of my car now. Selectman Morin then asked, Ok, so it will be your vehicle, though, so you'll be responding as the commander? Chief Buxton replied, yup, yeah and what we're doing, just to talk of the difference between the pickup truck and the Explorer as we're working to get our command staff separation between their work gear and the passenger compartment. So what's in line with our cancer prevention program? That that equipment that's in the sits in the back of the vehicle off gases for days, several days after the vehicle is are the equipment's been used and cleaned. Even so, we're looking to increase that cancer prevention and leave that in place. So add some separation there.

Selectman Morin then asked, Are we getting rid of any other vehicles? Chief Buxton replied, we're getting rid of three vehicles out of the fleet. So we'll have the red Tahoe, which is a 2004, will transition out of the Chevy Colorado pickup truck, which is actually a hand-me-down from the Police Department, animal control division, the 2005. And then we have a 2005 F250 gas prevention vehicle that will actually be transitioned to the highway Public Works, excuse me, for a yard vehicle or for some light fuel truck for them. Chairman Coutu then said Chief, do we still have a vehicle in your department that's fully equipped to mitigate any communication problems we might have in-house?

Chief Buxton replied all of the command vehicles, which we now have, this will be, we have four available have the ability to be set up in the field to operate in the communications system. Chairman Coutu went on to say you know, the redundancy is available through our four vehicles. Chief Buxton responded both of the deputies and myself have one of those vehicles. And then there is a backup vehicle out of Central for our call back captain when they come in to work. The Chairman replied Ok, good. Thank you, Chief. Any other questions? Selectman Morin asked where you are going to have that command vehicle is that are going to be low profile like you've got now or you're going to mark it? Chief Buxton replied it will be Similar to what I have now.

Selectman Roy made a motion seconded by Selectman Gagnon to waive the competitive bidding requirements as outlined in Hudson Town Code 98-7 for the purpose of leasing from Ford of Londonderry for the Light Duty Fleet Replacement. Carried 5-0.

Selectman Roy made a motion seconded by Selectman McGrath to authorize the Fire Chief to lease purchase a Ford F-150 Responder and two (2) Ford Rangers through Ford of Londonderry. Also to purchase all associated up fitting costs for the total of \$112,133 and secure funding through Leasing2 on a three-year term at \$39,211.99 per year with the first payment due June 15, 2021. Carried 5-0.

9. Remarks by the Town Administrator

The Town Administrator was recognized and just want to wish everybody a safe Memorial Day weekend. That's this weekend. So Town Hall will be closed Monday, but it's the unofficial start to summer.

10. Remarks by the School Board

Ms. Lamothe said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Last night, we celebrated a rededication ceremony for the Wilbur Palmer Career and Technical Education Center. The CTI Center, which we will here on out refer to as the Palmer Center, originally opened in 1992. And it was nice to see the renovations pass in 2018. And construction is pretty much completed and it brought us into the 21st century. It's wonderful to see the legacy of Wilbur Palmer continue and benefit future generations. We heard from Marjorie Palmer and his family was actually present at the ceremony. HCTV recorded the ceremony and it's available on their website, if anyone would like to view it. We also heard from some student ambassadors. There were ambassadors there to give a tour of the CTI Center. So it was a wonderful celebration and just the value of the center for students to have a hands on education. And it's not just for the trades. It prepares them for post-secondary education. So it was really a wonderful celebration. Also, looking ahead to June 7th, we have the second shot for those aged 12 and older. The vaccine clinic was at H.M.S. And I'd like to thank Chief Buxton for helping with that effort. The last day of school is June 14th. And that will be the official beginning of summer. Thank you.

Chairman Coutu then said ok, I've been in contact with Chairman Gasdia and so for my fellow Board members who would like to jot this down, he's requesting that we put off the joint meeting between the Board of Selectmen and the School Board. And these are the three dates that I believe that the school committee is opting for, ready to be August 17th, 18th and 19th, which would be Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday. So if you can get back to the Chair or to Jill with your date preference, please let her know. And then if there's a consensus and like three of you want one date and one or two want a different date and see if we can coalesce and get everybody to go the same day, and then we'll get a hold of Chairman Gasdia and inform him of the wishes of this Board.

11. Other Business/Remarks by Selectmen

Selectman Gagnon: And I actually did attend the Palmer Center rededication last night, albeit a little late. Sorry, I'm very impressed. You know, walked the whole school had really good tours. I mean, everything from what you expect to automotive and wood shop and welding to, you know, a drone class. And I mean, it was just, I was really astonished with how beautiful it is, how well laid out it is and even the security so, so well done to all. That's all I have for Mr. Chairman.

Selectman McGrath: I just have one thing, and it's on behalf of the Hudson Police Department, they'd like to let the citizens know that the there's a scam that's going around and it's called the grandchild in jail scam. A Massachusetts victim lost over fifty thousand dollars before realizing it was a scam. If you receive a call from anyone claiming to be a relative who was in a car accident with serious injuries in us and is asking for thousands in cash for bail to be sent someplace or picked up by a

courier, do not do not comply. Hang up and contact your relative to verify they are OK. If someone is in jail and needs bail, you will always have to go to the police department or jail and meet with a bail commissioner to fill out paperwork for the arrested person's release. Please educate elderly parents and friends who are not on social media about this scam. That's all that I have, Mr. Chairman.

Selectman Morin: I just want to talk about the flags of honor were put up in Library Park last weekend by the American Legion. And this year they've added 40 flags to that. So it is quite an impressive display. Want to remind everybody there will be Memorial Day ceremonies held at 2:00 p.m. at Library Park. And the last thing is reference to the Wilbur Palmer ceremony last night. I did attend also and they did recognize our TV people for all their hard work over the last two years, making sure all the information got out and doing all the videos of showing the building during construction. And another thing I found out about the TV people, for lack of better terms, being a firefighter, a little bit of mutual aid to the Wilton Fire Department. Our TV crew assisted the town of Wilton and the fire department and making a recruitment video. And I actually got to see it the other night. And they're very appreciative and they did a great job. Thanks. That's all I have, sir.

Selectman Roy: I also attended the Palmer Center rededication and was very impressed with the outcome of that. Renovation is amazing. Almost makes me want to go back to school. I also want to note that the ambassadors did a wonderful job doing tours and explaining everything. They were very well informed and did a great job. And the last thing I have is I hope everybody enjoys the week, the long weekend and please drive safe. All I have.

Chairman Coutu: I'm going to ask that you please bear with me. It's been a long weekend, as you all know, I went down to North Carolina to visit with my daughter, my youngest daughter, and went down with our oldest daughter and my wife. And we saw our daughter and her husband and our three grandchildren we haven't seen in two years. We had a great experience. I prepared a statement for this evening. This is not easy for me. My wife Doris and I took advantage of a lengthy weekend getaway offer to visit with our youngest daughter, son in law and three grandchildren we haven't seen for over two years due to Covid. Our oldest daughter came with us and yes, it was a very pleasurable weekend in North Carolina. We spoke at great length about my wife's medical condition. A conversation we also had with our sons prior to leaving. Her condition will gradually worsen and it will progress at a pace that nature takes it. It was the first time my family in North Carolina had seen their mother and memere with the condition. We all agreed that she needed personal attention on a daily basis. And it is therefore with a heavy heart that I am announcing my resignation from the Board of Selectmen effective at the conclusion of this meeting. My wife has dedicated her life to our family and it is time that we, the family, dedicate our lives to her to help with that endeavor. Our oldest son passed papers on a home adjacent to ours in Hudson this past Monday. Excuse me... I want to thank all of our friends and constituents who have been loyal and fervent supporters throughout these last 13 plus years that I have had the pleasure of serving as your selectman, we have accomplished much, but there are many challenges ahead. It is my pleasure to turn over the chairmanship to Marilyn, who I trust with being a great leader to this Board. It was a long in coming, Marilyn. You've earned it. You deserve it. You know, I've tried in the past couple of opportunities that I've had to nominate you. And no, I'm not doing this just to stick you with the chairmanship. You know why I'm doing this. I love my wife. Again, many thanks. And a shout out to all of our employees with special recognition to you, Steve, for your always being available to me when I was in need of your advice or counsel. You've always been there since day one. I have had the distinct honor of serving with many great municipal employees and former selectman and present selectman, many of whom I am proud to call my friends. Mr. Malizia, here are the keys to the doors. I will be sitting in nonpublic to fulfill my duties, duties as a member of the Board of Selectmen, Selectman McGrath I will have for you here a completed a job performance review for you to take and put in with the fact that I believe it's fair of me to have made an evaluation, having worked with that Town Administrator over this past year.

The Chairman went on to say, again, no one knew about this. I didn't tell you, Dave. I didn't tell you Marilyn, closest to me on the Board. I discussed this with my children and one friend and one friend is a resident of Hudson who's been with me since the first day of my first campaign. And we were friends many years prior to that. We continue to be friends to this day. And he said the same thing my children said and the same thing my wife said. Do you really want to do this? Because they know how much I love politics and how much I love my town. And my wife is worth a lot more than my being here sitting in front of a microphone every other Tuesday. But we all know that isn't what this job is all about. There's a lot more to it that people are not aware of the incessant number of phone calls and emails and researching matter and data that we need to have in order to give an intelligent answer to any constituent who calls. The task ahead of you is not going to be an easy one to find a replacement. Mr. Malizia will walk you through the process. But again, thank you so much, each and every one of you. And with that, Mr. Malizia, could you take us into non-public? The Town Administrator said, the Chairman will entertain a motion to enter non-public session that RSA 91-A:(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. Motion made by Selectman Roy, seconded by Selectman McGrath. A roll call vote was taken. Carried 5-0.

12. 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.

Motion by Selectman Roy at 8:10 p.m., seconded by Selectman McGrath, to go into non-public session. A roll call vote was taken. Carried 5-0.

Chairman Coutu entered Nonpublic Session at 8:10 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 Coutu entered open session at 9:10.m.

Motions made after nonpublic session:

Selectman Gagnon made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to bring back, Senior Services Coordinator Lori Bowen, from furlough status for up to 24 hours a week effective June 21, 2021. Carried 5-0.

Selectman Roy made a motion, seconded by Selectman McGrath to promote Sergeant Patrick McStravick to Lieutenant at \$91,607.00 in accordance with the Hudson Police, Fire, Town Supervisors Association Contract (Step 4). This elevation in rank would be effective Thursday July 1, 2021. Carried 5-0.

Selectman Gagnon made a motion seconded by Selectman Roy to allow Chief Avery to recognize and award \$100 merit awards to Attorney Joe Tessier, Captain Dave Bianchi, Captain Tad Dionne, Captain Dave Cayot, Lieutenant Mike Davis, Lieutenant Steve McElhinney, Lieutenant Roger Lamarche and Executive Coordinator Sherrie Kimball and a \$200 merit award to Animal Control Supervisor Jana McMillan. Carried 5-0.

Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by selectman Roy to adjust Finance Director Lisa Labrie's salary from \$92,000 per year to \$96,000 per year, effective June 10, 2021. Carried 5-0.

Selectman Roy made a motion seconded by Selectman McGrath to move HCTV employee Michael Johnson from fulltime status to part time status with up to 20 hours a week. Carried 5-0.

Selectman Roy made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin to seal the nonpublic meeting minutes of the May 25, 2021 meeting. Carried 5-0.

Selectman Roy made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin to adjourn at 9:13 p.m. Carried 5-0.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 9:13 p.m. by Selectman Roy seconded by Selectman Morin. Carried 5-0.

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

Roger E. Coutu, Chairman

Marilyn E. McGrath, Vice-Chairman

David Morin, Selectman

Kara Roy, Selectman

Brett Gagnon, Selectman