

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the January 11, 2022 Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER - by Chairman McGrath the meeting of January 11, 2022 at 7:26 p.m. in the Selectmen Meeting Room at Town Hall
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Cpt. Cayot
3. ATTENDANCE

Board of Selectmen: Marilyn McGrath, Bob Guessferd, David Morin, Kara Roy, Brett Gagnon

Staff/Others: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator; Dave Lefevre, Town Attorney; Brian Groth, Town Planner; Dave Cayot, Police Captain; Rob Buxton, Fire Chief; Elvis Dhima, Town Engineer; Paul Inderbitzen, Town Moderator; Jess Forrence, DPW Director; Jim McIntosh, Dir. of Community Media

Absent: Gary Gasdia, School Board Chairman; Jill Laffin, Executive Assistant

4. PUBLIC INPUT

Roger Lamarche, 6 Patricia Drive, Police Lieutenant

Lt. Lamarche said before I have my conversation with you, I want to thank you, working in the Police Department and working in a position where you serve people, sometimes it can be a thankless job and just coming on the heels of Police Appreciation week, on Sunday, we got a lot of appreciation from the Town. I also want to express to you, thank you for taking the positions you take to serve our Town. The reason why I'm here to speak to you is I love my family. I love our community and I love my police department. My family lives here and I'm concerned that we haven't heard much about following Chief Avery's retirement, what's going to be done with the appointment of the next chief. Chief Avery made a recommendation, I think you'll see in talking to other people that it's strongly supported that Captain Dionne makes that appointment to the next chief. When you consider the Chief's position, I think there are three things to think about. Trust. We swear an oath. Every officer swears and oath to serve the Town and community. Loyalty and recognition. The trust piece, Chief Avery, you entrusted to lead this agency when he took over. You trust him to make the promotions he made in his time and you trust him to hire the new police officers that he's hired. And he's done a lot. He mentioned that in the last meeting. I don't know why....I guess I can understand, I can appreciate that this isn't your typical Friday night list to decide what we're gonna have for dinner kind of decision. It is a big deal. But at this point, there's been enough time. And the loyalty piece. As an employee of the Town I understand, fiscally, it's hard sometimes to maybe compensate your employees the way you'd like to. You have taxpayers to answer to. But I think we can all agree in this room the first responders, the teachers, all the people that serve our community they're here for the right reasons. It's not for a paycheck. But that loyalty, that our employees in this town demonstrate to the Town that can be reciprocated in loyalty in showing we appreciate what you have done and we recognize the work you did. Which brings us to the recognition. We have great leadership under the roof at the Hudson Police Department. There's almost 100 years of supervisory experience in that building right now. We're gonna lose about 20 of it when Chief Avery retires. But there's a tradition there. And for some people that know where this agency has come from and where we're going, you know, that's something I'm proud of being a part of that. If we want to talk about how we can compare this, we recently had a CALEA accreditation and for us that's our Super Bowl. We don't have competitions if you will. But I can relate that to a Super Bowl. And every time we have an accreditation we bring home the trophy. That's because the head coach, the Chief. The assistant coaches the command staff and all the players. All the officers and civilian employees that work hard. We work together as a team and that team is pretty unified. We did come from a dark place recently and I don't want to delve into that. But we've risen above it and we worked together as a team. I know Selectman Gagnon, you were there for the exit interview and I read a social media post you posted regarding the only negative that you

gathered from that meeting was that we have such great employees that they will go on and seek other opportunities outside the agency that we can offer but that causes a problem for potential long term stability. And that's a concern I have if we decide that the leadership that was selected by Chief Avery might not be the right fit. So we have a case study that's not far from us. The Salem Police Department was subject to an audit because of things going on with that agency. The townspeople had to pay. Had to have a company come in. audit the agency and then they audited and decided, after everything was said and done, and there was an interim chief, they stayed in house to continue and bring that place back up from the dark place that Salem PD was at. That's right down 111. It's something that's not far from us. So I think for Captain Dionne to be promoted to Chief, he's already had a process. That process started for him in 1995 when he came on as a dispatcher. And he's worked himself through the ranks and he's worked hard. And he's a dedicated leader for our department. There is merit. There is a time and a place where maybe you have to go outside the agency, but that's I think, if you want to change the direction of the agency. I don't know what direction this department needs to change for if we have continually high ranking accreditation marks every time. I really feel that if we're worried about education in leadership the only place in the world that you're gonna get a top notch education in leading the Hudson Police Department, is at 1 Constitution Drive. Like I said there's almost 100 years of supervisory experience right now under that roof. So I'm here to just urge the Board to strongly consider Chief Avery's recommendation for Captain Dionne to be the next Chief. I'm under the impression there's gonna be a discussion tonight, closed session. Hopefully that happens because right now we're wondering what the next move is. It is unsettling to some level because we made some great strides from where we came from when Chief Avery took over. So again, I thank you for what you do. I appreciate you taking the time to hear me speak. And I hope we can make a good decision here. Thank you.

Chairman McGrath replied saying, thank you very much and Mr. Lamarche, I'm going to say this, I completely agree with you.

Ron Cloutier, 33 B Street, President of HPEA

Officer Cloutier said today, second with Lt. Lamarche, I brought a form with me which is a petition that I drafted for the Hudson Police Department. I'm also the president of the Hudson Police Employee Association. In that position I drafted a petition in favor of Chief Avery's recommendation for Cpt. Dionne. Hudson Police Department employs 72 employees. On this document here, after two days, I've got 54 signatures in support of Captain Dionne being the next chief. I know there's some criteria in which Lt. Lamarche has hit that we want to move forward to and I get that. I understand that we want the best person in the job that we can get, even if it's outside the agency. Which I understand is a good mindset to have, but I think that best person being an employee of the Hudson Police Department is Captain Dionne. And why that is because, like he said, the CALEA how we've treated that Super Bowl event, using his words, that we've done great things. It doesn't just extend from Chief Avery it's the people that support him, underneath him. It's those players, those employees that do all that work to achieve those standards and be nationally accredited. I had talked to my daughter in law, it's a funny situation for example. My daughter in law used to live in Town, here. She's with my son who's in the Army stationed in Savannah Georgia. She's a recent graduate, two years ago, graduated River University cum laude from that school. Went down to Georgia being married to my son and tried to get employment down in the NICU in Savannah. The first thing they asked her was for her credentials of course, her resume. The next thing they asked was how much experience do you have? She said well I just graduated school. Their reply back to her was great, I know you're very prepared to come to a job with schooling. Education is vital. Absolutely vital but it's that experience that you get while in that position. Now she has to serve three years. My son is deploying to Korea for a year. But to get that experience she has to stay in Georgia to get that experience so she can get the position that she wants. Now there's stepping stones and everything. There's trials and tribulations I'm a 21 year Army vet. I had to go through my career without an education and do those stepping stones. I didn't have an education so I came up on the enlisted side. So it's very hard. It's very challenging. I just don't think there's anything you can do to replace experience and the fact that it's gonna make you better to lead

people. As a leader in the United States Army, like I said, I had no education. But it's reading your employees, it's reading your soldiers, it's reading those individuals that work for you and that perception of that and how to motivate them to do the best job they can. And Captain Dionne has that motivation. He's personable. He's done things that changes leadership style. He's adapted to different environments, he's not a broad stroke leader. He's an individual leader and he'll talk to you. He'll get down on your level and talk to you and address the situation. He's even done things with CISM to address officer's awareness within the police department. He's taken big strides to be the person he is today. I want to work for him. I hope you make that the best decision you can to you know, keep us working hard in the right direction and doing the right thing. I appreciate your time.

Selectman Morin said you said you had 54 signatures. Is that every member of your unit? Officer Cloutier replied, all but three because two are out on COVID and one couldn't make it here to sign it. He's working the FBI task force looking for that girl up in Manchester. Selectman Morin then said so all the employees are in support of that? Officer Cloutier replied yes. Selectman Morin replied saying okay, thank you.

Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said I wasn't going to ask the question, Mr. Cloutier, but funny enough the gentleman before you I wrote a note to myself saying anonymous survey. I had heard a lot of good things, and I'll speak about this later to my colleagues, you know flooding of good things. And so I was wondering could I either go in or could there be an anonymous survey so see how the employees would want as a boss. And then you stepped up and you showed that petition. So I applaud the effort. The one concern I have would be as an officer and someone of the law, you know you can be threatening, you're a big guy and obviously being a leader in your division saying to someone lower than you please sign this, I don't know the willingness or if it was a biased signature. So I'm not saying what you did is bad but I would have liked to maybe see it be more anonymous. To really get a true perspective of all the employees' cuz I would really take that to heart and that would probably sway my decision fully. Just a comment but I do appreciate it. Officer Cloutier replied to Selectman Gagnon saying we put it out via email on our personal emails for the union and asked people to sign if they were willing to. We put it in Dispatch so people could go up there. I wasn't in control of this document. I had no influence. Actually another fellow employee and part of the Union, Colleen Jefferson, actually held on to make sure people signed in the right areas or if they had any questions after reading the document. But I was never in possession of this document til today. Selectman Gagnon replied, understood.

Selectman Morin was recognized and said I'll give you an answer being in the Union myself. They're not shy to put down their bosses if they don't like them. Trust me. That's not an issue. So when you find that's why I asked if it was all his employees when you get that many employees who will move forward and sign something cuz if somebody didn't like a boss they're certainly not going to sign it. Being the Union, that's what they're there for. If they don't like their boss they're gonna deal with it. I don't think it needs to be anonymous. Selectman Gagnon replied okay, interesting thank you.

Officer Cloutier then said just a little bit before your time though, in the situation prior to this, which Lt. Lamarche said we came from dark times, because our body, as a union, stepped up and decided not to go without a contract to make a point. Like Selectman Morin said was that we're not scared to voice our opinion. We're in a place now where we can express because you guys are open enough to listen. So we appreciate it. That's why I'm here today. I know all of your will listen. At least give me that benefit and I appreciate that. So thank you for letting me come up and speak. It's good to see you all.

Chairman McGrath then said and the dark times were a long time ago. They weren't 10 years ago. They weren't 20 years ago. More like 30 or 40 years ago and they were dark. As dark as your shirt. Officer Cloutier said they were dark. We were called the Fist Heads at that time because we solved crime with this.

James Crowley, 4 Fairway Drive

Mr. Crowley said I'd like to say right up front mine is no way near as important as what you've been hearing a couple of people ahead of me. I come to the Board of Selectmen because you have the authority and power to request the Town Assessors office to write an opinion letter which I feel is urgently needed. The Planning Board has in their possession a memo from the developer of the proposed Friars Drive Industrial Project dated December 15, 2021. I bring this to your attention because the Planning Board maybe closing additional input from the public and others as soon as the coming January 26th meeting. Because the developers presentations, in my opinion, seem to be nearing an end. I have specifically requested a property value impact evaluation to be requested by the Planning Board at two of their meetings and they have not taken any action to request an expert study report with a corresponding peer review or even an Assessors office opinion letter. Item 57 in the Developers December 15th memo I referenced states what will be the impact on abutting property values? The surrounding abutting properties are currently assessed based on their proximity to general zoned land and the Sagamore Industrial Park which allows for our projects proposed use. The Town's master plan anticipated this use there for values based upon a known future use will not change strictly because that permitted use is constructed. Particularly where the use complies with restrictions of light and sound ordinances and where additional mitigation as proposed here is incorporated in the planned development. Based on these statements we do not believe the abutting property values will be impacted. And they go on to talk about tax revenue and stuff like that. My feeling is if we are to accept that statement without a minimum the Town Assessors review comments then the following applies the Assessor has a crystal ball and has already factored in an intense industrial use. Are we to believe that the Assessor factored in potential institute a traffic engineer's land use code 154 Q trans load and short term warehouses in the last property valuation? Even when no one knew they existed? The proposed is a half million square foot facility. Intense industrial use operating 24/7, 365 adjacent to the abutters. The residential abutter. There is not a general Sagamore Industrial Park 9-5, five days a week manufacturing operation. The abutters at a minimum deserve an Assessors office opinion letter for the public record. If the project is approved and goes to possible future litigation, it is most likely the plaintiff's attorney will point out a lack of thorough review by the Town. So please request an opinion letter from the Assessor's Office to be sent to the Planning Board addressing item 57 of the memo dated December 15th from the proposed Friars Industrial Project developer. I can provide a copy of the memo tonight if the Board of Selectmen want or you can obtain it directly from the Town of Hudson website information page for Friars Drive. Thank you for allowing me to talk and bring this to your attention.

Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said Mr. Crowley can you email me a copy of that statement or email us a copy of that statement? I would like to read it for myself. Mr. Crowley said I'll give you a hard copy to which Selectmen Gagnon replied thank you.

6. RECOGNITIONS, NOMINATIONS & APPOINTMENTS

A. Interview

- 1) Zoning Board of Adjustment - (1 member term to expire 12/31/23, 2 alternate member terms to expire 12/31/24 and 12/31/22)

Gerald (Gary) Dearborn

Chairman McGrath recognized Mr. Dearborn. Mr. Dearborn said Madam Chair and members of the Board my name is Gerald Dearborn if you allow me two minutes I can give you my life history of living in a Town my entire life and that's a great many years. I've lived in Hudson my entire life except four years in the Air Force. I did receive a bachelor's degree from Nathaniel Hawthorne College. My working career, for 15 years I was a credit union manager.

I've served this Town on the Board of Assessors way back. This is a number of years ago under Dick Ethier. Member of the Trustee of Trust Funds for a short period of time and most recently nine years on the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Five years as the alternate, two years as the clerk and the last two years as vice chairman and chairman. I have three daughters that went through the Hudson Public School system. The thing that I think I'm most proud of is in nine years in serving on the Board of Adjustments I missed one meeting in nine years. I take it very seriously. I have most recently in 2020 I was instrumental in coming up with a succession plan for the members of that board. We were in a very tough situation where the chairman resigned and we had no course of direction so we established a succession plan, which I think every committee in this Town should have a succession planning. You people don't have alternates. Should one of you disappear or could not serve anymore where do we go? How do you get a replacement? So with that I thank you for the opportunity and I would like to serve another term on the Zoning Board.

Chairman McGrath replied to Mr. Dearborn saying I'm happy to see you coming back. Mr. Dearborn replied, thank you very much. The Chairman then asked anyone have any questions for Mr. Dearborn? Selectman Roy said so Mr. Dearborn how long were you looking to serve? There's a couple of terms. The Town Administrator said two of them are alternates. Selectman Roy then said oh you were looking for a full membership? Mr. Dearborn replied full membership. Not the alternate. Selectman Roy then said I remember I served, you were there a short time when I was there as the liaison. Mr. Dearborn then said it's my understanding that's an unexpired term? The Town Administrator said there's a term that expires 12/31/23. That would be the term. Chairman McGrath asked anyone else have any questions for Mr. Dearborn? Seeing none the Chairman said so we don't appoint the night that you're interviewed. We wait until the next meeting and we'll make a decision then. So. I can't imagine that we wouldn't appoint you. It's beyond my ability to comprehend that they would disagree with your appointment to that board. But we'll see. Mr. Dearborn replied, I thank you very much for the opportunity.

7. CONSENT ITEMS

A. Assessing Items

- 1) Veterans Tax Credit- map 197, lot 077, 29 Winnhaven Dr.; map 148, lot 040, sub 118, 6 Shoal Creek Rd.
- 2) All Veterans Tax Credits: map 223, lot 027, 45 Wason Rd.; map 106, lot 039, 26A Boyd Rd.
- 3) 2021 Property - Tax Supplemental Bill: map 129, lot 72, 35 St. Laurent Dr.
- 4) 2021 Property - Tax Supplemental Bill: map 118, lot 57, 25 David Dr.
- 5) 2021 Property - Tax Supplemental Bill: map 183, lot 78, 118 Central St.
- 6) 2021 Property - Tax Supplemental Bill: map 168, lot 2-15, 12 Krystal Dr.
- 7) 2021 Property - Tax Supplemental Bill: map 183, lot 2, 90 A & B Central St.
- 8) 2021 Property - Tax Supplemental Bill: map 131, lot 42, 139 Greeley St.
- 9) 2021 Property - Tax Supplemental Bill: map 111, lot 17, 151 Robinson Rd.
- 10) 2021 Property - Tax Supplemental Bill: map 234, lot 43, 4 Davenport Rd.
- 11) 2021 Property Tax Abatement: map 148, lot 40-72, 41 Riviera Rd.
- 12) 2021 Property Tax Abatement: map 197, lot 106, 17 Cedar St.
- 13) 2021 Property Tax Abatement: map 178, lot 13-110, 31 Mobile Dr.
- 14) 2021 Property Tax Abatement: map 160, lot 58, 5 Roy Dr.
- 15) 2021 Property - Tax Supplemental Bill: map 156, lot 63-101, 709 Elmwood Dr.
- 16) 2021 Property Tax Abatement: Town of Hudson Purchased Properties map 144, lot 2, 16 Robinson Rd.; map 143, lot 20, 25 Robinson Pond Dr.

17) Current Use Lien Releases: map 195, lot 1-12, 210 Standish Lane; map 195, lot 1-13, 202 Standish Lane; map 195, lot 1-14, 190 Standish Lane

B. Water/Sewer Items - None

C. Licenses & Permits & Policies

1) Hawker-Peddler License Renewal - Spring Hill Catering

D. Donations - none

E. Acceptance of Minutes

1) Minutes of December 14, 2021

F. Calendar

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| 1/12 | 7:00 | Planning Board - Hudson Community Center |
| 1/13 | 7:00 | Budget Committee - Public Hearing - Hudson Community Center |
| 1/17 | - | MLK Day - Town Hall Closed |
| 1/18 | 7:00 | Municipal Utility Committee - Buxton Meeting Room |
| 1/19 | 6:00 | Library Trustees - Hills Memorial Library |
| 1/20 | 7:00 | Zoning Board of Adjustment - Buxton Meeting Room |
| 1/20 | 7:00 | Benson Park Committee - HCTV Meeting Room |
| 1/24 | 7:00 | Traffic Advisory Committee - Buxton Meeting Room |
| 1/24 | 7:00 | Sustainability Committee - Buxton Meeting Room |
| 1/25 | 7:00 | Board of Selectmen - BOS Meeting Room |

Selectman Gagnon made a motion seconded by Selectman Roy to approve all consent items. Carried 5-0.

8. OLD BUSINESS

A. Votes taken after Nonpublic Session on December 14, 2021

1) Selectman Gagnon made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin to seal the second set of nonpublic minutes of the 12/14/21 Board of Selectmen meeting. Carried 5-0.

2) Selectman Gagnon made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to hire two (2) part time on-call seasonal plow truck drivers, Robert Calzini and Jason Bouley, for the 2021-2022 winter season with no benefits, at an hourly rate of \$25.00 per hour. Carried 5-0.

3) Selectman Gagnon made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to promote Matthew Carpentier to the position of Equipment Operator, effective January 2, 2022 at Step 5, \$28.23 per hour, in accordance with the Hudson Public Works AFSCME local 1801 contract. Carried 5-0.

4) Selectman Roy made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin to allow the Public Works Director to advertise for a truck driver/laborer. Carried 5-0.

5) Selectman Gagnon made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin to hire Jack Gasdia to work over Christmas break to update all voters in ElectionNet to reflect their proper wards determined by street, at a rate of \$13.00 per hour without benefits. Carried 5-0.

6) Selectman Gagnon made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to reclassify the position of Chief Assessor as a non-union Department Head position and to set the salary for the position at \$107,306 per year. Carried 5-0.

7) Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Gagnon to approve the Tentative Agreement with the Hudson Support Staff Union, AFSCME Local 1801 for a successor contract. Carried 5-0.

8) Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd to forward Warrant Article O for the Hudson Support Staff Union, AFSCME Local 1801 contract to the FY2023 Warrant. Carried 5-0.

9) Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to adjourn at 10:21p.m. Carried 5-0.

B. Traffic Impact Assessment

The Chairman recognized Town Planner, Brian Groth and NRPC Executive Director, Jay Minkarah. The Town Planner said yes, Jay Minkarah and Greg Lantos. The Town Administrator added Mr. Lantos works with Mr. Minkarah on traffic. Mr. Minkarah started off by saying, good evening everyone. Thanks for having us come. It's good to be here again. I think I'll maybe kind of kick off. We've had a chance to talk to Brian. I think we have, we think we have a sense, of what it is that you might be looking for. So what I thought I would do is I'd kind of assess that, talk about that a little bit and talk our existing traffic model. I have Greg our principal transportation planner here with us. Greg is the one who really knows what he's talking about. I'll just kind of fumble along and he'll jump in and correct me. I'll probably ask in a moment to explain a little bit more what we've got.

Mr. Minkarah went on to say, so if I understand correctly what I think the Town is looking for as a way to assess the impact of individual developments. As it's at least been described to me you have a development come along. It's pending before the Planning Board. They do a traffic impact study that's really isolated to that particular development without looking kind of comprehensively at how all of these developments affect traffic in Town. So that was kind of my assessment but you know, please, anybody jump in at any point. So in talking with Brian and kind of obviously having some awareness of the things that are happening in the Town, we weren't sure that everybody realized that we have a regional traffic model that we currently maintain that looks at the town pretty comprehensively. I'm going to turn to Greg in a minute to explain it a little bit better. But essentially we divide, the Town of Hudson is divided into several, I don't know how many TAZ's? Mr. Lantos replied too many. We have 2,000 throughout our region so it's a couple hundred. A few hundred. Mr. Minkarah then said so basically what that means is we divide up the Town into pretty small, we call transportation analysis zones or TAZ's. We work with obviously the assessing data, land use data, town planners, to input into that model all the existing land use information that's out there now. And then again, kind of looking at the master plan, working with town planners we attempt to, looking at underlying zoning, look at how the rest of the land that isn't developed will be developed over time. So basically in each of these areas we're assigning the land use. We also have detailed employment data so we input that employment data and then based on that we are able to estimate, to model the traffic that's generated in each of these areas. That's something that we can update as a proposed development comes along that could be inputted into that system to see what that impact would be.

So you probably have some questions. But I know that I didn't explain this as adequately. Greg is really pretty adequate. Mr. Lantos then said but before we get into the vagaries of a model, I wanted to get an understanding of the overall study that you want to conduct because I was under the impression that you wanted a true town wide transportation study that first we update existing conditions at all of your key intersections on state highways and maybe other key arterials in town, so

that a lot of legwork needs to be done to go out, morning, afternoon, peak hours do the counts. Then we evaluate what's going on at the intersections through highway capacity analysis. You've all seen results of those done by traffic impact studies, and that will give us a look at existing conditions. And in addition to the intersections, we look at the arterial links between intersections see, are they able to accommodate the traffic? So we really need to do a thorough update on the intersections because we've done a few for CMAC projects and some other things recently. I know we did a number of new traffic reporter counts, which are the daily counts on highway lengths for the master plan update a couple of years ago. But we probably would want to redo all of those because, you know, we're going through the COVID thing now that has obviously impacted traffic, even as we come up two years later. You know, we're not down 30 40% as we were at the beginning, but you know, there's a range of what's been in decline. We have just a couple of permanent. But we have three permanent count stations in our region. Two are on the turnpike and then the other one is up the Bedford Merrimack line on US 3. And that one is probably more indicative of what's going on throughout the region on at great arterials, and they're still down five to six percent from, you know, comparing the same month from two years ago. So we would probably want to redo all of those and do the intersection counts and apply the capacity analysis that would give us a true indication of existing conditions. Then at that point, we're looking at applying the traffic model now, I think for Hudson. I believe that we're up to date in terms of the projected land use, but certainly any changes that you have. I know we ran the model a couple of years ago for the master plan to develop 2045 traffic forecasts. We've also used it for the Hudson Boulevard project to evaluate those impacts. But you know, we should be incorporating any further changes in land use that you think might be out there. One of the interesting things I found in Hudson is the disparity between the population growth and the level of employment growth for the town. It's very one sided in favor of a lot of employment and not a lot of new housing. So obviously any trips have to be accommodated somewhere, not necessarily within the region. Mr. Lantos went on to say, but if you're going to have all these new jobs, people have to live somewhere. And I'm, you know, that's one of the things we probably should have a discussion about at some point to determine, you know, is your housing unit forecasts, your population forecasts where it should be or we need to be looking at that as well. So we will run the model for the future here, and that gives us what we call the no build forecast. That's we will code in all projects regionally that we have a high confidence will be built. They're in our transportation plan. They may be in the tip. So in Hudson, we have, for example, the CNAC project on 3A so that's a future project that's gets put in, and then we run what we call the no build forecast under the committed Future Highway Network and we go back and redo the intersection analysis. This is where a lot of manual work gets done to incorporate changes and link volumes to intersections. It's always a mixture between science and art, maybe more so the latter. And we will run that through our highway capacity analysis software again and tell you what your future problems are anticipated to be. And then at that point, we can talk about mitigation strategies and potential improvements and do modeling of improvements in isolation or taken as a whole.

Mr. Minkarah then said, so Greg used a lot of transportation terminology there, so please feel free to jump in with any questions, if any of that wasn't. Mr. Lantos said I wouldn't have deliberately used any terminology that I don't think you've heard before. I think you've heard most of these things. Selectman Roy was recognized and said Does that those studies project both commercial and residential traffic, and is it differentiated? When we look at the study, we will be able to see that if we do this project, this commercial traffic will increase that kind of thing? Mr. Lantos replied saying yeah and I could get a little bit into the technicalities of it. So there's two ends to every trip and we call, you know, one end the production end or the other end the attraction end. To overly simplify, generally speaking, the housing units or the production and then the commercial, industrial, retail, school, whatever complexes those are, the attraction ends. So yes, as you increase one or the other, you're going to be increasing the number of trips to and from a zone. And if you're increasing both of them in the zone, then it just doubles your increase. Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said two questions for you. One, not to get too far into this, but from my own understanding of what you're offering today, if you guys seem to have a good understanding of what we're asking for. What was the difference between you guys doing the study for a specific project, the HLC versus what you can offer for this study? How do those studies differ? Does that makes sense? I mean, am I? Mr. Lantos

replied, the study for? Selectman Gagnon said so I believe when the HLC came in, Selectman Roy clarified saying Hudson Logistics Center. Selectman Gagnon continued saying you guys helped us to do you guys did a traffic study on that project, correct? Mr. Lantos replied that was a specific project that we looked at that was very focused on one area as opposed to looking at what's going to be the impact of town wide growth. Selectman Gagnon replied Ok. Can you give me a couple more examples of why this study will be different? What are the other variables that will be added to this study? I mean, obviously growth other projects. But are there different algorithms or math or things that you look for town wide versus when you're just doing it for a project? Well, this one really does employ the regional model to look at the entire growth that's going on with the region. With the logistics center, we were really evaluating a traffic study that had been done that was basically based on manual generation using the ITE trip rates and distribution patterns, and we evaluated the results of that as opposed to using our model to run a comprehensive study of future traffic growth. I was really looking at something, you know, specific area and, you know, a specific point in time, which is the present not to look at, you know, the overall growth that's going to be occurring down the road. All right. Thank you. And one last question for you. You did note upon, you know, the pandemic and obviously we've seen traffic changes due to the way life has shifted in the last while it's been two years now and it could be keep going. Could you do, you know that that seems to really throw off and that's a crazy variable that can throw off everything and it could go back to where it was? Is there a way you could do a traffic study and look at the traffic data from 2019 before the pandemic and see a pattern of growth? Two three percent. Can you just do a straight line and extend that growth as if the pandemic didn't exist and then provide a traffic study just to kind of get rid of that pandemic variable? That's going to throw everything off and be really right that that can be done very easily. Mr. Lantos replied saying, it has really nothing to do with the traffic model because that was actually calibrated before the pandemic, and it's based on the traffic counts that were basically at the peak 2019 and all that we're talking about, whether we were to go based on the new baseline after COVID, we would just be using more recent counts. We can actually do it both ways. We can give you a range, one that assumes whatever counts are conducted in 2022. This is the new baseline to move from, or we can go back because we have all those counts that we did just a couple of years ago in town, and that would be one of the first things we look at just for the existing conditions analysis, really what has been the change and we may find that, you know, as we move into the spring months, maybe there's not that big of a difference. We really don't know that much. You know, we're just now in our, we've completed our second year of COVID counts. We know that 2020 was a complete washout. 2021 we start to see some recovery around the region, but it's really those permanent count stations where I really get the month to month changes on a regular basis. And unfortunately, we don't have enough of those. And one of them seems to have broken down. The one on the turnpike between exits five and six was not giving data there during September October. Mr. Minkarah then said and if I could add, Selectman Gagnon, to your point we are seeing because of the uncertainty around what the impacts of COVID are long term, we're seeing this more. For example, the MBTA is doing those kind of low end projection, medium projection and high because we do need to look at what those variables might be. Selectman Gagnon responded saying, okay. Thank you, sir. Thank you, Madam Chair.

Mr. Minkarah then said so I think I'll just add that, you know, this is of interest and this is something that we'd be happy to move forward with and, you know, we could certainly coordinate with your staff on the logistics.

Selectman Roy then said, I actually do have a question. Is it your opinion that this is something we should do at regular intervals like, say, every three years, five years? Or is it something that we should just do? Mr. Minkarah replied, I'll ask Greg to comment on that also, but I think looking at this on regular intervals does make sense, particularly when you're coming out of a period, whether you've had some very, very significant changes to land use, at least proposed. Mr. Lantos then said, to a large extent it is done every four years when we update the Metropolitan Transportation Plan, which is a regional look at traffic, not to the level where we're doing umpteen intersections in each town the way we will do for Hudson. But we're using the traffic model to project future growth and

basic arterial level of service. Know the grades this line to the level of congestion for major highways. So we do it on a regular basis. As far as how often should the study such we're talking about now being done, I would say no more than every 10 years because it is a long range forecast. And unless you have some dramatic change in what you're expecting the future growth to be, then I think the forecast would be pretty solid for a number of years.

Selectman Roy then said do we need to make a motion or anything to start that or did we already do? The Town Administrator said I thought you already did. Ok. Ok. They'll get something in front of you.

9. NEW BUSINESS

A. Zoning Board of Adjustment Appeal - 7 Lindsay Street

The Town Administrator was recognized and said you have correspondence from FFC Engineering. I'm not sure if they're here or someone's here representing. They're basically putting in a request to consider a proposed law access for 8 Lindsay Street. They're basically looking at Board of Selectmen input for two options to provide access to a new lot that's presented there. One was to build a road to town standards, the other is a town release of the right away and construct a driveway. I know we've had some conversations. I don't know if anybody's here to represent or anybody wants to add anything to that. The Town Administrator said so the Board has your packet, the packet that was presented to us, if there's any information you want to give to the Board or provide any other input to the Board. Ok, thank you. For the record, my name is Pat Panciocco. I represent Michael Kass and I'm a pinch hitter tonight. So bear with me. Dan Flores was going to do this presentation, but he's not feeling too well tonight. So you have me. Following his presentation, the best way to understand what we're asking the Board is to look at the map, the overview in your package. That looks like this. It's a printout from the GIS mapping system. And it shows Grigas Street and it shows Saint John Street now just in the corner there you see a little right of way going into what Dan has labeled the subject lot. That little stub of a road is the area in question. Now, there were several plans recorded for this project. The first one was in 1957. It laid out the lots generally in the area and in 1964, and all these plans are included in your packet. The first one was numbered 1667. It looks very different than the overview photo that we have of the current condition. The second one was in 1964 and it shows Grigas Street going into the area is a duck line on either side, where it says Grigas Street goes into the back land. Now in 1977, there was a warrant article on the Town Warrant in the Town voted to accept Grigas Street. At that time, it presumably was all built in. The lots were occupied, but the little right of way was not built based upon what we can see now on your GIS mapping. So the question that came to mind when we read the warrant article was what exactly did the Town accept? Did they accept Grigas as laid out or did they accept Grigas as it was built? The right of way was not built. And I believe you've gotten an opinion from your counsel that his opinion was that the right of way layout had lapsed. And I concur with that. I do not disagree. But then you had two plans that followed another one in 1979 and another one in 1980, and they showed the same right away at the end of Grigas Street. That still is not built, but it's shown on these plans and under the law that was in effect in at the time this plan was recorded leaves that dedication of that right away open. So I believe the position you've been given is that it's lapsed. It wasn't accepted. And the other option is the dedication is open in a formal release under 231-52 to be provided. But the question is which position you'd like to take, because that makes a difference when a presentation is made before the Zoning Board of Adjustment simply because they want to know who owns that land we're going to cross over to enter into that lot, if the variance is granted. So that's why we're here is to see which position the Board wishes to take. I would presume you would follow advice of counsel, but I don't want to just presume that blindly without asking.

Chairman McGrath asked, anyone have any questions, comments? Selectman Roy was recognized and said Yeah, I would agree with counsel that we are going to follow the advice of counsel. I mean, I'm saying that, but you know that..Chairman McGrath said that makes sense because we certainly don't want to go against our counsel's advice. Ms. Paniciocco replied saying I wish all boards were like that. So the question I would have for you then, if indeed the position is that the Town has no interest in preserving public rights in that dedicated way, would the Town accept a petition? It's a one page petition under 231-52, presented to you for consideration for approval to confirm that decision. I know there's a difference of opinion and you may want to speak with your counsel again about this. In some towns, they want you to run off to the courthouse and file a complaint, but that requires you name the town and everybody living in the neighborhood. Many towns, when I've had these in other towns, they've gotten pretty upset with me when they get served by the sheriff. They wanted to do the release under 231-52 to confirm their position. So I thought what I would do is present that to you and you can speak with the Town Attorney about that and he can let me know, or you can let me know which way you would go. Because the clarity one would get from a formal vote in the form of a document that could be recorded goes a long way towards preserving those excess rights for somebody who may live there someday in the future. The Town Administrator then said so you would provide us with something we would go to our counsel and provide you with a Response to that. I'm sure he's familiar with that statute or think you're here, aren't you?

Town Attorney, David Lefevre then said if you don't mind hearing from me. I believe my assessment is that the unbuilt portion of Grigas Street, which I call Grigas Street extension as the dedication to public use has lapsed by operation of law. And what that means in practical terms is there's nothing that the Board of Selectmen can do about it, even if they wanted to, because that dedication has lapsed. So if I'm understanding Attorney Panciocco, she's asking the board to undertake some action to release the dedication of the public servitude. And by my understanding, there's no public servitude for the Selectmen to release because that public servitude dedication has lapsed by operation of law. So that's my assessment. I'm glad to hear from Attorney Panciocco if she wants to convince me to that I'm wrong. But as we sit here today, that I think is my assessment. And if the Selectmen agree with me that that would be the Town's position.

Atty. Panciocco then said to respond to your question, David, I'm looking for a confirmation in some fashion or form that I can record with a deed or a vote, a formal vote that perhaps it's lapsed and there are no public rights left in that little area of that road. That's really all I'm looking for, and I'm happy to follow whatever suggested procedure. Attorney Lefevre may wish to suggest I'm trying to confirm a clear title just for real estate title purposes.

Selectman Roy was recognized and said so that would might be my question to you, Dave, is how would they get clear title? If you know, I guess who owns it now becomes a question and then?

Atty. Lefevre then said so the question of who owns the underlying fee interest in the area, that's not something the town can decide. The only thing that the Town can decide is whether or not there is from our perspective, from the Town's perspective, whether or not there's a road here that you can accept or not accept. And so, you know, again, my view of this situation is that the public servitude is lapsed and there's nothing for you to decide. You know, certainly, you know, if you want to memorialize that view in the meeting minutes here, you're going to have meeting minutes of this meeting if the Board agrees with my assessment. I don't know if that gets attorney Panciocco where she wants to be, but I don't think you can vote to release something that you don't have the right to accept, even if you wanted to.

Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said may I make a potential motion just to have Mr. Lefevre write a statement as he has spoken out loud tonight in an official letterhead, and that we vote to send that letter to these individuals for their record? I mean, that's not taking any action, but it's getting something documented, officially voted on and provided to you. Ms. Panciocco said that would be perfect. Atty. Lefevre then said can we do that? Can we even expedite it for the applicant's sake?

Which is to say that I will put a letter together to attorney Panciocco that says what I've said tonight, which is that it's the Town's position that the public service to the unbuilt portion of Grigas Street, public servitude has lapsed by operation of law. And there's no longer any dedicated way there. I don't have to come back to the Board and ask you to approve that.

Selectman Morin asked if Atty. Lefevre should come up to the table and repeat his statement so that the microphone catches it to record it better. Atty. Lefevre laughed and said I've never been accused of not being able to be heard. What I proposed to do for it to expedite this and for the benefit of the applicant is I will prepare a letter on my firm's letterhead that articulates the position of the Town with regard to the Grigas Street extension, which is that from the Town's perspective, the public servitude has lapsed by operation of law and therefore there's no longer any dedicated public way there. And we're talking specifically about the unbuilt portion of Grigas Street, which is this on the plans, which is this, call it a little panhandle. To the Board's permission I'll just do that. And that way, we don't need to bother the Board and we have the meeting minutes here, which is the record of this meeting. And then the applicant can have a letter. For me, that says that, and to be clear, we're not we're not opining as to any private property rights here. This is merely the municipality's interest in the area of the Grigas Street extension.

Chairman McGrath asked so do you want to refer to plan 13558 dated 1980? That's what I've got in front of me, and that's what I was referring to. Yeah. So that that portion of previous street Grigas Street extension, as shown on that plan 13558 As far as the town is concerned, there is no longer any public servitude.

Selectman Gagnon made this motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd. Carried 5-0.

Atty. Lefevre followed up saying I'll make sure a copy of that letter goes to the Town Administrator so the Town has a copy of it.

B. Public Hearing - Warrant Article 1 - Bond the Police Facility Expansion and Renovation

The Town Administrator was recognized and said this is a Bond article. The Board of Selectmen are required to have a public hearing Vis a Vis the bond for the actual project. Just some way of background, would be proposed at this point in time for a 20 year bond. The actual principle is \$5,928,980 dollar's worth of bonds. That's what the Board agreed to on warrant article. You're looking at a 20 year bond with interest rates currently at about 2.5%, which means in the end, if this passed would be approximately \$7,553,816 dollars for the principal and interest for the project. Just some other information. The Town equalized valuation in 2020 was \$3,000,975 and change. We have a 3% debt limit, which would equal \$119,000,000. We are at outstanding debt of \$7.9 million, so we still have available debt limit of \$111,000,000 dollars for the Town of Hudson. Just to put it into perspective, this is in your packets. We have the capacity, the ability to carry this, this type of debt. So I just wanted to put that out there. That's typically what folks might ask at the bond hearing. So I'm putting that information out. So you're required to have a hearing. If anybody has any comments questions, you take that close to hearing and then we move on.

Chairman McGrath opened the public hearing at 8:27pm and asked is there anyone present to speak on this matter? Seeing no on in the audience the Town Administrator said I had someone send documentation. I told her I would read it into the record if that's acceptable to everybody. So we received the following correspondence "Good day all. I'm sending this email because I cannot attend tomorrow night's meeting concerning the public hearing bond for our police station. I'm requesting each and every selectmen support this completely. I contend we have the finest police department in the state, perhaps the country. We as a Town need to provide them with an adequate police station. The renovations that are proposed in this bond are critical for us to care for our police office and their support civilian team. I urge you all to do so. I'm also requesting reply email from each Board member, so I am sure you receive my correspondence to each of you in support of this bond and

thank you. Janie Delano, 1 Blueberry Lane.” The Town Administrator then said that was the only correspondence or any documentation I received for the bond hearing. I just want to make sure it was in the record.

Chairman McGrath then said that was nice. Okay, so I've already opened the public hearing, so no one got up to speak. I'll close the public hearing at 8:28pm. The Town Administrator then said no other action is needed. It's simply you had to have the hearing. This has been forwarded to the warrant, obviously, but you just are required by statute to hold that hearing.

Selectman Roy then said Madam Chair, if I could just comment. You know, I know I've said it before, but I don't think we can say it enough that this is an absolute need for the for the operation of police department to continue at the level it is at. There's no kind of fluff in any of this. It's what they need. If you've been to the police station, you see seen what those conditions look like. You would understand that. If you haven't, I suggest that you try that because, you know, I think this is year number three?

The Town Administrator confirmed that saying, this will be the third year, I believe. Selectman Roy went on to say and it's an issue that's not going to resolve itself. So I just think that we should get this done and we can have continue to have a highly functioning police department. The Town Administrator added the price continues to go up. Fortunately, we are in a relatively low interest environment still, but I don't think that's going to last forever. So from a bond perspective, this is about as good as it's going to get.

Selectman Guessferd then said yes, I've heard recently that interest rates are projected to be increased by the Fed a few times in the next 12 months. So this is this is the time to do this. It probably is way past the time to do this. I will concur with Selectman Roy on that on that point.

Chairman McGrath then said, I've already made my thoughts about the police department, the police station, the police chief, his successor. I don't think I could say any more without really being overly redundant, so I support everything that they want. And there's a time that I couldn't have said that. Captain Cayot was in the audience and was recognized and asked, can I make a comment, to which the Chairman replied, yes, of course you can. Cpt. Cayot then said, I just wanted to let everybody know that we will actually be holding an open house on January 27th from 6:00-8:00pm at the police department, so anyone from the Town is more than welcome to come and see the facilities and see why we're requesting this and what the needs are of the police station. Chairman McGrath replied, thank you. Thanks very much. Hopefully, you'll get a good turnout.

C. HFD - Dept. of Justice/DEA Grant Acceptance

Cpt. Cayot was recognized and said so a couple of months ago, we had put in for a grant. It's the domestic cannabis eradication and suppression program grant from the Department of Justice and the Drug Enforcement Agency. They reviewed our application. They agreed to give us the grant and they approved us for the amount of \$15,000. So I'm here just requesting your approval to accept that \$15,000 grant from the DEA. Chairman McGrath replied, very nice. And my vote would be yes.

Selectman Roy was recognized and she said so I think we're well past the time where marijuana cannabis should be legalized. I think that the state of New Hampshire is leaving a lot of revenue on the table. I looked at some statistics since legalization. Massachusetts has realized \$81,734,083. Maine has realized \$50,685,850. Vermont has an anticipated revenue of \$27.3 million dollars. And if New Hampshire were to legalize, they would have an anticipated revenue of \$40,163,575. So I just can't support that. Cpt. Cayot asked may I make a comment on that. To which Selectman Roy replied, you certainly can. Cpt. Cayot then said so first off, obviously, we're not here to discuss the

legalization of marijuana in the State of New Hampshire, but we are looking to go after the illegal cultivation of marijuana. So even if marijuana was legal in some of the shops that are here in the State of New Hampshire that marijuana is taxed. We're looking to go after marijuana that is illegally coming into the state and being grown in this state, which wouldn't be providing any revenue to the state, whether it was legal or not. We are looking to go after that illegal marijuana is being grown by different organizations that are bringing it into this Town. And along with that comes a lot of different criminal activity, as well as other drugs that are being brought in with this marijuana. Chairman McGrath then said the fentanyl being one of them. Cpt. Cayot replied, yes, we have had some marijuana that we've actually found that's laced with fentanyl and some other illicit drugs as well.

Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said and you know, this is an interesting topic. I work in regulatory for Merck. And so I actually work with regulatory colleagues dedicated to researching cannabis and legalization in the states that are there. I had a quick conversation with them after I read this article and talking with what they've been doing, what the country's been doing, where the regulations are going. They provided me some actually some really interesting information, even a website dedicated to people like us legislators that need help in organizing a regulatory structure in anticipation of it being legal. And so in support of what Mrs. Roy has said, you know, I would like to see more proactive actions to see what can be done to prepare for legalization because it's only in due time. New Hampshire is one of only 13 states across the country that isn't. And I know, as you said, it's a fair point. We're not here to discuss that tonight, and I agree with that point. But I just don't find it valid to continue to put funds towards trying to stop the activities and so forth. When I think it's probably better off that we prepare to regulate it properly. So when it does, click that bell we're ready to handle it properly could be a naive point of view. But I guess that's kind of where I stand tonight. Cpt. Cayot replied saying, okay just to address that, please. So obviously, I've been in my position for about two years. I've been tasked with helping start and run our Narcotics Investigation Unit. Now I can tell you from all the investigations we've run without getting into too much detail, almost every single time we locate illicit drugs. So whether we're talking about methamphetamine, fentanyl, heroin, cocaine, any of those guess what's coming along with those, with this illicit drug trade, is marijuana. We are finding this marijuana. We're finding some of these people who are growing Marijuana are also bringing methamphetamine into our Town and running counter operations at the same time. So I think if we didn't accept this grant while it's a Marijuana grant and that is what it's meant for and that is what we're looking for. Along with those investigations comes all the other stuff that this town has asked us to stop coming into this town and that we've been tasked with. So I would think that it would be, in my opinion and no offense by this, it would be shortsighted to think, hey, everyone's legalizing marijuana. Let's not look at this and forget about all the other stuff that comes with that.

Selectman Morin was recognized and said and I was going to say what the Captain just said and I can tell you through experience in my dealings when I was a firefighter what I dealt with drugs and things like that, and I think that the comments over there, I understand where you're coming, but the state does not legalize it. So right now it is still against the law, whether you like it or not. And we're losing lives every single day, including in this Town, which includes the illicit drugs and the marijuana and things like that. I think we need to enforce this. It's very important because we're losing our own residents, our kids, it's in our schools. We need to take care of this. And just because we're making a lot of money in other states doesn't mean we should let it go.

Selectman Guessferd was recognized and said thank you, Madam Chair. I have different thoughts on this, but I think, you know, for me, it comes down to the similarity with Selectman Morin has said in terms of the legality. I agree that and it's only \$15,000. We're not talking about a million dollar grant. We're talking about \$15,000 that can go toward taking care of hopefully getting some impact to those that are that are distributing illegally. The fact is, it is illegal in this state. I know we're the only state we're surrounded by states that that all legalized it. But we have to we have to enforce the law, help to enforce the law. That's what these guys are trying to do. And I do agree with Selectman Gagnon that we also do need to have some level of understanding that when at some point, because I think it's a when, not an if the law changes at some point that we'd be prepared as a state to do that.

However, in the end, I do support this. I will be voting to accept it because of the fact it's a simple fact that it's currently illegal in our state and they're tasked to do it so \$15,000, I'm okay with that.

Cpt. Cayot then said if I can make just two points on what you said as well. First of all, even if it was legalized in the State of New Hampshire, which I know it currently isn't, this is still something that the state would be looking for us to do because we're stopping the illicit part of it, not the legalized part of the marijuana distribution. And second of all, I would refer you to the second page. I don't want anyone to think that this is a grant for us to go after, you know, their parent or someone who's sitting in their house smoking marijuana. That's not what this grant is intended for. It is intended for people who are cultivating in these different, as it even says right here, transnational organized crime syndicates that are bringing marijuana and cultivating marijuana in our Town, which comes with all those other things that I discussed earlier.

Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said thank you for that. And I am kind of torn on this, honestly, because the legal aspect of it, but two questions to help me understand where I want to vote tonight. So let's say you take this grant money and let's say tomorrow the law changes. Do you have to refund that grant money because the law no longer exists in this effort is no longer. Cpt. Cayot replied, no, because it will still be illegal for people to keep growing the marijuana that they don't have the licenses for, and it's not approved by the state and it's not getting paid taxes paid on it. Selectman Roy then said the other issue is its federal money. And even though it would be legalized sort of to get a little more complicated, even though it would be legalized in the state, it wouldn't be legalized federally unless the federal law changed.

Selectman Gagnon replied, Ok. Thank you for that. And the only other question I had with that would be, are there any other grants? I mean, I'm not exactly in agreement with following with weed comes heroin and that kind of stuff. But to that point, do you have any other grants that go after those really hard drugs that do cause deaths and cause serious problem? I mean, they're funding from other places for that? Cpt. Cayot replied, there is other funding and we are currently involved in one with Nashua. I don't know if you've been watching the news, but Granite Shield, there was recently several arrests that we were involved with Nashua PD, making several drug arrests. I think they put six of them out there in the newspaper the other day that we made last week. Selectman Gagnon replied, excellent. Okay. Thank you for that. That's all.

Selectman Roy was recognized and asked is there any money for prevention? Cpt. Cayot replied there is money out there. Obviously, this grant isn't for the prevention we would have to look in. Obviously apply for those grants as we found them.

Selectman Roy then said but you haven't looked yet? Cpt. Cayot replied, into that? Not specifically, no. Selectman Morin then said but I don't know if that's their job. Their job is to enforce the laws. We have other agencies that do prevention stuff that we could do through Town that should be looking at that. Selectman Roy replied to Selectman Morin saying like who? Like who? Selectman Morin replied, I said in Town. I didn't say as the Town of Hudson. Cpt. Cayot then said, Selectman Roy, if I can address it, though, we've put on several educational programs and we'd be more than willing to do that. In fact, the goals that you receive from us, they were in the year plan that the Chief had submitted to you actually shows that one of our goals is education of the public on the different drug issues that are in Town.

Chairman McGrath asked, any other questions? Anyone willing to make a motion? Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin to authorize the Hudson Police Department to accept the Domestic Cannabis Eradication/Suppression Program (DCE/SP) grant which was awarded by the US Department of Justice and the Drug Enforcement Administration in the amount of \$15,000. Carried 3-2 with Selectmen Roy and Gagnon opposed.

D. COVID Update

Chairman McGrath recognized Chief Buxton for a COVID update. Chief Buxton began by saying Madam Chair, members of the Board, I apologize, I'm third in line after traffic and marijuana. So keep the good times rolling, but wanted to provide you an update on COVID19. So currently Hudson, I'm going to speak specifically to Hudson this evening, OK? Hudson has seen the greatest surge that we have had in the last two and a half years since the start of COVID now. Ok, so currently tonight we have 363 active cases of COVID within the community. Our community transmission across the state is 21.2%. Hospitalizations, which are really one of the things that I key in on each day, and I'll get into that in a couple of minutes, are 236 within our geographic area that we're grouped in, which is the 93 corridor and there's 389 COVID cases in hospital. Today it was announced that the Omicron variant is the number one variant within the state. We were the last state to fall within New England regarding the Omicron variant up until even as late as Monday. They were still projecting Delta to be the leading variant in the state, and Omicron has taken that spot within the last couple of days. I'm here to tell you that the system is strained. I attend now a weekly call with the hospitals out of the Nashua area, and both facilities have extended their ICU areas and continue to be strained census wise with COVID patients and regular hospitalizations. Overwhelmingly, the percentage of unvaccinated people that end up in the ICU is still the overwhelming surge. So about 70 to 80 percent of the folks within the ICU are still unvaccinated, folks. So that leads you down the path regarding vaccination. I provided you with some data that we've been kind of tracking, you know, this fall we started having conversation regarding, you know, where was the Delta variant and how were we looking? So I gave you some data starting in October as you watch the pendulum swing through the holiday season and as we are here today. So, you know, really the transmissibility of the Omicron variant is like three times that what the Delta variant was. So it is extremely contagious. As I stated before, our hospital system is at critical point and we continue to support our employees. And, you know, if they're not feeling well, we ask them to stay home. Quite simply, we still continue with masking. We still working on education of employees within the workplace.

Chief Buxton continued saying, the biggest document in front of you this evening is the new isolation and quarantine requirement from the CDC. So there's a lot of difference to this to this guidance back where they were from. If you recall, the last time we discussed isolation, it's around 10 days. The CDC has come out with a new recommendation this evening that basically says they're willing to go to five days, and there's a couple of different reasons for that. One, as much as the transmissibility of Omicron has increased, it is also a weaker strain, so it is lasting longer once it gets within the system. So basically, what they're saying is that if you've tested positive or if you're experiencing symptoms that you would isolate at home for a period of five days and you would go through your isolation over the five day period. If you continue to be fever free at the end of the five day period and your symptoms have started to reduce that, you would wear a well-fitting mask within the workplace and you would be able to come back to the workplace. There is also a recommendation in there that a recommendation, not a requirement that you would that would recommend that you try to do a PCR exam to see if you're still testing positive or if your fallen off and you're now negative. But that is not a requirement. And continuing that, that's with folks that need to go into isolation. The unvaccinated folks that are in the household still continue to need to isolate and quarantine, but that is also been reduced to five days. And they're asking them again with the five day window to move towards masking. So this is the new, new guidance that is out in front of you this evening. I would tell you that over the last holiday season, staff in Town certainly has seen some transmissibility. Better than 90% of it is exterior to the work. I talked with the Police Chief today, and of the four folks that were in quarantine over the holiday period up at HPD, all of those were exterior transmissions and not within the workplace. The Fire Department has had a couple of exposures within the workplace, and that was one from inside a cab of a truck and another working within a dispatch center. So we continue to support masking and we've actually up some of our masking requirements within the Fire Department. All of the all of the areas in the different Town departments have not exceeded what I

would consider to be. Steve asked me this the other day. What do you think would be a critical mass for a different division? And the line that I kind of drew in the sand was 25% of the workforce within the division. So nobody's reached that number yet. So every department seems to be managing that very well. Folks are taking their quarantine and isolation seriously, and they're coming back when they're healthy. So that's important to highlight.

Chief Buxton then said so the biggest question is, you know, are we willing to adopt the new the new CDC guidance? That's the first question this evening. And are there any other mitigation efforts that you folks feel that we should consider? We are at the highest number of active cases in the community that we've been at ever. You know, I did say to Steve the other day because of the cleaning activities and the amount of workload that goes into some of this, that maybe there may need to be some consideration regarding non-statutory work. So some of those non-statutory committees. Is it time to ask them to recess for a six week period and reevaluate it come the beginning of March and see where that work goes? Is that something the Board has interested in? That's not my call. That's your call. It's my job to give you suggestions. But you know, is that where we're at?

Selectman Roy said Ok, I just have a question about masks. So there's been a lot of chatter about masks and what kind of masks. And is that something we should consider upgrading the masks that we give to our employees other than the first responders?

Chief Buxton replied saying Yeah. So a couple of points to masking within the workplace. We're asking employees when they come into and I'm going to use this building is proper because public safety has been outfitted with N95 masks as a requirement of protocol and Fire Department, and the Police Department has that. The bulk of Public Works, you're a single source. If you're on a plow truck, you're kind of by yourself. We don't have two person plow trucks for the most part anymore. I know they have some collateral work when it's not snowing that they may do as a group. When you come into this facility and proper, we have spent all the CARES Act money separating workspace. So providing six feet of separation and that exposure time within the hallways or getting in or out of the building is limited to that walking across the space. So I think the masking that the Town is providing at this point is reasonable. As employees come into the workspace and go out of the workspace, I know that there's a lot of employees that spend a lot of time moving around the building. We certainly can offer some increased masking capability and move up to a KN95 mask like you're wearing or I'm wearing this evening. that that's not a we can probably supply a few boxes of those, but the average person coming in and out of the building, making their way from one department to another, the surgical mask is something to provide some separation because we're hoping that the bulk of the people that are walking around the building have, you know, separation potentially have some vaccination on board and masking. So you're looking at three layer response there.

Chairman McGrath asked Selectman Roy, are you done? She then asked, anybody else?

Selectman Morin was recognized and said you said we should suspend some of the meetings, is that so I understand correctly? Chief Buxton responded, saying my recommendation would be that you give consideration to reassessing some of the non-statutory work. I don't think that there's any reason for you have discussion about any of the statutory stuff, but the non-statutory stuff is where Steve and I went in our discussion the other day. The Town Administrator said things like Sustainability, Recreation, you know, HCTV, Benson Park, you know, if we can mitigate or defer or have them not meet for six weeks just gives us a chance to keep things cleaner. There's less exposure for some people. Not trying to stop the business of government. ZBA, Budget Committee, Planning, Board of Selectmen, that's not what we're talking. We all know what we're talking, and we thought it might be something the Board might want to consider for and not an indefinite period. Let's see where we are in a month, six weeks.

Selectman Morin was again recognized and said so if we're at that point, chief, should we go back to the Community Center also for everything? Chief Buxton replied, that may be some consideration that you want to take. I would tell you that that's probably a more in depth conversation with the director from HCTV is that is a very labor intensive process for them. Selectman Morin replied, no,

no. And I understand, I understand that. But if we're going to suspend some of the committees because we're concerned about close areas, that these committees that we have to keep going should be spread out more.

Selectman Roy said so just kind of to put in to add to that discussion, where is the Rec Department? Are they running programs there? Because that would play into the ability to have to set up and do all of those things. Chief Buxton replied and I don't have that answer with me this evening. Selectman Morin added, there's still stuff going on there. Selectman Roy replied saying right. So I just think that we need if we're going to do something like that, we need to take all of that into consideration.

The Town Administrator then said so things we anticipate, such as the Planning Board. We know the budget hearing. Those events are scheduled, with some shifting around for the Community Center. Typically, this meeting you had, you had some folks from the Police Department here. But typically I think we can handle this. It's more just a question of its back to back to back to back to back, which puts strain on our resources. It's not that we can't keep the facility clean, it's just back to back to back in this building. Having a meeting in this building, I would think by itself is OK. As long as you have a day or two between them and you typically do, it's when you have this committee on Monday and there's two rooms and you have this committee on Tuesday. You know, that's I think, more of a strain. Chief Buxton added, I agree.

Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said, so I generally agree that the one thing I will bring up is things like the Sustainability Committee. They are now on kind of a regional legislative body of sorts as CPNH. And so their work needs to continue. I don't think that by is going to stop. So I think a bigger discussion is needed before I would support a motion tonight. I certainly take everything what you say fully, but something like that I would say, why couldn't we just do Zoom meetings? Or if the participants wanted to get together on their own and produce their own minutes as legally required? Can we let them? The Town Administrator replied saying my understanding of the law and correct me if I'm wrong, but the emergency orders had expired. You have to have in-person meetings or at least a quorum of people. You can have someone remote and say there's a circumstance which always existed. That was always a possibility, was very, very infrequently utilized, but you can't have exclusively remote meetings. That's my understanding of the law. So any group that's meeting a public group and they are public groups, they're not elected, but you still appointed them. I'm not aware that going remote is an option for them. Chairman McGrath then said well not only that...Selectman Roy interjected saying fully remote, right like....the Town Administrator then said you can have, if you had a quorum in the room and two people couldn't make it, that's one thing. But if five or six or eight or everybody's on the committee say, yeah, we're going to do a remote. Chairman McGrath added and you can't do it and you can't have a meeting at someone's home. The Town Administrator replied no. So in deference to what you said, what you're talking about is a subcommittee of lesser people, not the same as the full committee of Sustainability. I'm not aware that the subcommittee couldn't, couldn't work like they normally work because I just haven't watched them do that. I'm not trying to shunt. I'm not trying to stop their efforts. What I'm saying is the Sustainability Committee as a whole probably could defer. No reason that subcommittee couldn't still work with each other. Selectman Gagnon then said Ok, I think that's what I was getting at as well. So I think that's a good that's a good compromise. The Town Administrator added that specifically and I say that specifically because they know that they're working with larger groups outside of here. Selectman Gagnon said that was my concern. The Town Administrator said but again, and this isn't to diminish anybody's efforts or anything else, it's just to try to give us an opportunity to make sure we have sufficient time between meetings so that we have the ability to keep it clean. Hopefully, tamp down whatever may be coming in. It doesn't mean that they're not worthwhile. It just means that we did it before. It's, you know, we're at the peak and maybe just give us a month. See where it goes.

Selectman Roy then said so I guess just to make it a little more concrete, are you looking at like the second February meeting that we review this? Chief Buxton replied I don't have any issue coming back, the second meeting in February for you guys to take consideration to bring them back or, you

know, my if you follow the cycle and doing a little bit of data watching around the world, Africa has had, you know, South Africa has had this Omicron virus come up and where they saw was like a four week peak and then it took about a three week downslide. So if you calculate some of that out starting at the holiday period with somewhere around the end of February, beginning of March. You know, when Steve and I had talked last week, we kind of said try to recommend a date that would fit the meeting schedule a little bit and kind of go from there. So that's the beginning of March came from. Gives you an opportunity to revisit in February, certainly willing to come back and move down that path if that's the will of the Board.

Chairman McGrath then said so Chief, I've got a question if you don't mind. Any ability for testing so that if some of the employees thought that they had been exposed and they wanted to get tested, is there any ability to accommodate that? Chief Buxton replied, correct. So the State of New Hampshire had set up a drive thru testing facility located over at St. Joseph's Hospital. They just recently have relocated that within this this week and has been relocated to the Crown Street commuter parking lot area, where the...Chairman McGrath interjected saying the train is going to be? Chief Buxton replied futuristically. So, yes, but yes, they're going to use that parking lot area. Yesterday that site was closed. It is my understanding from working with the Public Health Network that they're going to continue to keep that open. They're looking at the potential of a second testing site within the region, and then they're looking at a fixed site also to supply vaccination. So we continue to push all those efforts across the board, right. So you had the booster blitz times two and now they're looking at standing up an additional fixed site. They were trying to do vaccinations in the hospitals and testing in the hospital along with what was going on. And it's just its too critical of space to utilize for anything other than health care. So they pushed it out.

Selectman Gagnon was again recognized and said Selectman Morin, do you see any issue with this with regards to the Conservation Commission's non-public agendas? Would this affect their efforts? Selectman Morin was recognized and said no. After our meeting the other night, they're progressing the way they want to progress to move forward. Selectman Gagnon replied, ok, just checking. Thank you.

Selectman Roy was recognized and said so I think it's my last question, I guess, do you have any suggestions for increasing enforcement of mask wearing, of members of those committees that come into this building? Because I've watched meetings and there's people that simply refuse. Selectman Guessferd added, you're right. Chief Buxton replied saying, so I would tell you from the city of Nashua, to the City of Manchester to the State House. The enforcement of masking regulation within the building has been less than strong. I'm not going to use the word weak, but less than strong because we do live in New Hampshire and, you know, we have an ability to live free and die if you wish. And those types of things, and I don't say that to be funny. I say that in all reality, like you have choices here to live in the state and those are important liberties that we hold dear to us. I kind of and I'm going to use myself as an example here for a second. I take masking very seriously. I'm not wearing my mask now because I received the notation from the public that said, hey, it's hard to hear you through the mask when you're at the microphone over the television. I think it's important for my message to get out to you in the room, but to our to the taxpayers in the community, OK? But the reality, that's my choice. And we have masking required in the building. We say it's required. We encourage it. We have folks that I see them walking to meetings. And when they sit down, they take their mask off. And then there's a few folks that I know have asked for medical relief. And we've provided that because there are some folks that just can't wear a mask, especially when the meetings go several hours.

I look for compliance and the percentages, right? So if I go to a Planning Board meeting or a Budget Committee meeting, do we have a few people that haven't been wearing masks? Yes. Is that a concern? Yes, it is a concern. After I heard we had an exposure during one of our meetings, you know, but the reality is that those are their choices. They're not moving around the room that within their space that's been allotted to them. And that's kind of where I hold that line. If I saw them, a whole host of them walking around town hall, I might ask them to put a mask on, you know, quietly

ask them to put a mask on and if they chose not to that would be a an enforcement issue that is not within my power as the public health officer. At this point, we are no longer under the state of emergency. So a lot of that stuff went away, and that is not an ordinance that we have in the Town either. So from a legality standpoint, for law enforcement, there's no ability. So masking as much is a requirement. But truly, it's a strong recommendation. So and that's where you're at legally as we sit here today.

Chairman McGrath asked, anyone else have any questions? Seeing none, Selectman Morin made a motion to non-statutory committees meetings be suspended until February 22nd to have the Chief come in and do a re-evaluation on the status of the COVID in Town. This was seconded by Selectman Roy. Carried 5-0.

Selectman Guessferd said we'll have to let Chrissy Peterson know because the Rec, I know she was planning a meeting actually 5th of February. It was moved from Thursday. The Town Administrator replied, we'll put out a blanket email to everybody all the committee chairs and their staff liaison if they have one, letting them know of this.

The Town Administrator asked Chief Buxton, did you want to talk about the guidelines? Chief Buxton replied, there's no true actionable item there. I think it's more of a consensus that they know that the new guidance document is there. I haven't heard any, but he's saying not to enforce the most up to date guidance document. I think that's a reasonable approach and I think that's reasonable. Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to accept the notice of retirement from Firefighter/AEMT David Brideau effective January 31, 2022 with the Boards thanks and appreciation. Carried 5-0.

E. HFD - Firefighter/AEMT Retirement

Chief Buxton was recognized and said so we have been given notice by firefighter David Brideau that he intends to retire effective January 31st 2022. Dave started with the fire department as a call firefighter in October of 1997 and then was hired on a full time basis in June of 1999. Dave has been a valued employee, a silent leader with us and handled a lot of projects, including some in-house plumbing as a licensed plumber to help us keep our maintenance costs down. So we have enjoyed having Dave on staff who will be sorely missed as he has become a staple over his last 24 plus years with us and we wish him a healthy and long retirement as he moves forward.

F. HFD - Inspector Resignation

Chief Buxton was again recognized and said we received notice from Inspector David Hotham the beginning of January that he would be leaving our employment and going back to the private sector. He'll be going back to his former employer. He's been with us for the last two years and he has been a good employee for us. So it's a loss. If you remember correctly, when we were recruiting those two positions within Inspectional Services, they are hard to come by folks to fill those roles with the right temperament and technical expertise. So Dave will be sorely missed. We wish him well as he moves off back into the private sector. He's done well for us and we thank him for his time and his service. Selectman Roy made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd to accept the letter of resignation from Inspector David Hoffman, effective January 14, 2022, with the Board's thanks and appreciation. Carried 5-0.
Selectman Roy made a motion, seconded by Selectman Gagnon to allow the Fire Department to post for the open position of Inspector. Carried 5-0.

G. Water Utility Planning Grant Application

Selectman Morin was recognized and said I was gonna make a motion but I'll make sure there's no questions first. Selectman Roy was then recognized and said what specifically is the money plan? What is the plan for the money? Mr. Dhima replied the specifics about it? The Town Administrator said that would be part of our water master plan right over here. So it's for planning purposes to update our existing water master plan. Mr. Dhima then said so you have for this particular one, you have a backup to this. It basically is what the Town is at and what the master plan for the Town is for the water, what the current needs are, what the future needs us expansions, treatment facilities, things of that sort. So that's what this will do will help us plan for. Selectman Roy said so this is to help create the plan. The Town Administrator replied saying we have a plan. This will help us upgrade. Mr. Dhima then said this will bring it to a level that we spend money every year to update it, but bring it to a whole new level where we can actually maybe see a bit further out instead of 10 years, 20, 30 years out. So this this will use state money to basically do what we do almost every few years, but at their dime, not ours.

Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said thank you and sorry for the extent of these questions, but you and I have talked quickly due to a resident's comment, and I kind of want to address that publicly a little bit on this topic. This might be a little silly, but let's say, you know, a lot of wells are poisoned with PFOS or something, you know, I know there's probably no way that we're going to provide water and sort of the entire Town. That just seems crazy, difficult. But with that example, would this study and the potential planning provide some possibility for bringing our residents onto Town, water and sewer in hopes of getting them better water sources? Are those are the kind of things that you think about with these plans? Mr. Dhima replied saying, Mm hmm. So yes, the answer the quick question is you would see if you have the ability to extend the level of service. You will not be looking at bringing this to pick up a few houses down the road a mile down, but it could be something related to the Town being able to close the loops. We have a lot of dead ends out there. So what if we can connect 111 to 102? Doing that loop we're picking up a lot of businesses, residential things of that sort. The one thing to keep in mind to and the previous company that had it prior to the Town taking over and they did this a lot and they got in trouble for that is, they extended a lot of water mains, but no one was willing to connect to it because it's not, it's not for free. There's an access fee, there's a hook up fee. There's a cost associated with bringing the water from the main to your house, and there's a cost associated with paying for it too. As the Fire Chief said, it is live free or die. So while we found out that there was a lot of mains done with services ready for them and they were leaking because no one actually connected to it, so we are very careful with extending without the actual need. I think that will change based on what you just said with the PFOS and everything else is going on. Be interesting to see, but this will help us determine at least closing loops, making our system more reliable and maybe picking up a few customers in a way. Selectman Gagnon replied, Ok. Thank you very much, sir. Mr. Dhima replied, you got it. So with that said, I'll ask the Board what their wish is. Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Gagnon to approve and authorize the Town Engineer to apply for the Water Utility Planning Grant. Carried 5-0.

H. Water Utility Energy Audit Grant Application

Chairman McGrath again recognized Mr. Dhima who said, next one is the water utility energy grant application. This is related to the state hiring a vendor that typically goes out and look at the main facilities, such as well pump stations, booster stations, and see if there's a way for the Town to reduce the cost of the energy utilized to operate these facilities. This, again, is 100% funded by the state, does not need any commitment by the time whatsoever, and it's up to \$20,000. It could be less than that, but it's maxed out at \$20,000. Again, if we get this money, the state will tell

us which vendor that we need to use. We tell them the facilities of ours we'd like them to look at and see what we can do to reduce the electrical costs or anything else that we do, such as fuel for our generators at these facilities. So again, it's an assessment done at no cost to us to see if we can reduce the cost of our operations. I'll take any questions. You might have any. Seeing no questions, Selectman Gagnon made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd to approve and authorize the Town Engineer to apply for the Water Utility Energy Audit Grant. Carried 5-0.

I. Water Utility Audit Grant Application

Town Engineer, Elvis Dhima was again recognized and said the next one is water utility audit grant application. So every water utility has some losses out there, so you produce an X amount. Some can get lost by leaks in the pipe. Sometimes we find, sometimes we don't. We have a system in place, so we have an idea to what our losses are. So we basically do a comparison of what do we produce, what we purchase in relationship to what we bill our customers for. That rate is about somewhere between 10 to 12%. Industry standards about 16%. So we're below that. We would like to get that under 10%. So the grant in front of you tonight is 100% funded by the state. It's up to \$20,000 and will help us have a better format and template if you need to work on what we already have to do a better job of identifying everything that we need to and have a better format for our auditing purposes. This comes in plays for our conservation plan that we submit to the state every three years. And part of that conservation plan is basically us informing the state how we keep track of our losses and what we're doing about it. We used to prior to switching from Pennichuk to Whitewater, we would think about somewhere between 20 to 18%. So the past five to seven years, we've gone from 20% to about 10 to 12%, so we're going in the right direction. That said, this will help us make it better at no cost to us. Any questions, any comments and questions. Seeing no questions, Selectman Gagnon made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to apply for the Water Utility Audit Grant. Carried 5-0.

J. Water Utility Asset Management Grant Application

Thank you, Madam Chair. This is the last application for you tonight is the Water Utility Asset Management Grant. We've talked about asset management in the past. We currently do some of that right now through small amounts of money that we have. This particular one is up to \$100,000, and it gets really into details into the GIS hydraulic modeling type assessment. Critical assessment risk matrix assessment hierarchy. Capital Improvement plans in lead and copper service inventory, which is also required as well. We can get all those six tax tasks done under this \$100,000 dollars grant that's available again 100% funded by the state, no commitment by the Town, and it would be a good thing to get our hands on. That said, I'll take any questions you might have. Seeing no questions, Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Gagnon to approve and authorize the Town Engineer to apply for the Water Utility Asset Management Grant. Carried 5-0.

K. Voting Districts

The Chairman recognized Town Moderator, Paul Inderbitzen who said, Thank you, ladies and gentlemen, just a quick note to start. You mentioned your meeting on February 22nd. I've been asked to moderate Candidate's Night that night, so you may want to look at changing your meeting a little bit. I don't know if it's been locked in. I only just got an email today about it. The Town Administrator said why would they pick that night? It's a Selectmen's night. Selectman Roy agreed saying I know. It's on the calendar. The Town Administrator then said no offense to anybody, but I've never changed our meeting. The Moderator then said access to the Community Center is always difficult because it's running five nights a week, six nights a week, actually. It's whatever they can work out. But anyway, just that's what I just got an email. I don't know how firm it is. Just something to check with the Rec Department. The Chairman said well, I would think that some of the candidates that are on the ballot, if they have a meeting to attend that that would be more important than going to candidates night.

The Moderator then said anyway, I sent you all my questions about when we got a notice, not a notice, but that there was a concern at the state that our use of the Community Center for District One or Ward One was outside of Ward One, and therefore they looked didn't like that idea. They said it needs to be in the ward, just like the Board said they would like. However, so it did ask for, you know, what's the siting? What's the regulation? And of course, Mr. Fitch gave us quite a lengthy description of different things. I hope you had a chance to look it over. But basically, I said, well, we have some choices. I know the school was really concerned about tying up two schools, at least for this March. I think they've already asked me for the schedule of elections from next June through July or July through June of next year. So that would be September, November and the following March for Town meeting so they could accommodate it in their schedule. But I have not talked to the Superintendent. I did send him the information, so they know. So there were three options. One, we change the District one to Ferry Street, which then leaves the Community Center in District One or Ward One. But that puts a lot of homes in District One higher than District Two. If the intent is to use, eventually use Memorial, which has an address of Memorial Drive, so that's in Ward One. But for this year, you could draw a line and it's even what the state, what the Secretary of State's Office did say. You could draw a line to include Lyons Ave in Ward One for at least this temporary position. It's a lot fewer houses. If you looked at it wasn't in the packet that was posted, but I did send you another map of the Lyons Ave area for one year. You could do that. You would have to notify those people when you moved them again. But that wouldn't be a problem. Or we request the state saying it's such a late, although they it's too late to change the school calendar for that school and ask for because it's only a Town meeting that a state meeting, if it was a state meeting, they wouldn't back off to allow us to do that for at least for March and then make the change for September, although we've had a year to get ready for this, so they may not look kindly on that. Other than that, I just look for the Board's direction as to where you want to go because it's your decision.

Selectman Morin was recognized and asked how many more houses does Ferry Street put into Ward One? The Moderator replied, well, if you looked at the map, I didn't count them. Selectman Morin replied, I just I don't see it. I don't see it as that many that it would be a problem. And I think if we just use Ferry Street, Burnham Street in Central Street, it's going to make lives for everybody so much easier. The Moderator responded saying, well, we will have to divide Ferry Street, the odd side and even side. But that's and there are a few streets that cross. So we have somebody now who's doing the assigning of the wards to the voter list. He's working pretty hard on that. Selectman Morin said but if some streets cross then they're on the north side they go to, the Moderator said then we just have to divide it. Selectman Morin said Yeah, because the house is between Ferry Street and Central Street aren't that many. The Moderator said it's more work for us to try to explain it to everybody. But we're in the early part. Selectman Roy said how so? You send them a notice you know? I get a notice that says you go here and then the guy across the street gets a notice that says, you go here. I don't understand what the big explanation. Selectman Morin then said and the thing is you were talking about putting Some of the houses On

Lyons, Hurley Street and stuff into a group. Now you got this little group for one year and then we're going to change it again. Just make the line Ferry Street, Burnham Road and Central Street and be done with it. Selectman Roy said I agree I am not in favor of doing something this year, after I've had an entire year to get this figured out and then try to change it next year. Right. I just I don't think that that's a reasonable ask of our already low voter turnout. Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to do the boundary lines for the two districts Ferry Street, Burnham Road and Central Street, north and south. The Town Administrator asked, when you said north and south when we did Central Street...Selectman Morin said well yeah because he said we'd have to separate Ferry Street. The Town Administrator replied, so north of Ferry Street, north of Burnham Road, like we did with Central Street. I just want to make sure that's clear so if you're on that and you're north of it you're in this district if you're south of it you're in the other district. Okay. The Moderator said originally we didn't do that with Central Street because we were trying to even off the number of voters. We have a young man who's we hired to do this, he's very detail oriented, going to do a good job. We just have to tell him the difference now and when he's looking at it. Carried 5-0.

L. Petitioned Warrant Articles

The Town Administrator was recognized and said so I always put an agenda item on for petition warrant articles should we receive any. The statutory deadline for petitioned articles, not zoning articles, but petition articles was today. We didn't receive any today. So the two you received one to change to require ballots to be hand counted and the other to change the land use change tax percentage. Those at this point are the only two petitioned articles on the regular part of the warrant. So we did receive no petitions. This was a placeholder. Nothing came in, so no action is needed.

M. FY23 Town Warrant

The Town Administrator was recognized and said these aren't going to be the final numbers, but this is the order that I'm recommending of the Town warrant. You're required because of the police bond that is required to be the first article when you get to the moneyed or the Town's articles. These will all follow the zoning articles. So zoning articles and petition zoning articles are first followed by it'll be the police. And then typically our order is General Fund, Sewer Fund, Water Fund. If we have labor contracts, we put those next. And in this case, we have six, I think, established reserve funds we want to fund and we have a new one we want to establish. This just follows the protocol of how we've done those. Then we get into the property tax exemptions for elderly, disabled and blind. The change in the polling hours, which this Board did not recommend and then petitions are always at the end. So all I'm saying is this would be the order. The numbers are going to change because the Planning Board, I think is still working, potentially on adding another article. So the numbers could change. So if this is OK with the Board, you need to approve the order of the fiscal 2023 warrant unless you have some changes. Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin to approve the order of the Fiscal Year 2023 Town Warrant. Carried 5-0.

N. Designation of Selectman to Post Town Warrant

The Town Administrator was recognized and said So when the time comes, I selectmen, we need to designate one of you, one of the members of the Board of Selectmen, to post the fiscal 2023 Town Warrant on or before Monday, January 31st, 2022. That is stated in the law. What does that mean? Basically have to physically put the warrant at the Community Center. We'll have to probably go to Alvrine High School. Those are the two polling places it typically goes at. The Library goes in this building. We put it in the post office. So it's somewhat widely distributed from a posting perspective. Typically gets posted on the doorway and then it gets posted on some interior bulletin board and will also get posted on our web page. But one of you folks is responsible to do it. I can't remember who did it last year. It might have been you. Selectman Morin said I did it last year. The Town Administrator said so we typically vote to designate somebody. The Chairman said so Selectman Roy has volunteered. Selectman Gagnon made a motion seconded by Selectman Morin to designate Selectman Kara Roy to post the Fiscal Year 2023 Town Warrant and Budget on or before Monday, January 31, 2022. Carried 5-0.

Selectman Roy then said so my question is have we started coordinating with the School for mailing out the sample ballots? The Town Administrator replied, no we haven't. That's a project they take the lead on. I'll contact them and see where they are. But that's typically. I let them take the lead. Selectman Roy said Yeah, no, no. I get it. I just don't want to end up short on time.

O. Annual Report Dedication

The Town Administrator said we're in the midst of preparing the annual report. Obviously, we have to wait till we get to the deliberative session to finalize it, but typically we dedicate the report to citizen or citizens or folks that have had an impact on the community. As you recall, Ms. Kipnes passed away last year. We all put that on our particular to dedicate it to her. We also lost Sergeant Briggs this year and Paul Sharon, who was the Town Administrator here for 10 years. He was my predecessor. So I put those names out for consideration for the Board to consider. It's acceptable to dedicate it to more than one person. Selectman Roy made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin to dedicate the 2021 annual report to Linda Kipnes, Sergeant Donna Briggs and Paul Sharon. Carried 5-0.

P. December Revenues and Expenditures

The Town Administrator was recognized and said We are 50% of the way through the year. So basically December was halfway through the year. Autos were at 50.6%, or about a \$100,000 less than last year, year over year, but was still very strong. And I don't see any reason why we wouldn't make our number. We're slightly up ahead by .6%, but we're doing very well with auto registrations and in general, revenue is very reasonable. Again, I continue to monitor our legal budget just because we've had, you know, a fair amount of cases that we've had to work with. So we're at 54% there. Keep an eye on it. If it gets if I think it's really going to get haywire, I'll come to the Board at the recommendation, probably to pull money from either contingency or maybe one of the other accounts that we've underspent. We're at the doorstep of winter. Obviously, we've had the plows out a couple of times. Knock on wood, it's a good winter for us. So far we seem to be hanging in and again, things get a little askew because we encumber trash contracts and whatnot, so it does throw a percentage off. But I didn't see anything at this point that's alarming or that's concerning beyond what I normally see.

10. Remarks by the Town Administrator

The Town Administrator said just to remind everybody that the Budget Committee will be having the public hearing on Thursday this week, the 13th at the Community Center. There'll be the School followed by the Town. The public is welcome to attend. The Budget Committee presumably will be making their votes going into the Deliberative Session. So that's the first major big public hearing. Just another reminder overnight winter parking ban is in effect in Hudson until March 30th. There's no overnight parking on Hudson streets. You got to give the highway crew. You know, the Public Works crew help. They can't be driving around things and you've got to have, you know, your vehicles off the road overnight. And also just to note, Town Hall will be closed Monday, the 17th in observance of Martin Luther King. That's for this coming Monday. The Chairman said it's a lot of a lot of holidays. The Town Administrator replied, they're all bunched together and then it's nothing for months.

11. Remarks by the School Board - no comments, absent.

12. Other Business/Comments by the Selectmen

Selectman Gagnon: Really quickly. I touched upon this earlier tonight, but I really appreciate of all the whether it's handwritten or typed and snail mailed or emailed remarks about what we should do with the Police Chief. Whether they're simple, like I just support or this is why I support. I've read some very detailed statements that are really powerful and from various people in the community who I highly respect. So I really appreciate those. I welcome more of those because that kind of input is very valuable to me. So I thank everyone for those, and that's all I had.

Selectman Roy: So I just have a couple of things. One is I attended the, I guess, quarterly NRPC meeting back in December. And I think the only real news that came out of that is that they have removed the Circumvential Highway from the ten year plan again. So we'll see how that goes. And then the only other thing I had, if you would like to serve the Town by running for office, there's a list of vacancies that are going to be on the ballot on the Town website. You have to register or file to run between January 19th and January 28th. And I hope you see a whole bunch of people stepping forward to do that. And then finally, please do not forget to vote on March 8, 2022. And that's all I have.

Selectman Morin: all set tonight, thank you.

Selectman Guessferd: I just want to wish everybody a happy new year. We're back and don't really have too much else at this point. Just stay, stay healthy and safe. And and, uh, hope everybody is doing well out there.

Chairman McGrath: So I don't have I have just a couple of things this this weather that we're experiencing, take your pets in. Don't leave them outside because if you're cold out there, they're going to be just as cold and they can't tell you. I just I wanted to say that because I can't imagine people leaving their pets who they supposedly care for out in this brutal and brutal cold. So that's one thing. And the other thing is that. What was the other thing I was going to say? I think that's that'll

probably do it for me, because if I can't remember it, that's probably not important. So there you go. So we'll go into one non-public session now non-public is being entered to.

13. Nonpublic Session

Motion by Selectman Guessferd at 9:37 p.m., seconded by Chairman Morin to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (a) The dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a meeting and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted. (b) The hiring of any person as a public employee. Carried 5-0.

Nonpublic Session was entered at 9:37p.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 McGrath entered open session at 10:49 p.m.

Motions made after nonpublic session

14. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 10:52 p.m. by Selectman Gagnon seconded by Selectman Guessferd. Carried 5-0.

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

Marilyn E. McGrath, Chairman

Bob Guessferd, Vice Chairman

David Morin, Selectman

Kara Roy, Selectman

Brett Gagnon, Selectmen