

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the February 09, 2021 Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER - by Chairman Morin the meeting of February 09, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in the Hudson Community Center.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Chairman Morin.
3. ATTENDANCE
Board of Selectmen: David Morin, Kara Roy, Normand Martin, Roger Coutu, Marilyn McGrath

Staff/Others: Town Administrator Steve Malizia; Elvis Dhima - Town Engineer; Gary Gasdia-School Board Member; Bill Collins -Chairman of Conservation Commission; Lorrie Weissgarber - Administrative Aide
4. PUBLIC INPUT - none
5. RECOGNITIONS, NOMINATIONS & APPOINTMENTS -none

Selectman Martin made a motion to approve consent items A, C, E& F

6. CONSENT ITEMS
 - A. Assessing Items
 - 1) Disabled Veteran Tax Credit: Map 177, Lot 005, and Sub 039 -16B Canterbury Court.
 - 2) All Veterans Tax Credit: Map 198, Lot 92 - 7 A Street.
 - 3) 2020 Property Tax Abatement: Map 168, Lot 4 - 7 Washington Drive
 - 4) 2020 Abatement Application: Map 147, Lot 25-1 - 11 Mansfield Drive
 - B. Water/Sewer Items - none
 - C. Licenses, Permits, Policies
 - 1) Hawker/Peddler/Itinerant Vendor - The Blushing Rose
 - 2) Hawker/Peddler/Itinerant Vendor Permit - Jimmy's Catering
 - D. Donations - none
 - E. Acceptance of Minutes
Minutes of January 12, 2021
 - F. Calendar

2/10	7:00	Planning Board - Hudson Community Center
2/15		TOWN HALL CLOSED - Presidents Day
2/17	6:00	Library Trustees - Hills Memorial Library

2/17 7:00 Planning Board - Hudson Community Center
2/22 7:00 Candidates Night - Hudson Community Center
2/23 7:00 Board of Selectmen - Hudson Community Center

7. OLD BUSINESS - none

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Public Hearing - Hudson Speedway Additional Race Days

Chairman Morin stated we have a public hearing for Hudson Speedway for the race dates. For the record, I just want it known that we received several emails with comments all the Board of Selectmen have received those comments and should have been able to review them for tonight except you received a couple today, Mr. Malizia, you said? Town Administrator, Steve Malizia said, we received a couple today so you have all of them in a separate packet just so you have them. The Chairman said, so those have been reviewed, and they will be placed on file. So I will start the public hearing at 7:02pm. Anybody wish to speak? Selectman Roy asked Ben Bosowski of Hudson Speedway to come forward. Mr. Bosowski approached the microphone. Selectman Roy said, thank you for coming. So some of the emails mention a problem with parking and I just want to know if there was a plan to resolve that. Mr. Bosowski replied, yes, in the future I, like I said, I purchased the nine acres across the street, it's next to the handyman building. Once I kind of got everything else done with the track I was going to work on getting that approved by you. To possibly put some sort of parking over there to solve the parking issue. Right now I was actually, Mr. Marshall here is actually part of the Senter Farm Road community, I was actually have him talk to his neighbors to see if I could possibly put cones along the side of the road over there because technically that's not my property so I don't want to put cones and stuff on people's property but it would prevent people from parking on at least that side of the road but I want to get their permission first. Selectman Roy responded. Okay, alright thank you.

Selectman McGrath was recognized and said so to do, I believe I'm correct when I tell you that if you're going to have offsite parking and you have a site plan you're going to have to get the Planning Board to approve that offsite parking. Mr. Bosowski said, correct, yes. I just wanted to buy the land just in case. I didn't want to choke myself out if for some reason that I didn't buy it and then the track blew up, I can only go so much because I don't have as much parking. So I bought it in the future and I'll cross that bridge when, hopefully soon. Selectman McGrath said, so you wouldn't be able to use it for parking until you get that approval. Mr. Bosowski said what I mean is I at least start the process of getting it to become a parking lot soon. Selectman McGrath said, no I understand that it's just you have to follow certain steps.

Chairman Morin asked, all set? Any further questions? Seeing none. No other comments from the audience. So we'll close the meeting at 7:04pm and then the additional meeting will take place at the February 23, 2021 meeting. Thank you.

Selectman Coutu was recognized and asked, can I make a suggestion? As opposed to having him, even though he's a member of the association on Senter Farm Road, I would suggest, Ben, that I think it would be more proper where you own the race track, that between now and the next public hearing, maybe you should go and knock on some doors talk to people, assure them that you're going to try to take their interests at heart. The communicates that we have, there are four of them, three of them were Senter Farm Road residents and the other one supported your plan. You have a good plan, I know you have the community interest at heart, but I think it behooves you as the owner of the track to go see people and make them feel more comfortable. I think if they see you as opposed to a fellow member they might be. Right now they're predisposed to be against it. Maybe

you can make them feel a little better about it. I think that's the best approach. Mr. Bosowski said, I can definitely do that. Thank you.

Public Input submitted via BOSInput@hudsonnh.gov for tonight's public hearing:

1) My name is Cyndy Hastings, and I live at 45 Senter Farm Rd.

I am opposed to the request to ammend 264-4B Racetrack days of operation to allow racing on days other than Sundays and holidays.

1. The parking is extremely dangerous on race days when cars overflow the parking lot and park along Old Derry, Robinson, and Senter Farm roads. With pedestrians and all the on street parking it becomes hazardous on some race days.

2. There are issue with trash that gets left behind on roads where vehicles are parked

3. The noise on race days significantly impacts the ability of neighbors to enjoy outdoor life in their yards. It's important to preserve race free Saturdays so residents can count on that day to enjoy time in their yards or have outdoor family gatherings for at least one of the two weekend days.

The Racetrack has been a longstanding part of the community, and we all hope it continues to be so. The town rules regarding Racetrack days and hours of operation, however, are also longstanding and seem to have struck the right balance between allowing the Racetrack to successfully operate while also giving some protection on Saturdays so residents are not impacted by raceteack traffic and they can enjoy their outdoor spaces free from racetrack noise.

I do not support any changes to the the longstanding town rules of Racetrack days and hours of operation. Thanj you for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Cyndy Hastings

2) February 9, 2021

To: The Board of Selectmen
Town of Hudson, NH

Re: Additional Racing Days at Hudson Speedway

We are writing to indicate our opposition to adding racing days at Hudson Speedway.

Racing attendees park along Old Derry Road between its junction with Senter Farm Road and Robinson Road, and on Senter Farm Road as well. The on street parking reduces visibility when driving into these streets and causes unsafe conditions.

The noise level on racing days is high and disturbing to the otherwise rural setting. From our backyard, we clearly hear the cars, and can hear the public address announcements word for word. The noise makes it difficult to enjoy being outside. We were aware of the racetrack prior to purchasing our home in the Senter Farm development, and accept the occasional disturbance. However, we were not anticipating additional expansion of the speedway operating schedule, and feel it would reduce the peace and quiet that makes this area so nice to live in. We feel that additional race days would directly reduce the value of our property.

Even at the current race event schedule, we would respectfully ask the operators of Hudson Speedway to work towards eliminating on street parking and to reduce the noise level of the track and public address announcements.

We respect the rights of the operators of the Hudson Speedway but ask that we all as neighbors keep in mind the considerable impact that noise and parking have in the area.

Best regards,

Vicki Abbott | 603-557-5555
Aaron Abbott | 603-842-0569
33 Senter Farm Road
Hudson NH 03051

B. Public Hearing - Acceptance of the 2021 Exotic Aquatic Plant Control Grant from NHDES

Chairman Morin said, we have a second public hearing tonight. Acceptance of the 2021 Exotic Aquatic Plant Control Grant from NHDES. I will recognize the Town Engineer. Elvis Dhima, Town Engineer, and Bill Collins the Conservation Commission Chair. The two came forward. Mr. Dhima started by saying, thank you Mr. Chairman. Good evening everyone. This is something that we do every year and Mr. Collins will go over it. This is something that's managed by the Conservation Commission and Engineering Department. And it's a very successful program and we continue to get 40% from the state and that's what you see in front of you tonight. And Mr. Collins will get into the details. Mr. Collins explained, this year the total grant award from the state is \$12,000. The predicted work amount will be about \$30,000. All diver assisted suction harvesting. There won't be any treatments at either of the ponds tentatively. Amy Smagula of the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services has already done the survey of the ponds late last year and she feels that we can get away with just hand pulling the weeds. This year we're also going to be working with a new company A & E Commercial Dive Services out of Vermont. There was a change in the recommendations from Aqualogic to A & E because of the upfront cost that Aqualogic was looking to obtain. So we're hoping to get good response from A & E. Hopefully we can get a meeting with them either a Zoom or something to introduce ourselves to them. The Town portion of the cost will be about \$18,000. Like I said a total DASH cost of \$30,000.

Chairman Morin thanked Mr. Collins and opened the public hearing at 7:08pm. He asked does anyone have any questions. To which there were none. He closed the public hearing at 7:08pm. He then asked anybody like to make a motion? Selectman Roy made a motion, seconded by Selectman McGrath to accept the Exotic Aquatic Plant Control Grant in the amount of \$12,000 from the NHDES for DASH services this coming spring/summer at Robinson and Ottarnic Ponds. Carried 5-0.

Contract Approval for DASH and Herbicide Treatment for removal of milfoil at Ottarnic Pond and Robinson Pond

The Town Administrator said, the next item that these gentlemen have is 8C. this is actually to award the contract to AE Commercial Diving which is the vendor that DES has vetted and picked out. So in essence you're awarding a contract to AE Commercial Diving Services in an amount not to exceed \$30,000 to actually do the work. Selectman Roy made a motion, seconded by Selectman McGrath to

award the DASH contract for Robinson and Ottarnic Ponds to AE Commercial Diving Services in the amount not to exceed \$30,000. Carried 5-0.

C. Friars Drive Water Main Extension Phase 2

Elvis Dhima, Town Engineer was recognized and said, Mr. Chairman as you can see Lowell Road, currently there's construction at 161 Lowell Road which is the apartment complex. Currently the developer is building a road between Lowell and the Friary. There's also about 66-70 acres left in the back. And the owner of that has expressed interest to extend the water line while the road is still open. So the intent is to put to basically connect the water main that's on Friary Drive all the way down to the end for the purpose of future development of the piece of property in the back. This will make sense to do now because the road is open. If this developer comes back the owner of the property in the back comes back we'll have to cut the road. We try to prevent that and that's why you have in front of you tonight a water line extension for 8" and 12" main for future use for the property in the back. With that said I'll take any questions you might have. Selectman Roy was recognized and said I'm not sure if this is for Mr. Dhima or Mr. Malizia but was this agreement, did this go through legal review? Mr. Dhima replied, this was not but this is a template that we've used in the past so nothing has changed. The only thing they change is usually the owners, but the language is the same. Mr. Malizia said the phase one was approved, we use the same language on phase two. We just change the name. Mr. Dhima then said, so this template has been reviewed and approved in the past by legal. All we do typically is when we have the same contract, which is the case tonight, all we do is we change the owner of it. Which is Friar Way. This is the same language that was used for the one that we did at the last meeting, and done even before. So yes, it was approved by legal, the original template and it's the same template used tonight, the only thing that changed is the owner.

Selectman Coutu was recognized and said, Mr. Dhima on Friary Drive are there just two parcels left? Mr. Dhima replied only one parcel left in the back. There's two right now. There was a subdivision of two. One is being utilized right now for the 81 apartments and then the piece in the back is basically the last piece remaining. Selectman Coutu said, I thought that there was a smaller parcel in the back? They subdivided the piece in the front where they're building the apartments from the second parcel and then the rest was the Friary land. You're saying it's all one parcel so it's all owned by Five Way Realty? Mr. Dhima replied, I think what you're referring to is originally I think they tried to subdivide by getting to the residential and commercial in the back. Once they found they could not do residential in the commercial they end up moving th line. So maybe that's what you're referring to? But right now there's only two lots. One that's currently being developed and another piece in the back. Selectman Coutu made a motion, seconded by Selectman Martin to approve and sign the proposed 8 and 12 inch

water line extension agreement for Friar's Drive as presented to us by our Town Engineer, Elvis Dhima, in his notice of January 29, 2021. Carried 5-0.

D. January 2021 Revenues and Expenditures

The Town Administrator was recognized and said, so we are seven months through the fiscal year which is 58%. Looking through the budgets I don't see any major issues. As we've talked before we have encumbrances for things like the trash contract, legal, our public assistance seems to be doing pretty well. Ms. Wilson handles that. As long as it stops snowing at some point this year I think we'll be okay but we're still in pretty good shape. I have to say, car revenues, auto registrations are doing great. We're at 62% so it appears people are still buying automobiles. We're keeping our eye on state revenues. We have most of the highway block grant but we haven't got the rooms and meals money so we're keeping an eye on that sort of thing because those are other big swingers. Other than that I don't think there's anything major in this report. Selectman Coutu was recognized and said, Mr. Malizia, I read a report about a week ago relative to the rooms and meals. The revenue for that particular line item with the state is obviously down considerably. Is our proportionate share of the rooms and revenues tax based on the income they generate or is it a standard formula? Mr. Malizia replied, in essence it's a standard formula though it clearly depends on how much room and meals tax they gain in the whole state. But there is a formula of what they return to a community. They don't even return what they're legally required. There was a law passed many years ago that we would get X percentage. I think it's 40%. We have never gotten that 40% but basically there's formula, just shy over a million we get. That's not just what's generated in Hudson. They take the whole state and figure out. I think its population based then they allocate it to you so. Right now they've indicated we're going to get our money but things can change. Selectman Coutu replied well, I know other revenues state wide have increased significantly. Mr. Malizia replied, they have not decreased it but they have not increased it either for the last few years. We've been getting a static number for the last couple years. They actually raised the rate two years ago to 9.5%. They've done something on their end but we're still getting the same number ever year.

9. REMARKS BY THE SCHOOL BOARD - Mr. Gasdia said, so um this past Saturday was the School Deliberative Session where we reviewed the five warrant articles. It was, I would say, lightly attended. There really wasn't that much input but I do encourage folks to go to the SAU website SAU81.org to learn more so that come voting day you have you're informed. I do want to give a quick update, the schools themselves are doing well. We've been back in school since January 11th. Obviously there are some cases of Covid and some quarantining but not to the level we're seeing in some of the neighboring communities so we've been able to remain open and in place. We're pretty much halfway through February. February vacation is coming up and we're going to proceed as planned to be back in school right after that.

10. REMARKS BY THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR - Mr. Malizia said just to follow on what Mr. Gasdia said, both Deliberative Sessions are now complete so the Town and School have held their deliberative sessions. At this point in time the Town ballot is being finalized and we expect to send out similar to last year, a document to the school and Town to the all the households in Town for the upcoming election. That will have the warrant the ballot the tax impact and whatnot. So that will be something people will look forward to so we'll have some sort of document ahead of voting. Again, we don't have a newspaper anymore, we used to put it in the paper. I believe we mailed it to every household. So that will go out soon at some point in time. Just a quick reminder, Candidates Night will be in this room on February 22nd at 7:00pm. So that's another opportunity for folks to find out who's running and where they stand on the issues.

11. OTHER BUSINESS/REMARKS BY THE SELECTMEN

Selectman Roy - So kind of to piggyback on what Mr. Malizia and Mr. Gasdia said, please come out and vote on March 9th. There's lots of issues on both the School ballot and the Town ballot that directly affect your lives and the quality of life you have in this Town so please come out and vote. I look forward to seeing people on the 22nd at Candidate's Night.

Selectman Coutu - thank you Mr. Chairman. I don't have much, I'm just going to send out some congratulations to some students from Hudson New Hampshire. The following students were on their respective college presidents list this year. From Bryant University, Olivia Kokounis, Rayann Prewitt. Fairfield University, Alisha Glasheen, Lasselle University Kaitlyn Hennessey, River University Mariah Chamberlain, Kailee Eno, Anica Gamis, Tyler Grant, Kailee Gray, Gunar Green, Emma Green, Olive Grenier, Amanda Lafrance, Kelly Lavoie, Brian Orleans, Hailee Pezorozie, Ella Simpson, Emile Slozar and Kaitlyn Utis. That's quite a contingent from River University. So we have a lot of student's who live in Hudson and are doing relatively well or exceptionally well at several local universities. I extend my congratulations to the kids. Selectman Coutu asked everyone to continue to be vigilant and wear their masks.

Selectman McGrath - I have nothing

Selectman Martin - just to follow up on the Deliberative Session from this past Saturday of the School District, the Budget Committee did change their vote on warrant article one which is the renovation to the high school. There were several members that felt that it was a rushed job and vote became 4 to recommend and 5 not to recommend. So the Budget Committee is not recommending warrant article one. That was a very big surprise to me as well as a lot of other people.

Chairman Morin - I just have one item that I want to bring to the Board and ask the Board to get together to send a letter. An event took place at Alvrine High School last week and we had a meeting with Mr. Gasdia, the Superintendent of Schools, the Police Chief, and our School Board Representative from the Board and myself on the incident. I'd like this Board to have a letter drafted to send to the School Board offering any and all assistance on their incident command system, any training they would need so we can assist. We have had some concerns over the last year and I think we should step up and offer this and provide them whatever they need. We do have the expertise within the Town that can do the training on this and talking with them last night they were willing to move forward with this but I would just like the Board to send an official letter, letting them know that we're willing and whenever they're ready to get it started we will. Anybody have any comments? Mr. Gasdia said, I just want to thank you in advance for the offer because it's one of those things when you talk to police or fire they're used to dealing with these incidents. When you get to the schools there's a lot of things they do but incident management is something you always need to be reminded of and as opposed to you know, going to find someone, if we can utilize what the Town uses that will be a big help to us. Ultimately it involves the safety of the students.

Selectman McGrath was recognized and said I'm kind of at a loss. I don't really know what you're talking about but I can imagine. But if it's to aid and assist with any kind of incident that might have been problematic that...Chairman Morin interrupted saying why don't I put it this way, as we've had incidents in the past it would affect the students so we can talk afterwards, I'd rather not in public. Selectman McGrath said, yes, but just so everybody is aware I'm not fully aware of what happened but I'm also in support of giving them aide to handle things like that in the future. Chairman Morin replied, okay. So consensus? Everybody's good?

Okay, we have one item in nonpublic session but due to circumstances that came up just before the meeting I would like a vote to defer that to our next meeting. Selectman McGrath made a motion to move the nonpublic item from tonight's agenda to the next meeting agenda. This was seconded by Selectman Roy. Carried 5-0.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 7:25 p.m. by Selectman Martin seconded by Selectman Coutu. 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