

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the April 26, 2022 Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER - by Chairperson Roy the meeting of April 26, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the Selectmen Meeting Room at Town Hall
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Town Engineer Elvis Dhima
3. ATTENDANCE

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

Staff/Others: Tad Dionne, Police Chief; Jess Forrence, DPW Director; Elvis Dhima, Town Engineer; Jim Battis, Chairman CTAC; Bill Collins, Chairman Conservation Commission; Lisa Labrie, Finance Director; Mike Campbell, School Board Representative; Jill Laffin, Executive Assistant

Town Administrator was on vacation.

4. PUBLIC INPUT

Chairperson Roy asked if there was anyone in the audience wishing to address the Board on any issue the Board has control of at this time?

- 1) Jim Dobens, 4 Eagle Drive

My name is Jim Dobens and I reside at 4 Eagle Drive in Hudson. It's been a few weeks since I've been here, but I have a few things in my mind that I'd like to share with the Board if I could. So there are a couple of areas of concerns I'd like to bring to the Board's attention as a resident of Hudson. First is around absentee ballots. I brought to the attention of the Board the late timing of absentee ballots being made available during this Town's past election. They did not become available until February 24th or 25th, at which time I had to have them mailed to me. I did not receive the ballots until Monday, March 7th, in the mail with a due back date of March 8th by 5 p.m. So I FedEx them for \$52 to get them here. I also know of others that do not vote absentee due to the time limitations of when the ballots are sent out. This needs to be addressed for future elections. I really found that rather appalling, to be honest with you.

Second, the recent announcement by Amazon to pull out from the Hudson Logistics Center. And what that means I would like to remind this board that all traffic, noise, air, sewer, water and land studies were based on Amazon being the tenant. The traffic studies were unique to Amazon, as everyone called out, as was a part of the sewer allocation decision. So any new tenant or change will need to be restarted, restarted in all of these areas. Their impact will be different than having Amazon in there. Remember, the traffic studies there were based on 50 to 60% capacity usage with the accordion impact for a couple of weeks. That will change with a new tenant. Even the movement of a building location or shrinking one will have a different impact. Building C was based on traffic numbers as generated by the Amazon study. The town has the opportunity to work towards responsible development. Also understand that the revenue impact could be altered with changes like this from the developer.

Third should Hudson continue down its current development path? The Town should consider rewriting the Welcome to the Neighborhood welcome on its website. Has anybody read this recently? I had a fascinating conversation with a fellow employee who are now moving from Cincinnati, Ohio to Boston for work. And he's decided to build a house at Eagle's Nest in Hudson. He is investing over \$900,000 to move here. And now that he has the facts on what is going on, he'll be having a conversation with the real estate agent. He was expecting two 18 hole golf courses was never told they would be going away. Easy roadway and quick access to major roads was unaware that our

roadway system is basically rated F with significant traffic issues. Was unaware that right along Eagle's Nest is property that could become a major bypass road, a.k.a. the Hudson Boulevard or a.k.a. the Circumferential, whatever you choose to want to call it was completely unaware that major logistic centers were being planned for Hudson in multiple locations, along with some high density housing. He said he feels like what Hudson is calling itself doesn't align to what it is transpiring to be. Some of these things should have been disclosed, in his opinion. Fourth and final. I'm still watching and waiting for Hudson to do a true infrastructure study built into a master planning process that does need to be done. We all want to make Hudson a great place to call home, and recent changes should allow us to get back on track. Thank you very much.

2) Heidi Jakoby 94 Gowing Road

My name is Heidi Jakoby, 94 Gowning Road. As the first named plaintiff in the Right to Know lawsuit, which led to the formation of the Right to Know committee, I want to begin by thanking the Town of Hudson for agreeing to a settlement which will enhance the communication and transparency between the Town and its residents. I am in full support of the currently appointed members of the committee and am thankful that today you will add Flo Nicolas to the committee. The recent resignation of a full Planning Board member does not seem to be on the agenda for this evening. But I do want to speak in support of Victor Oates, who is the senior alternate on the Planning Board to be appointed to this vacancy. Mr. Oates ability to critically evaluate applications and to ask informed questions of the applicant is appreciated. Mr. Oates also arrives prepared to each meeting with clarifying questions for the applicant, and I believe he has the best interest of the Town guiding him in all his inquiries.

Finally today, you will be electing the selectmen members to be on the Planning Board. My hope is that whomever you elect will accurately support and assist the committee in following their Planning Board rules of Procedure. Unfortunately, at the March 23rd, 2022 Planning Board meeting, despite concerns being raised by the public, none of the members of the Planning Board, including the Select Board Member and the Chair, deferred the matters before the Board as per VII Section 4H of the Town of Hudson, New Hampshire Planning Board Rules for Procedure Adopted February 9, 2022. It reads as follows: if the regular meeting room does not contain sufficient seating for the applicant's/public et al, the matter shall be deferred and the venue shall be moved to any area which allows sufficient seating in the room. As you can see from any of the public videos and pictures of that meeting, there were people standing all around. It was hot with little airflow. Individuals were seated on the floor. I know my anxiety was increased. Just thinking about how we would all be able to exit the room if an emergency occurred. Later, I found out there was a second exit, but no one had informed the crowd that there was an alternative exit. Signs are there, but human nature is to exit the way you arrived, which is up the stairs. Having worked in conference services, all occupancy numbers vary according to the actual setup of the room. When the fire department representative arrived on site, they did not identify themselves, nor did they inform the crowd as to why they were there and what had been decided. Most importantly, why was the meeting allowed to continue with what clearly was a very dangerous and uncomfortable situation? The room occupancy certificate, which was in the hallway, was not only expired but did not indicate the configuration of the room needed to accommodate the number of people indicated furnishings do account for space, thus lowering the number of people who can safely occupy any space. It is the Towns and especially the Chairs responsibility to ensure the safety of all involved. And I believe both the Chair and the Select Board Member was not moved in any way by the catastrophe which would have occurred if there had been an emergency. Thank you for your time and consideration.

3) Paige Schaller, 213 Fox Hollow Drive

Good evening. My name is Paige Schaller. 213 Fox Hollow Drive. As an event manager for about 20 years now, in many sizes of public assembly facilities, ranging from large arenas down to meeting rooms such as this size. I was thankful. And what's coming after this is going to sound like a strange thing to say, that I was thankful I was not in town and instead I was at my brother's funeral on the 23rd. Otherwise, I would have been in that packed room, and my anxiety also would have been sky high and I would have actually spoken up and said something. I've been through many public safety trainings and exercises that are done. Active shooter, everything. So I fortunately am a person that does look for the exits. I'm the one who pointed out to Heidi where the other exit was, and that was about two weeks later. I know from these trainings and also from having watched videos, think about the station nightclub fire. If people trying to get out of places when they're on fire or when an emergency happens and you do go in the same way you came out, I can't imagine if that night something had happened, the lights go out, people need to exit and they're tripping over people sitting on the floor. They're tripping over the haphazard chairs and they're stacking themselves up on the stairs trying to get out. We're lucky nothing happened. I don't know why when the Fire Department came, they didn't say anything. I do see on the room occupancy permit, which is expired. I don't know. I hope that's been fixed at this point. I do see that the Buxton meeting room was for 75 people. Through photos of that evening you can count over 65. So by that capacity, no, it wasn't over capacity, but by the furniture in the room and the square footage that would be needed, I could say 75 maybe that standing but seated and with all the tables around, I don't see it being 75, especially looking at these pictures. I think the planning board that evening was looking out for the developer. The developer wanted a decision that night and didn't want to have to defer. Instead of looking out for public safety and the public of this town, they were looking out for the developer. I think we need to address them taking a look at their rules and regulations and following them and thinking a little bit more about the public. Thank you.

4) Dean Sakati, 11 Fairway Drive

Hi. Thanks for your time. It's as usual, it's a pleasure to be before you tonight. I just wanted to thank you. Selectman McGrath asked for name and address for the record. Mr. Sakati then said, Dean Sakati, 11 Fairway Drive. That's in Hudson, New Hampshire. What I want to speak to is so I obviously read the news that Amazon has pulled back from their ambitious plan to use Hudson as a logistical hub. The developer has said they want to honor the commitments to the Town and the developer is planning a new plan for the property. I don't know if anyone knows anything more. That's what I read. So what I want to come before you tonight is to talk about briefly how we can collaborate with the proposed developer and the Town and a group of residents to help shape an outcome that is responsible development for the Town with specific principles in mind. This gets back to the project that we talked about a few months ago. So, you know, as I mentioned before, the principles of a joint collaborative development would be sustaining Hudson's character, retaining Hudson's green space, building a stronger community, retaining and creating high quality jobs, increasing recreational opportunities, promoting real progress. And what I would add to that would be giving the Friel's an opportunity to sell the property, which they obviously wanted to do for some time, and then giving the developer the opportunity to do some light development and I emphasize light development. So back in February we had a great conversation about a concept which I'm now going to call Project Phoenix, and that the project was where the Town of Hudson acquires the Green Meadow Golf Club through a private partnership and uses a profits of the revenue from the golf club, as well as light development to pay off the debt, as well as augment the Town's budget.

So it's a win-win for everyone. And where there's a developer that presumably, I don't know where they stand with it currently, but I just looking at the press release that came from this body, they obviously still want to engage in something so they could potentially develop the light development around the property and maybe they could even be the operator of the of the facility. But I still think the Town it would probably be best if the Town owned it because then the Town owns an

appreciating asset and can control the amount of growth and how it's developed in the future years. So just to reiterate, what was the concept? The concept was taking the Green Meadows golf course, currently 36 holes, two golf courses, and collapsing that into one golf course and one nine hole executive course, maybe even a par three course and then taking the remaining space and doing some light development. And that would include promoting golf as it stands, dining, river activities an outdoor theater, a wedding and conference venue, walking trails, running trails and winter sports. And with light development, the Town has the ability to dial in the revenue that they want.

If they want \$5 Million, they dial up the development to achieve \$5 Million in profits that goes to the Town. If they want less, then we can have less. If we want more, we can dial that up accordingly as well. This would be a great way to promote high quality jobs in New Hampshire, and I'm going to elaborate on this a little bit more. Hillwood If you look at their website, has experience developing mixed use properties that include retail, hospitality, residential parks and trails. And they did or are doing one in Dallas, around Dallas, I believe. And and and the parks and trails are stunning. So the financing would be would be financed by the Town, the jobs would be high quality jobs. And that development, if we wanted to turn the dial up a little bit on the development, we could create a collaboration center, an innovation center for New Hampshire. I mean, something that's not of grand scale, but something that's that allows new startups or new technology firms or the jobs of the future to locate in New Hampshire. Again, those properties would likely be along the highway, so they're not abutting or destroying the the residential neighborhoods that currently exist. But it would give an opportunity to again, dial up a little bit of development if the town wanted to. So again, that that was the concept. Maybe just, you know, again, the the things that we preserved in the Town would be the golf we would add golf simulators to make league play around the year round. We would we would retain the golf course employees and the management. We would create a management company that or Hillwood would or the developer would potentially administer the operations. The recreational capacity would include a river walk and park, extending the length of the property. A network of trails would nestle through the golf course, providing biking, running, walking. You know, restaurants would be local restaurants. It could be the Common Man. It could be Michael Timothy's, it could be T-Bones, it could be go on and on with with local, local partners that would want to lease property to be able to to have river riverfront dining. We would have a Hudson Town Common where we would have a space for beer gardens. We would be able to sponsor local craft beers, we'd have weekly farmer's markets. We would have an artist corner for display of local of local crafts. We would have water access with a boat ramp. We would have a boat house to support crew, kayaking and aquatic sports. We'd have outdoor theater, which would host community events with lawn seating that would provide year round entertainment. Outdoor ice skating arena with music and concessions would host skating five months out of the year. The winter sports would also generate another source of revenue. You could imagine fire pits around this around this property where people could lounge and just relax.

So again, we're taking something light development and we're also adding to the to the community and really building building a true community. We wanted another dial up, some, hotel 55 and up living community along some of the holes. But again, this would be just a way to dial up revenue if the Town wanted to and again, an innovation center. So I'm not going to take the 45 minutes I took last time, which I was honored to be able to have that time. But I would like to just say the ask. So what's my ask? My ask is that the Board of Selectmen proactively approach Hillwood about the concept as it as they evolve their own plans about what they want to do next. As obviously they're going to have to come up with a new they're developing probably as we speak, a new plan for that property. So why don't we jump ahead of it and try to shape the outcome? And hopefully the Friel's will be a great partner. We had talked last time, too, about creating a museum, a museum that honors their contribution to golf in New England, which is which they have something to be very proud of. And in conjunction with that, we'd have locker rooms for for high school students who could use that use that capacity. And again, we're we're building we're trying to draw in the, you know, the entire community, bringing the students in to intermingle with families and and others from southern New Hampshire.

So the ask is to to to approach Hillwood, you know, talk them about ideas. They do some great developments around the country. It's an opportunity for them to really shine and honor that commitment that they want to make to the town. And it benefits the Friel's. It benefits developers the benefits of Town, it benefits the residents and our in our young folks. And what I would say is the next step is form a group of residents to represent the town, to drive a plan. You know, we have a lot of very smart people in this town that can really help drive outcomes. I haven't spoken to this gentleman yet, but I'm going to throw his name out there. I'm going to is Mr. Dobens. He's a proven leader. He's an executive at a major corporation. He has strong views. He's able to drive outcomes. And he truly has the best interests of this town at heart, as we've seen over the last two years, where he has passionately gotten up and spoken and and really just tried to to drive what he knew was right. Because he knew what what. He had a lot of insights, so and I'd be glad to contribute my time. I'm sure there's a lot of other people that are that are smarter than me that could contribute to this. So that's my ask. Thank you.

Seeing no further public input the Chairperson closed public input at 7:21p.m. Selectman McGrath was recognized and said I have a comment that I'd like to make to Mr. Dobens. Mr. Dobens, the comment that you made about the absentee ballots. I think that you need to redirect that because we looked into it after you would hear the last time. You need to direct that comment, that commentary to the School. Whether it's the administration building across the street or the administration up at the top of the school system. But that's where the problem originated. The Chairperson then said so I'll make a follow on comment that there was a meeting where we addressed that. We believe the issue was fixed so that but of course, we won't know until August, I guess, during the primary elections.

Mr. Dobens then said just to add a comment, it was during that Board meeting that I brought it up that we were having issues with it and it was confusion because the School Board did that meeting with the gentleman who was sitting there, he was sitting there, I'd say the same thing, said that there was no problem with the School Boards. Selectman McGrath then said we found we found out afterwards. Mr. Dobens went on to say and there was and then there was continued delays. I mean, we all want to vote. And to me, we had military men and women that were unable to vote. And we had other people there were some residents that I know that were unable to vote because of the time frame for it. But I can direct my comments directly wherever they need to go. But I figured I'd start with the Board of Selectmen. Because you are the head of the fish. Selectman McGrath replied, no and I understand that. But we found out after that meeting we had a we had a discussion upstairs and they looked at the Tax Collector the Town Clerk indicated that the problem was with the School Department, so that I was here for a short amount of time that day. So I don't know what else they if they did anything other than that, but they looked into it as well. Mr. Dobens then said one of the sacred things we have is voting rights. Selectman McGrath replied, I agree. Mr. Dobens then said that's something we should not give up and that if we need to change the timing that those ballots need to be made available so they can be sent out to men and women overseas or people that are traveling. I'm not sure if there's something that has to be put into play that says those things should be ready, printed, done and in this office 30 days prior or whatever amount of time that it takes, because even the postal system today takes you five days to get something.

Selectman McGrath then said I'm not I'm not going to argue the issue with you because I consider my vote to be very important as well. So I understand your concern and I understand the concern of the people that weren't able to get their absentee vote in. But I'm just telling you that after that meeting, when you were here, we looked into it. I was here it was on a Friday, I believe, and that's what we were told upstairs in the Administration Office. Mr. Dobens then said I was told that. I was also told a couple of days before the 24th that it was a printing problem. Chairperson Roy then said in any event, in any event, we have we have had a meeting already. There's a plan. Again, we there are some time constraints so that you understand that we can't actually send them to the printer until after deliberative session on both sessions because if a warrant changes. Mr. Dobens then said I understand. Maybe the deliberative sessions have to be moved up. Chairperson Roy then said so but yeah, but, but, but we've put, we've put some in the schools, taken some action to hopefully

ensure that that doesn't happen again. So so we kind of focused on the problem solving part of it. Mr. Dobens then said I just wanted to bring it to your attention.

5. RECOGNITIONS, NOMINATIONS & APPOINTMENTS

A. Nominations

- 1) Municipal Utility Committee - (3 vacancies - 1 member term to expire 4/30/23, 1 member term to expire 4/30/24 and 1 member term to expire 4/30/25)

Dan O'Brien

The Chairperson invited Mr. O'Brien to come forward and asked him could you tell us a little bit about yourself? Mr. O'Brien replied saying, sure. My name is Dan O'Brien. I live at Hedgerow Drive. I've been a Hudson resident for nearly 25 years. My wife and I have raised two daughters who are fully grown professionally. I'm a newspaper editor for 32 years for various papers in both New Hampshire and Massachusetts. I know it's kind of clichéd, but with the kids grown, I have a little bit more time to give. It's something you've heard before. And I've been told that this particular committee is two seats short, and the only elephant in the room really is my wife is a utility clerk. So if that's a problem, we can take care of that right now. The Chairperson asked, does anybody have any questions for Mr. O'Brien? Selectman McGrath was recognized and said he'd be a welcome addition to the Municipal Utility Committee.

Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said if you may, can you just explain on that last comment? What do you mean is she a clerk at just a private sector business for utility or no? Mr. O'Brien replied, what I meant was that I've watched several of these meetings and many of the folks who come up here who are appointed mentioned the fact that they their kids are flown the nest. So to speak, and that they have more time to give. So I simply repeating that. Selectman Gagnon then said forgive me. I meant your wife is a clerk. Can you explain what exactly she does without too much personal? Mr. O'Brien replied, sorry. She works for the Town as a water utility clerk here. Selectman Gagnon replied, oh. Thank you. That's all.

Seeing no further questions from the Board Chairperson Roy said so what we typically do is we interview two tonight, and at our next meeting, will take a nomination and a vote on your appointment. And then Ms. Laffin will let you know you don't need to appear again.

B. Appointments

- 1) Sustainability Committee - (4 vacancies - 2 member term vacancies to expire 4/30/2025, 2 alternate member vacancies to expire 4/30/23 and 4/30/24)

Cory Boutin

Mr. Boutin was interviewed at the April 12th Board of Selectmen meeting.

Selectman Gagnon made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd to nominate and appoint Cory Boutin as a member of the Sustainability Committee with a term to expire 4/30/25. Carried 5-0.

- 2) Right to Know Committee - (appointment of the 5th member who was chosen by the RTK Committee)

Florence Nicolas

Ms. Nicolas was not interviewed by the Board of Selectmen for this position. She was nominated by the Right to Know Committee per the instructions in the Right to Know lawsuit settlement.

Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin to appoint Florence Nicolas as a member of the Right to Know Committee. Carried 4-0-1, McGrath abstained

C. Resignation

- 1) Planning Board - member Elliott Veloso effective 4/29/22

The Board received Mr. Veloso's resignation from the Planning Board on Friday afternoon.

Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Gagnon to accept Elliott Veloso's resignation from the Planning Board with the Board's thanks and appreciation. Carried 5-0.

Selectman McGrath said Elliott was one of the best members of the Planning Board. He has an extensive background. He's a lawyer, and it's very sad that we're going to be losing him.

6. CONSENT ITEMS

Chairperson Roy asked does any member of the Board wish to remove any item for separate consent? Selectman Morin asked to remove item 6A-13 to be removed for separate consideration. Selectman Gagnon made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd to approve consent items A 1-12, B, E and F. Carried 5-0.

Selectman Morin then said I removed item 6A-13 for separate consideration because Selectman McGrath's property is part of that. Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Gagnon to approve consent item 6A-13. Carried 5-0.

A. Assessing Items

- 1) Elderly Exemption Re-qualifications: 4 Travers St. - map 175/ lot 144; 1 Sheraton Dr. - map 184/ lot 001; 40 Greeley St. - map 168/ lot 057; 12 Federal St. - map 165/ lot 063; 3 Chapin St. - map 190/ lot 110; 6 Woodridge Dr. - map 205/ lot 034; 45 Riviera Rd. - map 148/ lot 040/ sub 080; 6A Doveton Ln. - map 156/ lot 006/ sub 034; 11 Cheney Dr. - map 153/ lot 017; 95 Highland St. - map 167/ lot 066; 16 Sycamore St. - map 203/ lot 077; 3 Nevens St. - map 191/ lot 170; 16 Nevens St. - map 191/ lot 180; 148B Barretts Hill Rd. - map 160/ lot 094/ sub 002; 22 Winnhaven Dr. - map 197/ lot 088; 31 David Dr. - map 118/ lot 054; 6 Scottsdale Dr. - map 149/ lot 001/ sub 105
- 2) Elderly Exemptions: 19 Krystal Drive-map 168, lot 002, sub 025; 2 Tessier St.- map 191, lot 026; 1A Cricketfield Ln-map 156, lot 006, sub 001; 101 Brody Ln.- map 184, lot 032, sub 046
- 3) Disabled Exemption Re-qualification: 1 Sheraton Dr.-map 184, lot 001
- 4) Veteran Tax Credits: 18 Hartson Cir.-map 163, lot 005; 18 Hartson Cir.-map 163, lot 005

- 5) Veteran Tax Credit: 19 Krystal Dr.-map 168, lot 002, sub 025
- 6) All Veterans Tax Credit: 9 Loop Rd.-map 178, lot 013, sub 008
- 7) Solar Exemptions: 16 Warren Rd.-map 201, lot 007, sub 014; 2A&B Julie Ln-map 117, lot 012
- 8) Charitable Exemption Application: 30 Richman Dr.-map 237, lot 57
- 9) Tax Deferral Application: map 145, lot 011, sub 002-12 Sullivan Rd.
- 10) Tax Deferral Application: 38B Barretts Hill Rd.-map 151, lot 005, sub 002
- 11) Gravel Tax Warrant: tax map 122, lot 2 & map 140, lot 1 & map 141, lot 1 & map 150, lot 13. 53 Old Derry Rd., 129 Greeley St.; 89 Greeley St., 85 Greeley St.
- 12) Certification of Yield Taxes Assessed/Timber Warrant: Standish Lane-map 195, lot 001, sub 003 to sub 014; map 187, lot 010, sub 001-sub 008
- 13) Residence in Industrial or Commercial Zones: map 198, lot 17-89 Lowell Road; map 198, lot 148-104 Lowell Road.; map 234, lot 31-281 Lowell Rd.; map 234, lot 42, 2 Davenport Rd.; map 251, lot 7-81 River Rd.

B. Water/Sewer Items

- 1) Sewer Abatement - S-UTL-22-13 Act# 5461
- 2) Sewer Abatement - S-UTL-22-14 Act# 4684

C. Licenses & Permits & Policies - none

D. Donations - none

E. Acceptance of Minutes

- 1) Minutes of April 12, 2022

F. Calendar

- 4/27 7:00 Planning Board - Buxton Meeting Room
- 4/28 7:00 Zoning Board of Adjustment - Buxton Meeting Room
- 5/04 7:00 Budget Committee - Buxton Meeting Room
- 5/09 7:00 Conservation Commission - Buxton Meeting Room
- 5/09 7:00 Cable Utility Committee - HCTV Meeting Room
- 5/10 7:00 Board of Selectmen - BOS Meeting Room

7. OLD BUSINESS

Votes taken after Nonpublic Session on April 12, 2022

- 1.) Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd to promote Doug Bosteels to the position of Information Technology (IT) Specialist within the

IT Department, in accordance with the Hudson Police, Fire and Town Supervisors Association Contract, with a salary of \$88,469, (Step 3). This elevation in rank will be effective April 17, 2022. Carried 5-0.

- 2.) Selectman Gagnon made a motion. Seconded by Selectman McGrath to approve the posting of a full-time Information Technology (IT) Technician II as recommended by the IT Director. Carried 5-0.
- 3) Selectman Gagnon made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd to go back into nonpublic 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. A roll call vote was taken. Carried 5-0.
- 4) Motion to adjourn at 10:19 p.m. by Selectman Morin seconded by Selectman Guessferd. Carried 5-0.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. DPW - Replacement of 2004 Front End Loader - Lease Purchase

Chairperson Roy recognized Jess Forrence, Director of the Public Works Department. Mr. Forrence began by saying Thank you. Members of the Board working at the fall budget that we're in right now is a lot of fun, but we're looking to its July 1st entering another default budget. Fuel costs, gas costs, salt. Everything has been a concern, kind of worried about next year. But our biggest problem is, is what I'm doing here tonight. We do have a 2004 loader that was in the budget, made it through the the budget hearings, made it through everything that needed to other than town vote. We had put it in the working budget that didn't pass. So that puts us a little bit behind. We're going to have to spend approximately \$40,000. The way I look at it, spend \$40,000 out of the mechanic side of things other than the \$18,000 that's coming out of the sewer budget. That did pass just to what I say, to keep this machine one more year so I can put it back into the budget to get it replaced. So what I'm trying to do, excuse me and is a list of things wrong with it. And what I'm trying to do is, is take the \$14,000 out of the sewer budget that was appropriated for this machine and then take \$28,000 out of town wide paving to actually replace the machine. This way, we're not spending \$40,000 on an old machine to get rid of it the following year when it would be worth even less. So that's what I'm here for, to talk to the Board about tonight.

The Chairperson asked if there were any questions. Selectman McGrath was recognized and said I just have a question for you. Have you anticipated that next year we might be in the same position that we're in now? Mr. Forrence replied saying we'll do the exact same thing next year, next year, if the budget goes default and as long as the sewer budget passes, then we'll have the \$14,000 in that. And then I would come back to the Board looking to refund the machine out of the town wide paving. But to \$28,000 I can't see this going on forever. But it's something this is a piece of machinery that we use right now t's up at the transfer station helping with that build up there. That machine primarily stays up there because it went from frontline machine to, you know, stepping it back a little, trying to let it set to winter so we can use it there. But I think the wise thing to do and if it was my pocket that I was taking the money out of, that's what I would do. Selectman McGrath replied saying I don't I don't disagree with what you're what you're proposing. I'm just wondering if you'd given any thought to we might be in the same predicament next year. Mr. Forrence replied, saying right. And then we would, we would work on something, you know, who knows? That's why I'm here today. I know what July 1st is going to bring us. I know the predicament we're in. I'd just like to be able to go forward and put this behind us.

Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said just for clarification, I'm trying to read this here, but can you explain it to me verbally? If I understand correctly, it's a 2004 caterpillar. You're saying it needs \$40,000 of repairs. Mr. Forrence yes. Selectman Gagnon then said but you think it's more financially sound to purchase a new vehicle and that would cost \$42,000 per year. Mr. Forrence replied yes. Selectman Gagnon asked for how many years? Mr. Forrence replied five years. Selectman Gagnon then said and then you're going to take the \$14,000 from the sewer budget and the other leftover amount of 30 something thousand from town wide painting for next year? Mr. Forrence replied, yes. Selectman Gagnon then asked and if a default budget, you'll just keep doing that? Mr. Forrence replied, I will just keep doing that year after year after year.

Selectman Guessferd was recognized and asked what effect will this have on our paving program? Mr. Forrence replied, I mean, we get a lot done for \$28,000. But if you look at it average, it's probably three driveways, average driveways. If we go out, go out to the local contractors, us, we'll probably get a little bit more out of it. But it's still for what we'll get and what we'll lose. And I still think it's a good way to go. Selectman Guessferd then said follow up question. My next question really concerns the one of the things that you would like us to do is to waive the bid process. I'm kind of a big proponent of bidding, of competitive bidding, and it looks like you have a quote here from September of last year. So can you explain kind of that process as to how that happened? And now we're going too really and I know you said something in here about that, where it's going to be the same price as something else that at the...Mr. Forrence said Sourcewell. That's the Government Agency we look through and we look through a number of different ones. Sourcewell was the cheapest Jim Lavacchia, one of the supervisors that we have was talking to Milton Cat about renting another machine that we use through the summer months. And he asked them how that was doing and he said we're going to try going with Sourcewell and he asked for the information on it and he said we could, we could match the, the numbers on it. So the machine would come out if it went through, the machine would come from somewhere. Milton Cat would probably do the warranty work on it, but that's like buying a Ford from one for the garage and you try bringing the Ford to another, it will still get done. But it is through Sourcewell, it is a guaranteed price. The only thing we're not really sure of right now is the interest rate, because they won't lock anything in until we have an approval of some sort from the Board. But the last time we looked at it, we were still in pretty good shape. Selectman Guessferd then said so the Sourcewell price is essentially a competitive price and that resulted there. I'm just trying to make sure that we're. It sounds.

Chairperson Roy said so I just have two questions. One, what's the life cycle of one of these pieces of equipment? Mr. Forrence replied, it's almost 20 years, and we should really start looking at these things now because nothing's built like they used to be. 15 years is usually time to really look at it and get rid of it, especially when it works in the salt as much as it does and it is metal. Chairperson Roy then said and then my other question is that the quote from September is that? Mr. Forrence replied, it's still good. Yes it is. The Chairperson replied, that's all I had. Does anybody else have any other questions? Would anybody like to make a motion?

Seeing no further questions, Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin to waive the bid process and purchase from Milton Caterpillar of New Hampshire, who matched the quote received from Sourcewell Government Equipment Purchasing Program. Carried 5-0.

Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin to enter into a five year, five year lease to purchase agreement for 2021Caterpillar 938 HM front end loader. The first year of lease would be paid for with \$14,000 from sewer account 556-2401 and \$28,000 from town wide paving account 5552-248. All funds to be from the FY 23 budget. Carried 5-0.

B. Citizens Traffic Advisory Committee Discussion

Chairperson Roy recognized James Battis, Chairperson of the Citizen's Traffic Advisory Committee and Town Engineer, Elvis Dhima. Mr. Battis began by saying we just came before the committee. We have been meeting irregularly because of the COVID restrictions. But in general, it's our sense that there's really a lack of public interest in the committee that. We've barely had a quorum appointed to the Committee. At one time we actually had five of the five members, but one dropped out after the first day, I understand. And we also had a member resign last December, I think it was. So we're down to three, three members with a quorum of three. It may be that we don't even have a quorum at the end of the month. So we're really sort of at a quandary here. We've had very little input from the public. Five emails, two of which were spam. And two of which were really irrelevant to the Committee. And one was handled by the Police Department. We've had one person, two people attend the meeting. One actually provided some input to the Town Planner relative to the apartment buildings on Lowell Road and that intersection at that point. But other than that, we've we really haven't had any input from the Board of Selectmen directing us to anywhere. We've had a lot of discussions. We pretty much come to the conclusion that the problems in traffic are not Hudson's problems, really. They're regional problems. Most of the traffic on Lowell Road on Derry Road, 101 are commuter traffic coming when you during the rush hours at least are commuter traffic passing through Hudson. And that's really because of the restriction in the number of river crossings. It's not something that Hudson is going to solve. So we really come before the committee, if you have something, input that you'd like to give us, direction you'd like to give us. We would take it, but at this point, we don't really see a path forward.

Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said thank you for coming in for us tonight and giving us an update. And forgive me for personally not providing any information to you. Question for you. You know, I may have watched one or two meetings over the time period that you've been together. And I'm curious, have you had the resources and the ability to do the research to the full extent that you deem necessary? Mr. Battis replied, specify what you mean by resources. Selectman Gagnon replied, so have you had whether its statistics from Hudson Police or NRPC, if you requested statistics or Mr. Dhima, did you receive those statistics that you deserve or that you needed? Mr. Battis responded saying when we requested information, we received it, yes. Police Department provide us with accident. Well, not reports, but statistics. NRPC publishes a lot of their data, so we don't actually need to request that from them. It's on their website. It's obtainable. Elvis has always given us the traffic counts and what's happening to the impact of COVID on traffic through the Town, that sort of thing. So in terms of those resources, we've had it where I will say we're not traffic engineers or amateur traffic engineers at best. And for us to come up with solutions or really it's somebody has to present us with an issue for us to start thinking about and at this point. I will say throughout the throughout on every agenda, with all due respect to Elvis, I think I generated the agenda. So it's really coming from me, which is not a, it doesn't really get you a solution.

Selectman Gagnon replied, understood. Thank you for that input. And one follow up question, if I may. Had there been any topics that have been off limits to you that you deem would affect your your scope of the work that you are tasked with doing? Mr. Battis replied, the discussion was not off limits, but it was requested that because of the obviously Hillwood Properties, the the Green Meadows property obviously would have a significant impact on traffic in this town. But because it's before the Planning Board, which is a semi judicial body, it was recommended to us that we not discuss it fully. Comments were made on occasion, but no we didn't look into that issue. Selectman Gagnon then asked, any other projects of similar sort? Mr. Battis replied, I think any time that it's been an issue that's before the Planning Board, we're not, we don't really look at it. Selectman Gagnon replied, okay. Thank you, sir. Mr. Battis then said we may consider it, but we don't. Selectman Gagnon replied, understood. Thank you very much. And that's all.

Chairperson Roy asked does anybody else have any questions. Selectman Morin was recognized and asked what was the will of your whole committee for your future? Mr. Battis replied well, we considered several options, one of which was was to meet very irregularly as, for example, the Town

Planner, the Town Engineer would present issues to us. And that was deemed unsatisfactory that, you know, that it just doesn't make any sense. So in the end, it was pretty much decided that from our viewpoint we've discussed various topics such as. Commuter Park and drive. What effect that might have on the traffic situation in Hudson? What impact extension of the Nashua Transit Service might have? But it didn't really seem to us that there was any future in those discussions. Those are regional problems. It's a regional issue. It's got to be handled on a regional basis. So we didn't really we pretty much concluded that unless there was a specific item coming from the Board of Selectmen to the committee that we were probably finished.

Selectman Morin then said I understand your point and everything you've said so far that your committee has come up with, it was a regional issue. It's not a Hudson issue. What would be a Hudson issue you guys think you could you could do where everything seems to be a regional issue? What is what can we give you? Mr. Battis replied well, I think, you know, it's again. If the Board had directed us to look at the Hudson Boulevard as a specific issue, consider the Hudson Boulevard. Let us know what you think its impact would be on the town. You know, that sort of thing. That would be something that we could we could go forward with. But we were given the issue of, we weren't really given specific issues. We were just there, there's traffic issues in town. What should we, you know, work with the Planner and the and the Town Engineer? I guess when I when I think about it, when I look at the charter, that was the charge from the committee. The purpose of the Transportation Traffic Advisory Committee serves as an advisory committee to the Board of Selectmen. The purpose of the committee is to identify and discuss areas of traffic concern, evaluate suggested improvements received from citizens, town staff and the Nashua Regional Planning Commission. We've never received really any input of that nature that we can respond to.

Selectman Morin then said but I think you did, because you just gave us an answer that you you your committee determined a regional problem. So you did actually come up with something and looking through it and I understand we didn't give you any direction, but looking at it here, it says, report to the Board every six months. You know, if we had heard something maybe earlier, we could have understood, you know, where you were at and what you needed. If you continue to do that, I strongly suggest that so we know what you need and what you're looking for you come back every six months because we knew you having meetings, but we didn't know what was taking place. Mr. Battis replied, we did we did submit a report to the Board of Selectmen in about a year ago. I'm not exactly sure when. And then we had COVID, so we weren't meeting. So, I mean, at this point, I think we probably had three meetings. It would have been last December, a year ago December, that we submitted that report. And then we've had you know, we've had maybe three meetings since then because of the COVID restrictions and we really don't have a path forward so.

Selectman Morin then said and just the last thing. Number two, create an index of traffic concerns. It sounds like you did that, too, because that's how you came to your conclusion, what the traffic issues was. So it sounds like you did what you were supposed to do. It's just I think it's a matter of communication between your committee and this this board at this point. Mr. Battis replied, I also point out that one member of the Board of Selectmen to be chosen by the Board of Selectmen shall serve as a liaison to the committee. And I will point out that we've never had a member of the Board of Selectmen attend the committee.

Selectman Morin replied and I'm not arguing that. I'm just saying, though, looking at your committee shell. The committee shell, it sounds like you've already reached some of these points. There's just there hasn't been any communication between us and you to understand where we're at and what you're thinking. Mr. Battis replied well, when we submitted the report a year ago, I offered to come before the Board, and I was never requested to do so. Selectman Morin replied, okay. Thank you.

Chairperson Roy asked does anybody else have anything? Selectman McGrath said I guess I do have something. And maybe this is directed at the Town Engineer more than it is to you, Mr. Battis. What's the other is it the traffic? The other committee that we have? Mr. Dhima replied The Highway Safety Committee. Selectman McGrath replied Highway Safety. So is that something that this

committee should be linked into? Mr. Dhima replied this is advisory committee that the traffic advisory committee consists of PD, Fire, Planning, Engineering and Public Works. And basically, that's related to anything that might be needed, required related to safety, related to signage that comes in from a selectman that usually triggers an ordinance. So it's... Selectman McGrath said but does it I mean, does it help to identify problem areas in the town as opposed to just traffic safety issues? I can understand why the police might be hesitant, but I would think that that committee would help to identify problem areas such as I'll use my road River Road. I mean that's from the state line up to Lowell Road and that there's a lot of traffic issues along that stretch of roadway. Now, that may be partly because of, you know, regional issues, because people trying to get through Hudson to get to Nashua and they're using that roadway. But I would think that they would be identifying some problem areas. Mr. Dhima replied, so the way the Highway Safety Committee works is we get requests from the citizens and that gets basically evaluated by the group. And basically we determine if it's a valid or not valid. And if it's valid, it triggers basically action. Selectman McGrath interrupted Mr. Dhima and said they seem to be having a conversation. Do you need to get into I mean, do you need to? Selectman Gagnon replied, with all due respect, forgive us. He was just looking for the restroom. Mr. Dhima then said oh, yeah. I'm sorry. No worries. I just wanted to make sure it wasn't, like, a question. Mr. Dhima went on to say so, as I was saying, the Safety Highway Committee consists of actually taking action on things that are related to safety, typically. Signage or things of that sort. We don't go out looking for things we usually expect, just like this group, that someone will come to us, submit official requests for us to look at things. It gets evaluated. Sometimes it triggers action, sometimes it doesn't. This one is more related to what we we're dealing with traffic issues. Come and talk to us. And it got triggered by the Board of Selectmen because there was a lot of input here. And unfortunately, what didn't happen is that I think the intent was to take that input and shift it to this committee. And it didn't happen. That that input continued to come in front of the Board of Selectmen still, while this committee was not basically getting that. Not a lot of resources or funding associated with this. It was just simply staff. It was myself in the Town Planner with our admins helping out as much as we could, but it was never our intention to provide items to them to do with things. It was more like we'll be there if you need anything, if you have questions about something. So the Town Planner myself will alternate between meetings and it was more like public outreach. I saw that it's more like a public outreach is how things work, you know, trying to talk about the system we have in place, but COVID didn't help. Obviously, there's was a lot of meetings that, you know, got suspended during that time. But I think what Mr. Battis is doing and I think they did an excellent job with what they had, is that it's coming to basically to an end. You know, they did their exercise. And I think you did a great job of what you had, which wasn't much, you know, went through PD, and went through all their sources. It was a very well thorough report put together, in my opinion, and basically comes to the same conclusion that we all know. Most of the traffic in Hudson is caused by commuter traffic. It's a long 102, 111 and Lowell Road. It's basically the same. You can spend 100 grand on a study and you'll find out the same conclusion they came up with. I think, I think where you were at this point is can you really expect them to come with a solution, a specific solution to certain things? And I think, I think that's where the dilemma is. And I not having a traffic model, not having someone to help out specifically with that, it's very hard for them to put something together that's really, could have without backup to have actually like an actual case. So then that's the issue is. Also it's important to understand and acknowledge that they're not there to me to to review traffic impacts related to projects that go in front of the Planning Board. That's why they're there for that, and they're here for kind of the overall picture. They were also provided with limitations on what they can look at and not look at. I believe there was a certain parameters, too. It wasn't throughout. It was specified. Mr. Battis replied primary focus of the committee will be on the town's major corridors. Mr. Dhima replied right. So it wasn't throughout the town to go in, like go look at Pelham Road or that it was specifically to the main corridors. And as I said earlier, and as you stated earlier as well, is it's basically commuter traffic cutting through AM and PM and that's what causes that. So I think there's. Their executive summary. It's it's right on target.

Selectman McGrath then said so the bottom line, I mean, did we waste their time or? Mr. Dhima replied, I don't believe so. I think it was well done. Mr. Battis said I don't, one of the members back here, Grace Kennedy, here, I don't know. Do you do you feel your time was wasted? Ms. Kennedy

replied from her seat in the audience saying no I don't. It's definitely....Mr. Dhima invited Ms. Kennedy to the microphone where she said my name is Grace Kennedy. I live at 30 Glen Drive in Hudson, been here about 21 years. Many of the issues that I looked at, having served in other municipalities on traffic issues, was that we were constrained, constrained by what we could look at. And then also getting the information. I thought some of the information would be more, um, obvious. Like where are traffic accidents happening? How can you ameliorate that? But we found out things like that the corner of Wasson Road and Lowell Road. There already is something in the planning about widening that, and that's already was brought up to us by Elvis. And he showed us kind of what the town was already looking at, things like the height, the 111 have a very high traffic speed, 50 miles an hour. And I actually had to go around a head on collision that a few years ago that had fatalities, but it was outside of the town limit. So therefore, it's a regional issue, the amount of traffic coming across, you know, different things. Like one thing I recently I asked about was with the new fire station, there is a not an area there like there is a in front of because it's CVS on Lowell Road where it has a thing that is written on the ground which says do not block this area where there's no access from the new fire station across an area that says don't block this. So if it's high traffic time in Hudson and the fire department has to get out, they cannot get out. There's people will have filled up that whole space, but we never got that report back. So it's almost everything I looked at, like regional and I was interested in, you know, could we have more bus service over here at least try it on a temporary basis to see if we get people over to Nashua, especially the hospitals, may be Pheasant Lane Mall, but that's a regional issue. So this is what happened almost every time we found something, it was a regional issue. It was something that we don't deal with. But when we have a sign that's sitting right at the edge of Central and Lowell Road that had a sign for a property, and it said as publicity to build there 30,000 cars a day, it's like, so who wants to put have 30,000 cars go by every day there? Well, maybe some kind of convenience store or something else. Meanwhile, they've taken that sign down and they just have a you know, for lease. So traffic you know yeah it'd be different if you in a different area had more scope of the committee was more tied in with the regional issues or more you know public input came in and said oh in front of my house, they're always this problem or that problem or something.

Ms. Kennedy went on to say and we only had second hand somebody had some issues about parking near the elementary school at Central. So we looked into things. But with the irregularity of having the meetings, not having the direction from the Board being told we can't cover certain issues, and then also having almost a lot of the things that we looked at, I'll be regional, it really limit the scope that we have. So I mean, I kept putting pleas out every time because it was, you know, filmed and put up there so people could look, go, please, if you have an issue, contact us. Please come in. And all the meetings we had, we had what was it, Jim, when two people came up, that was it. So not I mean, I kind of think of people really thought there was some issue they probably would have they might have gone to the Planning Board or the Board of Selectmen, some other issues. Other Board in order to get their problem resolved.

Selectman McGrath said question for Elvis. Elvis, where is the, on Lowell Road Where does the state ownership start and where does it end? I know we're at I know on River Road, it ends at the state line. But where does it start? On Lowell Road and the same for like 111 and 102 because did you those are. Mr. Dhima replied, Lowell Road, the state, the state owns the right of way on Lowell Road. They just been handing over the basically the maintenance of plowing. But where do they take over is basically somewhere between Flagstone and the Sagamore ramp as you get into the bridge right there and somewhere basically halfway between the ramp and Flagstone, somewhere in there, right in front of right in the middle of that plaza that was recently built. That's where the ownership of the state starts. Selectman McGrath then said because it used to start as like at Presentation. Mr. Dhima responded, yeah so they, they keep moving the line further and further back. And eventually what you're going to find out is that they're still going to own the right of way, but the town is going to take care of everything. So that line is going to get further and further back until he hits the state line. But it goes from there all the way down to River Road and Dracut Road all the way to the state line on 102 it is from Derry Road and Elm Ave that intersection basically where that CVS is right now, the new one all the way down to the Londonderry/ Hudson town line. It actually hits Litchfield first jumps to

Litchfield a little bit and then back at it again. And on 111 is Burger King. So basically about 1000 feet away from the intersection of 111, Kimball Hill, Greeley, towards the town center. That's kind of where it starts right in front of that. And it goes all the way back to Windham. But your point, that line keeps moving and that's not getting closer to the center of town. It gets further and further out. So those are the three boundaries.

Selectman McGrath said I was wondering about the remark about the fire station. Mr. Dhima replied fire station, that's ours. So that came up. They have not had an issue that I'm aware of. The second sirens go up, the optic can respond. If there's anything or anyone there they get out of the way. I'm not aware, and we talked about this during the review, I'm not aware there's been an issue there and I'm confident that if there was one that would have been taken care of. But the thing with the markings is once you put them down, you've got to do them every year. So it's like do you really need them. And if you don't need them, should you really put them down. One of the reasons that in front of the CVS had 111 and 102 on Elm is because the state required them to do it. The question becomes, well, have they been redone since they got done originally by the owner? And that was about three years ago. And the answer is no. The state has not redone them, so eventually they're going to fade away and nothing is going to get done. So it's kind of one of those things like they ask for a lot of things, but they never do them. We have the tendency when we ask for things, we understand what the maintenance is and what needs to be done. So we have the tendency to kind of wait and see, is it really a problem or not if it is and go for it. But I'm not aware of any access issue out there since the fire station has been up. But it was discussed. It was discussed. And so it's a fair point. It's a legit question, but it was looked into it at the beginning.

Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said if there's no other questions or concerns I'd like to put forth a motion. Chairperson Roy replied, I actually have.... So my first comment is just a comment. I'm not sure we should wait for an issue to happen to correct it because then it's too late. Right. So if that's a norm to put those kinds of things in front of the fire station so that the exit isn't blocked, then maybe we should just think about doing that. That's just my comment. The Chair then went on to say, But as to be back on track as to the Citizens Traffic Advisory Committee, is, is there a way is there a path forward if we were to amend, maybe take away some of these restrictions, get a liaison assigned, those kinds of things? Do you believe that there would be a path forward? Mr. Battis replied, I don't believe that we can generate issues ourselves. I mean, we can discuss things, but for example, you, Grace was talking about the bus service. It turns out Nashua Regional Planning Commission did a study study of extending bus service onto Lowell Road. And it was deemed through that study that it was not feasible. Well, it wasn't the best option for National Regional Transit Authority. And there's two things to that. One is it's the Nashua Regional Transit Authority. It it's not Nashua Transit Authority. It's not the Hudson Transit Authority, so we really don't have any input into that. But it's also the fact that there are better routes for them. So I don't know what you know? Chairperson Roy then said so but so so as a for instance, if we said that just because it's before the Planning Board doesn't mean you can't discuss it. And you had those kinds of meetings and you were able to meld citizens' concerns for those traffic with with data that you're able to obtain from from the town, from the police, from NRPC and come up with advice for us, particularly for the person, the ex-officio member to the Planning Board, would that be sort of a path forward? Would would something like that be a path forward for you? Mr. Battis replied, it could possibly be a path where I could I could envision it and under certain circumstances. You know, but if you're, the thing is, I mean, everything in this town is has really been affected by the Green Meadow property. A property like that, I would say, yes, it's possible that the committee could provide input to it. But if you're talking about a development of five new houses somewhere. You know, I, who knows where? Is it worth it for this committee to discuss it? I don't know. Is it worth it for the Board of Selectmen to get input from the committee? Let's put it that way.

Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said and I'm speaking to your point because I've been listening to this. You've done a fabulous job answering questions, and I'm really trying to see both sides of this. I guess the way I stand right now is, you know, it's a good idea. I think it's limited in scope and possibilities. And you're trying to talk about how to open that scope up. I get it. But there

are other avenues for traffic concerns, even if they're maybe not utilized real well right now. But the Highway Traffic Committee, the Planning Board, are avenues to voice traffic concerns and maybe even fund research. That to me, in my mind what no disrespect, but what technical value add what this traffic committee be that that would add to those two avenues for traffic concerns. It's kind of how I'm standing right now.

Mr. Battis then said to be quite honest with you, when I got myself appointed to the board, I was thinking it was a relative to the Hudson Boulevard. And that I wanted to make a contribution in that discussion. But that was really not, I think, I get the sense that that committee was originally conceived of relative to the Hudson Boulevard. But then when the Hudson Boulevard, I know Elvis put a proposal in for a grant that did not occur when that happened, was there really continuing justification for the committee? I guess that's where I would, my take on. If you had a specific issue, a committee like this might be a value, but just generically.

Selectman Guessferd was recognized and said I think of the effectiveness of a committee like this is really contingent upon two way communication. Communication we hear from the citizens. They come to us, they tell us something. Then we come to you and say, hey, if you look into this, I think that was kind of maybe what was it envisioned? And if we're not getting that input, if we're not getting those. And again, it does involve communication both ways. So it's not to me, I don't see it just as you're not coming to us. I think we have to be actively involved and taking what we're hearing from the citizens and then flowing that your way, just not seeing that that's been happening. Chairperson Roy replied, and I would agree. Selectman Guessferd went on to say, and is it going to happen? I guess that's, that's my question. I don't know.

The Chairperson asked, does anybody have anything else? Selectman Gagnon said one last little bit, Madam Chair. Sorry for dragging on a little bit. The last statement the Chairman said brought some interest. If that was indeed their goal, is there any interest in in sticking to that goal or not? The only reason I would see that would be interesting study for them. But if that's off scope and we don't feel like that's necessary, then I guess I lean to my original comment. Selectman McGrath asked, so could I get clarification about your statement? Are you referring to Hudson Boulevard or Circumferential Highway? Selectman Gagnon replied, yes, ma'am. Selectman McGrath then said that's dead to us. Really. I mean, when the when the grant wasn't applied for, then the state took, they've got ownership of it and they and they're taking care of it on their own because we said no to the grant. They, they thought we were going to be participating in any kind of conversations that they were having. And when that didn't happen, the door came down to Hudson and the state has taken over. So, I mean, that's what I understand. So, you know, having a committee like this, addressing concerns about, you know, so called Hudson Boulevard, it's been renamed a multitude of times, but we don't have input to that any longer. The way I understand it. And is that correct?

Mr. Dhima replied, it's a state project. It's always been a state project. I think you're referring to the grant we applied in the past. Obviously, we didn't get it, but the most recent one was the study, the feasibility study that we basically said we're not going to participate. So and it was non-binding, but yeah, that basically said we're not interested in that. So basically that was the state did not get any feedback of us. Yep, let's jump on that. So yeah, you're right about that. But it's a state project at the end. Selectman McGrath said it's a closed door to us based on that. That decision by this board to not go after the grant money. Was it a million dollars to do that? Mr. Dhima replied, up to that. Selectman McGrath then said up to that to do the study and we said no. so. We're out of luck.

Selectman Gagnon said so I actually have a motion, then no one else has anything further. And let me paraphrase this by saying thank you for all of you and the volunteer's time. I do think you added Mr. Selectman Morin and said some value input. But with that and I wrote this in a technical way, so please don't take offense this. Selectman Gagnon made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd with limited scope, limited resources and limited professional experiences and the other avenues with the Planning Board and the Highway Committee, I don't see a value add for the committee at this time. So I would respectfully and with thanks ask to make a motion to disbar the

committee from this point forward. Disband. Selectman Guessferd seconded this motion. Selectman McGrath said I would suggest an amendment to your motion. That's striking the lack of experience, because I think Mr. Battis has enormous experience. And I don't know about Grace. Grace, I don't know. I mean, it sounds like this is the first time I've met you that I know of. I may have crossed paths. Ms. Kennedy said I've worked on traffic issues in other places. San Diego. I work for a city council member and I was on time traffic there and we put in a light rail fence in called the San Diego Trolley. Selectman McGrath said so you have enormous experience. Ms. Kennedy said that was my main thing that I worked on was the standing up and running and funded and like that workforce that became a member of our Congress. Selectman McGrath said But San Diego isn't like a sleepy little town. Ms. Kennedy replied, No, it is the eighth largest city in the country. Chairperson Roy asked, Selectman Roy are you willing to amend your motion? Selectman Gagnon replied absolutely. Yes. Forgive me. Selectman Gagnon made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd to disband the Citizen's Traffic Advisory Committee at this time. Carried 5-0.

C. Conservation Commission - Kimball Hill Road Purchase

Chairperson Roy recognized Bill Collins, Chairperson of the Conservation Commission and Elvis Dhima, Town Engineer. Mr. Collins began by saying Members of the Conservation Commission are seeking our approval to spend approximately \$150,000 from the town's conservation fund for the purchase of approximately 26.3 acres of land located at 150 Kimball Hill Road, which is currently owned by the Mary McFarland Trust. The property under consideration directly abuts the Hudson Town Forest and if purchased, will bring the total conserved land area over there to 80 acres. We currently have about 50 acres of town forest. We're going to expand on that. The current Conservation fund balance is \$748,321. So we have the money in the fund to proceed with the purchase and we're not going to leave ourselves dry on the other end of it if we do make this purchase. The Conservation Commission, along with Engineer Dhima, have been working with the seller for almost two years now, believe it or not. And there were some questions in regards to the property situation itself because the property spanned into Pelham. So we talked to the landowner and they agreed to do the engineering work on their own dime and reserve the property and bring it into a Hudson only parcel and a Pelham only parcel. So moving into this, we have a fresh survey of the Property, we have a clean deed and things look really good. It's just a matter of signing the purchase and sales agreement and moving forward with it, with the public hearing and then closing on the deal.

Chairperson Roy asked, does anybody have any questions? Selectman Morin was recognized and said just one. I'd just like to say, I know how hard the Conservation Committee worked on this, and I believe Pelham is going to turn their side of it into conservation also. Selectman Gagnon said Yeah, I have a few statements I can make that, but. Yes, sir. Selectman Morin continued saying so our land will be conservation through the whole area and it's in the perfect place to add more land to it.

Selectman McGrath then said I'll just make a comment if I can. Congratulations to the Conservation Commission. Under your leadership, I think you've done a remarkable job. Mr. Collins replied we have a very good team of members currently on. A lot of experience and a lot of eager eagerness to keep moving forward. It's already been a busy year for us. We've already we're looking at two more wetland conditional use permits for May. We've been doing averaging two per month. So it's going to be a very busy year for the Town and for the Conservation Commission. So thank you very much.

Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said so yeah, great work on this so far because I think we started looking at this when I was working with you, I mean, this is definitely a project, so congratulations for getting it this far for sure. A couple comments. So if I'm understanding correctly, there's no signed purchase and sale right now? The Chairperson replied, we have to approve it first.

Selectman Gagnon then said which leads to, with all due respect, shouldn't this be nonpublic? The Chairperson replied, no, I already asked that question because it's already been negotiated and. Selectman Gagnon replied, so we're locked in, right. As long as that's protections there. And then to Mr. Selectman, Moran's point. Yes, obviously my father's the Conservation Commissioner in Pelham, they are working on their section to purchase that as well. He did bring forth a question for you, that I believe, Hudson has the only drivable access into the Hudson side and the Pelham side. So if you could separate from this, but work with them to have to allow access from Hudson to Pelham so that they can obviously get access. And then when you guys do forestry work, you join forces. Mr. Dhima replied, absolutely not. I'm just kidding. Mr. Collins jokingly said we could think about it. We could make some money, of course. Yeah. I actually spoke with your father, Chairman Gagnon, from the Conservation Commission in Pelham. And it wouldn't be an issue. Selectman Gagnon replied, I fully in support. Excellent work.

Chairperson Roy said I just have one question. Do you know what the issue was with the title? Mr. Dhima replied there was no issue with the title. When we did the deed search originally, this parcel did not have a break between the town lines. It was a 50 acre parcel. Chairperson Roy said so that was the issue. Mr. Dhima said that is exactly it. We could not buy a portion of it without a defined record. The Chairperson said you had to redraw the lot line. Mr. Dhima replied, that's right. So the serve the owner hired a surveyor, licensed professional surveyor instead of New Hampshire that did the boundary work and there was a certain amount of money involved with that. Chairperson Roy said the P&S says...Mr. Dhima replied, it was pending the approval for the lot. We were only interested in the Hudson portion. There was discussions about the Pelham when we found out that we cannot purchase anything out of the side of the town line. So we said we can only push in this piece because it was discussions at the beginning about purchasing the whole thing and we found out we could not do that. So long story short, there was no issue. It was just a matter of splitting that existing lot into two lots, one in Hudson and one in Pelham.

Mr. Collins then said when you, as a conservation commission, we can accept certain things like gifts and land and stuff from other communities. But we have to go to the governing body, i.e. the Town at town meeting to do that. And we can also purchase land outside and have interests outside of the community. But again, we have to go to the governing body for that. So yeah, it should be. It's a nice parcel, it's clean. It hasn't been harvested at least in the last 40 or 50 years anyway, just looking at the tree growth and things like that, it's got some really interesting wetland complexes on it and it should be a bonus for our town forest out there. And the people there's already an established trail from. I believe its Tulane Ave it comes out of the back corner and people access through that property to come into the Hudson Town Forest. Selectman McGrath asked, you gonna put up no trespassing signs? Mr. Collins replied, for those people. I'm only kidding. Seeing no further questions Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman McGrath to approve and authorize the Town Administrator to sign the purchase and sales agreement for Kimball Hill Road Map 172, Lot 1, for the amount of \$150,000, recommended by the Conservation Commission and the Town Engineer. Carried 5-0.

D. Public Hearing - Water Utility Asset Management Grant Acceptance

Town Engineer, Elvis Dhima, was again recognized and he said this item, unlike other ones in the past, is actually bringing money in. Instead of asking you guys for money for once. Basically, in January 2022, I asked the Board to move forward with applying for this grant. The Board approved it. We filed and we were notified that early this month that we got the grant. So I'm in front of you tonight to accept the grant so we can file in for the paperwork that's needed and hopefully get access to this fund so we can get to work. With that said, I'll take any questions you might have.

Chairperson Roy said okay with that, I, I will open up a public hearing at 8:29 p.m... Is there anyone present who would like to speak to this matter? Seeing none, I will close a public hearing at 8:29 p.m...

Seeing no questions or comments, Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd to approve and accept the Hudson Water Asset Management Grant for the amount of \$100,000 funded by ARPA funds. Carried 5-0.

Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin to authorize the town engineer to be the principal for Hudson Water Asset Management Grant Program. Carried 5-0. The Chairperson then said I just want to based on our conversation yesterday today I want to make clear that this is a different section of ARPA. It's not the same as a \$2.5 Million.

E. HPD - Locality Equipment Purchase Program Grant Application Approval

Chairperson Roy recognized Police Chief Tad Dionne, who said good evening. Similar theme. I'm here before you with an additional ARPA fund funded as well. It's the Locality Equipment Purchase Program. And if you remember two weeks ago, Elvis Dhima was promoting items from the same fund. So essentially this emergency relief recovery or this locality equipment purchase program has a \$50,000 cap for each town. So we've already applied for \$18,800, which we were responsible for 10% on the speed limit signs. So I'm before you today to ask for, I have, this has a look back so we can look back to March 2021 for items that we purchased for safety regarding the health crisis. So I have purchased, we have purchased at the Police Department two single seated cages for two different cruises back since March 2021. And those cost us \$2,500 each for the install and the actual equipment and that would qualify so we can recoup 90% of that money. I'm also at this point, we have a few more cruises already on water that we came before the Board before to purchase. Two of those cruisers we are going to be outfitting with the same similar single cage seating arrangement for the cruiser. I can't tell you what they're going to cost by the time they come in. As long as we pay that money by December 31st, 2022, I can apply for I'm going to have to purchase them anyways. I'll be able to apply to recoup 90% of that as well. So I come before you asking to, to apply for this grant for the purposes. And I can take any questions you might have.

Selectman McGrath asked so is it anticipated that it's going to be the same cost? I know you can't you can't guarantee that. Chief Dionne replied, I would think it'd be a similar cost on or about. And the benefit of it is we're purchasing them anyways. So even if it came in at \$3,000 apiece, we would be purchased from anyways. And as long as we have the approval here, then at that point we would still be able to recoup 90% of that. Save us \$6,000 for those additional two we would still be able to pursue to at least apply to get a recoup of 90% of it.

Seeing no questions Selectman Gagnon made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd to authorize the Hudson Police Department approval to apply for the locality equipment purchase program grant. Carried 5-0.

F. Moderator Electronic Poll Books

Chairperson Roy said so the next thing on the agenda is the purchase of electronic poll books. This is something that that Mr. Inderbitzen had brought forward to us some time ago. In discussing it with with both the Town Administrator and listening to Mr. Inderbitzen, I think it's important enough that we consider moving some money around to purchase those electronic poll

books. It will help. So my understanding is they'll be connected between the two sites. So if Mr. Guessferd, for example, checks in at Alvirne, he can't then go and check in at the Community Center. It will also eliminate the alphabetized lines. You can just go up to whoever is checking people in and they can check it in. It's much. I've talked to people that have used it in other towns and it's much more efficient. So I'm going to advocate that we transfer \$15,000 from the Town Poor, which is at this point is being quite under-utilized to the Moderator account so that we can purchase those books.

Selectman McGrath was recognized and said I wouldn't generally be opposed to transferring the money from, from the account that you mentioned. However, I think dependent on the amount of people that are coming in across the border, especially if they don't continue whatever the I think it's 42. The Chairperson said Title 42. Selectman McGrath said Title 42. Is that it? Then if they don't continue with them, this country is going to be facing a large influx. I mean, we're already facing a large influx of people from the south border. And if that isn't continued, then it's going to just ramp up even more so. So I don't know that taking money from the town poor account is the best avenue. I understand you know, currently we don't we don't have a large, thankfully we don't have a large population of people in need. But I think that that's about to change. So, you know, I just question taking it from that account. Chairperson Roy replied, saying so I will tell you that I had a discussion with Mr. Malizia before he went on vacation in in his years of experience he believes this is the best place for this to come from. He does not believe that that money will otherwise be utilized by the end of the fiscal year. Selectman Guessferd said I was going to speak to that a little bit. I think I don't disagree with you on that point. Things are changing over the course of the last several years being on the Budget Committee and we see every year that the Town Poor account is it's there in case people need it. But it is largely been under-utilized. Doesn't mean that we shouldn't in the future continue to have that account in there. But we only have, what, two months left, right in this fiscal year. So I think we can probably work it for now. I think it would have to be something if it was 2023. I'm not sure how supportive I'd be either of that account, but for the rest of this year, I think we're okay.

Selectman McGrath replied saying just, you know, based on, so as you all know, I'm a newshound, so I'm watching the news, you know, most of the most of the time that I'm home, I've got the news You know, in the background. And they're flying people in from the south southern border. They're taking people in and they're dropping them off in communities that you wouldn't even you'd never know it until, of course, they're here and they're there in need because they come with nothing. And, you know, that's it's not a commentary about the people and the needs that they may have. It's just a comment about we're facing that. I don't know if it's going to happen in Hudson, if it's going to happen in Nashua, or if it's going to happen in New Hampshire at all. But we need to be aware of that, and we need to be aware of it because it could possibly have a big impact on our community. So that's my point. Selectman Guessferd replied, your point is well taken.

Selectman Morin was recognized and said working with another organization down the street. The numbers have dropped, so I think we're good right now. It shouldn't be an issue. We're in a pretty good spot right now. Chairperson Roy said and that's kind of the conversation I had with that. And I don't know and I don't want to put you on the spot, but Ms. Labrie, did you have anything to add? Finance Director Lisa Labrie replied, from the audience, for the town poor? I don't. I haven't seen a. Lot of. I haven't heard a lot of. Issues with having an influx of people that she's had to deal with. Chairperson Roy replied, okay. Selectman McGrath added let's hope that that continues. To which the Chairperson replied, I hope so. And again, I would agree with Mr. Guessferd, if this was next year, I might have some other concerns about that. Selectman McGrath said well, next year we will certainly know what right this is going to have on us. Selectman Gagnon then said if there's no further questions or concerns. I'd like to put forth a motion to transfer \$15,000 from the Town Poor account 5151-258 to the Moderator account 5041304 for the purchase of electric poll books. This was seconded by Selectman Guessferd. Carried 4-1, McGrath opposed.

G. Board of Selectmen Planning Board Member Appointment

Chairperson Roy said the next item on the agenda is annually we appoint a ex-officio member to the Planning Board and it usually is in conjunction with liaison assignments. I know it was a little messed up last year with the resignation. I think you got appointed in May? Selectman Morin replied no, actually, it wasn't a resignation. I was just the backup sitting in. Chairperson Roy replied, Oh, okay. Okay. She then said so at this point, I will attend entertain any nominations to appoint a Selectman Guessferd ex-officio member to the Planning Board. Selectman Morin made this motion. It was seconded by Selectman Gagnon. Carried 4-0-1, McGrath abstained. Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Gagnon to appoint Selectman Morin as the Board of Selectmen alternate member of the Planning Board. Carried 5-0.

H. Candidate Information Flyer

Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said Thank you, Madam Chair. And first, I want to thank a lot of people involved. Everyone here, I think all have provided some input. I've talked with the Town Clerk. The Moderator provided input. I believe Town legal looked at it as well. Just to recap a little bit on the intent. The intent here was, you know, not only do we have kind of a litter problem, but I noticed during the political candidacy elections, you know, there were some issues. not huge, but things that can be addressed with proper information in the right places, things like putting signs on town property, not picking signs up, leaving signs to blow away and signs not having the language on them to say who funded them. So I thought this might be a fairly easy fix. Where to all candidates go? They need to go for an application. So the intent was to provide this short flyer, not new policy, not new ordinances, just simply showing what the state law is, making a few references just for informational purposes to be provided with the applications for candidacy at Town Hall. Since then, like I said, I did receive a lot of valuable input. I tried to incorporate everyone's input into the document. The last one was actually, unfortunately, forgive me, this afternoon I took the Moderator's input and added another page, which you're not seeing right now. He did provide me a list of references to state law, which I already had, so I respectfully pushed that aside. But there were are a couple of statements that he wanted to include that I didn't have. So I included those statements along with pictures of both voting locations and where you can do electioneering and stuff. So this election document focus is three pages and I'd be looking potentially for a final approval tonight.

Selectman Gagnon went on to say before we go there, I want to speak directly to Selectman Morin. He made some valid concerns saying, you know, why don't we look at signs as a whole? Fully took that under consideration. And I've actually made it was an extension to this document another two pages that took into consideration other signs that don't require permitting. Thought being if it required permitting, it's going to the Planning Board. The applicant will get the information they need. If it doesn't require permitting, may they they may not know what the rules are. I had a really productive meeting with the Town Planner, Brian Groth and the Town, ah, sorry, and Bruce. Mr. Buttrick. We sat down for an hour and we hashed out those honest concerns. And so that may be another document coming. So, Selectman Morin, I'll provide something at a later date with those concerns. For the time being, they did agree that we kind of should split them, that what I'm providing you today should be with the candidate application, and then we can develop something to answer your concerns which are valid. And that's what I had for right now.

Selectman Morin was recognized and said I think we're just doing a half job. I mean, if we're going to address signs, we have the opportunity to address all the signs at this point. I have our current town ordinance right here. It has a lot of what Selectman Gagnon's put in, but it covers everything else. Two weeks ago, we sent out two employees to drive around town to pick up signs that shouldn't been there. We had to have them go up on a stepladder to go up high to get signs off telephone poles

just interrupt you? Is there an enforcement mechanism? Selectman Morin replied, yes, the Zoning Officer. Chairperson Roy asked, and they can fine? Selectman Morin replied, yes. Yeah, and they can. That's why I got the ordinance right here, and that's why if we're going to do this. We might as well just do everything and get it done.

Selectman Guessferd then said so we're talking about not just political signs. We're talking about marketing signs....Selectman Morin replied, right, cuz if you if you if you really look at the problem, political signs are once a year. And then when you have a presidential every four years. These other signs that we have every single day are more of a problem than the political science. And I understand because we get inundated with political signs, but while we're addressing this, we might as well just address the whole problem. Chairperson Roy replied, and I understand your point, but I just, how would we get this document out to those folks that are just putting those signs out? Cuz I'm guessing they don't come into town? All the marketing signs, not the political I understand the political signs. They come in, you're a candidate, you get this piece. Selectman Morin replied, well, let's take I don't want to take away from our citizens, but I can tell you a yard sale sign is only supposed to be up for three days. How many times do you see those up for two, three, four weeks until the wind blows them off or they're on the side of the road? There's signs for interior wind. I mean, there's all kinds of stuff, real estate signs, and temporary construction signs. It's all here. It's already in our it's already in our ordinance. It's just a matter of we need to get it out. I mean, people aren't going to go and look to look at the ordinance, but again, if we're going to do a pamphlet, we have HCTV, we have Facebook, we have Twitter, we have a newsletter now. So there's plenty of places to get this out. We should just call it a sign ordinance and be done with it.

Selectman Guessferd then said yeah, I can see, I can see two separate documents here, right. One being a sign ordinance and one being a candidate flier. Right. I mean, you wouldn't want the sign ordinance to have to go with, you know, given to the candidates. Right. I mean, but, yes, I would love to see that out there. Selectman Morin then said I got a question. How many candidates actually come out here in here and ask us to put up with get a permit for a sign? Seriously, do we have numbers? Right. So what's the difference? Why don't we have one? They're not following it anyway. What good is it going to do?

Selectman Gagnon said so I guess just at that point, you're right, anyone who's putting up signs for warrant articles don't need a permit, so it's hard to kind of catch. Selectman Morin asked, but isn't that a political sign? Selectman Gagnon replied, it is. It is valid point. I guess the only people I was attracting here that I knew came to Town Hall were candidates who legally need to fill out an application. That's what I was trying to do. Selectman Morin asked, do they do it? To which Selectman Gagnon replied, they have to, to be on the ballot. Chairperson Roy said Oh, he's talking about the when you fill out the...Selectman Guessferd said not a permit. Selectman Gagnon said candidate application.

Selectman Gagnon went on to say the other discussion we had with, with The Planner and Mr. Buttrick was we're kind of discussing exactly how do we solve the problems that are that you keep talking about that are true. And we kind of lightly discussed what about, you know, how you see on the highway cars pull on the side of the road. If they're there more than 24 hours, you see a giant orange sticker by the police puts them on, they're saying to get rid of the car or it's going to get towed. We didn't agree on anything, but we kind of nodded our head that if we had a sticker that had the sign or like you said, in fine print and you know, it's a delicate line between who can pull signs at a private property, too. So we said, well, a good way of compromise is to slap a sticker on the front of the signs. The sign becomes invalid. They can't read it, but it says bright orange this sign doesn't have the permit or isn't doesn't meet town code. And that may be an easier way than getting a ladder and pulling the signs down off private property, but still putting on the ordinances that they're in violation of. Selectman Morin replied, I appreciate the thought, but who's going to go out and slap a sticker on a sign? We still have to go up on the telephone pole to put the sticker on the sign to say, you know what I'm saying? It's just the problem is bigger than political signs. It absolutely is. Selectman Gagnon replied, and so your intent then would be to make this document, which I already

have. I already have two more pages added to this. I can neaten it up, provide it for everyone's full feedback, and then we provide that five page document with the candidate application. We provide it to HCTV to your new newsletter, as a full advertisement. Selectman Guessferd replied, yeah, yeah. Throw in our Facebook page.

Selectman Morin replied, yeah, but we've already got it on. So why don't we just make it part of the ordinance? So it's there because you're much more in depth than the ordinance. So why don't we put it in the ordinance? So what I intend. So the intent was maybe didn't come across right. So criticize me as needed. I just wanted to I didn't want to recreate ordinances or make new ordinances or make new policies. I just want to enlighten the ordinances we had to the people in the only way I knew they came to town hall, which was the candidates. Selectman Morin replied I understand that. But you're just doing a good buddy here I'm giving you a suggestion. if we put it in the ordinance, because, like I said, yours is much more detailed than what I got right here because I read this after I read yours and yours, putting it in the ordinance would be much better to enforce it if we took your your policy that you put together and made it part of the ordinance. Selectman McGrath was recognized and asked wouldn't that have to go on the ballot? Chairperson Roy said I was going to say, now we're changing the ordinance. It's a different process. Than just sort of putting out information. Selectman Morin said but if we're taking the time to do this, why don't we just do it right instead of having to deal with this again? Because again, when you go out and do your they pick up the trash. What are a lot of the things out there? Yard sales signs, business signs. You know, they went out and picked up signs on Friday. On Monday, I drove down the street and all those college painters signs were back up, you know what I'm saying? So it's we're wasting money sending our people out to do this and we've got no way to enforce it. Selectman Gagnon replied, I completely agree. And just for clarification, sorry about the references I provided in my document. Were State RSAs and not generally Town ordinances, so that's why they looked different? I didn't make them up. Selectman Morin replied, no, I understood that. I understand that.

Selectman McGrath then said so why don't we instead of like printing out I don't know how many things you were planning to print out. If it's more than a dozen, then that's going to be you're going to have to figure out what the cost is going to be and who's going to use it. It's going to end up on the side of the road someplace. Sustainability is going to have to pick it up. Why don't we just use the town website and they just Lorrie just created this beautiful newsletter that's going to go out and she can put that on the town's website as well. And as well as the newsletter. It's just you're going instead of like taking a small task, you've exploded it to something much bigger. Are my comments bothersome? Chairperson Roy replied, no. your comments are your comments. Selectman McGrath replied, I was directing that to these two who were having a conversation. Chairperson Roy and Selectman Guessferd both replied, we weren't having a conversation. Selectman McGrath replied, didn't look that way to me.

Selectman Gagnon then said so I'm happy to, we can we can push this off if that's the will of the Board. I can provide a longer document with...Chairperson Roy said so I think you had something that's....Selectman Guessferd replied, h, no, I was just thinking pretty much along those lines. I, I don't see a reason why we couldn't defer this. Make it to a larger publication and public. But the only other thing my other thought was, is that I know your intent, I think, was to have something also also for candidates when they come in to register to, to for a particular office. So you have a hand to them and say, okay, and that's a one-time thing once a year. Right? Right. That could still be done. But I would agree. But we expand this and I don't disagree at all with with the intent. I mean, you said if you were to do it, we'll do it all at once then still have something maybe once a year that you can hand to candidates as they register for office. Selectman Gagnon replied, already prepared that I can make the documents one and we're all set.

Selectman McGrath was recognized and said I'm just going to make a comment about our staff going out and picking up signs and that's been a constant theme of his job is going out and picking up signs that don't belong there that that particular person upstairs needs an assistant. Chairperson Roy replied, I don't know who you're talking about. Selectman McGrath replied, I'm talking about the

Zoning Administrator, code enforcement officer, he desperately needs an assistant of some kind. Doesn't mean that it's a full time person. A half time person. It might be I don't know what what his needs are. I haven't talked to him lately, but I know that that's been that's been something that that he's voiced on A number of occasions. Chairperson Roy replied, right. And I think the last discussion I recall was he would like something similar to what the Town Planner has in a contract basis to help them sort of get caught up. Selectman McGrath replied, and then that might be I don't like I said, I haven't had that conversation with them for a while. Chairperson Roy said yeah. But I don't disagree that maybe some help they're needed. So, so we want to defer this and work on it some more. Selectman Gagnon replied, I will, I will lengthen it to include the other signs that do not require a permit and make it a full encapsulating document for final review at another meeting. Selectman McGrath asked, and can I just make one more comment about this? Who were you or who were you referring to as the town admin? Selectman Gagnon replied, I was thinking of Mr. Malizia and that was the general Town Hall phone number. If you prefer a different contact, I'm happy to change that. Selectman McGrath replied, I don't know. You'll have to talk to Steve about it. I just didn't know if you were referring to a number of administrators or not. Selectman Gagnon replied, no, my intent was Mr. Malizia but I thank you. Thanks for your time.

I. Serious Incident Reporting Policy - Discussion

Chairperson Roy said so the next thing on the agenda is a Serious Incident Reporting Policy. And I'll speak to it first and then I'll turn it over to Selectman Morin. So on March 1st, I sent an email to the Board expressing a need for this policy. I learned of some serious incidents that either involved employees or happened on town property that the Board was never made officially aware of. So then so I kind of I just think we need to correct that for a variety of reasons. If a citizens come to us, we have to have to at least be aware that it's going on right. And then on March 28th, I had a conversation with Selectman Morin, who said he had started to develop the policy. So at this point, I'll turn it over to him to speak where he is with that.

Selectman Morin then said since middle of summer, there's been three incidents that have been pretty major, that there hasn't been a report. And none of these reports, and let me make this clear, because I talked to the Town Attorney, none of these reports were disciplined. It was just a review of what happened. And I have a letter I sent to Chief Buxton that talks about just what we're going to do to rectify what happened, the liabilities that town faces. We, as the Board should know. So when he comes or I shouldn't say let me. it's been three departments. It hasn't just been one. So let me make that clear. Just so we know, the liability. So when the department had come to us and says that I need this money because this we understand it's not just all of a sudden. So I sent him this email wrong when back in February, because I had some concerns that I knew that I had gone around the fire, going around the fire station. They had seen it went to Nashua because Nashua was involved in one of the incidents and the Board hadn't seen anything yet. And discussion with Chief Buxton and I agree with them. He got it to the people first because they're the ones that were involved and didn't want any influences. And I get that. I fully understand that, but we still haven't seen it. And to his defense, though, if you looked at his the last department information he put out, it's all in there. where they were going. So we got everything and I got the process. But in the future, I just think that we need to at least be notified. And if there is some type of report or anything, we should get a heads up. If there's a concern about people's names, cross them out. You know, unfortunately, I probably know what they're talking about. And that's I get that, too. But the Board should be notified where we're at again, what our liabilities are, and what may be coming forward to us. So if we have to go out of budget to appropriate some money or do something that we know about it. and the only thing is reference to a policy. After talking to the Town Attorney, he had some concerns, especially with some of the incidents that have happened, that because one of the concerns was personnel were involved and where, if we write a policy, this may be a change with

contracts and we probably should talk to the labor attorney before we do anything and get some guidance on how it should be worded, because that may cause us to have an issue.

Chairperson Roy then said so sort of to that point, you know, what I would advocate is, is particularly the first report is confidential, not for public dissemination. Right. And then if we if after that it's a redacted report, I would not be opposed to that because my point is if it's out in the public realm, cuz I will tell you one of the incidents I read about on the WMUR website and you know, and that was the first time I read about it so that a citizen came to me and said, Hey, what's going on with this? I can at least answer while I'm aware of it. Probably not say much beyond that. Right? Right. But we're at least aware of it. And so we can follow it, right? And then if there's and then if there's an issue of liability, you know, there's that the Town is exposed in some way. We certainly should be aware of that. Selectman Morin replied, again, though, where it's a policy and the Attorney told me not to do anything until because we should have some type of proper wording and things, because it may be something against the contract, because names of those involved would be in those. Chairperson Roy replied, and I will always advocate for legal review. Selectman Morin replied, so before and yeah. Before anything comes out, you know, we got to we have to do that. Selectman Guessferd replied, agreed. Agreed.

Selectman Gagnon said question, just for my own understanding, you mentioned the word policy, but would this be like an incident report where it's just an application where you report incident for the record verse a policy? Selectman Morin replied, and that's what I thought we should get it. we're the hiring and firing and all that and we should see the report. The attorney says, no, we have to have a policy.

The Chairperson said Right. So so what? So here's what I envisioned when I was thinking of it. One, we define what a serious incident is right. Because we don't need to know every single thing that happens, you know. So we define that and then we talk about what's confidential, what's not for public dissemination. And then we talk about how that's how we get that through what process. So does a department head go to Steve Malizia and then Steve Malizia distributes it to us. Do they come right to us? How does that work? Right. And then and then sort of what's the time hack? Because it's kind of pointless to find out a week and a half after the incident happened. Right. And it's already out there because we just know it from other sources. So so those are the kinds of things that I thought about that should be addressed and obviously have legal review.

Selectman Morin replied, right. And some of the criteria the attorney said was you take a vehicle, Town vehicle involved in an accident where it's reportable to the state. Okay anything somebody injured, employees injured or employee somebody got injured on a town, property, resident, whatever. Anybody that came into our town from another agency that got injured, that type of thing, it just again, so we're aware of our liabilities and what if they need something, we can help them. It's not it's not to like to get anybody in trouble. And like I said, the ones we're talking about, there was no, there was no discipline or anything coming out of any of them. Selectman Guessferd replied, its awareness, right? It's really awareness. Chairperson Roy then said now but I would also kind of put the caveat on if we see a trend in certain things that we that we have. But, but yeah, it's, it's informative. It's not punitive. It's not. And I don't even know that every serious incident would even require an investigation, just an awareness thing.

Selectman Gagnon asked, but what is I guess. I guess I'm asking like, what is the how is it documented? The policy says what to do and what department heads to do. Is the policy going to say how it should be documented? Selectman Morin replied well, the departments right now, Chairperson Roy said the separately. Selectman Morin went on to say they've already got a policy how things go, how they're going to how it's going to be investigated. Like if an agency in Hudson other than the Police, get into a vehicle accident, a sergeant does the investigation. If the police get in an accident, state police come in. Right? Chief Dionne replied from the audience, only if it's serious. If there's a serious bodily injury, then we ask another agency. If it's not serious, then it's reported still by a supervisor. Selectman Morin replied so all that's already in place. The point is,

getting it from there to us. Selectman Gagnon replied, got it? Yeah. Got it. Understood. Thank you for that. Selectman Morin asked so you want to just have Steve give him a call? Chairperson Roy replied yeah and maybe give us some guidance on that. Selectman Guessferd replied, excellent. Yeah. Yeah, that's good.

9. Remarks by the Town Administrator - the Town Administrator was not present this evening.

10. Remarks by the School Board

Chairman Gasdia was absent this evening. In his absence School Board member Mike Campbell was present. Mr. Campbell said First off, I'd like to apologize for the interruption earlier today. Sorry about that. Chairman Gasdia can't be with you today. So he sends his regards. He just wanted me to express that schools are open like the pre-COVID times. We currently have students on a field trip in Panama. We have our DECA students in Atlanta. Competing musicals and concerts are happening next month. If you're interested in seeing Fiddler on the Roof at Alvirne High School, you can go to sau81.org and click on Learn and you can purchase tickets. My son's school actually just had a special friend's day. Sadly, I wasn't on his top two people to go into school, so I was luckily able to volunteer and still kind of sneak my way in there to see it. But our schools are open, and I want to thank HCTV for covering the majority of the sports live. I've watched multiple and baseball games this year and if they're not live, they will be posted later. So I wanted to thank that and I thank the Board for having me tonight.

11. Other Business/Comments by the Selectmen

Selectman Morin: It's like all I got is the chairman of the Benson's Committee, Dick Empey said he will not be reapplying for the committee. He's done 13 years on the committee and several of the terms that he served as chairman. I've said it in the past that he treated the park like his backyard and he absolutely did. Absolutely. Every moment he has the back of his backyard and he's done some great things in there. He did ask that it be okay that he continues to volunteer in the park, though. And yeah, that's yeah. So he wants to stay active there, but he won't be part of the committee and we just appreciate all his service. Selectman Gagnon asked If I might ask, would he join the Friends of Bensons? Selectman Morin replied, no, he just, he's all done. He didn't say he didn't enjoy it. But the way that he's just not reapplying. Selectman Gagnon replied, got it. Understood.

Selectman Gagnon: Thank you, Madam Chair. So a couple of comments tonight. I joined the Sustainability Committee meeting last night and a couple of recaps there planning what's called an Eco Fest. That name was developed by the Alvirne marketing students. We collectively agree that that's a great name for it. It's taking the place of Earth Day. The Sustainability Committee tries to do Earth Day events, but sometimes they can't actually hit Earth Day. So he decided to make a new event title that can be used at any point throughout the year. So it's going to be Eco Fest, so look forward to that. That will be coming up.

Myself being the NRPC liaison, I am attending the annual conference which is in a week or so, so I'll report back on that. I'm looking forward to what they present and then I want to thank and I think the Chief's in the audience here, the Chief of Police and his staff, he entertained a meeting with me to talk about various topics and just that alone. I'm really appreciative of that. Take the time and really listen to what I have to say. But this topic was really interesting. We talked about litter. Sounds a little silly sometimes, but you know, the discussion turned into he would happily provide a Facebook post, which was very easy, and that actually took off. I said this last night at the Sustainability meeting, but from when I checked it he had something like 900 to 1000 likes on this post, which was the second

most to unfortunately the passing of the military officer from Hudson. That in itself is a huge example that the public grasp on to in reality is an issue. So thank you for taking the time to speak with me. Thank you for posting that. And from that I saw three examples that were really touching. Business owners then started posting on on the resident's page that they want to start a clean-up effort and indeed did so. I saw a post about a grandmother and a granddaughter going out together really, really sweet. So people getting together and then communities. There was a group of people saying they live on a road and they want to start and how do they do it? So just a simple action spawned a lot of good. A good happenings around town. So thank you very much for that.

Selectman McGrath: We have a very popular police department as evidenced by that. I don't have anything.

Selectman Guessferd: The only thing we have weeks ago when we had our meeting, we talked about upcoming events with the Recreation Committee. They did a phenomenal job with their Easter event for the kids over the Community Center. My grandson came. We brought him over. It was well, just well organized. Just a very a very positive community event. So another example of the great things the Recreation Department's doing. Beyond that, I think I'm good.

Chairperson Roy: Okay. Well, I attended the first library trustee meeting in a while for me, and I guess the biggest thing out there is, is, GMILCS is almost totally implemented. So that means that there's a variety of libraries. If you have a library card, you can borrow from a variety of libraries, including Derry, Salem, I think Londonderry, quite a few of them. You can do it electronically. You can actually physically go to those libraries and then return the material to Rogers. It's, it's, it just expands what's available to us citizens through the library. So with anything else, they were having some little bumps in the road, making the conversion, but they're almost there, so I'm glad for them.

So the only other thing I have, so beginning with the next meeting, I'm going to add an agenda item and it's going to be liaison committee updates. And that gives all of the Board members the opportunity to give us updates specifically on the committees and in departments that they liaise to. So, so it's just a little more direct and waiting to, to the end. And we can still use selectman comments for any other news we have. And that's all here. And with that, Jill, will you take us into non-public.

12. Nonpublic Session

Motion by Selectman Guessferd at 9:12 p.m., seconded by Selectman Morin to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (b) the hiring of any person as a public employee (e) Consideration or negotiation of pending claims or litigation which has been threatened in writing or filed by or against the public body or any subdivision thereof, or by or against any member thereof because of his or her membership in such public body, until the claim or litigation has been fully adjudicated or otherwise settled. Any application filed for tax abatement, pursuant to law, with any body or board shall not constitute a threatened or filed litigation against any public body for the purposes of this subparagraph. A roll call vote was taken. Carried 5-0.

Nonpublic Session was entered at 9:12 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.

Chairperson Roy entered open session at 9:35 p.m.

Motions made after nonpublic session

1. Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin motion to hire Nicholas Collishaw as a full-time police officer with the Hudson Police Department, with a starting salary of \$32.67 (step 5), per hour, all in accordance with the Hudson Police Employee Association Contract. Carried 5-0.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 9:35 p.m. by Selectman Gagnon seconded by Selectman Morin. Carried 5-0.

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

Kara Roy, Chairperson

Bob Guessferd, Vice Chairman

David Morin, Selectman

Marilyn McGrath, Selectman

Brett Gagnon, Selectmen