

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the June 28, 2022 Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER - by Chairperson Roy the meeting of June 28, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the Selectmen Meeting Room at Town Hall
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Conservation Commission Chairman, Bill Collins
3. ATTENDANCE

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

Staff/Others: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator; Tad Dionne, Police Chief; Elvis Dhima, Town Engineer; Roger Ordway, Town Clerk/Tax Collector; Gary Gasdia School Board Representative; Jill Laffin, Executive Assistant

4. PUBLIC INPUT

1. Bill Collins, 5 Locust Street

Mr. Collins said Bill Collins, 5 Locust Street Hudson. I'm appearing tonight as just a citizen of the community, and I know you'll be undertaking the seeding of a position open on the Planning Board. I know some of the candidates that interviewed with you, some better than others, and I want to thank them for applying. I mean, I know what it's like to serve on a town board, and it's a lot of work for everybody. Tonight, I'd like to just put some accolades out there for George Hall. I started with George in my first term on the Planning Board, and I can tell you without a doubt that Mr. Hall will bring a definite decorum of professionalism to the Planning Board. He was always well versed with, you know, town regulations and state law and stuff like that. He held a very good rapport with all the applicant representatives that appear before the planning board at that time and still appeared today. So they'll be very familiar with Mr. Hall. And I thought that his decision making process was always top notch. He taught me a lot. That's why I stuck with the planning board for over seven years. And I had a a very good understanding of, you know, how to be impartial by observing his skills at that that that said, Mr. Hall also served as chairman while I was on there. And like I said, I don't think he ever left anything to question when an application came to us and made that tough decisions or the easy decisions depending on what it was. With that, I, I really don't have a lot to say. It's been a few years since I've seen Mr. Hall, but I'm very happy that he came out and decided to take a stab at being seated on that, on that Board again. And if you choose him, I don't think you'll be disappointed at all. That's my input.

5. RECOGNITIONS, NOMINATIONS & APPOINTMENTS

A. Appointments

- 1) Recreation Committee - (2 member term vacancies - 1 member term to expire 4/30/24, 1 member term to expire 4/30/25)

- a. Christina Farris
- b. Tim Powers

Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Gagnon to appoint Cristina Farris as a member of the Recreation Committee with a term to expire 4/30/25. Carried 5-0.

Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Gagnon to appoint Tim Powers as a member of the Recreation Committee with a term to expire 4/30/24. Carried 5-0.

2) Planning Board - (1 member term vacancy to expire 12/31/23, 1 alternate member term vacancy to expire 12/31/22)

- a. Victor Oates
- b. Brian Etienne
- c. Troy Tumpney
- d. George Hall Jr.

The Chairperson said next is a Planning Board. We interviewed for four gentlemen at the last meeting. There are two terms to be appointed. One's a regular member to expire 12/31/23 and one alternate member to expire 12/31/22. So I will take any motions.

Selectman McGrath said I move to appoint George Hall to a member term vacancy to expire 12/31/23. Selectman Morin seconded the motion. Chairperson Roy said motion has been made and seconded. All those in favor say aye. Selectman McGrath then said, I'd like to speak to my motion. So as we just heard from Bill, he served with George, as did I, for a number of years. George has served since he started in 1995 and he just finished a couple of years ago. So that's a long tenure on the Planning Board, devoting his time and his energy and his expertise. As you heard from Bill just now, he never...let me back up. So George took....He took the time to take the training from the Municipal Association that they give annually. They give them, I believe it's every year. They stopped a couple of years ago because of the pandemic, and then they did it online. But he took advantage of that training and made sure that he was up to date on all of the new regulations that were adopted over the over the terms. And although I didn't always agree with George's decisions, I tended to be a little bit more conservative in my approach, but he never I don't think he ever steered the Board wrong. And I'd often go back after the meetings and I think about it and I think to myself, I probably should have done things a little differently because he was a steady, a steady presence on that Board. So for those reasons, I'm nominating George. And I think that anybody that has any, any concern for the Town would also vote to put him on the Board, put him back on the Board because he's a good presence on that. So that's the reasons that for my support and encouragement that others support him as well.

Chairperson Roy asked so anybody else have anything? Selectman Gagnon said, Madam Chair and my fellow selectmen, I don't know how we want to do this or how it's been done in the past, but I guess I would personally appreciate if we talked about different options before we made motions so we can kind of compare and contrast everyone's thoughts before we make a motion. Selectman Morin then said after there's a second. There's supposed to be discussion. Selectman Gagnon replied, yeah, yeah, yeah. It's been initiated, so I get it. I would just like to hear everyone, you know, your thoughts, everyone's thoughts on all the candidates to prioritize in my mind, because I'm still a little torn on some of them.

Selectman McGrath then said well, I would expect that we're going to have if there's going to be another nomination, we talk about both of them. I just talked about George. I think he's the best candidate. I think that based on what I heard from the other candidates, I think he's the top, top candidate in my my decision making. I've known George for a long time. Are we personal friends? No. Do we associate outside of town business? No. I mean, it's it's I'm choosing the best candidate that I think would would do the best on behalf of the town that I've grown up in. And I've spent my entire life here. So I'm not going to choose someone that I don't think would do the same thing. So. Dave, you seconded the motion. So it was seconded.

Selectman Guessferd was recognized and said one thing I want to make clear that I agree that he's he's an excellent candidate. One of the things I want to be clear about, though, is that you made a,

you made a statement Selectman McGrath that anybody who cares about the Town would vote for him. I think that, that statement is is kind of over the top in terms of there are other candidates on this on this slate, at least one that I'm that I'm aware of, that we all have different opinions. We all come from different backgrounds. And so I think we just all need to kind of recognize that and not make it a if you care about the Town, you'll vote for him. I do care about the Town and I think anybody who knows me knows that. And I'm kind of prefacing I'm probably going to vote no on this particular nomination, but not because I don't like him, not because I don't think he's qualified. But I just want to make sure it's clear to the folks that are watching the meeting that that we all care about this town and whether we vote for or against a particular candidate, we're all so doing what you're doing is making, what we believe to be the best decision possible. And I so just want to make sure that that's clear there to to anybody who's who's out there and and to yourself as well, that we all do care about this town.

Selectman McGrath asked, so can I ask you a question? Selectman Guessferd replied, sure. Selectman McGrath said did you happen to watch the interview? Selectman Guessferd replied, I did. I did. I was on vacation for that week. When I came back, I watched the interviews. I read through all the paperwork. I read through the input that we received. We did receive at least one online anonymous, I'll say input and yeah. So I think I may not have been here that night, but I feel like I'm pretty well-informed about the pros and cons of the candidates and who I'm interested in promoting for both of these positions. Selectman McGrath replied, I'll be interested to see who that is. To which Selectman Guessferd replied, okay.

Selectman Morin was recognized and said I just got one comment to your comment. You tell me a politician or somebody running for board that doesn't say what you just said. So so I we can say that about every single person we're going to talk about tonight. Selectman Guessferd responded, yeah. Selectman Morin then said and I can tell you, there's one that's already sitting on the Board that has said that numerous times in public meetings. So you know what I'm saying? Selectman Guessferd replied, Okay. No, I get it but I just you know. To which Selectman Morin replied, just we need to remember that when the time comes. Selectman Guessferd replied, that's true. Okay. Point taken.

Chairperson Roy asked, anybody else? Seeing no further comment she then said okay, so I'm just going to start over all those in favor of the nomination for George Hall say aye, to which Selectman Morin and Selectman McGrath responded aye. The Chair said, all those against nay, to which Selectman Gagnon, Selectman Guessferd and Chairperson Roy responded nay. Motion fails 2-3. Selectman McGrath replied, surprising.

Chairperson Roy then asked, do I have any other nominees? Selectman Morin replied, Brian, I hope I get his name right, Etienne. Chairman Roy and Selectman McGrath both corrected Selectman Morin's pronunciation. Chairperson Roy asked, do we have a second? Selectman Guessferd seconded this motion. Chairperson Roy said, motion's been made and seconded. Any discussion?

Selectman Gagnon asked, just for clarification, this is for the permanent position? The Chair replied, yes. Selectman Gagnon then said if I may continue on my thoughts, I guess I'll just. I'll do what I asked. I'm going to lay it all my thoughts out all at once for everyone to critique. I resonate with what Bob said and what you said Selectman McGrath. George certainly has the qualifications. He has the background, the history, and he's one I'm really torn on. There's no doubt he could do it excellently. The one thing that's twisting me a little bit is I tend to think I'd like to see Hudson move in a little different than direction, than the past. And so to me, he seems to be a mortar of what the Town has been, and it's absolutely no disrespect to him, his work, his volunteering. This is just my inkling of what I get. So that's why I said no to your previously made motion. To the motion, Mr. Morin or Selectman Morin has made. I do find Brian Etienne is a standout candidate sharp, intelligent, passionate, you know seemingly fitting what I deem is kind of a new perspective on where Hudson should go. So I like him. But with that said, I'll say it out loud. Mr. Oates, I believe, needs to soften his image a little. He has some things to learn, but I do appreciate the passion, his innovative thinking, and because he's currently sitting there. I give him a little weight for the next open, full time position. So my thought would be to put him in the full time position. And then I would like to see Brian as the

alternate so he can start learning. That's how I play out the four. With all due respect. Thank you, ma'am.

Chairperson Roy asked, does anybody have anything else? Motion on the floor to appoint Brian Etienne as a member of the Planning Board with a term to expire 12/31/23. Carried 3-1-1. Selectman Gagnon was opposed, Selectman McGrath abstained.

After confirming with the Town Administrator that there was still a vacancy for an alternate member she asked, does anybody want to nominate someone to fill the alternate position, Planning Board position with a term to expire 12/31/22. Selectman Guessferd made a motion to nominate George Hall as an alternate member of the Planning Board with a term to expire 12/31/22. The Chair asked, do I have a second? Selectman McGrath replied, I'll second for purposes of discussion.

Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said Madam Chair, based on how this is playing out, I think I probably would support this motion because I've been told that Mr. Oates is most likely not interested in being an alternate again. So if that assumption is correct, which can't be changed at this point, then I would lean probably to Mr. Hall as an alternate. The Town Administrator said Mr. Oates is an alternate currently. Chairperson Roy agreed. Selectman Gagnon then said currently, but I don't believe he's interested in continuing that alternate position, if I'm correct. Selectman Guessferd asked, after his term? Selectman Gagnon replied, that is my understanding of what I've received. So because of that, if that is a correct understanding, which, like I said, can't be changed at this point, then I would support this motion. Selectman Morin then said so let me get this straight. He's an alternate, and if he doesn't get his position, he's going to quit on us. Is that what you're saying? Selectman Gagnon replied, I guess factually that's a true statement. I think he he... I speak from my interpretation of what I believe he said is that he feels like he put in his time as a volunteer, as an alternate. And I think he thought he was prepared to be a full member. But if individuals don't support him being a full member, then he wants to try to change direction. And that's my interpretation of his wants. Selectman Morin then said I just find it kind of funny that he made the statements that I talked to my wife and I need to change and I'm working on change. Well, this would give him that opportunity to stay in that alternate position, to make that change, to move forward, which kind of you know what, if I can't have it my way, I'm going to quit. Well, that says a lot. That says a lot because he told us he was changing and he was going to try to move forward and do better. And then we get this. So that tells me a lot. All set. Thank you.

The Chairperson asked, Selectman McGrath, did you want to speak to Mr. Hall? To which Selectman McGrath replied, well I can't reiterate everything that I just said, but it's all the same reasons. I wouldn't be surprised, though, if Mr. Hall told us that we could all go pound sand because it's pretty insulting after he spent so many years on the Planning Board doing a great job for the Town of Hudson that he gets treated like this. So I'll be happy to vote for him. I hope that he'll accept, but it wouldn't surprise me if, if he was insulted and walked away. Selectman Guessferd then said I certainly hope that's not the case. I had heard that perhaps he he might he was considering whether he might want to be an alternate or not. If he wasn't voted in as the primary. It would be unfortunate because from what I'm seeing, I've only been on the Planning Board this particular session. But what I'm seeing and what I've seen in the past is that those that are seated as alternates, I mean, there's a lot of folks who are seated on a regular basis. I think Mr. Oates mentioned he was something like 30 times he's gone to 30 meetings. So so I would hate to see George say no because he'll make a significant contribution as we're moving forward. And his experience will certainly help the Board. And I hope I really and I mean no disrespect to him at all and to any of these four in what we're what we're doing here, we each are deciding what we believe is best. And and it's okay to have different opinions on these things. But I would welcome George as sitting on the Planning Board with us to come in and be seated when, you know, when we have, you know, openings, which is on a relatively regular basis. So I'm just I would hate to see that happen. And I've certainly there's no insult to him in terms of the way that I have voted or the way I feel about him. Thank you.

Seeing no further comment, Chairperson Roy said, all those in favor of at least offering to Mr. Hall a appointment as an alternate member term to expire 12/31/22, say aye. Selectman McGrath said, with regret, I might add. Motion carried 5-0.

Selectman Gagnon then said Madam Chair, just for the sake I think we just to reiterate for myself this was a hard decision. I thought about this a long time. There was a lot of moving parts. It wasn't just qualifications, there was a lot of moving parts to this thought process. And even as we discussed how the motions were made, even made a difference in how I voted. So I hope that no one, no applicant takes offense to what we discussed. Chairperson Roy replied, right. And I appreciate all of them applying. I mean, they all brought something to the table and it was a hard decision. I know I up until I think the time we voted, I hadn't I had not made up my mind. So, you know, again, I thank all the applicants and we look forward to the two members serving.

B. Removal - Sustainability Committee (member term to expire 4/30/24)

Sarah Repeta

So next is a removal from the Sustainability Committee. We have we received some correspondence from the Chairperson of the Sustainability Committee that they have not had contact with one of their members since approximately November 2021. And at this point, she has missed four consecutive meetings. And so they're asking us to remove her. Selectman Gagnon made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin to remove Sarah Repeta as a member of the Sustainability Committee. Carried 5-0.

6. CONSENT ITEMS

Chairperson Roy asked does any member of the Board wish to remove any item for separate consent? Chairperson Roy removed item 6C-3.

Selectman Gagnon made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd to approve Consent Items A, B, C 1, 2, E and F. Carried 5-0.

Regarding consent item 6C-3, Chairperson Roy said so actually just have some questions about is that license. Is it like an expiration date on that? Does it? The Town Administrator replied, it's annual. The Chair responded, t's annual. They apply for it annually. Okay. And is there any restrictions on what they can where they can hold a business? The Town Administrator explained, so this particular business is out on 111. They bought the property, actually bought it from the Town at tax deed. Basically what they do is they sell precious metals out of the catalytic converters. I'm sure it's all legal, licensed. There's serial numbers, whatnot. I believe they also have a cock crushing operation. Once they strip the converters and all the other fluids and rubber parts, they actually crush the car. I believe this is the third iteration, if not the fourth iteration of this scrap metal license. They expire again every year. You have two in Town. The other one is Dracut Road. I believe there's a scrap metal dealer down there who's been in business for as long as I can remember. So we have two in Town. And again, this this is an annual fee which gets reviewed by the Police Chief to make sure that they're in conformance whatever rules, regulations and laws are applicable.

Selectman McGrath said can I ask a question? So this is the one out on 111. But the one on Dracut Road. Have they come in this year? The Town Administrator replied, yes, they have. I think it was probably a couple of meetings ago. Selectman McGrath replied, that's too bad, because I would have liked to have had a discussion about them. But I missed the, missed the the opportunity. But I'll make sure that I get it next year.

Seeing no further discussion, Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Gagnon to approve Consent Item 6C-3. Carried 5-0.

A. Assessing Items

- 1) Elderly Exemption Re-qualifications: 6 Falcon Drive, map 148, lot 068, sub 000; 36 Webster Street, map 173, lot 019, sub 000; 7 Easy Street, map 156, lot 019, sub 000
- 2) Certification of Yield Taxes Assessed/Timber Warrant: 112-114 Greeley Street, map 140, lot 002, sub 003

B. Water/Sewer Items

- 1) Water Abatement - W-UTL-22-01, 24A Rangers Drive

C. Licenses & Permits & Policies

- 1) Raffle Permit - Dalton Shumsky Foundation
- 2) Outdoor Gathering Permit - Hudson Old Home Days
- 3) Second Hand Dealer/Pawnbroker License - Recore Trading Company, LLC

D. Donations - none

E. Acceptance of Minutes

- 1) Minutes of June 14, 2022

F. Calendar

- | | | |
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| 7/4 | - | Independence Day - Town Hall Closed |
| 7/6 | 7:00 | Cancelled - Budget Committee |
| 7/11 | 7:00 | Conservation Commission - Buxton Meeting Room |
| 7/11 | 7:00 | Cable Utility Committee - HCTV Meeting Room |
| 7/12 | 7:00 | Board of Selectmen - BOS Meeting Room |

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Votes taken after Nonpublic Session on June 14, 2022

- 1.) Selectman Gagnon made a motion, seconded by Selectman McGrath to promote Firefighter/Paramedic Zachary Whitney to the position of Lieutenant/Paramedic, a non-exempt position, in accordance with the International Association of Firefighters Local #3154, Step 1, with an hourly rate of \$31.30, as recommended by the Fire Chief. Carried 4-0.
- 2.) Selectman Gagnon made a motion, seconded by Selectman McGrath to hire Madison Merchant for the position of Firefighter/EMT in the Fire Department at the contracted salary of \$17.78 per hour (step 1). This assignment will be a non-exempt position in accordance with the International Association of Firefighters Local #3154 as recommended by the Fire Chief. Carried 4-0.
- 3.) Selectman Gagnon made a motion, seconded by Selectman McGrath to hire William Nigzus for the position of Firefighter/EMT in the Fire Department at the contracted salary of \$17.78 per hour (step 1). This assignment will be a non-exempt position in accordance with the International Association of Firefighters Local #3154 as recommended by the Fire Chief. Carried 4-0.

4) Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Gagnon to approve the successor Employment Agreement between the Town of Hudson and the Town Administrator for a three (3) year period commencing on July 1, 2022. Carried 4-0.

5) Selectman Morin made a motion to adjourn at 11:03 p.m. this was seconded by Selectman Gagnon. Carried 4-0.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Public Hearing - ARPA SFRF Locality Equipment Matching Program Acceptance

Chairperson Roy recognized the Town Administrator who said I told the Fire Chief I would cover this. And if you recall, in May of this year the Fire Chief came in and got permission to apply for the ARPA SFRF Locality Equipment Matching Program Grant. He's looking for the purchase of the equipment consisting of two Lucas chest compression units. I believe these are used for people are in hard distress or whatnot. Selectman Guessferd said these are awesome. The Town Administrator said these things I couldn't tell you never had the luxury or pleasure of using them. At any rate, because of the amount of the funding which is \$23,673, you are required to have a public hearing. The public hearing was advertised and publicized. So tonight you open a public hearing. If anybody has any comments, if not closed the public hearing, and then you can authorize the Chief to accept the grant if you're so inclined.

Chairperson Roy opened the Public Hearing for the ARPA SFRF Locality Equipment Matching Program Grant at 7:26pm. Seeing no comment from the public the hearing was closed at 7:26pm. Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Gagnon to authorize the Fire Chief to accept the ARPA SFRF Locality Equipment Matching Program Award in the amount of \$23,673.00 as recommended by the Fire Chief. Carried 5-0.

B. HPD - Request to Increase School Crossing Guard Hourly Wage

Chairperson Roy recognized Police Chief, Tad Dionne. Chief Dionne said so I came before the Board a few months ago, I believe, and asked to hire some crossing guards. We have not been able to fill any of the positions, so we looked around and essentially find out where other people are with it. Pelham PD currently pays \$15 an hour to their crossing guards. We pay \$14.50. Goffstown PD pays less, but they pay an hour and a half for an hour work, so they're essentially paying \$17.65 an hour. Derry, the school systems run it and they pay less than we do at \$14.21. Nashua pays \$16.45. It's also run by the school system, not by the police department. I'm here before you requesting that we raise the rate of our crossing guards to \$17.50. We are budgeted currently for 3,700 hours to cover what amounts to ten posts in the morning, ten posts in the afternoon and 20 post total. We have 3,700 hours a year and we're budgeted with the with the figure. It's \$57,775. Last year we only used 2572 hours because we didn't have any crossing guards. So the police covered about 128 hours of crossing. Chief Dionne went on to say, that's a lot of time for the police department to be crossing the children. Obviously, we want to do that for their safety. But it is a lot of time. I think we need to figure out a way to hire, to bring in the crossing guards at this point, if I was only to and it's a combination. I mean you can, you could hire ten crossing guards and they each do two posts. So you can hire 20 crossing guards and they do one post each. Or you can because the hours stagger, you don't need ten. I mean, if I was able to have eight, we have four currently. We've had up to ten in the past, but we have four now. And if I was to hire to get to a total of eight, we would still fall within the default budget. If we paid them \$17.50 each, we would fall under the budget. And so that's where I am now at this point. And I'll entertain any questions you have.

Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said thank you, Madam Chair. For my own understanding, you mentioned a statistic there that one of the town's pays time and a half. So is there a tax or what are the what are the business propositions to paying time and a half versus just paying a higher hourly rate? Chief Dionne replied, right. So the part time work is...I don't I don't see the advantage. I mean, they're still going to, it's a per diem, more or less type of job. And if they don't show up, they don't get paid. If they do show up, they're doing an hour of work, but the town allots them an hour and a half. So I don't know if that's I honestly don't know why they would do that. I don't think it makes much of a difference. Selectman Gagnon replied, All right. Chief Dionne replied, I don't know why they do it. It may have been just, I imagine it was a maneuver. Somebody would say, well, okay, we can't afford to give him a raise. So maybe, maybe now it takes an hour and a half to cross the same amount of students. Selectman Gagnon replied, thank you for your honesty.

Selectman McGrath was recognized and said Chief would it be...do you think that maybe you should be sharing that cost with the the school department? I mean, it's to...I mean, I think it's safe to say that everybody in this room, I think it's safe to say that everybody in this room would want to protect the children of this town. And I think that sharing the cost would be beneficial to both, I would think. But maybe you can enlighten me. Chief Dionne replied, I mean, when I always think about it, I always think at the end of the day, it comes out of the Hudson resident and it comes out of the tax, the tax base, whether it's coming out of the schools budget or my budget or the engineering department. Still, you know what I mean? I kind of look at it that way. I just kind of look at it as if I'm budgeted for it, and I, you know, it comes out of my budget. If it comes out of the school budget, it's still ultimately your tax dollars as a resident. And that's kind of the way I've always approached it. So it doesn't matter if we had them or didn't, by all means. The problem for us is coverage. Yeah. And when you say share that. Yes. I wish I could call the school and say, hey, can someone put on a vest and go outside and direct the traffic because we can't get there. Our SRO's try to cover them the posts, but often they have other assignments too at the same time. So we take someone off patrol to do it and there are times when they go unfilled. It's rare. It's rare, but it happens. We're at emergencies, the SRO is not available and that post goes unfilled. Obviously we prioritize the post, some of them much like the ones in front of Alvirne. You know, you have to have someone out. It's just there's no ifs, ands or buts. Memorial, same way we you know, there's certain areas. You just have. Selectman McGrath said well those really busy roads. Chief Dionne continued saying, so, you know, we do our best to cover them every single day. Whether it came out of the harder part is, is the extra time it takes us. Maybe we cover that. The dispatchers take the call. The supervisor tries to make sure there's coverage there. We assign an officer to go there. If the officer is there, if the officer has to be there, regardless of whether any student show up that day or not, and sit in the post. So there is a small inconvenience on patrol as far as timing goes in a lot of schools, like you said, a lot of schools have that we don't. It's been the Police Department as long as I've been here. So moving it over to the schools, in all honesty, would be very you know, that would be great for us and beneficial for us. But money wise, the cost wise, I don't I see it as you know. Then the schools would be taking time out to cover the post and see if somebody else could do it. Selectman McGrath replied, well, but I was just thinking about, especially in the default budgets, because both both the school and the town are facing default budgets for the next year of funding. So if that could alleviate some of the, some of the issues that the Police Department is facing with that default budget and some of you'd have to pick up the school would have to pick up half of that. Selectman McGrath then said but in any event, it might be something that you'd want to talk about and see if you could come to some sort of an agreement to help each other out. And it would be only for that that term of the default budgets. And then if it goes any further than that, you can talk about it.

Chairperson Roy recognized School Board Chairman, Gary Gasdia, who said I think this is part of a bigger conversation that we should have. Right. Cuz I think I think there's two pieces to it, as the Chief said. Right. I think one is the money, the other is the coverage. Right. Because that's also the other piece. I think there's a whole conversation that we should have. And I think it goes beyond even the default budget. Right. Just in general, how are we set up that's best for for everyone? Cuz I don't know, maybe with the exception of you like McGrath, I don't think any of us know why it's set up this way. It's just the way it's always been. So we probably should have a discussion with regards to crossing guards, SRO officers, other school safety issues. So I think it's a good conversation to have.

I think the money is just a piece of it, you know, but I think that's a conversation we definitely should have together. Selectman McGrath then said so can we assume that you're going to try and set something up between the School and the Town and the Police Department? Mr. Gasdia replied, we'll, we'll work on something. Yes. I mean, I don't think it's going to necessarily address the answer you need to make tonight, but. Selectman McGrath replied, no, no. And but it's a starting point. And, you know, if this creates that discussion going forward, I think that it's beneficial to both. Both the School and the Town and the Police.

Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said thank you. Sorry for dragging on what seems to be a simple topic, but a little to both of their points. Is there money we can spend up front? I know it's tough in a default budget that will alleviate this problem in the long term. My point being, any kind of road lights you see up in Nashua that blink that we where would replace the need for traffic guard maybe not in front of Alvirne but in other maybe low traffic areas where we could just get rid of the headcount necessary, implement technology if it's within a reasonable cost to save money as a long term goal. Is that at all a possibility in this case? Chief Dionne replied, in the long term it would probably work in certain areas. And I think what it comes down to then is that depending on the age of the student as well, is are they going to press a button and cross? Are they just going to cross because they don't want to wait for the button? You know what I mean? So I guess that's another issue of it's a bigger I think they're all bigger topics. I mean, and Mr. Gasdia, I, we did speak we brought this up very briefly with, in speaking with Dr. Moulis already, and we intend on meeting with him a few more times before school even starts and start proposing a couple. I think he has some more or less some things he'd like to discuss with us. And when we with him and members of the School Board in wherever, just, just because of the current events to so we already we already had trying to jump ahead of that and get some conversations rolling. And certainly that has been brought up briefly was what could we do with the with the crossing guard situation. Selectman Gagnon replied, okay. Thank you, sir.

Selectman Morin was recognized and said just this this would be the perfect topic for the meeting you've called between the School Board and the Selectmen. Chairperson Roy replied, it would be it would be one, yup. Selectman Morin then said and the only other thing is the Chief and myself visited the traffic post at the end of the year. And I got to tell you, they put their lives out there. This you know, that's probably one of the things one or two Central Street. Unbelievable. You know, those don't the police officers have a cruiser which is going to slow people down. It's easy for these people are walking out in the middle of those roads with that little sign that says stop, you know, just hazardous duty.

Chairperson Roy added, it's ridiculous. I live down the street from this. It's ridiculous. Selectman McGrath said it is...how nobody is, quite frankly, yet been killed there is beyond me. But that's also why we had a couple of meetings back. We had a discussion about a grant for the flashing things, and I think that's what you and I were talking about having on those busy roads, something that you can set up that that brings more attention to the fact that you're going into a school complex, essentially, you know. Chief Dionne added, so that purchase is coming up in July. So we'll be getting that.

Selectman McGrath then said I just need to make a point in response to Selectman Gagnon's comment, have you ever sat at the Sagamore Bridge for a red light and you see all of the trucks running, the trucks and cars running the red light coming onto Lowell Road? They do the same thing in front of the schools. People don't.... they have no respect for the red lights. They don't care if they're putting somebody's life in danger, and it's just to get there a little bit quicker. So, you know, people standing out there with a sign saying stop, you know, and it's just, it's ridiculous. And I don't and I don't understand why we haven't experienced and God help me for saying this, but why we haven't experienced more accidents and more fatalities because people are driving like it's like it's a pandemic where there isn't enough there isn't traffic. So they don't have to watch the red lights and they don't have to adhere to traffic laws. I'm not driving at the moment, but I'm a passenger in a car to get places and I see it just as a passenger, just something's going to happen and it's not going to be pretty. The Chairperson said we had an accident front of Alvirne. Although I don't think it was

serious. Earlier in the school year. Chief Dionne added, we actually have a lot of accidents at Alvirne. Luckily most of them are vehicles. Chairperson Roy said there was a young man that was hit. I believe it was a young man that was hit. I know he wasn't. I don't think he was hurt bad. Chief Dionne added, no he was not hurt bad. But yes, it's not uncommon. A tunnel or a bridge would be the only way to get it right. (Laughter). He then said, not sure the State is going to do that for us. That would be a great place for a tunnel or a bridge. Selectman McGrath added, or a wall.

Seeing no further questions, Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Gagnon to increase the hourly wage of the part time school crossing guards from \$14.50 per hour to \$17.50 per hour. Carried 5-0.

C. HPD - Request to Increase Student Maintenance Assistant Hourly Wage

Chief Dionne was again recognized and he said recently we had a vacancy in our student, our Alvirne student maintenance assistant. And I don't believe we've I don't remember the last time we've changed the rate for that particular position. And I know when the vacancy came we actually had, somebody left me a letter making a suggestion and I knowing this, you know, that I can I imagine a student could go right down to McDonald's and make about \$15.00 an hour. So they say and I figure a way to make it more attractive for students who might want to take up the job. That said, we have not advertised yet. That's also on the agenda today. So I can't say whether it would keep it... I can't say whether it's going to make a difference or not. But I think the idea is we'd want to we want to be able to attract more than one applicant.

Selectman McGrath was recognized and said so did you consider \$15.00 an hour? Because if you, if you're anticipating competing with McDonalds for an extra dollar an hour and this isn't a high...how many hours they expected to work a week. I mean it's I would think that...Chief Dionne replied, so we're budgeted for 15 hours. Of course with the default budget. I believe one of my captains recommended \$15.00 an hour. I was just trying to be frugal and that's what it came down to. I was just trying to be frugal about it because I'm still trying to look at the line as well, you know, for the for the default budget. But we are budgeted 15 hours for them to work a week. And they work. I mean, there's no doubt about it. They work. We'll usually leave them a list for what we need. And they also will actually help our maintenance worker, Dan. It's not just it's not strictly washing and cruisers. Selectman McGrath replied, Dan I think could use the help too. Chief Dionne replied, there are times when he definitely can use a little bit of the hand and so. Selectman McGrath asked, so you won't be angry if I make the motion to approve \$15 an hour? Chief Dionne replied, I would not.

Selectman Morin was recognized and said just, you know, you're concerned and I fully understand finding somebody to do this. When you guys advertise, do you hit like the Explorer Posts and you know, those are the kids that would probably come over and do that because it's kind of their.... Chief Dionne replied, we don't currently have an Explorer post anymore. Selectman Morin replied, I know but Nashua does. Do we send around or. Chief Dionne replied, we advertise it at our high school, typically, that's what we generally advertise. But I would imagine if we had no we would we would we would branch out. We could always branch out. Yeah, absolutely.

Chairperson Roy asked, so have you ever had an issue filling this position? The Chief replied, no. Chairperson Roy replied, and I understand the concern. I don't disagree with that. Chief Dionne said there's usually there's usually we inside the school, we usually can get we get an idea of one student who may be interested. And that's typically how it's been or it's somebody that they already have a relationship possibly with the Police Department, they've worked with them before or something. But often we able to, at least with the SRO, get get one, one student, an example, one student. But it would be better if we had more applicants. Chairperson Roy replied I think that was just too, Mr. Morin's point. Chief Dionne replied, I would love to be able make a choice. Which is true. Yeah. This would be the first time that it's come before me for hiring. Seeing no further questions, Selectman

McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd to increase the hourly wage of the Part Time Alvirne Student Maintenance Assistant from \$10.30 per hour to \$15.00 per hour. Carried 5-0.

D. HPD - Request to Advertise - PT Student Maintenance Assistant

Chief Dionne was again recognized and said we have a vacancy. Yes. So that's what I would, we would like to we would like to be able to advertise. Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd to accept Chief Dionne's request to advertise for a Part Time Alvirne Student Maintenance Assistant. Carried 5-0.

E. HPD - Request to Advertise - Police Prosecutor

Chairperson Roy recognized Chief Dionne who said, thank you very much. So this is a contingency. We have a potential opening that may happen very soon. So I come before you asking to be able to maneuver into advertising as quickly as that occurs, if it occurs. And the basis of the person who currently fills that position, I've told them I won't mention his name at all today. And, you know, he's a very honorable person and he doesn't want to put anything before his time. And he wants to make sure of that. And he knows nothing is set in stone. But he also has just his appreciation for everything the Town has done for him. He wants us to be in the best position to know when things are going to happen. So it could happen very quickly. I would like to have the opportunity to advertise. If that happens and he is affirmed, then I would like the opportunity to advertise at that point, and I'm asking to go between a range of \$84,458 and \$90,902, which would put us in a very competitive position. We're looking to fill that with experience, and we're looking to fill it with someone who has prosecutorial experience. And in order to do that, we have to be competitive. And this would put us in a very competitive position.

Selectman McGrath was recognized and said I'm going to I'm ready to make a motion. Chairperson Roy replied I just have a question. Does anybody else have something? Seeing no further questions from the Board Chairperson Roy asked, are you required to fill this with an attorney? I know in Massachusetts it does not have to be an attorney. I would prefer it. Chief Dionne replied, so I don't believe there's a legal requirement. I could prosecute a case. The courts have gone from a position... when I when I first started, we had police prosecutors who were police officers, and that's all they did. The courts have gone into a position now where they strongly advise it. If we, if we just had a full time unmarried police officer prosecuting all the time, we the judges would definitely give us a very difficult time because they would like to have someone with the strong legal backing. And right now, everybody is using them. It is the best police practice at this point. The Chairperson replied, I agree with that. I just didn't know what the requirement was. Chief Dionne replied, yeah, there isn't.

Seeing no further comment from the Board, Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd to approve the Hudson Police Department request to advertise for a full time police prosecutor with a beginning salary ranging between \$84,458.00 to \$90,902.00, depending on experience, per the Hudson Police, Fire and Town Supervisors Association Agreement upon fruition of contingency. Carried 5-0.

F. Marsh Road Pump Station Equipment Purchase FY23

Chairperson Roy recognized Town Engineer, Elvis Dhima. Mr. Dhima began saying thank you, Chairperson Roy. Good evening, everyone. I'm going to be a bit loud. I think that was a little bit too quiet over there, Chief. I was like, is that my hearing going or the microphone and what's going on? (laughter) It was just going quieter and quieter and quieter. So the first item for you tonight

is the Marsh Road pump stations. As you recall, on the last meeting, the Board was recommended to reject the bid because we only had a certain amount of money. And with things out of control out there, we decided to move forward with breaking this project down to a three year approach. So the first approach or the first phase is purchasing the pumps. We reached out to the consultant or to the manufacturer that was providing the bids and the quotes, the contractors. And you have an attachment there with the number of \$291,802. And that basically involves the vertical pumps, 100 horsepower, 50 horsepower, 15, the VFD's which basically control the pumps, the speeds and what's required for energy and all the components associated with it. This is made in the USA. There's a significant lead time of 36 to 42 weeks. If we went forward with this and these guys are the only ones and I asked around if other consultants have used it in the past and our water operator has.

Mr. Dhima went on to say, I'm asking for two things tonight. First one is the sole sources, because they're the only vendor that provide this. They've been used in the past by people that work with us. Their quote is within our budget. And second, to approve this purchase directly. So the intent is we get the pumps, they get delivered next year. We store them, we get the building the following year. And then the third year someone comes in and put this thing together for us and we say within the budget, without breaking the bank, that's it. I'll take any questions you might have.

Chairperson Roy said so I just have one. What is this account that you reference in here? Is that the water utility? The Town Administrator replied, that is a water utility account that has a budget for this purpose. The problem is we couldn't do the whole project, so we're breaking into component. So this is borne by the water payers won't change or raise the rate. It's not on the tax rate, it's on the water utility customer rate. Chairperson Roy replied, I just want to be transparent. Mr. Dhima added, so the same account that was being used for Marsh Road Pump Station Project is being used to purchase these pumps and we're going to continue to do that for the next couple of years.

Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin to waive the bid process and sole source the work to Hayes Pumps, Inc. 1) they are the only vendor providing the pumps in the area. 2) They have provided similar pumps to our water operator. 3) their quote is less than the budget amount. Carried 5-0.

Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin to approve the purchase of pumps/motors, VFDs and accessories, to Hayes Pumps, Inc., for the amount of, not to exceed \$291,802.00 using account number 5592-401 as recommended by the Town Engineer and Finance Director. Carried 5-0.

G. Sparkling River Clubhouse - Water Line Acceptance (Leybridge Drive)

Chairperson Roy again recognized the Town Engineer who said, thank you, Chairperson. This project is a 55 plus community that started back in 2014, and I'm pleased to inform you tonight that this is coming to a conclusion. Clubhouse is the last building that's going to require a CO. Everyone over there is very excited to have an open house, I think second week of July. So the only thing standing in the way is the acceptance of the water line that's going to be serving this building and the fire hydrant associated with this building. So with that said, upon acceptance tonight, this comes with the one year warranty that's made all the specs. It comes with a 20 foot easement that we can service this line moving forward. And it's been recommended by MUC, the Municipal Utility Committee, Public Works and Town Engineer. I'll take any questions you might have. This becomes Town property, by the way, moving forward.

Seeing no questions from the Board, Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd to accept the Leybridge Drive water main and fire hydrant as recommended by the Town Engineer, DPW Director and Municipal Utility Committee. Carried 5-0.

H. Lowell Road Bridge - Design Phase - Amendment #1

Chairperson Roy recognized the Town Engineer who said, Thank you Chairperson Roy. Lowell Road. Bridge Rehab is one of the four project that the Board of Selectmen recommended to get completed using ARPA funds. The first phase that we're dealing with right now is a design phase, so we're about 75% completed and part of that is the environmental permits that we need to. About four years ago, we dealt with a similar situation which was First Brooke on Central Street. And the way we handled that was we filed with the State what they refer to as a Permit by Notification, basically just letting them know what you're doing. Everything is temporary base and you get the okay. It's pretty straightforward about two page application and you move forward with the project. In this particular case, we have different staff out there and different people that running it and they see, read and interpret rules a little differently. So in this particular case, even though it's the same theme, we're going in, cleaning up the pipe, putting reinforced concrete at the bottom, really not doing anything permanent, they see that as that as we need to do a dredge and fill application. We went back and forth a couple of times. We agreed on the work itself, but they still feel that we need to do a dredge and fill application. So after numerous back and forth with them, we're agreeing to basically move forward with the process of the dredge and fill. This particular permit is going to need additional resources and funds, I guess, to get the design or the application, I guess, through for the additional of \$11,910. And that's where I'm in front of you tonight to ask the Board to move forward with this amendment. We budgeted \$50,000 for this phase. And if the amendment gets approved tonight, we'll be at the \$40,720 mark.

Selectman Guessferd asked, do we anticipate any other costs associated with this? Mr. Dhima replied, no. Once this is done and it's a very good question. Thank you. We made sure that we had a commitment from the from the State about what we are doing for the design so we don't have any further surprises. So we have locked that in. Basically what we're doing is what they agreed to as well as an alternative design, but we just need to complete this piece. So I do not foresee anything beyond that. We don't what we see is in the next 4 to 6 weeks, we submit the application and the final design, we'll get the approval within 30 days and then we go out to bid sometime late August. Hopefully by then the rest of the funds will be, the ARPA funds, will be available and we can get the construction done this year as well. That's the plan of attack. So we don't foresee any further surprises.

Selectman Morin was recognized and said for the dredge and fill permit that's through DES, what was their take on this? Mr. Dhima replied, basically, they're saying we don't agree with you that this is temporary work, Elvis. We think this is a permanent even though we're really not doing anything upstream and downstream, the only work is basically associated on the upstream side. And the downstream side is blocking the water, creating a cofferdam on both sides, providing a bypass system to get the water from one side to the other. Obviously, we can't do it over the road, so it's got to be within that. Again, I we believe that that all that work was basically temporary. I think what created a little bit confusion internally at the DES was the fact that the bridge that's out there right now is a rehab of an original bridge. So this is the third time we're going in to do something there. So it's hard to tell. I think the staff is different what we used to deal with six years ago. So it's different how people interpret it. I don't want it to be about who's right and who's wrong. We went back and forth. My biggest concern was approving the design alteration, alternative design, which is a slip line that we've done in the past because plan B would have been ripping out the whole road and putting in a brand new bridge 200 feet long, which would have been impossible to do. so that DES is running that.

Selectman Morin then asked for the one further down Central Street and the one on Pelham Road, do we have to get a permit then? Mr. Dhima replied, so for the Pelham Road, yes. Because you blew up the whole road, closed it for eight months, put a whole bridge in, yes. That one you had to do it. For the one on Central which is similar to this is stopping the road cleaning it. No. So yes, back then? No, now what's changed? Staff. The way they read things, the way they see things, maybe they change the language in certain things. So I don't think it's worth arguing at this point. I think we did

what we could, so we got the big piece, which was important. We got to win on there. Let's take that, get through the process and move on. We are fighting them on a couple of other things, bigger fish and we are working on them on some bigger fish. So it's kind of like pick your battles. This one, I say we just we go with the flow, literally.

Selectman Morin was recognized and asked, where we fall within the budget from the grant? Mr. Dhima replied, so we budgeted \$50,000 for this and with this approval tonight and hopefully this being the end of it, we're still \$10,000 below. So we're at \$40,000. We budgeted \$50,000. So we're still within our threshold for the design. Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd to approve the Amendment #1, Contract for Design Engineering Services for the Lowell Road Bridge (116/080) to Wright-Pierce, Inc. for the amount of not to exceed \$11,910, which brings the total contract amount to \$40,720 using account #7201, which is ARPA funds. Carried 5-0.

I. Accrued Time Payouts

Chairperson Roy recognized Finance Director Lisa Labrie who said, good evening. So I'm looking to get permission to possibly take up to \$450,000 out of capital reserve to cover the earned time buyouts that we've had this year. We've absorbed 600, almost \$620,000 out of a default budget. We still have an additional payroll after this week and three more check runs to get through. Payable check runs. So it's possible we will be overspent against our budget. And so I'm looking to be able to take up to \$450,000 out of capital reserves if necessary. The Town Administrator added, which is the same amount I think he gave permission for last year. Chairperson Roy said, yeah, this is a fairly typical request. The Town Administrator added, this is very typical request. We're just covering the bases. So as she stated, you know, you have folks leave employment, they get their earned time buyout. Folks under contracts to get earned time. This way in case we go over bottom line, we have the fund that we can recoup the money from and we're just saying up to \$450,000. Chance we might not use any of it. Ms. Labrie said 25% of what we absorbed were due to terminations of long time employees. The Town Administrator added, retirement of long time employees. This is just we'll call it a contingency, but we need to put this motion on the books so that we have the authority to work with that when we get to. Ms. Labrie said it's just in case an insurance policy, basically, hopefully we won't need to use it.

Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said thank you. I'm trying to read this quickly here, but can you just help me out? What is the total in that capital reserve fund? Ms. Labrie said there's \$900,000 in the Capital Reserve Fund. The Town Administrator added, the second page actually has. Selectman Gagnon said, just found it. Sorry about that. Thank you very much. Seeing no further questions from the Board Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin stating the Board of Selectmen, as agents to expand, requests the distribution of up to \$450,000 from the Employees Earned Time Fund from the Trustees of the Trust Funds as reimbursement for Fiscal Year 2022 appropriations if needed. Carried 5-0.

J. Fiscal Year 22 Encumbrances

Finance Director, Lisa Labrie said, the second reason I'm here this evening is for encumbrances. To propose an encumbrance list of monies to bring forward into FY 23. This is usually to do with items that have been committed purchasing for, for example, automobiles. We haven't been able to obtain back orders. A lot of the purchase orders that that are on here are things that were ordered in April, May, early June that we just haven't been able to receive things that are needed, things that have been committed, and we just haven't received them yet. So we're looking to

put forward these encumbrances to carry forward into next year. Approximately half of this money is related to warrant articles that have been started. Lowell Road widening. Taylor Falls Bridges or Taylor Falls and bridges. So these are these are the items that we're looking to go forward. Also, \$500,000 of this is ARPA money, ARPA projects that have been started. The Town Administrator said, we're just covering our bases on that. So just to be on the safe side, we've encumbered it or asked for the encumbrance. Ms. Labrie said we weren't sure if that was a necessary item, but we put it on. The Town Administrator said we put it on here. So bottom line is we may very well encumber less because some of the stuff may actually come in or get the invoice may come in and we'll get done. But this is the maximum it would be. This is pretty typical. This covers also the water fund and the sewer fund. So this is a bottom line for those funds, along with Conservation, I think they have some modest outstanding purchases. And for the APRA funds and again, some warrant articles, the chief, the main one being the Lowell Road Widening Project, as you're well aware of.

Seeing no questions from the Board, Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Gagnon to cover the not to exceed amount of \$2,806,609.88 for Fiscal Year 2022, as recommended by the Finance Director. Carried 5-0.

K. Request for Payments from Sewer Capital Reserve Fund

Chairperson Roy recognized the Town Administrator who said, so there's three requests for reimbursement from the various sewer capital reserve funds. Those funds are set up for these specific purposes. Bottom line, you have three requests. The first one is for \$232,946.91 from the Nashua Wastewater Treatment Capital Reserve Fund for various, ah our share of the capital improvements to that plant. We are a part owner of that \$45,000 from the Sewer Pump Capital Reserve Fund. That was for some repairs on some of the sewer pumps. And I believe the final amount is \$186,169 from the Sewer Capital Assessment Fund. That was for basically, I think, various small projects like the flume lining, the remainder of that project. If you recall, the flume that went across, that's all eligible to be reimbursed and it was budgeted to be reimbursed from the capital reserve funds. So to have the paper trail. I spoke to the trustees. I need to make a motion to vote at the meeting. Once you do that, they'll release the funds and basically replenish our budget. And this is all borne by the sewer user. These are all sewer projects. So if you're a sewer user, you're paying for this in your rate. If you're a non-sewer user, you're not paying for. Seeing no questions from the Board Selectman Gagnon made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin to approve the reimbursement request of \$232,946.91 from the National Wastewater Treatment Capital Reserve Fund, as well as \$45,000 from the Sewer Pump Repair Capital Reserve Fund. And \$186,169 from the Sewer Capital Assessment Fund. The Board of Selectmen are agents to expend for these funds. Carried 5-0.

9. Board Liaison Reports

Selectman Morin: First we have Con Comm. Both Robinson Pond and Tonic Pond have been treated for invasive plants. I believe that was done last week. It was posted. I'm not sure how long that that chemical stays in there, but it has been posted. So they're moving forward with that. The purchase of the land for the Kimball Hill Forest, there was a lot of discussion between the two chairmen of the Hudson and the Pelham Conservation Committee. Pelham had submitted a request. Our committee had a lot of discussion on it and sent back that they were looking for being notified if Pelham needed any work done. We were going to give them access, not a problem, because their parcel is actually landlocked. They can't get to it from Pelham. So they granted that. They also wanted a bond in case there was any damage to our property. While they were doing that and there was a name to change our town forest to the Hudson Pelham Town Forest. At this time, our committee is pretty firm and this is what they're going to request. There has been no final thing. I

don't know if he's gotten any from Back from Pelham since our meeting, so I can't answer that. But that's what was sent back.

The boat ramp you had asked me to look into. There was a gentleman we were working with for the State on several occasions that were supposed to get us stuff and never got back to us. The Chairman of the Conservation Committee did talk to the Planner and the Engineer, and it will be on the next agenda to see what they want to do. Chairperson Roy replied, okay, great. Selectman Morin replied, thank you and then said then the last thing we got, reports that there's been some trees cut in Merrill Park. I just want to remind everybody that that is Town property. It is a conservation area. You can't just go in and cut trees. It has to be done by the Conservation Committee and approved through that or the Town. So anybody that's cutting trees, if you did it, please stop.

Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said just for clarification, I think Merrill Park is on the bank of the Merrimack River. So on top of it, being Town property, there's state regulations involved when you get that close to a giant water asset.

Selectman Morin went on to Benson Roof. It starts on Tuesday. So we're moving forward. The Committee talked about the fee plan that the Board had requested. They have started moving forward, but they have to have some type of input from this Board. They have a plan, but there's a couple of things that may cost, and we're going to have to find some fund somehow. First of all, if we reserve a piece of the park, it's going to have to be we have to. Whoever pays for it has to have that. So how are we going to do that? Who are we going to pay to go do that? Are we going to have somebody there while this is all taking place? So there's a number of questions that this Board needs to sit down at a future meeting and discuss to see where we want them to go with it. They have they have several ideas ready to move forward. But this is the sticking point at this because it is going to cost some. Chairperson Roy said so I think that I'd like to make it an agenda meeting so we can have a full discussion and invite the chairperson or whoever from the from the Benson's Park Committee so that we can have a good, thorough discussion about those things.

Selectman Morin then said all right. Let's see. The other thing we need to look at is a Board coming up. We're spending all this money on a roof for the barn, so we're going to have a nice roof, but all the exterior walls are going to fall down. So at this point, they looked at it real quick. There's no report. It was just a real quick. And it was suggested that we put some type of siding on it as a temporary fix. We could do vinyl siding, a red vinyl siding to make it look like a barn. So that's another thing that we need to talk about in the future to see if that's the next step we want to do to preserve that building.

And the last thing would be the Budget Committee. You want to do that now or? Chairperson Roy replied, yeah, why don't we do that? The first the one piece of it, and then we'll put, I guess, Budget Committee requests on the next agenda Steve? The Town Administrator replied, whatever you'd like. Selectman Morin then said we received two budget requests from the budget, requests from the Budget Committee looking for information. At this point, I don't know if it's in their purview. We need to determine that. But the other problem is we've got employees right now, end of the year, that are really busy trying to get everything squared away. And, you know, and it's going to take some work for some of the requests. So I just like to have the Board make a decision that we hold off on the employees having to do this until this Board gets to sit down and discuss where we want to go with this. Selectman Guessferd said, absolutely. The Budget Committee is not meeting. Chairperson Roy said we have a month. Selectman Morin said with everything going on. I don't want to see everybody overloaded having to do all this stuff at the same time. Selectman Guessferd said absolutely. That's perfect. Selectman Morin said, that's all I have. Thank you.

Selectman Gagnon: Thank you, Madam Chair. So a couple of updates tonight. Sustainability had a meeting last night. I'll make this pretty quick. Some of them are technical, the CPCNH or the power aggregation committee at the state level. We have a member who sits on that. There are now 19 member municipalities. So 19 towns like ours, and they're expecting 19 more. So it's expanding very

rapidly. There's expected to be an update to the contract between Hudson and CPCNH, and these are supposed to be just minor corrections clarifications to that contract. So we should expect to sign that in the coming months. There has been 12 applicants for the request for a proposal to work with CPCNH. So that means that CPCNH has said to different power companies, who wants to work with us to to work with Hudson and other towns. So it's a good thing. It's a good sign that you have that many applicants. The draft rules are finalized, but the Public Utilities Committee and expected to be approved, the PUC Public Utilities Committee, is the one who kind of makes the rules and laws about how utilities can operate and how these new power aggregation laws are going to kind of dance with the current regulations and the Sustainability Committee and their subcommittee for power aggregation. They are still on a general track for March of 2023 to present to the residents a power aggregation warrant article, which would ask the residents if they certainly are interested in this initiative. I would say why not? Seeing it said it's for cost savings to all residents and small businesses, but there'll be more educational information presented to the public far before that warrant article is presented, of course.

And the let's see here. The Sustainability Committee wants to sincerely thank the Hudson Community Center for their impressive and incredibly professional display at the Eco Fest event, which was very well thought out.

On to the Right to Know committee. I will follow in Chief Dionne's footsteps here and not release names. But we want to thank one of the committee members for his work. We do anticipate his respectful stepping down. So this may not be the place in the comment section tonight, but this Board does need to consider if those actions are put into play to reappoint a town employee to the Right to Know committee. So just keep that in mind.

The School Board talked about a lot of things. One of the major items was the appreciation for outgoing superintendent Larry Russell. So again, we want to thank him for everything he's done. We had a nice meeting. A lot of people came and spoke positively about him and his work, which was very touching. Lastly, I think thank you. Selectman Morin, you spoke to a concern I had from residents about tree cutting. And as a slight funny, I believe there was a joke online that the Benson's Park Bridge was stolen. Indeed, it was not stolen. It was taken down for safety reasons. So that's all I had tonight.

Selectman McGrath: So I attended the Municipal Utility Committee meeting the other day, and the only thing that I have to report about that is that they're having an issue with the septic and sewer from people throwing in the diaper, you know, the baby wipes and that material gets clogs things up. So they're going around asking the residents, don't use them. If they do, throw them in the trash, don't throw them down the toilet. And that's about it for that meeting.

And as far as the Police Department, I have nothing to report from the Police Department. I have conversations with them on a regular basis, and I'm going to allow them the opportunity to present information as they deem fit. And I'm not going to get in trouble for saying something that shouldn't be said or releasing information that shouldn't be released.

Chairperson Roy said to your first point from the Municipal Utility Committee, I seem to remember the HCTV had sort of a PSA about that. The Town Administrator said, yeah, I did it with Jess Forrence. Chairperson Roy said yeah, if we can like rerun that. The Town Administrator joked, I'd love to. I get the royalties. Chairperson Roy replied, yeah. I'm saying, I'm saying. Yeah. So we rerun that.

Selectman McGrath said I suggested to them that, that maybe contacting like the Senior Center, the nursing homes that are in town, any facility that might be using those on a regular basis, that, that they cease and desist from that use, you know, not the use itself, but just throwing them in the toilet disposal.

Selectman Guessferd: First of all, our Cable meeting recently was deferred to the next meeting. So we haven't had any meetings since last spoke on the matter.

With regard to the Planning Committee, we've had a few projects come across. We've recently just approved an application for a nine unit subdivision right over here on Central Street near the intersection of Library and did a site walk and there was a lot of discussion about it and there was some there was allusion in some I think the last meeting we had a there was some discussion of test pits and things that resulted in the plans being changed and then approved. So the Planning Board is they're doing their job and we've got we've had some very specific and detailed reviews of these plans.

So we'll be going to our next session of the regulation update that with the goal of making those regulations a bit easier to use over time, they've kind of been convoluted and things added here and there. And this job is to try to pull them all into a to a very organized matter so that people applying for permits can walk themselves through the process a little bit easier and not have to go looking through various sections to to move from step to step. So it's we're getting there and I think we have a session coming up and hopefully we'll the workshops will end within the next couple of months. So we'll have some some we're going to have to, I think, bring them to the Board to approve before we finalize them. But that looks promising what we're doing there.

And then let's see, Recreation Department. A lot happening. Guess what started yesterday? Summer program. This is the big thing, the big emphasis right now this time of year, there's 260 kids signed up and they had 200 kids in attendance yesterday. Everything is going well. They did work with the Hudson Fire Department and the Police Department to get some training for staff, both CPR training and active shooter training. Unfortunately, these are things that have to be looked at and decided if they're going to have the training. So thanks to the HPD chief and the HFD for helping with that.

With regard to programs, adult softball is going along. Both women's and men's leagues are going great. Fall soccer registration is open, so and we'll close at the end of the month. So we only have a few days left for fall soccer registration. Lacrosse just ended and Hudson finished second in the state. So not bad for lacrosse there. Scholarships, a couple of scholarships. As we know, this is scholarship time of year with graduations. There were two scholarships that were provided by the rec department, each of \$1,000. And thanks to all the support we got on the calendars, we're going to be able to offer double that amount of scholarships next year. So that was really, really good news. And the Town, you know, thank the town for supporting that and buying those calendars. So and also the town businesses because the town businesses donated gift cards and certificates and things for that. And that's again, it's one of those things where we're you know, we're collaborating as a town, businesses, the town itself. It's really it's heartening to see that. I can't emphasize the importance of this of an active Rec Department. And then just senior programming is also a part of the agenda for the Rec Department It's going great. There's a lot of things going on. There was a waffle breakfast, there were some other things. There was a concert recently and I guess there's big senior news Bingo is back.

And then that high school flag football ended it was up to trial program it went really well hopefully we'll see more about that in the future. So anyway, great things going on with the Rec Department.

Chairperson Roy: Thank you. So the Library Board of Trustees met. Their summer program is also in full swing. I will say they have something to offer for everyone. I will point out that the summer reading program that they have is for both children and adults. There's two, there's kind of two tracks to that. You should check out their website. There's museum passes. There's classes. There's all kinds of things for both kids and adults to do at the Library. So, again, you should check out their

website. And just to remind that they will have National Night Out on August 2nd, think it runs from 4:30 to 8:00. I know last year that was a big event.

So the ZBA is kind of going on a little bit of small scale, the same thing the Planning Board is doing. They've been looking at their their bylaws and their regulations and trying to make them make sense and logically line up with the Town Code and everything in there almost to the end of that, that process. So hopefully we'll see something soon on them updating their bylaws and the regulations.

And then finally a while ago, we had applied for a grant for a mobile sign with a generator. We got news today that initially that grant was approved. It was actually approved for more than what we asked for because of the ramped it up for inflation. So it looks like we'll get \$137,000 for that project and we should see more about that sometime around September when they release the funds from the federal government. Selectman McGrath asked, and it's a mobile sign? Chairperson Roy replied, yeah. Selectman McGrath said not, not a permanent. Chairperson Roy said no. You know those orange ones, it's like a little trailer and you can just drag it around and put it wherever it's needed, you know, construction. Selectman Morin said that can be used for everything. Fire, Police, everything. Chairperson Roy said you can do voting and Town news. Selectman McGrath said those are the types of signs that I approve of, the temporary ones.

10. Remarks by Town Administrator

Just so everybody knows, Town offices will be closed on the 4th of July, which is next Monday, which means trash pickup will be delayed one day next week. So if your day is Monday, it'll be picked up Tuesday, Tuesday, Wednesday, so forth and so on. And our fiscal year ends on Thursday. So our new year starts on Friday. So Happy New Year. I know Finance is working very hard to close the year and we're getting ready for the new year and that's it.

11. Remarks by School Board

Great. Thank you. So since the last time we were here, school ended on June 15th. Sort of. On June 20th, we started our Summer Scholars program. That's a program that's funded by the ESSER grant to help close the gap for some of the COVID learning. You know, folks that are struggling because of COVID. We had 140 students enrolled and last year the average student was able to pick up almost an entire grade level of reading and math that they had lost due to COVID. So hopefully we see similar results this year.

Extended School Year, which is something we run for the students in the Special Education Department starts next week. At our meeting, in addition to saying goodbye to Mr. Russell, we also got and approve the plans for the playground that the Town had approved as the warrant article. And one of the things that I'm excited about is it's a playground that is designed specifically to be accessible for all students. So wheelchairs will be able to go in. So there'll be a path right in so there's nothing to go over. There are sensory things so that basically any student will be able to access it and enjoy it. So I'm excited about that.

Congratulations to Mr. Russell and going on retirement. His last day will be June 30th. And our new Superintendent, Dr. Dan Moulis, will start July 1st. He's already been around Town nonstop, looking forward to working with him. So with that, happy fourth to everybody. Back to you.

Selectman McGrath said, can I just, I'm going to say to you, I don't know if you were here at the when that lady was here applying for. I think it was the, I don't know Recreation? Chairperson Roy replied, Recreation. We appointed her today. Selectman McGrath went on to say to Mr. Gasdia, so there's a playground that was designed, I think it's, it's in New Jersey. I'm not quite sure where in New Jersey.

And it's for children that have disabilities, all kinds of disabilities, whether it's they're in a wheelchair or they're autistic or, you know, there's something that they have a disability about. I watched it. I saw it on the news. And it was fascinating. And I thought that it's something that all communities ought to look at and try to incorporate if they have a playground for children. Because this was just it was extraordinary. Mr. Gasdia replied, yeah, that's exactly the, not necessarily that playground, but that's the model of what we have. So that so a lot of old fashioned playgrounds, they have things that you need to climb to get to. So now there are things you don't need to climb to. There are things that, you know, again, depending on the type of autism, you may or may not be able to do so. So if you look at the playground when it's done, we probably could have had more swing sets and more, you know, jungle gyms and things like that. But instead we opted to use the money so that everyone can use it. So we incorporated a lot of those things, you see. Selectman McGrath replied, so I mean if you, if you get a chance to look at that, I know particularly it's just extraordinary and the children that are going to be using that, we're very fortunate and anyway. Really made an impression on me. Mr. Gasdia replied, yeah. It's, it's a different world when you start thinking about all the different students that are going to use it because, you know, old fashioned playgrounds are built for people that, you know, had all the capabilities. Right. So it's a new world.

12. Other Business/Remarks by the Selectmen

Selectman Gagnon: So nothing at this time. Thank you.

Selectman Guessferd: I'm all set.

Selectman McGrath: I think I've said enough.

Selectman Morin: Just everybody have a good 4th of July.

Chairperson Roy: So I'll just say same. Have a safe and happy 4th of July. And I just remind everybody before they use fireworks to maybe consider animals and veterans that suffer from PTSD, that can be traumatic for them. So at this point, I will ask the Town Administrator to bring us into nonpublic session.

13. Nonpublic Session

Motion by Selectman Morin at 10:47 p.m., seconded by Selectman McGrath to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (a) The dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a meeting and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted. (b) The hiring of any person as a public employee. (c) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a fee, fine, or other levy, if based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant. A roll call vote was taken. Carried 5-0.

Nonpublic Session was entered at 8:30 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 9:37 p.m.

Motions made after nonpublic session

- 1.) Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd to hire Evelyn Hynes-Brock for the position of Assistant Town Clerk/Tax Collector, effective July 5, 2022, at step one (1) with a rate of \$19.03 per hour. Carried 5-0.
- 2.) Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin to adjust IT Director John Beike's salary from \$105,277 per year to \$107,910 per year, effective July 12, 2022. Carried 5-0.
- 3.) Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman McGrath to amend the motion made at the Board of Selectmen's meeting of June 14, 2022 - motion by Selectman Gagnon, seconded by Selectman McGrath, and carried 4-0 "to hire Madison Merchant for the position of Firefighter/EMT in the Fire Department at the contracted salary of \$17.18 per hour (step 1) This assignment will be a nonexempt position in accordance with the International Association of Firefighters Local #3154." Adding that, after the conditional offer was made, Ms. Merchant was unable to meet the terms of the conditional offer, therefore creating an open position." Carried 5-0.
- 4.) Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd to hire Mitchell Rufiange for the position of Firefighter/EMT in the Fire Department at the contracted salary of \$17.18 per hour (step 1). This assignment will be a nonexempt position in accordance with the International Association of Firefighters Local #3154. Carried 5-0.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 9:39 p.m. by Selectman Morin seconded by Selectman Gagnon. 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