

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the September 27, 2022 Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER - by Chairperson Roy the meeting of September 27, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the Selectmen Meeting Room at Town Hall

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Hudson resident, Heidi Jakoby

3. ATTENDANCE

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

Staff/Others: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator; Elvis Dhima, Town Engineer; Scott Tice, Interim Fire Chief; Tad Dionne, Police Chief; Chairman; Police Lt. Steven McElhinney, RTK Committee members John Dubuc and Jerry Bento; Gary Gasdia School Board Representative; Jill Laffin, Executive Assistant

4. PUBLIC INPUT

1) Heidi Jakoby, 94 Gowing Road

Ms. Jakoby stated her name and address for the record and then said, I want to talk to you about setting the tone at the top. As you may know, this expression tone at the top is commonly referred to as the board of directors, or in our case, the Board of Selectmen's commitment to being honest and ethical. The tone from the top set forth the cultural environment for the organization. Communication, respect and transparency are keys to upholding an honest and ethical town. The right to know policy is being put in place not to hinder communication, but to enhance communication. It clearly outlines what needs to be shared with the public and how the public can easily access the information they seek. Today, you take a step toward setting a system in place which will hold all members of the town to a high standard one of transparency and integrity. My hope is you consider this policy as an aid to your communication. May you all realize that communication that can be seen by the public is important and will help the town to better support you and trust your decisions along the way? I continue to look forward to you, the Board of Selectmen, to set the tone at the top to be one of high integrity and great responsibility to Hudson and its citizens. You set the tone at the top. What will that tone be? Thank you.

5. RECOGNITIONS, NOMINATIONS & APPOINTMENTS

A. Nomination

Normand Martin - Zoning Board of Adjustment

Chairperson Roy recognized Normand Martin, currently an alternate member on the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Mr. Martin began by saying, Normand Martin, 3 Edgar Court. And I would like to ask for kind of like a promotion, if you want to call it from alternate status to a full member status. I attend every meeting as posted except for last week where my daughter had a car accident and I had to be with her. But I really enjoy being on the Zoning Board of Adjustment. It's

really, really interesting work and making decisions to assist people in the town with their projects as best we can. That's where I stand.

Chairperson Roy asked does anybody have any questions. Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said thank you for coming up and volunteering some more. Remind me, how long have you served on the ZBA? Mr. Martin replied, oh, this last round, I don't even remember when I was appointed for the alternate seat again. But I am in total I'm about 14 years. Selectman Gagnon asked, was that as a selectman and a liaison of ZBA or a full ZBA member 14 years? Mr. Martin replied, I started in 2004 and then I got elected as selectman in 2018. So and then when I didn't, when I when the election in '21 came, I came to be back as an alternate. Selectman Gagnon replied, okay. All right. Thank you.

Selectman Guessferd asked, as an alternate, how often are you seated on the board? Mr. Martin replied, well, because I opened my mouth and said I will do the minutes of as the record keeper, not the minutes verbatim, but the records entering. He seats the other alternates more. Because it's... not for me, but it can be cumbersome to try to make a decision on the case and keep notes of who's talking and what's going on. So I volunteered for it. I told them I would do it. I really enjoy it and I would really continue at it because it's just something I like to do so.

Selectman McGrath was recognized and said I have one question, and it's going to be for both of you. You both serve, both serve on the Budget Committee. Did you, as a member of the Budget Committee, both of you, when the decision was made concerning the liaison assignments, did you get advice from the Town Attorney? Mr. Martin replied, no. Selectman McGrath then asked, it was never passed down to you? Mr. Martin again replied, no. Selectman McGrath then said Mr. Weissgarber I'm going to ask you the same question.

Chairperson Roy then said so can I can I just clarify? Did you ever see a letter from the Town Attorney? Mr. Martin replied, not to my knowledge.

Chairperson Roy then asked, does anyone else have any questions? Selectman McGrath said just to speak for Mr. Martin, because I served on the Zoning Board with him as a regular member and then also as a liaison to the Board of Selectmen. And he was always well prepared. Always well prepared. Read all of the case, knew about it. He went out and looked at the property before the meetings and I thought he always, although I didn't always agree with him, but I thought he did a good job.

Selectman Morin was recognized and said just I'm going to have to go off of Selectman McGrath's question. If you guys didn't.... I'm going to ask you both. If you didn't see the letter of the attorney in reference to the situation that we had. How did you come where you're going to be serving on a judicial board, per se, how did you come to the conclusion on the stance you took on that? On the Budget Committee. As a Budget Committee member, what evidence or what made you decide to go along with forwarding that and removing the two board members if you didn't see that letter? You had to get information somewhere. Mr. Martin replied, I will tell you I did not see no letter. Selectman Morin replied, I understand that. But when you're sitting on, when you're sitting on the Zoning Board, you get information. That's how you make your decision. So how did you get the information to move forward when the lawsuit was brought against the Town and everything? So if you didn't get that letter from the lawyer, you had to get information somewhere. Chairperson Roy interjected and said Mr. Morin, can I just try to rephrase the question a little bit? What was what was your rationale for voting to exclude the School Board and the....Mr. Martin replied, my rationale? I felt I felt the law is very vague in my opinion. I'm not an attorney. The law in the in the RSA was very vague to me. That's where my decision came from.

Chairperson Roy then said okay. All right. I don't have any questions. Does anybody else have anything else? To which there were no additional questions from the Board.

Rich Weissgarber - Zoning Board of Adjustment

Good evening, Madam Chairperson, and members of the Board. I'm Rich Weissgarber, I live at 21 Flying Rock Road, and I'm married to Lorrie Weissgarber and we have three sons. We always enjoy being active members of the community. I served on the Budget Committee for four years and last year as the chair. This being on the Budget Committee has given me some pretty good insight into the Town and how it works. And I think it's been a huge benefit to me as far as helping me think critically and logically through requests and understanding like, well, trying to understand the RSA's of the state and the ordinances of the Town and, and policies and such. I think I've always tried to come at things with the most unbiased objective view and lens. I've tried to keep things levelheaded and always presented my case in that way. I'm retired from the military and been civil service for 17 years. So a lot of the training and that has kind of honed, to me hone that skill for logical thinking and critical thinking and trying to stay outside, to be a management advisor and interpret things ethically, morally and by the law.

Mr. Weissgarber went on to say so one of the things that I did was I, I took the ZBA test, the handbook. I mean, there's a, there's a handbook with the Office of Planning and Development, and it's one of the primary vehicles that the ZBA uses as a tool to make decisions. I took the certification test and read it, read the handbook a couple of times to truly understand what the ZBA uses as their means to make decisions as objectively as possible. And obviously, I think one of the reasons why the ZBA exists is because there is potential interpretation and they don't just use one source as their guiding document. They use precedent, they use case law, they use testimony and other means to make their collective decision. And I think that that's well within my swim lane for what I've done along in my career. So that's one of the reasons, one of the big reasons why I think I've always been I've always tried to be by the book, and I think that the ZBA kind of fits in that is that it's folks who collectively put their heads together to come up with that logical feedback to whether whether it's a land or building related exception waiver or the other. Its appeals and waivers, four dimensional requirements. They come together and they discuss it and take all of these things into consideration and make sure, again, testimony is a big part of it because you could have neighbors that don't necessarily like something that is submitted to the ZBA. I think that that's part of it. But ultimately they make that objective decision. So. I mean, that's why I want to serve in that in that capacity. So that's why I'm here.

Chairperson Roy asked, anybody have any questions? Selectman Guessferd was recognized and said so it sounds like you've done some good prep. You've gone through the regulations. You've, you've done those things. The way the way I look at things in terms of our timing right now is that the next few years are going to be really important for our town as we go through master planning exercise again. And and we look at all of those things and practicality, you know, how do you see taking those that I'll say esoteric knowledge that you've learned so far and applying those to the ZBA in terms of, you know, actually sitting on the board. Mr. Weissgarber responded saying, Right. So the master plan and the capital improvement plan to me are critical because they give kind of a notional look at what the folks, some of the folks, not necessarily a majority folks, but a population of folks within Hudson, what they want the town to look like. Right. They're prioritized. They should be to me, they should be taken into consideration, especially if somebody so to me as a member of the ZBA, hopefully a member, to be honest, I'll serve in whatever means you need me to serve. And but we as a ZBA should take those documents into consideration or that information to consideration through visiting visioning sessions when somebody comes in. Because if we have a planned project that may conflict with future requests for, let's say, a variance that may encroach on setback or something, we want to put sidewalks in or some other type of project, we need to have that in mind as one of our pieces of information to make sure that we don't have an unintended consequences in the future of something that we wanted to do as a town. So.

Selectman McGrath was recognized and said gonna ask you the same question that I asked Mr. Martin. Did you get legal advice before you made the decision concerning the liaisons and the Budget Committee? Mr. Weissgarber replied, we, I remember receiving a letter from the School and the Town. They were kind of copies of each other. But basically, I don't know if it was advice. It was

just their interpretation of the RSA. Advice before we took our vote? I wouldn't say it was advice. It was just another piece of information that people took into consideration before they took their vote. And again, I'm the...I interpreted... the RSA talks about membership. And I know everybody kind of pushed on that part of the RSA. I'm a member. I get to vote. Doesn't specifically come out and say those liaisons are members get to vote. And I think that's how folks were interpreting that. And I guess part of the logic that I put into it was if I thought that the school or school liaison or the selectmen liaison were being not being afforded the opportunity to have multiple opportunities to vote on a warrant article, then I may have changed my decision. But that was one of the factors was I think the selectmen and the selectmen with their budget, they can vote on their budget, what, three or four times at least before, before March, if not more. If you have meetings and you may change your mind on something. So I didn't feel like I was taking away their ability to change their mind or have a vote. And again, to the bottom line is my interpretation of the RSA is that they didn't need to have a vote. They shouldn't get a vote. They're equal partners in having input to me, input into what's discussed, but not the vote. So. Now, the judge has made a decision. They have a vote. So that's the bottom line.

Selectman McGrath then said so I'm sorry, I have a follow up. So if you are appointed to the Zoning Board and you got legal advice telling you that whatever was being contemplated didn't fit with the ordinance or they recommended that it be denied, would you take an alternate view because you thought that you knew better? Mr. Weissgarber replied, no. If I had legal... if I had a lawyer give me direct legal interpretation to me as advice, that would definitely sway me to side with the lawyer, because I think...well, I think that that part of our job on the ZBA is to reduce risk, right? We want to reduce risk to the town. It's not just trying. It's not listening to the case. It's also thinking about risk and. Yeah. Again, we never received direct advice from a lawyer. Selectman McGrath replied, I'm done. I got the answer that I thought I was going to get.

Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said thank you. And so I want to preface this by saying, at least for me, I don't believe my colleagues and certainly not for me are asking questions about the Budget Committee because we're judging you and we're going to remove the opportunity that you're coming in front of us for because of that. I will ask a question in curtailing to Selectman McGrath's topic simply to understand how you think, because that's what I care about, putting you in another position. So with that said, we'll start with I guess the there's the easy question. What have you learned based on the outcome? We've talked about what happened. We all know what transpired. What have you personally learned about interpreting law? And there's no right or wrong answer. But what's your take out of all of this?

Mr. Weissgarber replied, yeah, well, I think I think not getting legal advice to me was a flaw and just using our own interpretation. I would definitely do that in the future because I was again, it's something that I believe in, but my beliefs don't trump RSA's and laws. I want to do the right thing, I think that's the bottom line, is I want to do I wanted to do the right thing. And again, if I thought if I if I thought that I was taking some kind of ability for one of the liaisons to vote at some, not vote, but yeah, to vote at multiple times during the budget year, that would have weighed in heavily.

Selectman Gagnon replied, thank you for that. I appreciate your honesty. And I guess a statement to that, maybe a little contradicting my my colleague here. I wouldn't be requesting someone to tell you what to do. I wouldn't suspect that if a lawyer gave you advice that you would follow it directly. You know, I wouldn't want someone else to tell you how to do a job per se in a zoning board. But with that said, you know, we know that that's their job. They have a pretty good idea. So I would simply assume you would take it into consideration with your vote. But personally, I'm telling you that if a lawyer told you, go do this and you didn't, I wouldn't judge you for that. I would just simply hope you read it and took it into consideration. And based on that, I know you're a pretty intelligent, humble gentleman. I know you seem to try your best. And so that's holding a lot of weight with me. And just to finish up, this is actually kind of a difficult decision. I'm taking a ton of notes and I'm really torn between the two of you. So I guess I look to the Chairperson. I know Mr. Weissgarber is new, so we usually wait a week and Mr. Norman it's a second time, so how would we want to play this out?

Chairperson Roy interjected saying, so what I was going to say is there's actually a third applicant that wasn't available tonight, so I'd like to keep it open for the next meeting. And then we then I would leave it up to the Board whether we vote that meeting or we wait another meeting, because the, although his name escapes me, that person is also a new applicant. So I would leave it up to the Board whether we want to vote for or not but we would not take a vote tonight, although I do have a comment about and it sort of applies to both applicants here. So I've heard from many constituents that have expressed concern about appointing both Mr. Martin and Mr. Weissgarber to the ZBA a quasi-judicial board because of the position they took on the Budget Committee bylaws that were contrary to the to the governance statute. To me, it displays an inability to apply laws and regulations to a given situation. And because of this, this is a quasi-judicial board. I couldn't in good conscience support either one of them. So that's sort of where I am. But we still have another applicant to interview. And then and then whatever the Board decides.

6. CONSENT ITEMS

The Chairperson asked, does anyone have anything they'd like removed for separate consideration? Selectman Guessferd asked to remove item 6E-2.

Selectman Gagnon made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin to accept Consent Items A, B, C, D, E-1 & F. Carried 5-0.

Selectman Guessferd was then recognized and said it's just two of us weren't here for that particular meeting. I did read through the minutes. It doesn't look like there was a... I just wanted to have the opportunity to discuss it, that's all. Since two of us weren't here, it looks like everything was in order. No, no issue there. And there wasn't a lot of business. Was there anything else that you wanted to? Chairperson Roy replied, I just generally would abstain because I wasn't present. So I don't I can't speak to the accuracy of the minutes. So I would just abstain. Selectman Guessferd replied, and I will probably I will abstain as well, having not been here.

Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Gagnon to accept the September 12, 2022 Board of Selectmen minutes. Carried 3-0-1. Roy/Guessferd abstained.

A. Assessing Items

1) Current Use Lien Releases: Map 187, Lot 10-1, 230 Standish Lane; Map 187, Lot 10-2, 234 Standish Lane; Map 187, Lot 10-3, 238 Standish Lane; Map 187, Lot10-5, 250 Standish Lane

B. Water/Sewer Items

1) Sewer Abatements: S-UTL-23-03, 2 Harvest View Circle; S-UTL-23-04, 34 Cedar Street

C. Licenses & Permits & Policies

1) Tag Day Permit - Hudson Youth Baseball

D. Donations

1) Sewer Abatements: S-UTL-23-03, 2 Harvest View Circle; S-UTL-23-04, 34 Cedar Street

E. Acceptance of Minutes

1) Minutes of September 1, 2022 (Joint Meeting with the School Board)  
2) Minutes of September 12, 2022

F. Calendar

9/28	6:00	Library Trustees - Hills Memorial Library
9/28	7:00	Planning Board - Buxton Meeting Room
10/4	7:00	Board of Selectmen Workshop - BOS Meeting Room
10/5	8:30	Highway Safety Committee - Buxton Meeting Room
10/5	7:00	Budget Committee - Buxton Meeting Room
10/10	-	Columbus Day - Town Offices Closed
10/10	7:00	Cable Utility Committee - HCTV Meeting Room
10/11	7:00	Board of Selectmen - BOS Meeting Room

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Right to Know Policy - Final Draft

Chairperson Roy recognized Jerry Bento, John Dubuc and Lt. Steven McElhinney of the Right to Know Committee. Mr. Bento began saying, Good Evening, members of the Board. I come before you tonight. First thing I'd like to do is recognize the committee itself. Lieutenant McElhinney, John Dubuc. Also, we had Ms. Flo Nicolas and now Judge Joseph Tessier. Ms. Nicolas and the judge both contributed a tremendous amount of input to this final product. Up until the time the judge was appointed, then he ceased to assist because legal reasons. He was a big, big help and a big credit to his to the police force. The Committee held approximately 12 meetings in the last six months. We met with Mr. Beike, who provided a tremendous amount of input for us and was very helpful in us learning more about the current infrastructure. We received input from Mr. Malizia and the Department Heads. One of the pieces of feedback that we received from them was the length of the policy. There was some concern from some Department Heads that it was too lengthy. We kicked it around for quite a bit of time. We did move some items to the appendix rather than having them right in the meat of the policy. But we failed to take anything out of the policy, would dilute the policy at this time and didn't feel comfortable taking anything else out. We did appreciate the feedback and we took it very seriously, but we just weren't comfortable taking that out and selecting which items should not be part of it. I also forgot Selectman Gagnon was on the Committee. Also apologies. We received input from the New Hampshire Right to Know group and we reached out to other communities, mostly online, to get what are their current policies? We reached out to Bow, Manchester, different sized Towns to see what type of policies they're currently using and then incorporated some of those features into the policy that you're seeing in front of you.

Mr. Dubuc then said we actually came up with some...we noticed that some existing challenges that the Town has right now. One of them is current Town email users, they can delete emails and no trail will be kept for the email. That actually stems from most email users have a size limit on the email accounts. So as a size is getting too large, you have to delete emails that you need, to delete the emails to free up the space. This can create a situation where information could be requested in the future, but it's not going to be available because at the time that you're deleting emails, you're not looking to what you're deleting, you're trying to free up space and it's something you don't think you need anymore. So when you're freeing up emails and then three months from now, someone may need the email, it's no longer available in the environment that we have right now in the Town. Some Town committee members don't utilize Town email addresses either. That's another challenge. The personal emails are not available in a Right to Know. So you'd have to go through legal means to get emails from someone's personal email addresses. So something that we talked about, just a simple way to think about this is doing Town business on the Town email system. Very simple. If you're doing any Town business, use Town email. So giving all the Board members Town email access and not using your personal email address, it could be things like, hey, we sent you an email that's pretty easy to send on your Gmail and then you log into your Town email address because if you're not sitting in front of the Town email server every day, sometimes it is a challenge to check your email. We understand that. But Town email business should be done on the Town email server and we found that if emails were requested for a Right to Know request, some tracking info may not be

available and that stems from when emails are deleted. So if you delete an email that you had forwarded to someone, there's no there's no way to know that that email was forwarded to somebody else. And if that person is outside of the organization, we're not going to have access to that email.

Mr. Dubuc went on to say, email is backed up on a regular basis, but if an email is received between your backups, it is not backed up. So if a backup is done at night, you've received your email during the day and if your regular practice is to delete the emails you don't think are important, and then at 9:00 at night, email gets backed up again that period. Deleting emails. There is no backup of that email. So whether someone's requesting the email or if you realize you deleted an important email. Now it's gone because it has been backed up. Email retrieval from backup is really for disaster recovery. We do backups of email servers for disaster recovery, so if an email server, the Town loses power, the email server crashes, the backups and restores are really done to restore your email service back so you can get up and running. The email backup servers are really not designed to go...you can't search for an email. So if I want an email that was sent the Right to Know Committee, I sent Mr. Bento an email that said, Can you search for it in your backups? The backups really aren't designed to do that.

Mr. Dubuc then said what is designed to do that are email archiving services. So we have these readily available, easy to use email archiving services will every email that goes in and out of your email system is backed up on this email archive server. Very easy to search a central repository for someone to search. You ask for an email, one person go in there. We're not going to each individual user and ask them to do their emails and you can store ten plus years of email on that server. So when Right to Know requests come in, it's an easy way to say we need, we're looking for emails that have to do with this subject. You can search for the subject, put it all together. And another nice portion is that when we when you give the email to someone that's requesting it, it's in the format that it came in. So you know who was copied on the email, you know, who was blind copied on the email and the attachments that are on that email gets sent with that email. So those are some of the challenges that we that we found. And again, there's a great system in place. Your staff was incredibly helpful to us to identify some of these shortcomings, and I think that it helped us to identify these things need to be worked on and moving forward. I really think that this would help the Town.

Chairperson Roy then said can I just ask a couple of questions? I read the policy and everything and I read the law on it. Is there like a time limit, like a statute of limitations on how long you would have to archive them? You know what I mean? Like, if I if somebody said, hey, I want this email from 2002. Right? Mr. Dubuc replied, I worked in a municipality in Massachusetts and we kept email for ten years. So we had an email archiving service set for a ten year time frame. So when the ten year and one day goes by, the email immediately gets removed from there. Plenty of storage. A nice thing about the email archiving service also is that if I send out an email to 40 people and it has a large attachment on it, when it gets archived, the attachment gets archived one time. So you don't have you don't have a 40 meg attachment that's archived 40 times. Right. So the, the attachments are archived here and then when you go to retrieve it, if it was sent to Mr. Bento, oh this attachment belongs to him, you get it. And then same thing and we'd get it. We kept emails for ten years. Massachusetts is a little more defined in that. And even in New Hampshire, if there's if this litigation going off to some of you have an active project, you need to keep all the emails until the project is closed. And then if someone is asking for information or this litigation, you need to keep the emails while that's going on. The problem we're running into now is that when you delete an email and then litigation happens, four months later, that email is gone forever. With an email archiving service, you have it available and it's there. It also is useful for employees that not even for Right to Know. An employee that there was something they were working on. I believe that email by mistake and you can ask for it to be restored. So it actually helps your internal organization and also helps the residents.

Chairperson Roy then said and then I guess the other question I would have is do we have like a ballpark figure about how much a mail archiving system would cost? I understand it's usually a subscription kind of thing, correct? Is that my understanding? Mr. Dubuc replied, it's based on it's based on how many users you have and the size of your mailbox. So it could be anywhere from, you

know, to buy this a lot of its online now, too, so you don't have to buy the hardware anymore. So it could be \$10,000 a year, could be \$15,000 a year. It all depends on the amount of archiving that you do and how many users you have. It's all based on the user. So they size these virtual appliances based on how many users you have and how much data you need. And it's also very dynamic. So if you go in with a smaller email archiving solution because right away you're not going to have 20 terabytes of data, you're going to be archiving because you have to build up to that. So you go in with a smaller archiving solution, you start archiving, and then you realize how much email you are actually archiving and you realize the size of the email server.

Selectman Gagnon said sorry to interrupt, Madam Chair. I did talk to Mr. Beike about that and he estimated doing some quick Google searching that it was a few thousand a year. And as Mr. Dubuc said. If you choose the cloud based option for archiving, it is a dollar amount per employee. So Mr. Beike calculated how many employees we have, what that value would be, and it was approximately a few thousand dollars. So and I think the hardware, which it didn't sound like we were going to go that route, but for comparison's sake, if we wanted hardware in house, you're looking at somewhere in the ballpark of \$20,000. And just to put it out there, for comparison's sake, the lawsuit around the Right to Know was about \$40,000. So putting all of this into perspective.

Mr. Bento then said and we made sure that we're going to defer it....we were deferring to Mr. Beike on all those technical things. We did....John has, Mr. Dubuc has some very good institutional knowledge from his past, but it's Mr. Beike and the Board of Selectmen that have the final say on how that works.

Selectman Gagnon then said and if I may add to that, Mr. Beike said that he didn't want to do any further research or spend any more time other than the quick conversation I had until the Board had a direction for him. But he said if he gets a direction, he's happy to do full research.

Lt. McElhinney then said so I'm going to be just briefly about some of the public safety exceptions that we've included in this policy. And obviously, Police and Fire have some unique circumstances we have to operate under. And we were we made sure we articulated those in the policy. So we maintain our statutory requirements. The Police Department, upwards of, on a busy week can have upwards of half a dozen 91-A requests. And usually we have a turnaround about 24 hours. It's usually pretty quick. It's a standard accident report or arrest report. And so we're able to turn that around pretty quick. But we also understand that DPW and some of the other Town agencies don't have that experience with the 91-A process. And that's why we really considered when we were drafting this document, it was to make sure we really articulated the process and spelled it out for someone that that doesn't understand all the requirements and the stipulations involved in that.

Obviously, we have a number of, like you said, redaction requirements on the police and fire side to protect privacy and legal requirements. And so again, that's articulated in the policy. But I just wanted to make sure, we wanted to articulate and bring that up, that that we specifically recognize those limitations. And we wanted to make sure that the policy reflected that as well. And I know there's a lot of questions with that, but that's if you have any now, please.

Chairperson Roy asked, does anybody have any questions? Selectman McGrath was recognized and said for all three of you, excuse me, has this document been reviewed by legal counsel? Mr. Bento replied, no, it is not. Selectman McGrath asked, why not? Lt. McElhinney replied, we had discussed in some of the meetings and it was our belief that we would bring this kind of finished document, in our minds to the Board, and then it would be your determination to find out what needs to be distilled any further or the process for the Town Policy implementation. And have you guys kind of amend it from here.

Selectman McGrath replied, it would have been, in my opinion, a good idea for you, the Committee, to have an attorney look at it and see if you're going in the right direction, if you're putting too much into it, not enough into it. It seems like a pretty lengthy document to me. And if you would gotten that information from an attorney that's versed in the Right to Know law, it would have it would have made



it a whole lot easier for the Committee and also for this Board and for the citizens that might have to use this document. And that's really what it should... I mean, that really is the bottom line, right? This document should be easy to use for a citizen of the Town of Hudson that wants to make sure that they're following the Right to Know law in their request for whatever information they're looking for.

Chairperson Roy then said so if I could just speak to that a little bit, because I was actually going to bring up the same point. And what I would suggest is not that I think that you need to you folks need to appear again, because honestly, I think you've done so much work on this already. But I would be reluctant to approve this as a final policy without legal review. I just think there's something there that exposes us that we're not aware of, I'd rather know that up front and address it before it becomes an issue.

Selectman Gagnon then said and just from my knowledge, I know we sent it to Mr. Malizia and I believe he sent it to the Department Heads. The Town Administrator said, Department Heads to solicit input. Selectman Gagnon then said okay you did not send it to the lawyer. I just want to double check. Chairperson Roy then said I would suggest that we send it to them and then when we get it back, that it's okay. Or if there's suggested changes to it, then we go forward with a final determination on the policy.

Selectman McGrath then said so a final point that I'd like to make is that I didn't watch all of the Committee meetings. I kind of get OD'd on meetings. And I watch as few as I as I can get by them, especially some that are particularly boring. I'm not I'm not making any comment. But there's some that, you know, that could put you to sleep easily. But I do know that the last two meetings of your committee, one I think one or two of them, you didn't have a quorum, so you couldn't vote and you couldn't vote on the final document that you were going to present to us. Is that true? Mr. Bento replied, last meeting, we did not have a quorum. The meeting before we had approved the final document. It was just a matter of some wordsmiths from that meeting. That's all. Selectman McGrath then asked so the so the voting members of the Board did vote on that final document that we're looking at now? Mr. Bento replied, correct. Selectman McGrath replied, thank you. That's all I needed.

Chairperson Roy asked, anybody else have any questions? Selectman Gagnon asked, are you gentlemen all set? I had a couple of questions. Mr. Bento responded, I'd like to just highlight the recommendations we've made. Implement an email archive system. Update the email policy with stronger requirements for the Town boards have used Town email, and I know that's a challenge being not a person that's on Town email all the time. I found it a little challenging. We all used Town email for this Committee found it a little challenging to get in and not on a regular basis when there's other things going on. Implement a frequently asked questions page that has where do you get documents yourself. I personally get hung up on the Planning Board page, you know, where do I get the Planning information? Where do I get the Planning Board information? If that was in. We also have access at the Library. I understand. And I'm not sure if I've seen that on the Town website. Maybe I've just missed it. Information like that. Where do you go for ZBA? If you have to click, click, click and do maybe easier for people to get their own Right to Know information. If we had a frequently asked questions with some of that data was. Information page or I'm not a wordsmith. So something that jumped out at people where they could get information. And also update the data retention policy to make sure that if there is attachments, we're not misplacing them. And I think it's. Important to note that any deletions or anything that's going that people are deleting the email during the day or not saving attachments, it's not malicious. It's the course of business. Depending on the user, the users have a certain amount of space they're allocated to use and if they exceed that space, they don't receive emails, so they have to go and delete emails. That's just normal daily business and it's nothing that anybody is doing intentionally or I got to get rid of that because....It just happens. So that's important to note that what we found.

Mr. Bento then said from a personal note, I'll date myself a little bit, but I was in information technology for 45 plus years. Almost every business that I was in and manufacturing and banking, financial services had a what we called the beginning, an EDP auditor, which is now an I.T. auditor

that kept an eye on what was going on and making sure that we were following in in information technology. We were following the things that we were supposed to be following. Does the current audit firm do any of that as part of the normal? That's rhetorical right now. I mean, I'm not...the Town Administrator replied, it's only a financial audit to my knowledge. They'll audit policy to make sure you have a policy behind something. But I'm not aware that they do any I.T. auditing. Mr. Bento replied, I mean, you've got extremely great staff. But to you know, from my point of view, and I'm speaking for myself, to rely on them to manage to the laws what they need to keep, I'm not sure if that's fair to them, if their that's not their core. So looking forward, you know, that's just my thinking.

Chairperson Roy said so can I ask a question about that? Is that something that would be continuous or could you do it sort of like the financial audit where they come in like once a year and look at it? Mr. Bento replied, in my previous environments, we had them come in once a year and they did it. But if you were implementing a large new whiz bang system, then you would have them part of it just to make sure that what you were implementing, buying, was going to meet the standards for the for the infrastructure.

Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said so last question and Mr. Gasdia I'm gonna put you under the bus here. As I as I told you I would do. Mr. Gasdia replied jokingly, I heard it backing up. Selectman Gagnon then said and with all due respect, I would just be looking for, like, a simple yes answer, for the most part, for the sake of time. Does the SAU 81 or are SAU81 employee is required to have governmental email? Mr. Gasdia replied, yes. So. So just a couple of things that they said. So, yes, we all we all have SAU81 addresses. We all go through training and get basically scared straight that we have to use them or else, you know, then our personal things become public. The other thing is, is again, I don't know how the sausage is made, so I'm not saying we have an archive server or anything like that, but when Right to Know requests come in, our IT person is able to really do most of them without coming to us. There is some sometimes, right? If a subject is vague, sometimes we need to look at our own. But in general, they can do some sort of search. And I know that we did also just do a recent I.T. audit, so it might be worth reaching out to our IT Director and just see what we have, whether it's whether it applies here or not. I don't know. But a lot of the language sounded familiar. So I think it's it may be worth seeing what's going on over there. Because, again, we get a lot of Right to Know requests. The manual piece is still similar to the Police and Fire. If there's student information, parent information, things like that. A lot has to be redacted manually, but the search is done and on that server. And most of the time we don't have to get involved at all.

Mr. Dubuc then said can I just echo that? When I was in I.T. in my last position that all we call them, all FOIA Requests came through the IT Department. They came through the Town Clerk and then I was tasked with getting email and files. No one else. I never went to an employee asking for files. I did all the searches on the email server. I presented everything back. I would give it to the mayor's office. It would go to legal to make sure everything was good, and then it would get and then get sent to the consumer. We never went to an end user to ask them for files. It was all done through the IT Department, myself or someone that I worked with. And then the school side is either myself or one of the IT techs in the school. Never at the individual user level did we ever supply files. When it came to email and files I had control of.

Selectman McGrath then said I'm just going to make one personal comment. I save everything. This...when I was on the liaison to Planning or when I was on the Planning Board or on the Zoning Board, I never deleted anything that I got, any emails that I got, any emails that I sent. It was all I kept it all. So, I mean, it's easy to delete, but it's not so easy to go back and try and retrieve something. So I just, that was my policy. I kept everything. And so when there was a FOIA request concerning Hillwood and emails, I was easily able to go back and pull out anything, anything that they were requesting. So I didn't have a problem.

Mr. Bento then said Madam Chair, if I understand correctly, the next steps is for myself to get with Mr. Malizia so that we can get with the Town Attorney to review it. Chairperson Roy added, to do a legal review on it, yup.

Selectman Guessferd then said and nothing against the Town Attorney. But, you know, I think you mentioned somebody with Right to Know. Does he... is he well versed in that? The Town Administrator replied, I think so. Chairperson Roy replied, yeah. I know we've used him before. Selectman Guessferd said I know we have different attorneys for different....Chairperson Roy replied, yeah. Yeah, I know we've used him on various Right to Know issues in the past. Selectman Guessferd said so that sounds like the right place to go.

Selectman Gagnon then said just because that reminded me we did send this the Right to Know state group who is in charge of literally making the law. And they reviewed the whole policy. And I think, tell me if I'm wrong here, the only comments they had were grammatical things here and there. They did at our first draft, give us actually some criticism of some of the things that we said. And they even gave us some case law saying that you probably can't hold and we remove that. So we have had essentially some legal advice from those who create the state law. Chairperson Roy replied, and I would still be more comfortable if Mr. Lefevre came back to us. Selectman Gagnon replied, absolutely. Selectman Guessferd said, okay.

Chairperson Roy then said so I just have one thing for you guys and then one thing for the Board. Thank you. This is a tremendous amount of work. You guys did a great job. It's very, very thorough. I really appreciate it. I really hope that this helps us be more transparent than we already are and helps people understand where they can go to get information that they want if they have a question about something. So I thank you very much for doing this.

And the Board, I'm just ask I think we probably only need a consensus. Can we ask Mr. Beike to put together maybe an out of budget request for the email archive system and an audit so that we can kind of tighten up that, that loop? Selectman Gagnon said Yeah. Selectman Guessferd said yeah.

Chairperson Roy then said to the Right to Know Committee, thank you very much again.

## 8. NEW BUSINESS

### A. DPW PT Office Assistant Additional Hours

Chairperson Roy recognized the Town Administrator who said yes, the DPW Director was out sick today, so I told him I would take a stab at trying to speak to this. He's basically looking to add 7 hours to his 20 hour a week employee. He has a part time person. He has a full time person. They have the basic staff in the office. And when there's not enough to time to go around. Mr. Forrence or one of his other folks, answers phones, gives dump permits. So what he's basically coming forward to the Board is a request to add 7 hours, which basically he'd get the funding from his overtime. If you recall, at some point we used to do dump passes at the dump and the ladies would do it on the weekend. He hasn't been doing that. So he believes he has sufficient funds to be able to pivot this. There are no additional benefits because it is well under the limit where benefits apply. You might be talking \$100 to \$150 a week if the person makes \$18 an hour. That's his request. That's what he's looking for. And I'm here. I don't have a lot of answers. He would have more. But I do know that Mr. Forrence and typically one of his other folks might have to stay in the office sometimes if there's if the other folks are tied up with something. So he's looking for seven additional hours a week. Chairperson Roy asked does anybody have any questions? Selectman Guessferd said not really a question, just to comment as long as he can handle it within his budget? The Town Administrator replied, correct. He didn't want to do it without the Board's knowledge because, like I say, it's just something that, you know, it's important that you have some idea that he's under pressure as everybody else, and that's his solution. Seeing no further questions, Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Gagnon to authorize the public works director to increase the part time office assistant position at the Public Works Department from 20 hours per week to 27 hours per week without benefits. Carried 5-0.

B. Heritage Landing - Massie Circle Water Main Acceptance

Town Engineer, Elvis Dhima was recognized and said thank you, Madam Chair. Good evening, everyone. Heritage Landing Massie Circle was a 62 plus community that was approved by the Planning Board, and it will be served by town, water and town sewer. The water main was installed by Continental. It meets our material specs, construction spec. It was tested for bacteria and pressure tests. Everything passed. And it's in front of you tonight to be accepted as recommended by myself, Public Works Director and MUC, Municipality Utility Committee. We'll be taking ownership of about 2000 linear feet of main with seven and five hydrants, and that comes with easement related to us getting access to it. When that said, I'll take any questions you might have. Seeing no questions from the Board, Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd to accept the Heritage Landing Water Main and fire hydrants as recommended by the town Engineer and DPW Director and Municipal Utility Committee. Carried 5-0.

C. Heritage Landing - Massie Circle Sewer Main Acknowledgement

Chairperson Roy again recognized Town Engineer, Elvis Dhima who said, thank you Chairperson. So the sewer main and the force main related to this project met the specs from the town. It passed all the inspections and deflection test, vacuum test. A visual inspection as well by the performed by the Public Works. While it will remain private this meets all the standards that we have in place and we will acknowledge it tonight. And what that allows them is to start pulling building permits for it. So even though this is private, it still meets all the standards that we have in place for a public one. That way, we make sure that everyone living there can enjoy the same standards that we have for public mains as well. So with that said, this will be acknowledged tonight. It will remain private and basically the association will be responsible for anything that happens within their private property. In case they fail to do so the Town will intervene, take care of it, and then send the association a bill if they are not able to handle it. So this is in line with 55 plus communities and 62 plus communities that we already have in place in Town. With that said, I'll take any questions you might have. Chairperson Roy said I'm not sure how to ask the question, but I guess where does it where does it...at what point does it become our responsibility? Mr. Dhima replied, at the right of way. Chairperson Roy replied, at the right away to right? To which Mr. Dhima again said, at the right of way. Correct. Chairperson Roy asked, does anybody else have any questions? Seeing none, Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd to acknowledge the sewer infrastructure was built to Town standards as recommended by the Town Engineer, DPW Director and Municipal Utility Committee. Carried 5-0.

D. Water Service Piping - 161 Lowell Road

Chairperson Roy recognized the Town Administrator who explained so you have a request for a waiver from one of the requirements in our Town Water Code. Basically, the applicant is looking for a waiver for the clause basically says all water main pipe material components related to the water main shall be zinc coated and all pipes shall be certified Made in the USA. In addition, all main pipe shall be wrapped with poly membrane for additional corrosive protection prior to backfill. I believe the applicant, their attorney is here to speak to their request, but they're looking for waiver from that as it's in code. I'm not allowed to waive it. I don't believe Mr. Dhima takes objection to that because again, it's in there for a reason. So if you want the applicant to go first or Mr. Dhima to. Mr. Dhima said I can speak to that first or let them do their thing. Chairperson Roy said well if they want to come forward first. Mr. Dhima replied I'll be here if you have any questions.

Selectman Gagnon then said and just for my own knowledge, Madam Chair, before we get started, was this added to our packet like today? Chairperson Roy replied, the second part of it was the memorandum. The Town Administrator added, there was supplemental information that was provided. Selectman Gagnon said okay so this was in our agenda. Chairperson Roy replied, yes, it was. It is not an additional agenda item. The Town Administrator said Mr. Hollis has provided some additional material but the original was in the packet. Selectman Gagnon replied, okay, just want to make sure the public was aware. The Town Administrator replied, it was clearly on the agenda. They were aware.

Good evening, Madam Chairperson. Members of the Board. My name is Morgan Hollis. I'm an attorney with Gottesman and Hollis 39 East Pearl Street in Nashua. And I'm here this evening representing Lowell Road property owner DE LLC, which is the owner of property located off on Friars Drive. It's identified as MAP 209 Lot one, and it has had several different addresses. So it's a little confusing, but it is off of Friars Drive. It's the site where there was recently approved a approximately 500,000 square foot warehouse. With me this evening is Steve Goodman, who was manager of the LLC, and also with me as a contractor on the project, Mr. Stephen Boucher, who's here. First, I want to thank you for allowing us to speak and take this up in such a rapid manner. And I do apologize that I submitted a letter today. I understood you might not accept it because you do have a policy, but I felt it might be relevant if you had it for consideration. This is a relatively, not relatively a very important issue for my client. And so, again, I appreciate your willingness to entertain this request.

Just to some background. Of course, my letter sort of speaks for itself. And I think if you had a chance to read it, you understand why we're here. But for the public and again, for all of your consideration, this property recently received an approval from the Planning Board for approximately 500,000 square foot warehouse. And since that approval, my client's been diligently preparing construction documents, as well as obtaining the tenant for the, for the prospective building, essentially moving towards construction. And now construction is ready to go in earnest and the design has been completed. And one of the designs involves water pipe. Of course you have to have water service to the facility. So the design was submitted and I gave you a plan which shows the layout of the pipe. Essentially, there is municipal water supply in Friars Drive, and the proposal is to take a service line from the municipal main line up onto our property right at the street level. And then it circulates around the building. And it's a very extensive pipe due to the nature of the building and the size of the building, as you can imagine. And my letter has, as one of its exhibits, a summary of not only the cost, but more importantly, the length of pipe. As you can see, we've got a 12 inch class, 52 pipe, that's going to be 4820 feet. And this is important because we get into the issue of where do we get this length of pipe. In this day and age, as you know, supply is not good and demand is very high. So in any event, the design, as I said, starts with a connection to the cities, to the Towns Water Main on Friars Drive. And then off of that is this pipe, 12 inch pipe, that circles the entire building, the premises of the building and supplies water, including hydrants. But that line itself is owned by, installed by, maintained by, the owner. This is not a Town line. It is not a main line by the definition in your ordinance, your, your regulations define main line and service line quite distinctly. I tried to spell that out in a letter. I'm sure you've had a chance to review it. But this plan was then submitted to the Town and the Town Engineer felt that it has to be Made in the USA and we don't mind Made in the USA. We're all in favor of that. But if we can't simply get it for 15 months so it shelves the project, there's a cost differential. That's not really why we're here. Sure, dollars are dollars, but we're here due to the time constraints, so just an inability to get it. So they came to me, ask me if I would review the ordinance and the regulation and what I thought. And I said, well, let's first ask the question of the Town Administrator. And the Town Administrator suggested, look it's clear under the regulation that you have to come to the Board of Selectmen. They set the regulations and they have to decide what's a proper interpretation. And if it is a main, they're the only ones that can give a waiver. And so that's really why we're here.

Mr. Hollis went on to say, what I describe is we have a problem with supply in this country. You all know it because we have all gone to number one Made in the USA, build in the USA, federal, state, local regulations. Number two, we have this huge federal legislation. Which has pumped a great deal

of money into the public sector to buy infrastructure and to replace infrastructure, including specifically ductile pipe, which is what we're talking about here. There simply aren't enough manufacturers in the United States. Those that do exist can't produce it fast enough. So you get in line and as Mr. Boucher has told me very clearly, the US Pipe that manufactures this doesn't really care about good old Mr. Goodman, who has a small project large for Hudson, but small nationwide, about whether they can supply pipe or not. They just say, we'll put you in line and you get your pipe when you get your pipe. So that presents a problem for our project. It's mothballed or on hold. We just simply can't get it. My view on this is, as I expressed in the letter, I believe that there are two options for the Board of Selectmen. The first option is you can consider my argument that I believe that the definitions are you have Made in the USA, which applies to Maine's. And this isn't a main. A main is clearly defined as something that the town or the municipality takes control of and regulates and is responsible for. And there is a main on Friars Drive. We're connecting to that main. My client's responsible from that connection forward as spelled out in your ordinance, and that is defined as a service line. Your regulation does not say service lines shall be Made in the USA. So in the first instance, we think that there's a pretty reasonable interpretation, which is this application they Made in the USA does not apply. And for this particular service line. So we think you can make that decision and we would ask you to make it.

In the alternative. If you disagree with that, if you read it some other way and you read it as any line which is large and services, other little smaller lines, whether it's on property or not, is really a main, even though that's not what your definitions are, that may be your interpretation. So if that is your interpretation, we would ask you for a waiver or a suspension. I think you can do either because the water regulations clearly put it in your hands as the Board of Selectmen, to impose the regulations, interpret the regulations, and theoretically waive or suspend the regulations. So it would be your choice as to whether you want to waive or suspend if you think it applies. Now, why would you want to do that? Because you have a regulation. There's a reason for the regulation. I think I have explained why our waiver, temporary waiver, is a valid waiver. We would ask you only to waive your regulation for project specific. For pipe specific. We're proposing a pipe from Electro Steel. I was on the phone with Electro Steel. They provided me with information. I've provided it to you. Electro Steel imports its pipe from India. The pipe made there is made in India. Something I didn't know because that's where they actually have iron ore. There's no iron ore mined in the United States. So pipes made in the United States are made from recycled metal, essentially recycled steel. But in India they're made from iron ore, manufactured on site where the supply is. They meet all of the specifications and criteria. So it isn't a matter of quality, it's a matter strictly of your made in USA policy, which we all are in favor of. And certainly, as I say, federal, state, local governments have all passed this and it's important that we have.

Mr. Hollis went on to say, but as this last piece of letter which I wrote to you and supplied to you points out, even the EPA has recognized this is creating a nightmarish situation where projects get stopped and they can't go forward. So health and safety are now affected by a policy which nobody anticipated the supply crunch on in this instance. This is one of those projects. We need large pipe and we need it fairly quickly and we can't get it. So we have found pipe which is of equal standard or better.

And Mr. Boucher is here to talk about his experience over 50 years, as I recall, and in the piping business with his family. And he can answer any questions you have about the type of pipe that's proposed. But we think it's equal to it meets all of the other requirements, all of the other standards that you require in this town and that your engineer requires be made. We think it's a fair waiver be. Because even if it is a main, as I said, it will be our responsibility, not the Town's responsibility. And if the real purpose of the made in USA is for jobs, we're not we're not going to be able to create any new jobs on this because these companies are full up to here. As you know, they can't manufacture anymore. They can't produce it and they can't hire more people. So we're just asking for due consideration, just as EPA and other governments that I listed on my second letter have given. Would you consider a waiver if you feel it applies? If you don't feel it applies, that's easy. You can make that determination to say this is on private property, it's a service line. The main does not apply.

So I'm happy, as I've said, Mr. Goodman is here to answer questions about the construction as well as Mr. Boucher is here. Should anyone have any questions about that?

Selectman Morin was recognized and said before we even get that far, it sounds like it's a matter of time. And you say they're not making them in the United States. But the way our shipping's working ships are sitting out there and it's taking a real long time to get there. So what's the planned time to come from India to here? Mr. Hollis replied we've been told it's a three month, three months shorter time. And that's what is in my letter is they've committed to three months delivery time. Now, how they do it, I can't answer that. But three months is what they told us and that's what we are relying on. Whereas the other one, I believe, is 15 months, if I recall in my letter. That was Exhibit B. Yeah, 12 to 15 months. 3 to 4 months for Electro Steel. And we'd have no qualms about you if you did grant a waiver or did see fit to say it doesn't apply to make a condition upon the Electro Steel which we've presented to you so we wouldn't be grabbing some other product that wouldn't be of equal quality that's been used elsewhere for other governmental pipes.

Selectman Morin then said and just for clarification to way back when they did this Buy American thing, it encompassed everything just because it's written that way. The policy was everything we purchased. So, you know, just because it says main versus it covered everything. Mr. Hollis replied, yes. Yeah, I understood. And again, I, I applaud it. I think it's important that the towns in particular do as much as they can for that to maintain jobs here. And certainly anything that the Town would be in charge of and be responsible for and have to take over, even if it's privately installed, should be, should meet that criteria. But on private property, when it's going to be our responsibility, there are plenty of things in our building that will not be Made in the USA.

Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said thank you and thanks for the explanation. I kind of follow along with most of it. A couple of questions. You may have answered these, so bear with me, maybe answer them again. Does the piping proposed meet materials and sanitation safety standards? You do actually verify the standards at US Pipe meets and the Indian pipe meets? It does? Mr. Hollis replied, yes. And we attach to exhibit that says the comparison data. But we also verify. I mean, as I say, we're going to be responsible for it. So we have to verify it. Selectman Gagnon then asked, and will the pipe from the main line to the facility continue to be privately owned? I think you said that multiple times. Right. You're not going to give it to the Town to be owned by the Town. Attorney Morgan replied that's correct. Selectman Gagnon then asked and are you aware of any import blocks based on these regulations? Is the import into the United States saying, no, we're not importing this because the law says you can't use it? Mr. Hollis replied, no, no, no. Selectman Gagnon then said other than that, for right now, I don't know if I can make a judgment tonight. And I would simply like legal advice on their interpretation, which sounds reasonable, but it's all about interpretation.

Selectman McGrath was then recognized and said so I'm not inclined to go against the advice of the Town Engineer just because he's working for us. He's working for the Town and he's working for the Townspeople. And so I'm not inclined to vary from his recommendation to us. And but I guess I'd like to ask you, have you reached out to any of the federal agencies that monitor this this type of product or whether it's the White House that's holding things up or if it's some other bureaucracy? Have you at least looked into that to see if you could?

Mr. Hollis replied, no. I gave you every bit of information I was able to gain in the most recent past, which was the EPA, as the letter says, has a specific set of regulations on Build America, Buy America Act they have, as of September 2, deemed it necessary in order to get work done to waive those regulations for six months. But they're not waiving the quality. They're just simply waiving the build in America requirements. Selectman McGrath replied, that's not clear, though, right? That they're not waiving the quality because it depends on where you're getting it. Mr. Hollis replied, they would still have inspections necessary. Selectman McGrath replied, well, I mean, it's like kind of like the CDC, right? They made certain recommendations and it turns out that they really didn't know what they were doing. Right?

Mr. Hollis replied I try not to follow that too much. Selectman McGrath replied well I follow it all. So, you know, so it's the same with the EPA. It's a federal bureaucracy. And if they're being told to look the other way when all of this all of this is happening throughout the country, I mean, look at what's happening with baby formula. They can't get it and then they tell them to do something else to. So, I mean, it's it's...t's Mr. Hollis replied I understand your point. Selectman McGrath replied, it's not just one agency, its multiple agencies. And knowing India is on the top list or one of the top tops of the list of countries that. They don't follow any EPA standards. They don't have any of their own to follow. And so, you know, I'm not so certain that I would feel comfortable personally. Mr. Hollis replied, I can offer what Steve Boucher told me before the meeting about his experience in dealing with the pipe from India versus the pipe from Made in USA.

Mr. Hollis recognized Mr. Boucher who said I'm Steve Boucher, the contractor for the owner for this project. I'm the second generation site work contractor. About 65 years the company's been in business. I've installed pipe for the past 30 years. US Pipe is one of the main suppliers of pipe for all of us in this area. There are four manufacturers of ductile iron pipe in the United States. They're tooling in these factories are of such age that when they produce the pipe, it's not always true. When we get a load of pipe from US Pipe, US made pipe, they actually say we had 100 pieces. They actually earmark and they specifically mark ten pipe. And that load, if we need to cut a pipe to make a connection, we have to cut that pipe because if we cut another pipe, its egg shaped. And our guys have made that mistake. We've put it together and it leaks because it's not true round all the way through the barrel. Electro Steel Pipe. That factory is fairly recent. I think within the past 15 years, brand new that pipe comes. It's true to form all the way up and down. It's the, if you cut the two pieces of pipe, they're exactly the same. You cannot tell the difference. I know obviously we're not, we're examining it with our eyes. But the steel is made from pure iron ore not scrap metal. So this pipe actually is superior than pipe made here in US. And I'm true to US. I want to buy everything US, but it just is not available for this project. And we've been calling and calling and tried every different suppliers because some of them have maybe a larger buying power than another supplier as far as New York City. And we can't get that pipe from a US company. So that's why we're in this predicament that we're in.

Chairperson Roy then said I have a question. You mentioned the health and safety standard, but I didn't see it in your memo. I didn't see where you talked about that. Is there a health and safety aspect to this request? Mr. Hollis replied, I believe that there is a safety aspect in terms of the strength of the pipe. And then, of course, what it has to be wrapped in your specification specifically call for all water pipe, all water main pipe material and components related to the water main shall be zinc coated and all pipes shall be certified Made in the USA. In addition, all main pipes shall be wrapped with poly membrane for additional corrosive protection. So all of those are the requirements for safety. Mr. Boucher added to be clear too the poly-wrap gets put on by us in the field. So no matter what kind of pipe it is, that's done in the field by us, that doesn't come from the manufacturer. That's a different supplier. Electro Steel Pipe all comes zinc coated. If you buy from US Pipe, you have to specify zinc coating. And that's part of...that's another roadblock, I guess you might say. You can get it, but it's 12 to 15 months out.

Chairperson Roy asked, does anybody else have any questions of the applicant? Seeing none she then said I think I'd like to hear from Mr. Dhima at this point.

Town Engineer, Elvis Dhima, came forward and said, thank you, Chairperson. Good evening, everyone. So this particular developer has been working on this project for over a year and knew very well what our standards were. As a matter of fact, the designer for this particular developer was involved with Friar Drive water main extension that's currently town property, and they knew very well what the standards were. But for some reason, even though we have been having supply issues, they, they, they failed on their part to plan accordingly. They've been going for this for a year now. This was never, never an issue during the Planning Board review. If this came out my recommendation to the Planning Board would be not to approve this project. So no one is forcing them to connect to Town municipality. They can develop a well and go from there. But I don't remember the Town ever refusing anyone to connect the Town water as long as they followed the



rules and they paid their dues. That's all you're asking. The rules are there for a place. They've been there for a long time, way before we got here, and hopefully they stay there long after we're gone. I have a hard time believing that local developers can get it and these guys can't, even though they're putting in the biggest building in town. I think from the beginning, after the Planning Board went through, they've been arguing about the material that needs to be in place. They got the note from me the wasted time, almost two or three months. They went to Mr. Malizia and now they're here tonight asking for the same thing.

Mr. Dhima went on to say, I think it's important to send a message tonight not just to them, but everyone else behind them that's watching. And when it comes to this, this is a water main, an eight inch water main that's going to be providing domestic and fire protection and needs to meet the standards. A service, we typically relate to a service for a residential area. You know, for a resident one inch service. This is a main this is eight inch main. Yes, they're right. This is going to be private. What that means is that we are still responsible for the quality of the water all the way to the tap. This means that we're still responsible for all the water losses related to the water loss at the site from the main all the way down to the meter which is located inside the building. We cannot do leak detection within private sites. We only do detections within our own mains. So that's why it's important that we put in the best material we can possible. One of the reasons that Made in the USA is in place, it's my understanding that it's not about keeping the jobs in the US, it's also about the best quality that you can get and the certifications that comes with it, which is the quality, control, quality, the insurance. This is made in India. I don't know if any one of these gentlemen has been there and see what the oversight is, but as Selectman McGrath said, I don't believe they have even an environmental protection there or any standards for that matter. I'm sure this pipe is fine. I'm just not sure if I want to be the first one in New Hampshire to put this in the ground. We have rules in place for a reason. If this gets waived tonight, there will be other developers that will be asking for the same thing. And right now it's private. And as a matter of fact, this will probably be about public as well. The supply chain issue is here to remain for a while, unfortunately, and we need to plan accordingly. We, as a town have our own projects that we're dealing with, including the Marsh Road booster station. It's going to take us about ten months to secure that pump. But we're getting the best that we can, which is Made in the USA certified. Why? Because we believe in that. We have done the same thing for our sewer pump stations. All those upgrades, we got the best we could get because it's not just about installation, it's about support as well. I do believe in the past when I was in the private sector, the issues where there were issues with materials coming from abroad, even though they had certain specifications, I know that we require sewer, manhole covers and drainage manhole covers to be Made in the USA as well because of the quality. In the past there was issues with this things cracking like twigs out there because it you see the build wrong or something was off. So that that is one of the reasons why it's required in Made in the USA as well. It's not just about the jobs, it's about the quality and the certifications of it that it was done to standards, high standards that I believe. So it's up to the Board to decide either way, but this will be looked at very thoroughly moving forward. And there's other people that will be looking for the same thing. This is just simply. Just unable to plan correctly, knowing that this has been in the works for quite some time and knowing that the developer was aware of the construction standards. It's hard to come here after the fact now and say we were aware of it and construction is about to start. In addition, the sewer, the water main, is not even supposed to be going in for the next six months anyway. Everything goes to plan and that's what the construction schedule calls for. So there is time. It's just a matter of what you're going to commit to. That's all I have to say.

Chairperson Roy recognized Selectman McGrath who said I just wanted to add that, you know, we're talking about drinking water here, right? This is going to provide drinking water for whoever is utilizing that property, right? I would think that we'd want to be really careful about where the product is coming from. And in this case, I listen because I listen to news all the time. I'm probably overdosed on news. But I've never heard anything good about India and their manufacturing standards, or they're all their products are top notch. Have any of you. I mean, so and that's not to disparage the country of India, but they have different standards than we do. There's other countries within the Earth's atmosphere that probably aren't any better or any worse. But I know that our country seems to have really good manufacturing and really good oversight.

Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said really interesting conversation. I do lean to what you're saying, Elvis. With that, my profession as a regulatory expert, I deal with medical and laboratory equipment. So I would at least offer the opportunity for at least me. I respond well to if you show me the actual sanitation standard or build standard or build spec, the test report or certificate of India and then a comparative one to the US, if you can build some kind of argument to the safety, strength of the materials, I can at least understand that it's part of what I do professionally. I can't say for the rest of my colleagues here, but I'm open to hearing that kind of information. Otherwise, I naturally lean towards listening to our Town Engineer on this case.

Mr. Dhima then said I will say, and then there's some trust issues there as well. We've heard a lot of stories, but you know, as a parent, for example, and you can relate to it, you know, if I have to go to the toy store and I bring my kid in and I have to pick between Made in the USA and lead free and made in India or China, I lead free I'm probably going to go with the first option because as you saw it, is that that someone telling me that it's here and it's certify that it's a certain way has more weight, in my opinion and I'm coming from the outside. That's just the bottom line. Selectman Gagnon replied, there's some truth to that. Mr. Dhima replied, I mean, that's what I would do. I hope you would do the same thing, but it's up to you. What we want is what's best for the system. And I think one way you can see that that's happening is that the rates being the same. As I said, when you start getting into the water losses and that's unaccounted for, that adds up. And who picks up the tab for that is existing thousands of water customers that you already have in. So you owe it to them to make sure that you hold the line. That's my take on it.

Chairperson Roy said I would like to give Mr. Hollis one opportunity to rebut anything Mr. Dhima might have just said. I really can't, because some of the things he said really weren't rebuttable. I mean, he has an opinion about how he feels about things made in India, so that's his opinion. But the industry standards are such that they're obviously I've given you evidence that other communities I just listed, the Massachusetts ones that are accepting this product and the federal government that's accepting the product. And I'm you know, there are plenty of people who accept it, but I'm not here to argue that product. If you want, we'll get more testimonial evidence of the product. I personally, as the attorney in this matter, don't feel that we even need to get to that step. I think your regulations are clear and if you don't like your regulations, you could change them. But your regulations have definitions, and I don't know how you get around the fact that the definition of a main is what you control and a definition of a service line is what the owner controls and is responsible for. And the regulation on Made in USA applies to mains. If you didn't have a definition of a main, I think you could probably take the interpretation that any big pipe is a main. But that's not what your definitions say. So I believe you don't need to get to the issue. I simply supplied information so you'd feel comfortable that we're putting pipe out there, as Ms. McGrath said, that maybe is not good. Well, after this pipe that's Made in USA, it goes to other pipes which are not regulated by the Made in USA and they're not Made in the USA plastic other metals. So eventually the water that one drinks doesn't always come from made in USA pipes, not to mention what was out there before these regulations went into effect. Quality is going to be good. I don't think that's an issue. The issue is do you really want to waive your policy? I think it's hard for any board to wave a policy unless they're going to make a waiver. That is a timeframe like the EPA did, saying there's a situation here. We're going to waive it for three months, we're going to wave it for four months, whatever. I think the better route is for perhaps, as one of you suggested, you might want to ask your municipal attorney, your town attorney, what do these regulations stand for? And is there an issue here in interpretation? Because where do you stop defining main if it's not what your regulations say? If the regulations are very, very clear, it's whatever the town controls and manages as a main, whatever they don't. And what they're not responsible for is a service line. And you can call it a main in your own mind because it's a big pipe and it services a lot of little pipes, but it is a service line that is the very definition of a service line. And in that I don't think you have jurisdiction to regulate Made in USA.

Selectman Guessferd was recognized and said yeah, I understand your point. I'm having trouble looking at the regulation myself. I read this the 8.5, the Town Code. It says all water main pipe material and components related to the water main shall be zinc coated. It further goes on and says

and all pipes shall be certified Made in the USA. And it goes on to say all main pipes shall be wrapped with poly membrane for additional corrosive protection prior to backfill. I have a problem with even if again, not understanding all the context of everything, but just looking at this one paragraph, it says all pipes shall be certified Made in the USA. Maybe I'm reading this wrong and maybe I have the wrong interpretation. Mr. Hollis asked, but where would you stop at pipes? Meaning all pipes put into any plumbing in the Town of Hudson must be made in the USA. Chairperson Roy said, I could see where Mr. Guessferd could have interpreted it that way. Is that the correct interpretation? I don't know. Mr. Hollis said and is that what you enforce in this town? If a plumber puts in a pipe in a house, is it have to be certified Made in USA in order to get a plumbing permit? Chairperson Roy replied, so my Town Engineer is indicating yes. My Town Engineer is indicating yes it is. Mr. Dhima then said copper pipe right now services are going through that, yes. From the curb stop all the way for residential. As far as I would say the most recent one that we did is Blue Bird on Central Street. And that was related to an eight inch line and a four inch line for domestic and a two inch line. And everything came with a sticker Made of the USA zinc coated. Mr. Hollis said but once it stops from there and goes the rest of the way....Mr. Dhima said it's all to the building. Mr. Hollis said all the way to the faucet. Mr. Dhima replied saying all the way inside the building where it hits a meter. Anything beyond that is the plumbing, because the way it works is anything from...we are responsible for the water quality all the way in. But the reason we are controlling, I think the reason why it was set up that way is because they're trying to regulate the material going into all the way close to the building. It relates to the water losses. If pipe that was substandard was put in. It relates to the losses on the side that doesn't get metered. The only water that gets metered is inside the building. So if there's any losses at the side... at this point Mr. Goodman said we'll just put a meter in at the street.

Chairperson Roy said I think here's where I'm at. I think what I'd like to do is defer this, get an opinion from town council specific to the interpretation of Article Eight, section 8.5 of Chapter 274. Selectman Morin said myself, I think it's pretty clear. All pipes. Its' right there. all pipes. Chairperson Roy agreed and said I just want to do our due diligence here and defer it to the next meeting. Get input from our town council and then we can go from there. Mr. Hollis replied, that'd be great. I appreciate it. Do we need to come back for that meeting? Chairperson Roy replied, not necessarily. Mr. Hollis said if we have new information, we'll have to get it in by the deadline. Chairperson Roy replied correct. If you have any information you want to share with us, that's fine. Mr. Hollis asked will it be up at the next scheduled next meeting. Chairperson Roy replied, yes. The Town Administrator said that would be the 1th of October. That's the next regularly scheduled meeting.

#### E. FY23 Motor Vehicle Enforcement Grant Acceptance

Chairperson Roy recognized Police Chief, Tad Dionne. Chief Dionne said thank you Chairperson. Good evening. So I come before you as we had asked previously to accept this grant. I think we accepted it or we've applied for it year after year. This year, this grant for the Office of Highway Safety also includes radar equipment. So the total value of the grant is \$21,093.75. That would also allow us an \$8,062.50 cent reimbursement on LIDAR's and radars. I would look to purchase eight of them the grant totally between the patrol, all the patrol segments of the highway enforcement and the radar. It's a 75% matching. Its \$21,000.93. That would include, like I said, numerous patrols to for projects like Click and Ticket, for projects like DWI Enforcement, for speed, aggressive driving, etc. And I think any questions you might have.

Chairperson Roy asked, anybody have any questions? Selectman Guessferd was recognized and said for clarification. So this is going to be like a we approve. This is \$21,000. And then the first piece of this is going to be \$8000. It fills up part of that bucket and there's more coming in. There's more than we're going to be able to pay for? Chief Dionne replied so they will award up to, have to match. So it's a \$21,000. That's the 75% we have to we match that with a total of \$6,281, 25%. That helps explain it. They are, I believe, proving up to \$16,000 in the radar equipment, with a maximum five LIDAR's, five radars. We're actually looking at purchasing three LIDAR's. We don't need five

LIDAR's. So we'll look at purchasing three LIDAR's, which will include one for patrol, two for our motorcycles, which need to be updated. And then five radars. We have two old radars, very old radars. And then as we move forward with the new fleet, we'll be looking to put three more in, if that helps explain. Selectman Guessferd replied yeah, I was just thinking that we have a little bit more we can use here of this grant, Right? That's all I'm saying. Chief Dionne replied and essentially if there are, there are certain times when we can't fill a traffic grant, then we wouldn't be getting that award. So for some of the traffic grants, the same thing with the radars, if we don't want to purchase them because we're extending ourselves with too many, that's basically what it comes down. We don't need ten, but we could use eight for sure.

Seeing no further questions from the Board, Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd to authorize the Hudson Police Department approval to accept the Office of Highway Safety Fiscal year 23 Motor Vehicle Enforcement grant in the amount of \$21,093.75. Carried 5-0.

Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Gagnon to authorize the Hudson Police Department approval to accept the Office of Highway Safety Fiscal Year 23 Motor Vehicle Enforcement grant reimbursement in the amount of \$8,062.50, upon purchasing the radar and LIDAR units. Carried 5-0.

#### F. Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Acceptance

Chairperson Roy again recognized Chief Dionne who said. So earlier this year, the Board also allowed us to apply for this grant. We were asking for up to \$66,500 in reimbursement for the purchase of bulletproof vests, new ones. That is, so this particular ward was 50%, \$3,255 towards this. It allows us to actually look back to April of 2022 and up until August of 24, 2024. For us to actually make these purchases, we've already made two purchases with two of our new hires, Nick Collishaw and Brian Davenport, and we do expect that we'll be using the other three before August 2024. Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Gagnon to authorize the Hudson Police Department approval to accept Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP) Program Grant and the amount of excuse me \$3,255. This grant is the partial reimbursement cost for new bulletproof vests purchased from now until August 31st, 2024. Carried 5-0.

#### G. FY22 Police Cruiser Purchase Order Amendment

Chief Dionne was again recognized and he explained so earlier in March of this year, I came before the Board asking to purchase a vehicle, encumber the amount for one of our new cruises from McFarland Ford, who had won the fiscal 22 budget. They were the state award winner. And we waived I believe he waived that at the time and also allowed us to come to the cost of \$32,335 for a police cruiser. A 2022 Ford police cruiser. We expected to be able to purchase that by September, mid-September. We received a letter which is in your packet from Ford Manufacturing saying that they were not going to be able to produce a number of Fords this year. And then we received information from McFarlane Ford, who won the bid, that they would not be able to get that cruiser to us. So we began to shop around as much as we could, and we were able to find McGovern Ford from the McGovern Municipal Group in Framingham, Massachusetts, who would actually provide that same year Ford, same model for us, for that same exact price. So I'm here today to ask you to amend the vendor on that. And we did check, Mr. Malizia checked with the Town's Attorney to see if that was legal for us to do. And we got an okay. Seeing no questions from the Board, Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Gagnon to accept the Police Department's recommendation to purchase one 2022 Ford Police Interceptor and amending the vendor on the encumbrance from fiscal year 2022 on PO POL22327 to McGovern Municipal Group

in Framingham, Massachusetts. In the amount of \$32,335. This does not include the cost of fitting the vehicle with existing and new equipment. Carried 5-0. Chairperson Roy said, I do have just one quick question. The cost of outfitting the vehicle, is that also encumbered like or? Chief Dionne replied we have budget money for that. Chairperson Roy then asked but it's gonna be current fiscal year money, not? To which the Chief replied, that's correct.

#### H. Request to Purchase Police Cruisers

Chief Dionne was again recognized by the Chairperson and explained so as I stated previously, these and we talked about I think other people have talked about it today, supply is very difficult, demand is very high. And we had received notice from both Ford Manufacturing the letter in your packet and also from McGovern excuse me, McFarland Ford, who was the state bid winner from New Hampshire, that they were not going to be able to supply the four cruisers that I was previously before you here in March asking for permission to purchase for fiscal 23. So with that in mind, of course, that's when we began shopping around, and that's how we ended up with McGovern Municipal Group in Framingham, Mass. And they were able to...we actually went down there to verify that they had cruisers on site. So they had cruisers on site to sell us. And we were able to negotiate four cruisers at a price of totaling for four of them, \$121,836.75. Keep it in mind, and I want the Board to know that the only other option was to go to, get in line for model year 2023, which was going to cost a lot more money than what we've been able to get these model 2022 at, which is what we originally wanted to purchase in the first place.

So what I'm asking you to do is to rescind the original of the original awarded bid to purchase four from McFarlane Ford at one \$103,840, which they do not have for us. And I would ask you first if you could do that and then waive the bidding requirements so that we can go ahead and purchase from McGovern Ford And then finally, that we could actually make the purchase in the amount of \$121,836.75 for the four cruisers.

Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said thank you, Madam Chair. A simple question. Maybe I don't know how this works, but do you pay Mass tax when you buy a product in Massachusetts? Chief Dionne replied, that's a good question. The Town Administrator said no because it's delivered here. Technically it's the delivery. Selectman Gagnon replied, okay. And to kind of poke a sleeping dog here. Did you happen to look at least hybrid vehicles or any other vehicles or were you questioning anything? Chief Dionne replied, we did look at the Ford hybrids. They're not available. They were not available. They were already...there's no supply for them for the fiscal 2022 year. Selectman Gagnon said I just saw Pelham picked one up recently. Chief Dionne replied, they may have, but they may have been able to get it in in the original ordering port. So we did look at that, too. And I was going through a list of inventory. And I myself, even with McGovern, who has an extraordinary amount of inventory, and I was having... I couldn't find a hybrid from them personally. But the problem with the letter makes it was daunting. The Ford letter was daunting, but I can't say for sure there's none available out there. We did look we did look. And I just can't say for sure. Selectman Gagnon said, that's all I ask. I think the last follow up question was I probably know the answer to are you still at least keeping the formula for what electric police car may cost and what your budget is? Chief Dionne replied it's still on our minds. As a matter of fact, I have, we came across electric motorcycles recently, so I've actually spoke to one of our sergeants to see if we can get a if we were able to demo those to see how they would be and whether how affordable they might be for us and how we would go through something like that. So it's still on our.... we want to bring what will be best fit for police work and also obviously if as we move forward, if it's affordable and it works and it's better for the environment to I mean, that would be what we. Selectman Gagnon replied that's all I ask for. I'm not pushing you by any means. I don't want to make your budget go over, but just as long as you're thinking about it as you make these decision that's all I ask. Chief Dionne replied, we're open minded to that. Selectman Gagnon replied, thank you, sir. That's all. Selectman McGrath was recognized and said so when you're talking hybrid, are you talking electric motor vehicles? Selectman Gagnon replied, it'd be a hybrid between gas and electric in the same

vehicle. Selectman McGrath then said, so explain that to me. Chairperson Roy said so my rudimentary understanding of it is on certain operations it's using fuel and then other operations like slower speeds and things like that. It moves over the electric. That's my rudimentary understanding. Selectman Guessferd said like if you're sitting at an intersection, it'll typically go electric. The Town Administrator added, they're self-charging. I think they charge themselves. Selectman McGrath then said so I'm just going to make this comment. It's a good thing that we're not living in California. Oh yeah, because they're having a hard time. They're ordering that all of their citizens buy electric and then they're telling them that they can't use electric and they've got to disconnect their air conditioners. They can't. I mean, how crazy is that? Selectman Gagnon replied, this would bypass that hazard. It wouldn't be plug in. Selectman McGrath then said believe me, if it's electric, it's got to be plugged in somewhere because it's not taking gas. It's not doing...you know it's not getting power from anywhere else. It's not getting gas or oil or diesel or electric. So let's just hope that New Hampshire doesn't follow California's lead.

Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by selectman Guessferd to rescind the March 22, 2022 awarded bid to purchase four vehicles from McFarland Ford in the amount of \$103,840.00 during fiscal year FY 23. Carried 5-0.

Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Gagnon to waive the competitive bidding requirements as outlined in Hudson Town Code 98-1C and allow the Police Department to award the bid to McGovern Municipal HQ. Selectman Guessferd said yeah. I just want to make it clear that the Hudson Town Code and this is clear here because we've had there's been some other discussion in other venues about the Town Code and waiving requirements. We are in accordance with the Town Code here. This is very clear, but just want to make sure that the public is aware. Seeing no further comment a vote was taken. Carried 5-0.

Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd to accept the Police Department's recommendation to purchase four police utility vehicles from McGovern Municipal HQ in the amount of \$121,836.75 using budgeted line item number 5630-402, as recommended by the Police Chief and Finance Director. This does not include the cost of fitting up, up fitting the vehicles with existing, existing and new equipment. Selectman Guessferd said I just want to ask a question. So the \$180,000 we have does that include the up-fitting as well in the budget? Chief Dionne replied yes it does. Selectman Guessferd then asked, same budget line item? So we have enough in there to do the up-fitting? Chief Dionne replied, we do. Seeing no further questions, a vote was taken. Carried 5-0.

#### I. HFD Retirement Notice

Interim Fire Chief, Scott Tice was recognized and said, good evening, everyone. So Firefighter Al Windsor has given his intent to retire effective September 30<sup>th</sup>. Al's been with us for 21 years and in that time, not only has he been a solid firefighter and AEMT, he's participated in a lot of extracurricular projects and activities. Since 2016, he's assisted with the Fire Explorers program. He's the one that spearheaded the Burn Hotline. For those either not familiar, it's the computer system that automatically records. So you call in when you want to call in a burn permit instead of having the dispatcher answering all those calls, it goes to a dedicated phone line that all the information is in, put it into a computer system and tracked automatically. And he also donated the equipment for that as well. It's something he did in the private sector and had the equipment. And he did that for us. And that was a very good project for us. Took a lot of workload off the dispatcher. So we're sorry to see him go, but happy for him and his retirement and his plans to be a jetsetter out west. So recommend that the Board accept his retirement and then allow me to start a hiring process for his replacement.

Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said yeah. Madam Chair, just quickly, the hiring process, maybe you'll tell us about it later on. But are you looking just to move everyone up or are you looking

to look around for that position? Interim Chief Tice replied, this is an entry level position. So all these positions come from the outside. This is the bottom line position in the organization. Selectman Gagnon replied, okay. Thank you. All set.

Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Gagnon to accept the notice to retire from Firefighter/AEMT Alan Windsor effective September 30, 2022, with the Board's thanks and appreciation. Carried 5-0.

Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Gagnon to authorize the Interim Fire Chief to advertise the firefighter position. Carried 5-0.

#### J. Forest Fire Warden Appointment

Interim Chief Tice was again recognized and said with the retirement of Chief Buxton in the Forest Fire Warden position was vacated. The Forest Fire Warden is the person locally who's responsible to the Director of Forest and Lands Division. Forest and Lands to uphold all the laws, enforce the laws related to burning permits and forest fire prevention, and to issue permits for burning, and also to sign the applications for deputy wardens and issuing agents. Everyone on the Fire Department is either a deputy warden or issuing agent. We do have a dispatcher who's going to be finishing their training soon, and they are, one of their roles is to issue fire permits. So by designating me as the Fire Warden that will allow me to sign off on their permits so we can get them fully up to speed in their position and to have one person designated through the state to be the responsible party locally.

Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said thank you, Madam Chair. And again, for my own knowledge here. Obviously, you're well educated in your field, but can you give me any specifics on what specific education or certification you have to be deemed a fire warden. Interim Chief Tice replied, Forest Fire Warden, yes. There's training through the state that they provide so that baseline everyone goes through on their firefighter one. It's an entry level firefighter and strategy and tactics for forest fires. And then through on the job training and then the training that they provide online to make sure you're up to speed on the proper enforcement of the rules and regulations. Selectman Gagnon then said so, silly question, you're full up to speed? You have everything done for this position? Is there anything further you can acquire? Is there anything ongoing to keep this skill? Interim Chief Tice replied, continuing training is required every couple of years for anybody who's a forest fire warden or a deputy warden.

Chairperson Roy said, I have a question. Is the Fire Chief either traditionally or typically appointed as the Forest Fire Warden? To which Interim Chief Tice replied, yes, it's in the fire chief's job description to be the Forest Fire Warden. Seeing no further questions, Selectman Gagnon made a motion, seconded by Selectman McGrath to appoint Interim Fire Chief Scott Tice as Forest Fire Warden for the Town of Hudson. Carried 5-0.

#### K. Fiscal Year 2024 BOS Budget Schedule

Chairperson Roy recognized the Town Administrator who explained, so this is the budget schedule for the Board of Selectmen's review of the Department Head budgets. This is a pretty typical schedule that you followed in the past. And basically I draw your attention to, there's basically three evenings, the 13th of October, the 18th of October, the 20th of October, where you'll be reviewing the lion's share of the budget. I believe there's some overflow if necessary, which would be on the 25th. But this is your opportunity to review the Department Head budgets. So again, this is

the dedicated schedule for that. I will also point out that this all leads to a deliberative session, which will be in February. The Town will go first, the School will go second. Typically it's back and forth. We went second last year. So what I'm basically looking for you folks to do is approve the schedule. The departments all have this. It's anticipated that you'll have your budget books, I believe, next week, not this week, but next week by the end of the week. In advance of these meetings.

Chairperson Roy said can I just ask when warrant articles are due? The Town Administrator replied, so typically if it's a department sponsored one, a lot of times they come at the same time, but they can come all the way through somewhere in December. And why in December? Because collective bargaining, for example, would be a warrant article or articles. The Board may propagate more articles. I will say that the petitioned articles, I believe, are sometime in early January. That's a date specific where the voters or a citizens can petition. That's typically, I believe, at your first meeting in January, which would be somewhere in the 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> range.

Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said just really quickly, the 13<sup>th</sup> as of right now. I don't know if I can make unfortunately, the other dates look okay. Selectman Guessferd laughed and said I was going to say the exact same thing, I have a commitment on the 13<sup>th</sup> as well that I really can't get out of. Selectman Gagnon replied, I may have some flexibility. I just don't know right now. Chairperson Roy asked, does the Board want to look for a new date or do we want to just go forward with the quorum of three? Selectman Gagnon replied, I trust you guys. If you feel comfortable, I'm okay with it. Selectman Guessferd replied, I'm okay with it. The Town Administrator added, I would just say you'd have to book an advance. If you had any questions, you could direct them to someone. And there's always an opportunity at the end to do a wrap up, because I believe on this schedule, the books will go into the Budget Committee by the 28<sup>th</sup>. So there's a little bit of time that if for some reason you had to revisit something, you could do so. Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd to approve the FY 24 Board of Selectmen Budget schedule. Carried 5-0.

#### L. IT Systems Update from Selectman Gagnon

Chairperson Roy recognized Selectman Gagnon who said thank you, Madam Chair and Board members. So I know that Madam Chair asked me to kind of do a quick review on this. At one point, I found the opportunity to sit down with Mr. Beike for a while. He was very helpful, very knowledgeable, obviously, in his field. And so we kind of went over some topics that we may even discussed previously or even before my time. You guys have known about, generally speaking, the Town's software and the various versions and how they interact. Right now they seem to be running okay. As you can see from my notes here, the basic overview, which I'll read through quickly. Currently we use something called MuniSmart, owned by Harris. MuniSmart is a financial system that handles things like invoices, taxes, dog licenses and other revenue streams. MuniSmart is a modular system that allows login of each department for their specific input needs. The current costs we pay about \$48,000 per year for Harris to maintain and give it support for this.

Some of the issues that have come up, which I was trying to look into to see what we could do moving forward. MuniSmart is an older platform that may go end of life in the future. We're anticipating that because they have told us that they will no longer support any upgrades to this system. So seemingly if they're not going to upgrade the system, you can only assume they're going to end of life in the next coming years. And that's why this discussion is on the table. Some towns are starting to move off MuniSmart even right now. Harris said they will not provide updates to MuniSmart anymore. As I just stated. Now MuniSmart only has a single tech support contact which can sometimes cause delays at Town Hall if that individual goes on vacation or whatnot. So there is we're starting to see that old software type feel with older support time delays. So it's in our best interest to think proactively about this situation, both for a financial get out of the door and try to get something that's a better price, but also for better support and to keep ahead of the eight ball, if you will.



Other towns and state agencies do not use MuniSmart and have a hard time working to support and transferring data. So again, coming from Mr. Beike, he said that towns will use MuniSmart but when the town has to work with the state or other departments, it's not an easy transfer of data. It has to be kind of analog or manually done, if you would. We shouldn't be putting more money into any patches right now. MuniSmart is kind of the brains of our system and we have other software like in the Assessing Department and we've paid for patches to make programming that would force each software to communicate with each other. Now, Mr. Beike tonight just told me even though we paid for that patch, MuniSmart did indeed give us a refund for it. So it's essentially wasn't a cost to us, but we can only expect that to happen more and more in the future. Again, if we're trying to Band-Aid all of our different departments together.

Selectman Gagnon then said so the questions I put in front of you tonight, why are other towns moving off this software? What software are they moving to? These may be questions that Mr. Beike can look into, or we can request that he actually do some research into this and provide us some more technical detail. Why hasn't Harris provided us with alternate options to MuniSmart under their software offerings? Mr. Beike has kind of two ways of looking at it. He goes if we stay with the current offering and even myself, I would be hard pressed to believe they're just going to drop us and say, that's it, we're not supporting you anymore. Chairperson Roy then said so just kind of clarify. My understanding from the previous IT Director was that MuniSmart was moving away from municipal software altogether. The company was moving away from it. They were no longer going to develop it or have anything to do with municipal software. Selectman Gagnon replied, excellent input. I wasn't at least I didn't take that was what...Chairperson Roy said I know you (Selectman Morin) and I you and I had had a couple of conversations with her that they were just moving away from that from municipal software at all. Selectman Gagnon replied, well, that raises this to a higher level of concern that, of course. So the options tonight to discuss Hudson should ask Harris what are the options they may provide? Or to your point, maybe they don't and how do we prepare to transition if they do offer something. Otherwise, ask other towns what software they're using and why, and ask how they transitioned to the new software. So again, the overall intent here is maybe to give Mr. Beike some direction and some authority to do some actual research, collect some data, some numbers, some costs so that we can have a proper discussion.

Selectman Morin said, I think that's been done by the previous IT. I mean, it's changed since then, don't get me wrong, but I think you have a base there. Why they did it. It's pretty obvious they're moving away. She did get some costs and at that time it was very expensive and transferring the information because when we talked about it, they were going to buy separate software for different departments. And the big conversation was, why can't we buy one that covers everybody? And that's kind of where it stopped. Chairperson Roy added, right. and I think what Mr. Beike needs to do is maybe dig up hopefully some of that information is still available to him, because I think I think there's is somewhat of a timeliness issue, particularly if MuniSmart or Harris is moving away from municipal software and they're not going to they're not going to have that program anymore, what are our options? And I don't want to kind of as you and I talked about, I don't want to be backed into a corner where cloth costs escalate because we have to make a decision right away instead of having time to review what our options are and make the best decision.

Selectman Gagnon asked, okay. Would you like me to talk to Mr. Beike about collecting more information from, I believe, Lisa? Or do we need to make a motion to give him that? This is just basic checking on more data. Chairperson Roy replied, yeah, I'd like to. You know, I guess. I guess, to make sure we follow up on it. What is a reasonable time for him to get this information together to present to us? Is 90 days too long enough? Selectman Morin asked are you looking to put it in this year's budget? Is that your intent? Chairperson Roy replied, well, I don't. That's a good question. Selectman Guessferd asked, I don't know. How close are we? Selectman Morin replied, well, right. But and with everything else, the way it's going, it just. We need to give them some direction is what I'm saying. Chairperson Roy replied, right. Right. And I but I don't want it to be kind of open ended and. Selectman Gagnon replied, I don't think we can play next year, but I think that's too tight. But I think 30 days to at least speak with Lisa and get up to date data from what she had cost and what

she had. And let's tentatively plan for the next year to prepare to move to something. Selectman Guessferd replied, so the next budget season we can really focus on it.

Selectman McGrath then said don't you think that you should talk to the, uh, Town Clerk because they're the ones that use a lot of that software. And, and they may they may have some input to Mr. Beike. Chairperson Roy said well, I guess so. I'll say a couple of things. One, I think a lot of this software is connected to the state, which is part of the problem he's talking about is MuniSmart is being able to talk to the state. But, I mean, I would hope that Mr. Beike is getting input not only from the Town Clerk but from all of the users that are going to have to use that system. Right. If they have if they have any input, I mean, that would be up to them. Selectman McGrath replied, it just seems to me that Patti had a lot of input originally when she was here. Chairperson Roy then said and I think one of the things we ran into is finding a software, I'm not sure it exists that that is like a one and done kind of thing. I don't know that that is, that is an option actually. But Mr. Beike can probably find that out much better than I could. Selectman Gagnon replied, yeah I don't think this is going to be comfortable or easy by any means, but just something has to be done, I think. If you have any other questions you think of, let me know. I'll keep the conversation going and report back.

## 9. Board Liaison Reports

Selectman McGrath: I don't really have anything. I attended the Municipal Utility meeting the other night. One of the things that they discussed was, again, the issue of throwing those baby wipes and sani wipes down the toilets because it's clogging up the system. And even the ones that are marked disposable, they're not really disposable at all. So that's, you know, that should we should put if we haven't, and I think that we probably have based on my past...The Town Administrator said Jess and I did a PSA. Chairperson Roy said I actually saw it running early tonight. So I start running early tonight. So. Yeah. Yeah. But if we could put another notice up online on the website. Selectman McGrath then said and that was pretty much it I think from the Municipal Utility Committee and I have nothing else.

Selectman Gagnon: Sustainability meeting was canceled. We did not meet. the Right to Know committee. Well, obviously they presented tonight, so you heard everything from them. NRPC I don't remember if I told you guys last time, but the Technical Transportation Advisory Committee welcomed 18 projects to the New Hampshire DOT ten year plan, or at least accepted those to review. And I'm very proud and surprised to report that 14 of them are pedestrian and bicycle projects. So I've said this a couple of times before. It goes to show what our community is actually looking for and the change of pace that we're asking for bicycle and community projects on a transportation which is seeing a highway project plan.

Chairperson Roy asked, so did any of the three projects we presented? Selectman Gagnon replied, yes. So Mr. Groth did a fabulous job presenting all three. He was even commended during the meeting that his was very professional and well, well thought out. So I thought he did a great job, very proud of him for that. And will the all these projects our three and the other 18, are going to go to an NRPC committee and then they're going to rate them themselves and then provide that to New Hampshire DOT. So I will update you guys on how that proceeds.

The Executive Committee met again for NRPC. See, there was a discussion about affordable housing for the state. What grants are available? Funds are available. Generally speaking, it's a big push for that kind of thing to change regulations, change ordinances, and to seemingly welcome that kind of development. And last, let's see here, I think we all know in this room, but for the sake of people at home, I want to remind people to join us on October 4th for our Board of Selectmen meeting, where we'll be discussing a town wide, town wide possibility of a power aggregation contract with a third party outside of Eversource, with all of the increased costs in our electrical bills and a lot of the discussion, a healthy discussion online about their bills, I think this is going to be very important and interesting for say to a lot of people in town to follow and watch, because if it's if we're

if we're getting the opportunity, there will be something on the warrant, hopefully this coming March to maybe move us off and get us some other options. So that's all. Thank you. All right.

Selectman Morin: The Benson's Committee, the mural in the Gorilla House is complete. They will be recognizing the artist at an upcoming meeting. The family day was a huge success. We had cars parked out on Kimball Hill Road and it was packed. It was a huge success. They're working on their budget to get presented and the asbestos removal and the train station should be taking place very shortly. The Town Administrator said it's done. I got notice today. I was going to make it in my remarks but since you brought it up, I got a notice from Jack Madden that it's done.

Selectman Morin then said and then for Budget Committee I'd have to send that over to Selectman Guessferd for the last meeting. Thank you.

Selectman Guessferd: Okay, well, let's see. I'll start with Planning Board. We are reigniting master plan. There's going to be some sessions. Matter of fact, I think they've set up dates. I don't have the actual dates, but I guarantee you, if you go on the Town website, you'll find them. As we had said before, we had 975 responses on the master plan survey, which actually doesn't sound like a lot, but if you're if you're doing a survey that's sort of a percentage is actually very good. So we got a lot of great input. They're consolidating the input right now. But we very, very much encourage people, citizens to come out to these master planning sessions. We're actually trying to see if it's possible to do more than just two. But they do cost a little bit of money. Not much, but. And the more citizens that are involved, I think the better the output is going to be. So that's good news. And we're moving that forward. Chairperson Roy said I just ask my understanding is one virtual session and one person. Selectman Guessferd replied, yes. There's going to be a there's going to be an evening session during the week, and that's the virtual session. And I'm not sure exactly how it's going to all how the interaction is all going to work. But there will be opportunities for the public to provide comments and input during that session. And the Saturday session is going to be an in-person session. Selectman McGrath then said so the last time there were four visioning sessions. Why are they cutting them down now? Selectman Guessferd replied, well, I think the plan there was, there was always the plan to have to have two more. And we ask that question at the last Planning Board meeting. Didn't really get a I guess that's what they've said, that that's all that they had budgeted. Selectman McGrath replied, who's they? Selectman Guessferd replied, the Planner, Mr. Groth. Selectman McGrath replied, so just Mr. Groth because he's only a one man shop. Selectman Guessferd replied, Yeah. Yeah. And the moderator whoever we're doing that using to help. I think our chair is also involved in that, in that planning as well. But we had talked about doing possibly another two. Another virtual and in-person if we can. And again there's a little bit of money associated with each one. So we're taking a look into that.

So also, if anybody doesn't know, we're not looking at it tomorrow night. But Hillwood has submitted a a revised application for the property down south of Town. And so that's going to be it's going to be looked at, obviously in great detail and reviewed. So that's about all I have on that right now. Everybody got these big FedEx boxes with the plans. They were pretty extensive.

So let's see next Budget Committee. I attended the last Budget Committee meeting and an attempt was made essentially to...they recognized the court's decision and attempts was made to change the wording to conditionalize, I'll call it the voting rights of their liaisons. And that initially that failed. And there was a smaller subset of that that ended up that ended up passing. They still haven't revoted, which they need to revote on all the votes. There was not that many. But that still needs to happen. And, you know, it was clear from our perspective and I sat right next to the School District liaison that to us when the court made that decision, it was immediate. So we had voting rights as far as we were all concerned. And at that particular moment, at the beginning of the meeting, we were told we didn't have them yet. So but we still got our votes recorded or at least got the minutes should record that we actually voted on a couple of these on these things. So as a result of all that, and again, if

folks haven't heard the leadership of the Budget Committee has changed, so the Chair and the Assistant Chair stepped down from not for the committee but from their positions. And Mr. Ted Trost is now the Budget Committee Chair and Norm Martin is the is the Vice Chair for the Budget Committee. So that that has occurred and there was some extension to extensive discussion about some items, a few items. At that point, they were continuing to ask for information. What I have said and I said it on the latest request from the Budget Committee, and I don't think this is out of line that that anything get funneled through the Chair. So we have an efficient way of disseminating and communicating between the Budget Committee and the Select Board and our School District. So more to follow, I'm sure. And there's a meeting next week. So we still have one other request to get that information to them. But all the information they're asking for is essentially public information. It's out there, whether it's minutes of meetings or whatever. So but we'll make sure that we're not going to be an impediment, but also understanding and a balance of what they're asking for and how it essentially. Supports their mission of improving the budget or recommending the budget. So that's all that's all I'll say about that. We can talk more about that as things go on.

And finally, the fun stuff. The Recreation Committee, Chrissy is again just doing wonderful work. Softball season is over. It's good. It's getting to get cold. Mobile won for the third year in a row. So we have we have a dynasty going on, I guess, over there. Soccer, the season has started. And one of the really cool things about soccer right now in town is there's a unified soccer team. And if people don't know what that is, essentially it's it's students that have challenges that are out there playing soccer with with mentors, with people helping them out. And it's one on one coaching very, very positive, diverse, and inclusive. It's and it's going well. It's the first time they've done this and it's going very, very well. For those people that are interested in wood woodworking. There is this Saturday night at the Community Center a fall woodworking workshop signups until Thursday. So on the on the website the information should be out there to sign up if they want to do that. And then we've done this I think I don't know how many years we've done this. This may be only the second year, but upcoming. There is a Fright Night coming up at the at the speedway and it's free and people can register on the Rec website. Advertising has kicked off registration and HPD's going to be there chips and all the Hudson Speedway. So it's going to be a lot of fun. So we're already there. There's a number only a certain number of people can do it because of the size of the speedway. So get your get your registration in as soon as you can. It's going to be a lot of fun costumes, all kinds of fun things. That's on the 27th of October. Beyond that, the senior programs are going well. There was a luau and there's a fall cookout on the fourth. And one of the things there's a new Rec Connect newsletter that Christie has put together, and you can find that on the rec website as well. And I know they're sending out some emails, so lots of going on there. So sorry. I know my report was long.

Chairperson Roy: So I've only had one meeting this month so far. Tomorrow night I go to the library board of Trustees. But we had a ZBA meeting last Thursday. I guess one of the interesting cases that came before us is signage for Aroma Joe's on Route 102. So that came to the Board was sort of mixed results. And I would not be surprised to see an appeal to to a couple of those decisions, but they heard the case. My personal opinion is they were solid decisions, but we'll see what happens with the developer. And then Mr. Buttrick provided some information on some training for the ZBA. That's some virtual training that's coming up over the next couple of weeks. So hopefully a lot of the Board members will participate in that and we'll just have a more solid board. And right now that's all I have as far as far as liaison reports go. So now I will hear from the Administrator.

10. Remarks by Town Administrator

The Town Administrator was recognized and said well two of you have already stole my thunder. I was going to talk about the workshop next week. You have a packet. It's pretty voluminous. I believe Mr. Putnam will be here to talk about the electrical aggregation program. So that was one thing. The other thing is I just slightly more mentioned the asbestos has been removed, so we should be getting cert for that and that project is done.

11. Remarks by School Board

School Board Chairman, Gary Gasdia was recognized and said thank you. Well, let me start by thanking the Hudson Police and Fire Departments they helped with our safety training on I think it was September 13th. It was to all the administrative staff. It included an overview of drugs that are impacting the Hudson area, as well as a lot of exercises for a variety of potential emergencies. So we really appreciate that. Some of that's very needed and we have a great partnership there.

We're at that time of year. There are a lot of events happening in the schools. There's curriculum nights, parent teacher conferences. The Haunted Hayride is coming up. And later in October I just urge everybody to the Facebook pages for all the schools. The website has a calendar. Go there so you can stay in touch.

We've heard about the fire trucks, the police trucks, the pipes. We can now add playgrounds to the list of supply chain delays. So we will not be getting the all the materials for the playground in time to do the build that we had planned for mid-October. While it's only delayed a few weeks, you can't really do a build that late in the year. So we've had to push that build off to the weekend of May 4th, 2023. Last night, School Board meeting, we had a very good discussion on assessment data. I think it would probably fall in the category of putting you to sleep because it was a little boring. But for those of us that liked data, there was a lot of good stuff coming from the elementary schools and it's sort of the first of a deep dive. We started with the elementary schools. We're going to have the middle school and then the high school. And then of course, the next step is now that we have the data, how do we take action on it?

And finally, congratulations to our Vet Science team. They placed first at the Big E Regional FFA competition, and they'll represent Alvirne and the State of New Hampshire at the National FFA Convention in October.

12. Other Business/Remarks by the Selectmen

Selectman Gagnon: Selectman Gagnon was recognized and said one question actually for my colleague here. I was talking with someone who made an interesting comment about liaison assignments, specifically with the Planning Board. Maybe it's for all of you guys. How do we operate? Do you, as the current Planning Board liaison, are you sitting there for a three year term or is it a one year term? Selectman Guessferd said it's typically a one year to one year term. Chairperson Roy replied, yeah, it's it goes with our election cycle. So in March, whoever the chair is will call for a vote to elect. The Town Administrator said you voted to appoint him. He's a member. I wouldn't call him a liaison, he's actually a voting member of the Planning Board. Selectman Gagnon replied, so thank you for that clarification because I think that was part of the active discussion is that because he isn't a liaison and he is a member, shouldn't he follow the member term in the Planning Board? I just thought the person explained this....that's not what we do but is that what the law says? Chairperson Roy said yeah, I believe there's a policy specific. Selectman Guessferd said that each year it rotates. Selectman Gagnon asked, and it's been like that for many years? Selectman Guessferd said I mean, you might, you might renew, you might do it again the following year, but. Chairperson Roy said it might be the same person two years in a row but typically, yeah, I guess it did happen for a little while where it was the same person for...but yeah. Selectman Gagnon asked, but that was unintentional per se? Chairperson Roy replied, right. There was still an election every March. They just reappointed the same person. Selectman Gagnon replied, thank you. That's all I had.

Selectman Guessferd: I think I've said enough.

Selectman McGrath: One of the things that I think I neglected to mention either this evening or at the municipal utility meeting, but when Chief Buxton was here, he gave us information about the rating that they were given. And it pertained to your home, home insurance. And I think that that should be published on the internet, you know, on the webpage for Hudson. Chairperson Roy replied, I think it was. Selectman McGrath replied, well it wasn't clear to me that it was. And I wrote it down because I was going to call my own insurance company, which I haven't done. But and I don't know how much, I don't know how much it's worth, but there's a lot of people out there that are hurting and any savings that they can have, I'm sure that they'd want to know that. So, you know, I. Chairperson Roy replied, I think it was. But it's worthwhile to repost it, you know. Yeah, it was the ISO rating, I believe that's what it was called. The ISO rating. Selectman McGrath then said so I think that I really think that that would be a service to. Chairperson Roy replied, we can certainly repost that.

Selectman McGrath then said one other thing, too, about the the visioning sessions. I would really encourage at least at least three, if not four, because from what I understand and when Mr. Growth was before the joint meeting of the school board in the town, I questioned him about that because. I think that there was a good turnout, but I think that I was told, if I'm not mistaken, that that information that was garnered a few years ago now isn't up to date, as it should be. So how do you get that information? You have visioning sessions, right? So I would I would encourage that I'm not I'm not at that level anymore, but I would certainly encourage that and I would certainly encourage that he participate in that. That's all. Thank you.

Chairperson Roy: So the only thing I will comment on is I'm glad we've gotten by the issue with the Budget Committee and hopefully we can have healthy, I guess, negotiation for lack of a better term, going into the into the budget season with the Budget Committee. And will that with that, I will ask the Town Administrator to bring us into non-public session.

### 13. Nonpublic Session

*Motion by Selectman McGrath at 9:31p.m., seconded by Selectman Gagnon 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 9:31 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 was asked to leave the room.

The Board entered open session at 10:45 p.m.

Motions made after nonpublic session

1. Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin to hire Matthew Ryan as a part time maintenance assistant with a total of fifteen hours per week with a starting salary of \$15.00 per hour. Carried 5-0.
2. Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Gagnon to approve DPW Director, Jess Forrence's request to buy back 200 hours of vacation time. Carried 5-0.
3. Selectman McGrath made a motion, seconded by Selectman Gagnon to appoint Interim Fire Chief Scott Tice as the Fire Chief, effective September 28, 2022, with a review in six months. Carried 5-0.
4. Selectman Morin made a motion to adjourn at 10:48 p.m. This was seconded by Selectman Gagnon. Carried 5-0.

14. ADJOURNMENT

*Motion to adjourn at 10:48 p.m. by Selectman Morin seconded by Selectman Gagnon. Carried 5-0.*

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

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Kara Roy, Chairperson

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Bob Guessferd, Vice Chairman

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David Morin, Selectman

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Marilyn McGrath, Selectman

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Brett Gagnon, Selectmen