

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the January 25, 2022 Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER - by Chairman McGrath the meeting of January 25, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the Selectmen Meeting Room at Town Hall
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Elvis Dhima, Town Engineer
3. ATTENDANCE

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

Staff/Others: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator; Tad Dionne, Police Captain; Elvis Dhima, Town Engineer; Bill Collins, Conservation Commission Chairman; Jim McIntosh, Dir. of Community Media; Gary Gasdia, School Board Chairman; Jill Laffin, Executive Assistant

4. PUBLIC INPUT

Rita Banatwala, 29 Fairway Drive

Ms. Banatwala stated her name and address and said I live at 29 Fairway Drive for a little over 25 years. I've been around for a little while. I'm wondering what the BOS is doing about the overall impact study that was brought up for all the Town services environmental impact with all the new developments that are going on around town or that are being approved that will be going on around town as I've been watching things. This was brought up requested back at the December 14th meeting, which was wonderful, by another resident. But I'm just wondering what the scoop is on that cuz I haven't heard or seen anything with any content on it in the news and things I've been reading about. And so because I haven't heard anything I'm curious because I do consider this to be vital as some development plans have been approved already and more will probably be approved I mean cuz we're progressing. But we do not know what it means for handling of all these projects. Perhaps everything should be put on hold until we can understand what's going on and how will our emergency services be handled. At least we have an upcoming applications and hearings that should be on hold. We need to know when and how the Town of Hudson can support all of the following: emergency services. The police and the fire. They're not even sure how they're gonna support things that have already been approve from what I've been reading and seeing and listening to these meetings at home. Traffic situations. Air pollution impacts. Water pollution. Light pollution. The noise levels as are amplified over the river and we're looking at the possibility of another distribution center happening along the river. Noise blasts over that river. I know. I live along the river. But I'm further down. Nashua has actually been great to me. I've complained to them. They've gone over. I went over and talked to the manager. He clipped the wire over the speaker that was shooting on the river. But, I, you know. We've got to prevent other noises from happening over the river. What's going on with all the sewage stuff? All of this and more without any extra risk to our first responders. I am concerned about our police and fire and how they can be supporting everything. It seems the development application offered information regarding their impacts but the Town has not added up these individual impacts to a big global picture to see how are we going to satisfy and support all these upcoming things. A year from now, two years from now, Hudson could look extremely different than it does today. But I don't see any plans for our police and our fire on how they're gonna grow. Are people be trained to use the new equipment that they'll be getting to respond? So what's gonna happen in all these emergency situations? If an application uses another applications data as its basis. Well it's wrong. We've seen that happening already. People come and present something, they're presenting information that another applicant already presented. But they need to present on top of that. Because it's going to be compounded, all this information. So we, the Town of Hudson, need an overall impact study of what will these developments or changes to our town mean. What will the impacts be? We don't know today. We have no idea. No one's done that study. We need that study in our hands so we have an idea of how we can support one another and stay safe and happy. So that's basically my request is I heard

someone ask for it in the fall and haven't heard or seen anything happening but I think it's urgent. We need to know where we stand for our master plan. And I'm curious of when we're gonna get going on this. That's basically it. Thank you for your time and consideration but I do think it's extremely important. As Ms. Banatwala was back at her seat she said we need to know.

Jim Dobens, 4 Eagle Drive

Mr. Dobens started off saying, name is Jim Dobens. I reside at 4 Eagle Drive. I've been there for about the last 40 years. I feel like I'm spending enough time here that sooner or later you may see me running for something. Which would be awesome. Chairman McGrath said, that might be something that you're probably contemplating that as we speak. Mr. Dobens replied, could be. Got to retire. Have to retire first. Chairman McGrath said it might be a good thing. Mr. Dobens then said, I'm back. I have a few things to say and a few things to get off my chest as well having been involved with a lot of the meetings. Really back to ask what the status of conducting an overall impact study based on all these projects that we'll have in Hudson. After attending a recent, and the last Planning Board meetings, and hearing various members, and others, talk, it simply reinforced questions in my mind about who is running this Town. Who is really setting the direction for Hudson to become an industrial area for warehouses and distribution centers? Who is watching out for the quality of life for our residents? In fact who's watching our backs? One the real estate developer, Mr. Farley I don't think so. Why? He was a proponent of the 50 foot height article a few years back. I call that warrant article one of the greatest deceptions pushed through in Hudson's history. Farley also called out that Nashua's built out, which creates great opportunity for Hudson. Yeah, that sounds wonderful. He said warehouses and distribution centers is where the action is at. Our residents have no clue what this is going to bring. He said if we revoke the 50 foot height through warrant articles, then we might as well put a sign up entering Hudson closed for business. A vetted threat or a veiled threat to scare people. I found that repulsive from a person who doesn't even live here. He ought to go back to Rye. Two the attorney, Mr. Leonard for Green Meadow or the Friel's. Are they watching our back? I don't think so. Why? He was pretty much hinting that there were other plans coming, possibly a last mile facility. He is looking to make sure the 50 foot building height does not get repealed. This is the same guy who put bull's eyes in our homes, including mine. All he cares about is to get the millions for the owners of Green Meadow and leaving us with a huge mess in our hands moving forward. Neither Mr. Leonard or the Friel's live here, nor do they care, nor do they have our backs. Third, our Hudson Planning Board disappointed. I don't think they have our backs. Why? Well, Mr. Oates was the only one to speak up to support residents' concerns. Yet was challenged on what a Board members responsibilities were to the residents. I'm happy to debate that with Mr. Morin any time. This Planning Board seems to simply rubber stamp everything. There is no overall impact analysis done. It is sad. Recently, the Board held had a lengthy debate on what a warehouse or distribution center are and the differences. Yet they've already approved the largest warehouse and distribution facility complex to be built in the state of New Hampshire. They have no idea what they have approved, nor what its impact is going to be. One of the Board members called the HLC not too long ago the best option for Green Meadow, but yet oppose the Friary project going into their backyard. That's very hypocritical to me. To my knowledge, not a single member of that Board went to visit a similar site down in Massachusetts provided by the developer to learn and see what the impacts really are. Going to the web warehouse is not the same, not even close. So as far as I can see, the Planning Board except Mr. Oates and Mr. Velloso do not have our backs. So now I'm back here turning to the select board. What is the status of doing an overall independent impact study? Our Town leadership and boards have all been told over the past two years that all of this is good for Hudson by a real estate developer. The building developers, their lawyers, the state of New Hampshire, of which none of them live here, but they make amazing statements and promises. I've been here for almost 40 years and every major proposal has claimed that it would not impact my traffic, would help my taxes create new jobs. They would mitigate the issues that would come up. Mitigates simply says, means less severe. Yet I sit with congestion and traffic every day with those issues and they continue to build. My taxes continue to rise in a community, in my opinion, appears to be losing its trust and confidence in its leadership. I wonder why my taxes in 1983 were \$1,680

dollars. Based on the standard inflation rate, they should be about \$5,000 today. They're not. They're \$9,000. So where did all the new development revenue go that was promised? This Board has a primary responsibility to the residents to protect residents from predatory real estate agents and developers with their lawyers from doing things detrimental to the Town of Hudson. Some members of this Board in administration knew about several of these projects well beforehand and were part of discussions to see how to handle the resident's objections. It's documented well. Let's get the impact study done by an independent group, not the same people who are simply rubber stamping things. Get the facts. Is this Board afraid of what will come back? Afraid of what the real study will say that you are about to overrun the town or ruin its character and way of life? For all you residents listening in tonight do not simply accept all of our board's recommendations on voting day without asking questions and educating yourselves on the real issues facing this town, because in my opinion, not all our backs are being watched. This Board has an opportunity, a big opportunity to do the right thing. I suggest that we get it going. Thank you for your time.

Chairman McGrath asked Selectman Gagnon, are you a resident? There's a resident in the audience that would like to speak. Selectman Gagnon responded saying, no Madam Chair, I just have a question for the speaker. Selectman Gagnon then said did you hear one of our last meetings? We had the, I guess, the director of NRPC come in. He had preliminary discussions about us looking into a traffic study and what that may entail. I can't speak for the Board or what we've done since then. But did you hear that discussion that we had? Mr. Dobens replied, I was here, I listened, I didn't speak that night. What I took in from him and what he told us was that they did not plug in all of their data into their models. They simply took the traffic studies that were provided by the developer. That's what they did. So there really were no major algorithms that were put in to understand it. You can go back and pull other studies which show significantly higher numbers, but we won't get into that tonight.

Dean Sakati, 11 Fairway Drive

I was at the last Planning Board meeting and it kind of inspired me. The comment addressed the board to appeal to the board. It just really got me thinking in so many different ways that I think we're at a moment and I think it's almost the calm before the storm.

As a town, the situation is changing, right? We, you know, we were rural suburban community. We have a lot of development that's encroaching on the town and we need to probably do things differently. And I think, you know what, I'm what I'm appealing to the Board for really is just to think that through like, how can we do things differently so that we can meet the challenges of the future to keep Hudson the town that we all want to live in? And you know, it's really it's this is this colossal development in our town that's really driving this change so we can no longer sit back naively do things business as usual. I think we need to do things a bit differently. We need to have the confidence in our convictions. We need to find a way to lead in a way that benefits the overall community. We need to be more transparent. We need to communicate. We need to think of ways again to do things differently or we're going to be overrun by development. We're going to be right now I feel like we're sitting with a catcher's mitt and things are just hitting us and we just really have to figure out a way. Maybe that's the master plan, right? That hasn't been done for a while. I heard Attorney Leonard say it hasn't been done for 15 years. You know, then that probably needs, you know, that that would need to be updated or we just need to reflect on it. You know, we need to listen a little bit more critically to developers. And they come in they spew their sweet rhetoric. They have great marketing. They hire people specifically for marketing and they try to get their message out. It puts the onus on the Town to be much more critical in the way it looks at things like, I hear Mr. Dobens speak and it just makes me think about what have they not considered they gave they gave the impact study as it relates to traffic. You listen to a professor from Carnegie Mellon and they're refuting the standard traffic estimates as it pertains to certain types of developments. So we need to think this I think we need to critically think this stuff through, you know, unfortunately, I've there's

been a tone, you know, and that probably needs to we need to figure out a way to bring the temperature down in the Town. There's a tone that's there is critical thinking. Unfortunately, it's against the residents. Me as an abutter to a new to a new proposal. HLC at 11 Fairway Drive. You know, we are, you know, I, you know, we've been called NIMBYs, right? That's derogatory. It's not necessary, right? And I think you would find a lot of people if they were talked to individually, they're not about it not being in their backyard. They're not about it being in anyone's backyard. To put 50 foot walls right abutting someone's property is insane, right? It's disrespectful. It's not neighborly and the town. We have to figure out ways to deal with this across the board.

Chairman McGrath asked Mr. Sakati, before you go on, what was the term that you just used? Because I've never heard it before. Mr. Sakati replied NIMBY it's an acronym for not in my backyard. And you see it. You see in Facebook posts, you know, people that might be supportive of the project say, Oh, these are just a bunch of NIMBYs, right? And it's, you know, and I think it's that type of that type of rhetoric that probably just needs to, you know, we all need to do a better job in the town of getting rid of that type of rhetoric because it's not going to be constructive towards us moving forward because the situation has in fact changed.

We need to listen to the residents, you know, as an example, you know, Save Hudson was formed specifically to give residents a voice when an overeager developer was determined to break ground within four months. It was, you know, it was it was a lofty goal that they were either very naive about or they were trying to rush an outcome or to steamroll over folks that think it's a foregone conclusion. There's a reason 900 residents of Hudson signed petitions as it related to save Hudson because they need a voice. They want to put a voice out there. You know, Mr. Morin, you questioned me when I when I was when I was being interviewed for the Zoning Board, you knew the exact date that I spoke to a neighboring town on behalf of, you know, on behalf of Save Hudson and during one of these neighborhood neighboring town meetings, you may have heard me say right, this save Hudson was created as a grassroots coalition.

I'm quoting here, of people that organize during the early stages of the pandemic to make sure Hudson residents would understand what was being proposed by Hillwood, the applicant and the potential developer. And then folks would have heard me further say that the organization was committed to communicating fair points of view to try to be objective. Right now, we didn't know everything, there's probably some statements that I made that and I never put it as a fact, I was always very clear to say it's my opinion, my view, the analysis that we would do. You know, and I probably would reverse some of it learning a little bit more, but probably not as dramatically as the developers would want. So we need outreach. We need to talk amongst each other. And, you know, maybe we use, Save Hudson as a broader tool for communication to the Town, you know, as one idea of thinking out of the box. You know, what really inspired me to speak was really listening to Thomas Farley from Cushman Wakefield, who recently who recently spoke to our Planning Board. He drove all the way over from Rye to voice his opposition to warrant articles that specific residents sponsored, right? Kudos to the residents for making their voice heard and putting this out there. I don't know Tom Thomas, but I do know that he works for a large developer, Cushman Wakefield, and he has biases. He wants to develop. He wants to make money for himself, for his clients. There's nothing wrong with that. But we have to have countervailing, you know, ways to deal with the challenges that result or to make sure that we're putting the protections in place that protect the community. Otherwise, we're just going to be we're going to we're going to continue to be overrun. And all of that obviously is within the scope of the laws and our town rules. Very critical. And you know, he goes as far, you know, Thomas Farley, you know, he wrote an article in the Telegraph just to kind of show the inherent biases that are out there is, you know, he writes an article. I'm assuming it's the same guy it was. It was Thomas Farley. He said he was from Hudson. There was no Thomas Farley in Hudson, so I'm assuming it's the same person had all the details about the about the approval of the 50 foot high, the warrant article lifting to 50 feet, right. This is the one that me and others voted for because we saw the Planning Board was in support of it and we said, Yep, we trust, you know, we won't make that mistake again. We need to be informed. That's on all of us as residents. But he was sort of, you know, he kind of put it back to the town and said, why are people complaining? This is my paraphrasing, why are people complaining in 2017 the Town unanimous or

not? He said that overwhelmingly supported this increase to 50 feet and that the Planning Board unanimously supported it. I don't know that that's the case, but I could be mistaken, but that's what it says in the article. And then ironically, he was sitting before the Planning Board meeting a couple of weeks ago, again assuming it's the same. Tom Farley commenting And I'm paraphrasing again that the Planning Board should reject the resident sponsored warrant article, reducing height from 50 feet back to I think it's 38 feet. And basically, he was sort of challenging the Planning Board to say, listen, most people don't have the time to read this stuff. They just rely on your opinion. So vote with me. And if you don't, then Hudson will be as he put a closed for business. And he went on to say how we're sitting in the sweet spot of development. We're sitting at the border of Massachusetts. We got a lot of open space. I might be paraphrasing a little there, he said. You know, Amherst has open space, but it's too difficult to get to right. So we're it sounded like the last holdout, but he said we're in the sweet spot. And my what I would ask is that, you know, we on these boards understand that we are in the sweet spot, but that doesn't mean we need to cower. It means we need to lead. We need to be out there and define and work with the developers to make sure that what comes out on the other end of development is actually better for this town. Right. And I'm not sure that we're you know that we're always doing that. I think sometimes we're reacting and, you know, we go through the approval process. We may be more concerned that we check the boxes and that we're not going to have litigation, but in fact, there's a step that needs, I believe that needs to go a little bit further, which is, yeah, you have to do all that stuff. Oh, by the way, you have to make sure that we leave the place a better place and we do have a strong voice as a town that's sitting in, as Tom Farley would say, in this sweet spot, you know? And you know, why I don't, you know, there's other things, and I could probably talk about it at a later date. I don't want to take too much time. But there's other things you know, we have. Maybe one little thing to touch on is, you know, we have a right. There's a right to know case that's out there. And you know, there's, you know, a group of residents suing the Town, and it's unfortunate that it's to that point. But what's and leave that aside, but I think what's really, really what really, really disturbs me is the fact that you have a developer that's teaming up with the Town and trying to defend the town against the residents. And to me, that gives all the appearances of one, why is the developer involved in a right to know case? All that seems to it makes you believe or sense that there's something that they're trying to cover up, right, which only hurts the reputation of the Town. So why the Town would even want them there? I'm not sure, but it discredits the town in doing that as well. And the Town, you know, in my opinion, should you know, you know, keep its distance right from the developers because again, they have biases and there's nothing wrong with that. But they are what they are. And we just need to recognize that and make sure that we're dealing with that appropriately. So I'll sort of end there. But with so I'm not ending on a critical note, I'd like to give a couple thanks here. You know, I'd like to thank Mr. Oates on the Planning Board. I thought he did a fabulous job at the last Planning Board meeting and kind of interjecting sort of what I would think of as a modern thinking, you know, critical thinking that some it's not antagonistic, it's just good quality, you know, critiques, you know, Ms. McGrath, thank you. You know, when you were liaison to the, you know, during the Planning Board process, you know, I appreciated all the critical thinking again that you were bringing to the table there. And I think that those it's that type of thinking, that type of critique that can help push the Town forward. Unfortunately, there wasn't more of it. You know, Ms. Roy, I'd like to thank you for liaison, liaising with the Zoning Board. I've been able to see a different side now that I'm not a different side, but aside, you know, now that I'm on the Zoning Board, you know, been able to see your interaction and I want to thank you for that. And I'd like to thank all our full time employees because they're in a really difficult position and it's only going to get harder. Like I said, I think it's the calm before the storm where, you know, we didn't, you know, the Town didn't ask for this necessarily, I don't think, but it's upon us, and we've got to figure out a way to move the Town forward in a way that preserves our quality of living as long as well as development. Thank you for your time.

Selectman Roy was recognized and said you mentioned the motion to intervene, and I think I just I think I just want to be clear about the procedure. The Town didn't do that, OK. The developer filed a motion to intervene. Yeah, and the judge granted it. So there was no, the Town wasn't involved in that. Yeah. And quite frankly, there's not a real opposition, you know, a real basis for an opposition. So I just want to make sure you understand the procedure the Town didn't invite them in didn't don't

do any of that. It procedurally, that's the way it works. Mr. Sakati replied saying it's difficult, right? Because I think, you know, the residents, you know, it's hard. Everyone's, you know, and I have so much respect for everything you all are doing, right. I mean, it takes so much time and there's so much detail that you have to be immersed in and keep, you know, to digest. And I think what happens is, you know, you know, residents in general are, you know, they see it, they're like, it doesn't make sense, right? And then it creates more of a critical narrative. Right. And that's, you know, and again, we could probably all do, you know, like, you know, I think a lot of us can do a better job at trying to pick that apart, but we definitely need to. Like I said, the Planning Board meeting, seeing, you know, Mr. Farley, Mr. Leonard getting up there and it just felt it felt like, you know, listen, they have their views, but it just felt in, you know, replay the tape, you know, you can see it. And it just it felt a little smug, a little bit like, you know, I'll leave it at that, but I think it just didn't look great.

Sue Gosselin, 9 Fairway Drive

Ms. Gosselin stated her name and address and stated But I wasn't always at Fairway. Between my husband and I we've been here for over 30 years in different residences. I've lived all over the Town, so I don't want to come here an abutter, although I am and I want to make that clear. I also, after last week's Planning Board meeting, decided to speak tonight. I've had a two year crash course on distribution buildings, supply chain and the political workings of the Town, and it's been very overwhelming. I do appreciate what you do. After that Planning Board meeting, I went back and watched the December 14, 2016 Planning Board meeting, which was actually a three to two vote on to put this on the ballot to move the 38 to 50. And I find that that was the pull pin of what happened in the past. Even though it happened in 2016, that seemed to be what changed everything. So after doing research and talking, obviously to my neighbors and other people, we decided let's bring it back down to thirty eight, so we don't have we didn't go from the Pratt and Whitney six hundred thousand square feet we went to a two point over two point five million dollars square foot by doing this. So again, I've of spoken about balance in this Town and I'm feeling or my humble opinion or my observation, is that developers and brokers and lawyers are pushing us to be industrial. Not business, but industrial and I base this on the recent projects. I'm all for business, I support business, I want business. The Pratt and Whitney would have been great. A medical developer would have been great. Technology would be great. We are in that sweet spot. A massive Amazon wasn't in my I couldn't have even thought about it. After last week's Planning Board meeting, it was interesting that the same two faces that were here in 2016 and if you watch that were there last week promoting the same exact thing and again as was spoken about before they come here from other build, they make their livelihood doing this, and that's great. But then they leave, and we're the ones that have to live with it or we're the ones I have to live with the traffic, with whatever happens. I do know that Hillwood is selling some of their properties. This doesn't seem to be in that package, but that was one of the things we brought up was they can sell it and then who's responsible, do you? Does the new owner abide by everything that I'm not quite sure of? But that's a fear.

Ms. Gosselin went on to say, the other thing that really does not look good as far as optics is the fact that the Hillwood developer did become an intervener on this lawsuit between residents and the Town over public documents that are granted to us as residents. I know that you didn't ask you didn't I have no idea about intervening, but the optics do not look good, that these developers are the ones that are driving. What's making Hudson become something it has never been and I hope does not become, which would be the section of Manchester near the airport. Or big parts of Londonderry, because that's not where I chose to live. Thank you for your time.

Paige Schaller, 213 Fox Hollow Drive

After stating her name and address, Ms. Schaller stated I have a lot of concerns on Lowell Road, the existing traffic that we have there already and the number of violations I see pretty much daily, not just with 18 wheelers, but with regular vehicles. I do want to commend our Hudson Police Department. They used to sit in the Friary Drive area to do speed traps and other traffic control there, and since that's unavailable to them, I see them almost daily over the 110 Lowell Road Teledyne. And I commend them for being there. Thank you. I'm sure if you were to talk to those officers that sit there, they could give you some stories about what they see. One being what is affectionately or not affectionately called the Suicide Lane, which is the turning lane that runs all the way down Lowell Road. I live closer to that 110 Lowell Road address entrance, so I use that quite frequently instead of the light. As such, when I'm going north on Lowell Road, I have to go into that center turning lane. I cannot tell you how many times I've almost been hit head on by someone who wants to go further south and turn left into Pelham Road. They just use that as a regular travel lane, and I see that all the way up and down that road.

That's just one instance of things that I see. Another instance of things that I've seen are the 18 wheelers going north on Lowell Road and turning left into the Irving station, not using the light, using the exit to get in there because that's what they're and I can't, you know, fault them for that. Their GPS, like our GPS is they're going to tell you make left now destination on left. And if there are new and unfamiliar to the area, they don't know that by going up to the next light is the safe way for them to go in. But they see the diesel tanks right there and they go. This morning, I was absolutely horrified at what I saw and I don't even think I've seen an automobile do this. I saw an 18 wheeler exit the McDonald's in front of Sam's Club through the entrance that 18 wheeler had to go north to then try to turn south onto Lowell Road. I'm thankful that 18 Wheeler did not jackknife or anything. Which brings me to another point. Accidents on Lowell Road. We had a major accident on Lowell Road several months back that closed down long road for several hours. All the traffic was detoured to all the side streets. That's fine when it's automobile traffic, but there are a lot of 18 wheelers that have to go through there currently as it is now, let alone when we have two major distribution centers, one has already been approved, the other ones in the approval process. Another thing about the 18 wheelers is one of those developers, the one that's already been approved, no matter how many times they were asked by both the Planning Board and the citizens. Everyone was told absolutely not. Our 18 wheelers will not go north on Lowell Road past Sagamore Bridge. No, they won't use the Irving Station. They have absolutely no reason to use the Irving Station. So why do I already see an Amazon truck coming off the Sagamore Bridge, going north on Lowell Road? And it's not one of the little vans or one of the box trucks. It's an 18 wheeler. They're not even in the Town. They haven't even broken ground yet. So no wonder some people don't really trust what the developers are telling us with their ITC trip account counts and everything else. I think it would be a great idea to have an independent review and thank you for mentioning that it's already been brought up. I definitely hope it goes through and is used with not the same people that are done as the independent study from the Town, who have already been the independent studies for all these projects.

Other things that I have found by looking through some past meeting minutes and stuff is I know that people who currently are sitting on this board and who previously sat on this board back in twenty eighteen had concerns about the traffic on local road after hearing information from an economic development analysis report that was performed and there were concerns about the capacity of the sewer and of the water back then. I don't know if anything's been done between then and now to make it any better, but if not, we've already approved one large distribution center that wasn't even supposed to tie into the sewer that apparently now they're going to be allowed to tie into it. I would like to end by thanking the planning board. I, too, was at that last meeting and I thank you for I don't know. Forgive me if I get the terms wrong, but either the warrant article or the change to zoning that they put in to change the table and make definitions to distribution centers. And I thank you for having put in there that last mile facilities are not permitted in any of the districts because as it was brought up earlier, Attorney Leonard was very clear that Amazon has their sights on Hudson. Thank you.

James Crowley, 4 Fairway Drive

After stating his name and address Mr. Crowley went on to say, I'd like to talk about two things. First off, I'm not as eloquent as the rest of the speakers here, but first, I want to recommend a unanimous approval vote for Gary Dearborn for ZBA position based on his previous positions held and services to Hudson. He should also be given a handshake and a smile at the end of a unanimous approval vote.

Second, at the last BOS meeting, I requested the Board to obtain an opinion letter from the Assessor's office on property values. I do not want to read it again. You're all aware, but Selectman Gagnon was kind enough to receive my request documents at that meeting. And later on, I sent them via email to a Board of Selectmen members. Do any members of the Board know the status of my request? I will remain to the end of the public portion of this meeting to hear what knowledge you have, the status if you want me to wait until then.

My initial purpose in doing this was to give the Town government and the Board of Selectmen a chance to be proactive for Town residents and not just doing something in a reactive manner to address a possible future situation concerning property values. Thank you for your time again and all your service.

John Debuc, 11 Eagle Drive

Mr. Debuc said a few of the things have already been spoken to in depth, but I just wanted to mention them. Also is the impact study. But I did see the NRPC did come in here and spoke to you about that, which I think is a great start to go off on that a little bit. I found a June 12th, 2018 presentation by the NRPC. I'm not going to go into detail about it, but they talked about if South Hudson is developed. They talked about the, you know, 583 acres of development south Hudson. And in that study, they actually briefed the Planning and the Board of Selectmen saying that it could add about 16,500 vehicles and it could be up to 77,000 vehicles. Now I've been involved in I was involved in that entire every meeting for the HLC, and not once did I hear the 77,000 vehicles pushed out. So we have these presentations that are given to the Board of Selectmen. I don't know how that wasn't built into any of the studies that were done on the HLC. 77,000 vehicles. That's not my words. That's the people that we're asking to do a study for us. So do we have them do the study and we don't listen or we don't share the information? I don't know. We talked about the impact study. Again, I'm not going to drill that in, but thank you. That was great. One of my big questions is, I have a question of who is fighting for the residents. So I watched the... I wasn't able to attend the Planning Board meeting last week, but I did watch it. We had a lawyer and a real estate agent that were telling the Planning Board that all of these all these warrant articles were not good for the Town, that they need to vote against them, that the residents see what they're there. And we had Mr. Morin that was there also, and I wish someone was there to fight for us. The question that was asked to Mr. Groth was how long ago were these areas industrial? And that wasn't the question they should have been asked. The question should have been asked, how long ago did we have a 50 foot rule? Because that is what changed. It wasn't that it was always, you could put business in there, but just until recently, the 50 foot rule. But when you ask Mr. Groth and in the meeting, the only thing that's asked is how old are these plans for these businesses? When the Town people were asking, this was changed of 50 feet long ago, and that was never a follow up question. So things like that, that's what I'm talking about representation for us. We have a lawyer and we have a developer that are telling the Planning Board, vote against these, the people will follow you. We need representation there. Besides Mr. Oates, that's fighting for the Town and saying, No, that is wrong. Let's vote for some of these things and I'll fall into the next thing, which actually is going to talk a little bit about Mr. Crowley's

Chairman McGrath then said before you go on. Go ahead. What exactly are you talking about? The 50 foot height? Mr. Debut replied, the 50 foot height. So the 50 foot height was voted in and. And I want to finish. Mr. Morin put a loaded question to Mr. Groth saying, how long have these have these areas been industrial? And Mr. Groth answered them been since the fifties or the sixties, but we weren't complaining about them being industrial. We're complaining about changing the rule and putting a 50 foot height. And then the warrant articles were to back off the 50 foot height temporarily until we get some control over that. So let me continue, please.

Selectman Morin I'd like to answer that. Mr. Debut said go ahead. Selectman Morin then said, ok, the question the statement was made that the Town hasn't done anything to correct these issues with the industrial property. And what my answer was Green Meadow was made industrial by a vote of the Town voters in 1940. Ok. Town voters, not a neighborhood, not a north end, not a south end. The Town voters. Ok. The next one was Friars Drive has been that way again by the Town voters. Ok, not the neighborhood, not the north, not the south, the Town voters. BAE went in and somebody just said, we take technology things of that nature. I did a lot of research in the newspaper myself when BAE came in. We went through the same thing we're going through now. Ok, so I don't know how we're going to accept what changed whatever. But we went through the same thing with the lawsuits. Everything we're doing right now, we've already done this. At Green Meadow, that was going to be a life center, a lifestyle center. There was going to be a casino. It was going to be the outlets. Three huge developments. Ok, three huge developments over 10 to 20 years. Again, and I'm going to make this clear. The voters put those industrial and business. The voters, the Town voters, we have heard nothing from the Town voters to change Green Meadow or Friars Drive until we ended up having Hillwood and Amazon come in. So that was my answer to answer that we are being accused that we did nothing. Well, we did what we, the voters told us to do, and nobody asked us to change it. Until then, that was my answer. So when your statement is wrong. Mr. Debut replied it is not wrong, sir. You talk about a single, you talked about a single subject, how long they've been there and this whole warrant article, these worn articles were to raise to lower the height. And you never mentioned one said, Hey, maybe we should get lower, right? Ma'am, I don't want to argue right now. I'd like to finish my discussion. Selectman Morin then said I'd like to answer that too if I would. Again, the height and it was said by somebody else that's already spoken by the voters. That's what they told us to do. Unanimous, somebody said, so that's what we assumed because nobody's come back to us until now to change this. So that's where I was going with that. So your statements? There was nothing came to this Board or the Planning Board to change anything until these developments started. Mr. Debut replied saying but you sit there on the board and you're told by a lawyer and a developer to vote no on these and the residents will listen to you. And you never rebutted that. So I think we're going to go nowhere with this discussion. Can I finish what I what I want to talk about me? Chairman McGrath replied, Go ahead. Mr. Debut said thank you very much. Chairman McGrath then said I'm going to have a couple of things.

Mr. Debut continued on saying, so I found this article post-COVID warehouse projects best practices and mitigation measures to comply, and it's California, the California Environmental Quality Act. So they talk about in recent years, proliferation of e-commerce and rising consumer expectations of rapid shipping have contributed to a boom in warehouse development. And we're seeing that right now, right? So we all know that it's not bad. So the states, when done properly, these activities can contribute to the economy and consumer welfare. However, imprudent warehouse development can harm local communities and the environment, among other pollutants, diesel trucks visiting warehouses emit nitrogen oxide, a primary precursor to smog formation and a significant factor in development of respiratory problems like asthma, bronchitis and lung irritation and diesel particulate matter, a contributor to cancer, heart disease, respiratory illness and premature death. We spoke about this and we know how many vehicles. NRPC says up to 77,000 vehicles. They also talk about proactive planning. General plans, local ordinances and good neighbor policies. I like that word. In addition, general policies, local ordinances and good neighbor policies should set minimum standards for logistics projects. We haven't done that yet. And it talks about the Bureau is aware of for good neighbor policies in California. These policies provide minimum standards at all. Warehouses in the jurisdiction must meet. For example, the West Riverside Council and government

policy sets a minimum buffer zone of 300 meters between warehouses and sensitive receptors, and it requires a number of design features to reduce truck impacts on nearby sensitive receptors, which is what we're talking about. Well, Mr. Crowley was talking about when he made those warrant articles. It talks about the most important considerations when planning logistics facilities as location located in residential neighborhoods or other sensitive receptors, exposed community residents, or those using or visiting sensitive receptor sites to air pollution, noise traffic and other environmental impacts they generate. Another one talks about having warehouse facilities, property lines said at least one thousand feet from the nearest receptor. So is the receptor your backyard where you can play in your backyard with your kids playing catch? I don't know how far that is that talks about fully analyzing all reasonably foreseeable project impacts. We're not doing that. There's going to be a vote tomorrow on the Friary project, and if we fully analyze all reasonable foreseeable project impacts, including cumulative impacts in general, new developments are not ministerial under this because they involve public official's personal judgment as to the wisdom or manner of carrying out the project.

Mr. Debut went on to say, so the problem I see here is that we're asking for an impact study. We don't know what the full impact of the Friary project the HLC is going to take and where on the agenda tomorrow is. The vote on this on this project, which absolutely makes no sense to me. And again, Mr. Morin, I would ask you to fight for us when you're there, fight for us. We've been at every single meeting. A majority of us have been in meetings for two years. I I've been busy with the military at a young family. Shame on me for saying yes to that 50 foot height, but we're telling you now. We're in a meeting saying we want to fix this. We want to bring the building height down. We might want to move them further back. And a developer and a lawyer tells the Planning Board, vote no. The residents will follow you. The last thing I want to mention, it was mentioned earlier is the right to know lawsuit. I'm really bothered that there's a group of residents that asked for information they believe they didn't get the information, whether they did or not. I don't know. You know, I don't know the full impact of what they haven't received, but I'm bothered that they asked to come here for settlement, and I haven't seen the Town presents something on the on their website saying that we're going to shut down this right to no lawsuit. We're going against our residents. I think the residents are just asking for information. If it's not given properly, let's work on how to do that. I was in that industry for 25 years and I've done incredible amount of right to know lawsuits in public life. It's very difficult. But we can get it done. I really appreciate all your time. I'll sit here and I don't want to banter back and forth. That's not what I'm here. I'm telling you how I feel and how I feel that we were being represented. And if people feel differently, that's OK. I'm telling you, this is how I feel we're being represented by the Board of Selectmen on the Planning Board, and I'm really asking you, we come to this meeting. We're telling you everyone tonight. We're not happy with this. Please go there and fight for us. Don't let developers say, rubberstamp this. We're going to they're going to follow your lead. That's what I'm asking for.

Chairman McGrath recognized Selectman Morin who said your comment not fighting for you. I'm going to say it again. We were following what the voters had told us to do until this project came up. Since that time, Mr. Selectman Gagnon just told you we had NRPC in here to start the traffic stuff. Ok? We talked about it was going to be \$100000 to get a study to come in here when Brian came in. Is that what he was? Selectman Roy said, no. The first part of it was only, I think, he said, was five...Selectman Morin then said I thought Brian gave us a price of \$100,000 to start moving through. Selectman Roy replied, No, no. At this point Town Engineer, Elvis Dhima, came up to the microphone and said there was two options prepared by the NRPC. One was close to five to seven thousand. The other was 100 grand, which was a Cadillac version. The Board gave the green light to move forward with a master plan update to that five grand, making sure that they're within the budget. So that's ongoing. Selectman Morin responded to that saying, right. So there was a step there that we've taken. We heard you. You've got warrant articles, OK? They was submitted. Ok, so it's not like we haven't done anything. And again, you need to understand nobody said anything until this started. That's the issue here. We were going by what the voters told us. There were three large, very large projects going in there. BAE people knew that at some point this was coming. You had three a casino. Imagine what that would have done to your neighborhood. Ok, but nobody asked us

to change it. So we took it, assumed and that those were all before my time, so there could have been changed then. Nobody came when I was here until this started. At that point we're zoned.

Mr. Debutc replied to Selectman Morin saying but we were, when the warrant articles were presented last week, there was no one on the Town that was defending the warrant articles. It was a blanket No, and even as they were voted, no, voted no some of the speakers got there and said, I'm not surprised that it was a unanimous vote against it. And people listen to the Board of Selectmen. You're our elected officials. We're listening to you. If it's so bad and we're telling you it's that bad, why don't you defend? Well, why didn't you defend a single warrant article? There was not a single warrant article that was defended. Besides Mr. Oates, defending a warrant article. That is my problem is that the residents are telling you, we want these warrant articles, we want these changes, and no one is saying, you know, you might be right, let's do one of them. Let's take the one that's the least impactful to the residents, but you have a real estate agent, you have a lawyer saying vote no on them because the residents will. So what's going to happen is the residents will look at it, the residents that don't pay attention, and I'm going to be here in after the election. I'm going to be told, oh, the residents unanimously voted against these if they voted against them because the Planning Board said unanimously, no, they're following the lead. So that is my problem is that you have some residents that don't pay attention. They go there and they vote. That isn't what's happening now. We have a group of people that want to make the Town better. We're not fighting with you. We want to work with you. We want to make this town better. But it doesn't seem like sometimes we're working together. We're a team. We vote for you. We want you to be sitting here. We appreciate everything you do, but we have your back. You need to have our back. That's my that's my thing. And I wasn't trying to insult you, Mr. Morin. But when you talked about just a single thing and a lot of the warrant articles was about 50 feet, I really wish you would have brought up. And in Mr. Gagnon. No when was that 50 foot height? Is that what a satisfied me about it said, OK, he's actually hitting both ends of this, that this is a 1940's zoning, but it's a 2017 change.

Selectman Morin then said the 50 foot height. We talked about the economic development that the Town did. That was before my time. That was part of all that again, that was voted in, unanimously voted in by the voters, that they wanted an economic development. They wanted those industrial parks working and filled. That's part of it. Again, there was no change brought to us before my time or during my time to change that until this started. Mr. Debutc replied, and you didn't defend it. Selectman Morin responded saying, but at this point, we have it in place and the voters did it, so we have to change it. I personally, with all the rules and regulations that the Planning Board has to follow, we did what we could do and that's what got done.

At this point Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said thank you Madam Chair. Just some generic statements. The Chairman replied, I'm trying to cut this off. We've got other business to do so. Selectman Gagnon replied, completely understood. More generic to you and the other speakers tonight. If you can provide your written statements to all of us by email, that way, we can read them. Digest them. To Mr. Crowley. Forgive me, I did receive your email. It was a delay on my part, so I'm sorry about that. Let's see here. The right to know case is working. Obviously, we can't talk about it too much, but all I can say is be patient. I know it's really tough, but it's working. Otherwise, just really quickly to intervening status. I'm no lawyer. You heard from Mrs. Roy. But just I did ask those questions. And again, I need to be careful how I say here. But the the answer I got was reasonable. They said that the petitioner called out HLC in the petition, and that's why it spawned the possibility for HLC and their representatives to then intervene. But from what I've seen and what I've asked of people I trust, I don't see malicious intent or haven't found malicious intent with that. So that's all I had. Thank you. Chairman McGrath they said to Selectman Gagnon, you sure you're done? To which Selectman Gagnon replied, yes, ma'am.

Chairman McGrath then said, Ok. So we've gone on for about an hour now with this. And listen, I have to be cautious about how I say this. I am sympathetic to the people in in your neighborhood. I'm just south of you. I'm right on River Road. This is in my backyard. I've gone through all of this development over the years. I've lived in in the house that I am in now. I've lived there since I was a

baby and I mean a baby. I was less than a year old. I've seen a lot of changes that I don't like. One of them that I really don't like is the Wal-Mart building and the Sam's Club across the street and all of the traffic that that brought to the neighborhood. All of this I've lived through it all. Do you think I'm any happier with this development than I was with any of the others? I'm less happy with this than I was with the others, and I'm sure I'm going to if I live long enough to see it, then I'm going to be really unhappy with it because I'm not going to be happy with the traffic or anything else. If I had... I guess I've gone a little bit too far. I could say a little bit more and why I voted the way that I did when I abstained from voting. I think some of you people can probably figure it out. And if you can't, there'll be someone that can whisper it in your ear. But I really didn't want to vote that way. I really didn't intend to vote that way. It was all because of one person. So in any event, change isn't pretty and it certainly isn't pretty and in our neck of the woods. We're getting all of the traffic coming up from Massachusetts. We're getting all of the traffic coming from the north end of town and I'm not happy, but I'm in a position where I have to... I have to make decisions that are for the entire Town and not just our neck of the woods. So, you know, understand that that's the predicament that I'm in and I have to do what's right for the entire Town and not just our neck of the woods. So thank you. I think we've gone. Mr. Debut replied, thank you very much. Thank you for everything you do.

5. RECOGNITIONS, NOMINATIONS & APPOINTMENTS

A. Appointments

- 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

Selectman Roy made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin to nominate and appoint Gerald (Gary) Dearborn as a member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment with a term to expire 12/31/23. Carried 5-0. Selectman Roy then said, he did a great job when he was on the ZBA before and I have confidence that he will continue to do a great job.

- 2) Conservation Commission - (1 member term to expire 12/31/24, 1 alternate member term to expire 12/31/22)

Brian Pinsonneault

The Town Administrator explained Mr. Pinsonneault is currently an alternate member and is seeking a full member term that was vacated by Mr. Brownrig, I believe. Chairman McGrath then said I was contacted by the Chairman of the Conservation Commission asking to consider putting him on as a full member. Seeing Conservation Commission Chairman, Bill Collins, in the audience, Chairman McGrath asked him if he'd like to say a few words. Mr. Collins came forward and said I did indeed contact Selectman McGrath about this position. We recently had an appointed position that was not filled, and I thought at this juncture, we're not getting an overabundance of applicants for the for the alternate position or that membership position. And rather than just keep, you know, appointing him at every meeting, I talked to Mr. Pinsonneault, he agreed to step up into the membership position. So I think he'll be a good fit for the Conservation Commission and he'll do well for the Town.

Selectman Gagnon made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to appoint Brian Pinsonneault as a full member of the Conservation Commission with a term to expire 12/31/24. Carried 5-0.

6. CONSENT ITEMS

Chairman McGrath asked does any member of the Board wish to remove any item for separate consent. Selectman Morin asked that item 6B-1 be removed. Selectman Roy made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin to approve consent items A, B2, C, D, and F. Carried 5-0.

Selectman Morin then said item 6B-1 The only question I got is that the approximate length of time at each location five to ten minutes and he's going from Industrial Park Drive to Executive Drive, et cetera. So I don't. Did you get anything on that, Mr. Malizia? The Town Administrator replied, he's a mobile food unit, so he basically pulls up beeps to horn. People come out. Selectman Morin replied so more like a food truck versus...to which the Town Administrator replied, yeah, they call them roach coaches. Selectman Morin replied, all right, I make a motion to accept item 6B-1. This was seconded by Selectman Guessferd. Carried 5-0.

A. Assessing Items

- 1) Veterans Tax Credits: map 217, lot 003, sub 015, 6 Empire Circle; map 174, lot 019, 27 Baker St.; map 168, lot 002, sub 024, 23 Krystal Dr.
- 2) Certification of Yield Taxes/Timber Warrants: map 105, lot 017, sub 002, 201 Robinson Rd.; map 105, lot 017, sub 003, 199 Robinson Rd.
- 3) 2021 Property - Tax Supplemental Bill: map 191, lot 70, 35 B Street
- 4) 2021 Property Tax Abatement: map 150, lot 1-1 & Lot 1-2, 82A & 82B Greeley Street

B. Water/Sewer Items - None

C. Licenses & Permits & Policies

- 1) Hawker-Peddler License Renewal - Jimmy's Catering
- 2) Tag Day Permit - Girl Scout Troop 219

D. Donations

- 1) \$150 Gift Card Donation to Hudson Police Department from Anonymous

E. Acceptance of Minutes

- 1) Minutes of January 11, 2022

F. Calendar

- | | | |
|------|--------|--|
| 1/26 | 7:00 | Planning Board - Hudson Community Center |
| 1/27 | 7:00 | Zoning Board of Adjustment - Buxton Meeting Room |
| 2/05 | 9:00am | School District Deliberative Session - Hudson Community Center |
| 2/08 | 7:00 | Board of Selectmen - BOS Meeting Room |
| 2/09 | 7:00 | Planning Board - Hudson Community Center |
| 2/12 | 9:00am | Town Deliberative Session - Hudson Community Center |

7. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Votes taken after Nonpublic Session on January 11, 2022

- 1) Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin to hire Nicholas Fazio for the position of Truck Driver/Laborer at a rate of \$20.72 per hour (Grade VIII Step 1) in accordance with Hudson Public Works Local #1801 AFSCME agreement. Carried 5-0.
- 2) Selectman Gagnon made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin to hire Logan Monroe as a part time HCTV Videographer Regular Special Shift Employee at a rate of \$60.00 per meeting, with every hour over four (4) hours at a rate of \$15.00 per hour. Carried 5-0.
- 3) Selectman Gagnon made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to reinstate Michael Johnson to full time status in his position as HCTV Production Coordinator. Carried 5-0.
- 4) Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd to allow Chief William Avery to buy back all of his vacation time. Carried 5-0.
- 5) Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd to appoint John Beike to the position of IT Director for the Town of Hudson starting January 12, 2022, at an annual salary of \$102,211 with a review and adjustment after six months. Carried 4-1 with Selectman Roy opposed.
- 6) Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd to appoint Captain Tad Dionne as Hudson Police Chief effective February 26, 2022. Carried 5-0.
- 7) Selectman Gagnon made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd to adjourn at 10:52p.m. Carried 5-0.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Public Hearing - Acceptance of 2022 Exotic Aquatic Plant Control Grant

Chairman McGrath recognized Town Engineer, Elvis Dhima and Conservation Commission Chairman, Bill Collins. Mr. Dhima began by saying we're here before you tonight to see if you'll accept the proposed grants from the Hampshire. These for exotic aquatic plant control at both Ottarnic Pond and Robinson Pond for fiscal year 2022. The grant this year is 50% matching of \$75,760. The Town will be responsible for \$37,880, which will come from the Conservation Commission's Professional Services Fund. Ok, I'll be happy to answer any questions we've gone through this a few times. Chairman McGrath replied, I'm sure there's going to be a question from this corner of the room. Selectman Roy said that's what he's there for. Chairman McGrath continued saying, I could put a mirror up there and you could just look at in that direction. Selectman Gagnon then said thank you, Madam Chair. So I know I probably should know this, but for my own knowledge, I've talked to other towns about this work that we do. Why is it that we spend this money on these lakes? Is it because they're open to public boating access and that's why they require this kind of work? Why do other towns not seemingly do a lot of this work?

Mr. Collins responded saying, actually, there is quite a bit of work going throughout the Town, Baboosic Lake and Naticook Lake and a bunch of others all have active exotic species control in their ponds. Without this work being done, it would only take a few years before Robinson Pond and Ottarnic Pond would become an unusable body of water for recreational purposes. The weeds are growing very quickly. Fish and other, you know, part of the ecosystem would just kind of collapse. It's something that we have to do to keep these recreational spots open for, for the public to enjoy. Mr. Dhima added yeah, if some of the other communities don't do it, it's because they either don't have the funds or they don't see the need for it or a combination or hybrid. But what we do know is that the state had an issue with funding not too long ago, and they were cutting the funds to 25% and all of a sudden they went back to 40% or 50%. So what that tells you is that less and less communities are

using that money and the ones that are still in there profiting more by basically splitting this 50 50, I would not be surprised if this goes to 60 in the future because there's less and less communities that have the will, I guess, to put all this money in to take care of that water.

Mr. Dhima went on to say, I will tell you as a perfect example, and I think you were a member of the Con Comm at the time was Benson Pond. That was becoming a real issue where the weeds and milfoil was taking over, and you simply cannot see the bottom and conservation commission, I think, funded \$5,000 for a bubbler, and the weeds there have dropped, the dead plants have dropped by two to three feet just in one year. So yeah, you lose a water body if you don't, if you do not do this program. Selectman Gagnon replied, I completely understand. Mr. Dhima then said but to your point, there's a lot of communities that simply don't have the money the means or the people willing to oversee this thing. So it doesn't get done and it will get done when it becomes an emergency and it will be too late by then. Selectman Gagnon replied, understood. And I completely recognize the need for it. Absolutely. I was just wondering if there was a connection between being a public boat launch and this grant. Or is it just any town with any body of water is allowed to use this type of money? Mr. Dhima replied saying, I think any town that has this kind of milfoil or a particular invasive species that the state is willing to pay for not every, but this particular one, they could be subject to it as long as they apply for it, as long as they work with the state to the program. Not everyone is set up like us, unfortunately. Ok. Does that make sense? Selectman Gagnon replied, yeah, that answers my question. Thank you, sir. Thank you for letting me do my job, Madam Chair. Chairman McGrath responded to Selectman Gagnon saying, Say that again. Selectman Gagnon replied, I said, thank you for letting me do my job, Madam Chair. Chairman McGrath then said you're not on the Conservation Commission, though any longer, right? Selectman Gagnon replied, no, ma'am. Chairman McGrath then said, so next up on the agenda is...the Town Administrator said you have to open the public hearing. The public hearing was opened at 8:12pm. Seeing no one present to comment, the public hearing was closed at 8:12pm. Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Gagnon to accept the Aquatic Exotic Plant Control Grant from NHDES for services for spring/summer 2022. Carried 5-0.

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

Town Engineer, Elvis Dhima and Conservation Commission Chairman, Bill Collins, were again recognized. Mr. Dhima explained, the second item for you tonight is the actual contracts, the two vendors that we use for the chemical and the actual milfoil replacement. They're in front of you tonight for approval. With that said, again, those services would be paid 50% by the Town and 50% by the State. We're working in close communication with the state and us for any work that they do. So we can coordinate, especially for the chemical treatments with public output or public notifications of things we do out there. And with that said, these vendors have worked for the Town in the past. There's not a lot of them out there, and they're recommended to the Board of Selectmen for approval of these contracts. Tonight, we'll take any questions you might have.

Chairman McGrath recognized Selectman Guessferd who said the contracts themselves, I notice they're from those companies. Did we run these through legal? Mr. Dhima replied, no, we did run them through the State and we review them ourselves. We do use legal when we really haven't used someone in the past or there's some language. This has been done in the past for the past seven years since I've been here at least, so there's nothing there. The only thing that's changed is one of the vendors wanted 10% down payment and wanted some kind of commitment for the season. So that was the only language. Another piece that we added to it was all the work needs to be approved by the State and the Town Engineering Department or Conservation Commission prior to any work being done out there. It's kind of pretty much it. The language is the same. Selectman Guessferd replied saying, I mean, there tends to be a lot of legal terms in there, but these are consistent with

what we've seen in the past. So not really a need to run this through a full legal review. Mr. Dhima replied, we haven't, I haven't seen the need. I do look for changes to your point if I do, and it triggers some kind of. So in the past last year, for example, we avoided a contract because they wanted 50% down. We couldn't accommodate that. There was no need for me to go to Steve to tell them I need an hour or two from legal to review it when I wouldn't going to agree. Selectman Guessferd replied, right it's a balance of use of legal funds versus, you know. Mr. Dhima replied, the rule of thumb is if it's something that we feel comfortable with and we don't see anything out there. Yeah, but if it's something that we need a second set of eyes, we do involve legal all the time.

Selectman Guessferd replied saying ok. As long as I'm just making sure that we're looking at those terms, it's like if there's a lot of legal terms in these contracts, sometimes they throw in there and you just have to kind of keep your eye out for them.

Mr. Dhima replied, it's true. No, I hear you. At this point Mr. Collins added, this is a very niche type of service provided to any community, and there's not a lot of people that do it. Aqualogic is just there actually out of New York, but I think there's two or three people that do DASH work itself. So it's kind of a unique job and Solitude. We've been using Solitude for the last, I want to say, eight to ten years. You know, for the herbicide treatments last year, we didn't really need a herbicide treatment. And so everything was done mechanically by suction harvesting and things like that. Selectman Guessferd replied, Okay. All right. Well, since you know, and again, since same company, the same basic contract, I'm OK with that. As long as we're again kind of keeping our eyes on some of those terms, if anything changes, then kind of just thinking about it and looking at. Mr. Dhima replied, you got it.

Selectman Gagnon made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to Motion to approve and sign the attached 2022 contract for: Solitude Lake Management for herbicide treatment at Ottarnic and Robinson Ponds as needed, for up to \$61,660.00; Aqualogic for DASH work at both Ottarnic and Robinson Ponds as needed, up to \$14,100.00. The cost for these contracts will be covered by the NHDES Exotic Aquatic Plant Control Grant at a 50% cost match, and the Town portion of up to \$37,880.00 will be covered through the Conservation Commission Professional Services Account #5586-252. Carried 5-0.

C. February 22, 2022 Board of Selectmen Meeting

Selectman Roy was recognized and said so I had originally added this to the agenda because I believe there was a conflict between Candidates Night and that meeting. However, there was some confusion about the date and Candidate Night is actually February 24th, so I have no need to go forward with the motion. Chairman McGrath said so we can just ignore this. To which the Town Administrator replied, yes. No action is necessary.

9. Remarks by the Town Administrator

The Town Administrator said I only have a couple of things. I just want to remind everybody that the deadline to file for candidacies for School and Town offices is this Friday, January 28th. The office, the Town Clerk's office will be up until five o'clock, so anybody interested in running for either the School Board seats or various Town offices or boards? The deadline is Friday, the 28th and very quickly I just wanted to mention the police station open houses this Thursday, January 27th from six to eight p.m. That's an opportunity for the citizens to go. We're looking for a bond to expand and renovate the station, and this is your opportunity to get it in person, up close look. Chairman McGrath asked when is that? To which the Town Administrator replied, Thursday, January 27th from 6:00pm to 8:00pm.

10. Remarks by the School Board

School Board Chairman, Gary Gasdia, was recognized and said Great. So just to piggyback off Mr. Malaysia, there are two openings on the School Board. So if you're interested, file by Friday and then the Deliberative Session for the Schools is Saturday, February 5th, 9:00 a.m. at the Community Center. I hope people can come there. It's a great way to get involved and understand what you're voting on come March.

And then the only other thing I have is, as everyone is aware, the month of January, we've seen a significant surge in the number of COVID cases. And I want to thank everybody in the school system and everyone in the town, especially Chief Buxton. The relationship between the Chief and the schools has been amazing this whole time and given the numbers that we saw, the fact that we were, we've been able to stay open. Things are being planned. If we look into the future, our calendar looks very pre-COVID. We're planning the Washington, D.C., trip for the eighth graders, prom, graduation, cabarets back on. So a lot of good things. So, Mr. Guessferd, if you want to volunteer, they always looking for someone for the spotlight. But it's looking like we might, there might be some light at the end of the tunnel, but this was a big test to the system. Everybody chipped in. We had administrators and everybody manning, you know, whether it was lunch, lunch monitors or, you know, gym or whatever and we made through made it through. And that's because everyone came together and did it. And so hopefully the worst is behind us and brighter, brighter days are ahead. So that's it.

11. Other Business/Comments by the Selectmen

Selectman Gagnon: Selectman, thank you, Madam Chair. Just a quick update. Sustainability Committee is still proceeding with their CPRNH work regarding power aggregation. They've been following some, some laws in the state. Some have passed that put up some barriers. Others have been beneficial. As I hear updates, I try to post on my Facebook page to let the residents know how they're proceeding. But I'm very proud they're doing great work.

And to a lot of the speakers tonight. You know, I take a lot of this to heart and you know, I used to be a resident while I am still a resident myself. But I do kind of see both sides of the spectrum from where I'm sitting. And, you know, I like to kind of just say, I wrote a note to myself here. We both have some truth to what both sides say if you look at it as two different sides, but we both have some failures, which we've all admitted on both sides. I find what we really need is to both work as best we can on respect and building trust because I think none of us in this room are bad people. We may have different perspectives and sometimes we get a little heated because we're so passionate about those perspectives. But we're really degrading the trust, I think, which is causing unnecessary conflict. And I think if we just get together and talk a little bit more, we can come to some reasonable agreements and solutions. So I look forward to hopefully doing that as the months and years progress with the projects you speak about or the projects to come. But I do thank you for voicing your opinion. Thank you, Madam Chair.

Selectman Roy: So first, I'm going to say what I said last night at the School Board meeting. We are in the most important time of the year for the Town. The Town election season, so as was mentioned, the School Deliberative Session is February 5th. The Town Deliberative Session is February 12th. If you want to run for an open seat, the open seats are listed on the Town website. I believe on the on

the School website, and you must do that by Friday, the 28th. I personally am looking quite interested in who's going to be on the ballot for the Planning Board. So yeah.

And then my other remark is, first of all, I want to I appreciate, as I say all the time, I really do appreciate the public input that happens here, and I hope it continues. One of the comments made by Mr. Sakati tonight kind of hit home about bringing the temperature down and lowering the rhetoric, and that's something that must start in this room. You know, we see some anger and vitriol throughout some of our meetings, and it's just counterproductive. We have to be able to have discussions about issues that affect the Town in a professional manner where everybody is listening to everybody and everybody has their say. I think we just need to do better with that, and that's all I have.

Selectman Morin: all set tonight, thank you.

Selectman Guessferd: As an update, I think most people know that the Budget Committee met a week and a half ago, and all the Town articles were recommended to go to the warrant to the Deliberative Session. So that was that was good news, and I think the most visible one of those being the police station renovations and urge, you know, urge citizens to come out and support of that as we've supported the Budget Committee has supported it, come out and go to that open house. If you haven't, even if you have go back again, it'll reinforce the needs we have there. So that's that's important.

I do also want to mention thank you for all the folks who come out. If the public input is important, we don't always, you know, it's sometimes is a bit, I wouldn't say combative, but there's differing opinions and it's important that they're out there. So thank you for coming in and we do appreciate you coming in. Other than that Deliberative Session on the 12th of February for the Town and the vote in March, so get involved, stay involved and get out and vote.

Chairman McGrath: I don't have anything other than to encourage the people to vote. Chairman McGrath the asked Cpt. Tad Dionne to come forward to talk about the upcoming Open House at the Police Department. Cpt. Dionne said January 27th 6:00 to 8:00 pm we'd love to have everybody come down, especially people who have never had an opportunity to get a guided tour. We're going to bring you around and tell you what our needs are. I can tell you that our biggest needs Are safety, security and Spatial. So we invite everybody to come down. We'll have the command staff there. Some of our officers will be there for guided tours. And I believe HCTV is going to be down to for a guided tour.

12. Nonpublic Session

Motion by Selectman Morin at 8:28 p.m., seconded by Chairman Guessferd to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (b) the hiring of any person as a public employee. And RSA 91-A: 2 I (a) Strategy or negotiations with respect to collective bargaining. A roll call vote was taken. Carried 5-0.

Nonpublic Session was entered at 8:28 p.m. thus ending the televised portion of the meeting. Any votes taken upon entering open session will be listed on the Board's next agenda. The public is asked to leave the room.

Chairman McGrath entered open session at 8:46 p.m.

Motions made after nonpublic session

1. Selectman Roy made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin to hire Haley Bassett as a part time HCTV Videographer Regular Special Shift Employee at a rate of \$60.00 per meeting, with every hour over four (4) hours at a rate of \$15.00 per hour. Carried 5-0.

2. Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to approve the Memorandum of Agreement with the Hudson Police Employees Association to clarify the agreement language regarding Master Patrol Officers and to allow for certain previously certified Police Officers or equivalent, to be hired at wage steps commensurate with previous service and to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the MOU. Carried 5-0.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 8:47 p.m. by Selectman Morin seconded by Selectman Gagnon 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