

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the May 9, 2023 Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER - by Chairman McGrath the meeting of May 9, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the Selectmen Meeting Room at Town Hall

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Selectman Morin

Chairman McGrath asked everyone who was standing, to please rise again. She then said, on April 25th, the town lost a very valuable, valued employee and a friend when Cherie Hebert passed away. Cherie was a senior accounting clerk in our Finance Department, and she served the town for eight years. I'd like to offer our condolences to Cherie's family, and I'd ask that we observe a moment of silence in her honor. Thank you very much.

3. ATTENDANCE

Board of Selectmen: Dillon Dumont, Bob Guessferd, Marilyn McGrath, Dave Morin, Kara Roy

Staff/Others: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator; Scott Tice, Fire Chief; John Beike, IT Director; Paul Inderbitzen, Town Moderator; Jim Paquette, Deputy Fire Chief; Gretchen Whiting, School Board member; Jill Laffin Executive Assistant

4. PUBLIC INPUT

Chairman McGrath began by asking if anyone had any public input. She then said, and I'll read just, I'm going to read section one of the bylaws. And this was this was printed, adopted by the Board of Selectmen on August 25th, 2015. At regularly scheduled board meetings the agenda will reflect the time during the meeting that allows for public input. Subject to these procedures, speakers will be allotted five minutes per person unless extended by approval of the board. And we've had copies printed out. If anybody would like to get more, I'm not going to read the entire thing. But the salient point is that five minutes will be allotted for public input and it has to be something that we can take care of. Is there anyone in the audience that would like to give public input at this time? If not, we'll go to the regular agenda.

5. RECOGNITIONS, NOMINATIONS & APPOINTMENTS

Nominations

- 1) Nashua Regional Planning Commission - (2 member vacancies expiring 12/31/26, 12/31/23, 1 alternate member vacancy expiring 12/31/23.

Tim Malley - applicant

Chairman McGrath recognized Mr. Malley who introduced himself and said, I'm applying for one of the open positions on the National Regional Planning Commission. Up until recent events, we've had a member of the Planning Board who was part of the Commission, but then he decided to join you guys. So I thought it was good to have somebody representing the Planning Board on that commission.

Chairman McGrath asked, does anyone have any questions for Tim? Selectman Roy was recognized and said so um, in the past that's kind of just, I guess, been a slot holder because they didn't actually attend the meetings. So my first question is, will you actually attend the NRPC meetings?

Mr. Malley replied, From my understanding, it's four times a year. Selectman Roy replied, yeah, roughly. There may be some special meetings or something. Mr. Malley responded saying, I intend to plan to go to those meetings and voice hopefully, some of the concerns I've heard of at the planning board level if there's an opportunity to do that. Selectman Roy replied okay. All right.

Seeing no further questions from the Board the Chairman explained to Mr. Malley that the Board practice is after tonight, we'll consider your application and make an appointment at the next meeting. Mr. Malley replied, perfect. Thank you very much. I'm going home.

- 2) Benson Park Committee - (1-member vacancy expiring 4/30/26, 2 alternate member vacancies expiring 4/30/24 and 4/30/25).

Mike Catanzaro - applicant

Chairman McGrath recognized Mike Catanzaro who is applying for a member vacancy on the Benson Park Committee. Mr. Catanzaro introduced himself and said I would like to join the committee for Benson's Park. I've been working down there with Dick Empey on the weekends, and most days after work. I'm employed for a Continental Paving. So I do a lot of labor and everything, and I've been helping him out pretty much every day as much as I possibly can down there at the park.

Chairman McGrath asked, anybody have any questions? Selectman Morin was recognized and said I do have to say Mr. Catanzaro is very eager because when I got to the meeting last week, he was already sitting at the board's table, not realizing the process. He was there, ready to go. Mr. Catanzaro replied, thank you. I had my tools out in my truck. And Dick's getting a little old, so I might have to be carrying him around a little bit to help him out over there.

Seeing no further questions from the Board, Chairman McGrath said as you heard me saying to Tim that we'll make a decision for the next meeting.

Appointments

- 2) Cable Utility Committee - (2 member vacancies expiring 04/30/23, 1 alternate vacancy expiring 04/30/23)

Stewart Kroner (incumbent member)

The Town Administrator explained, Stu, I believe has been on for many years. You've seen him sometimes working like the deliberative session or some of the larger events. So my understanding is he's a valued member of the committee and has served many years on. So he's just seeking a reappointment. And typically you don't have those candidates come in. Someone typically makes a motion and seconds it to reappoint. Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin to re-appoint Stewart Kroner as a member of the Cable Utility Committee with a term to expire 4/30/26. Carried 5-0.

6. CONSENT ITEMS

Chairman McGrath asked, does anyone have anything they'd like removed for separate consideration? There were no items pulled for separate consideration. Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin to approve Consent Items A, C, D, E, & F. Carried 5-0.

A. Assessing Items

- 1) 2022 Property Tax Abatement Application: map 105, lot 17-4, 197 Robinson Rd.
- 2) 2022 Property Tax Abatement Application: map 175, lot 34-3, 8 Village Ln.
- 3) 2022 Property Tax Abatement Application: map 178, lot 13-5, 2 Mobile Dr.
- 4) 2022 Property Tax Abatement Application: map 175, lot 39, 61 Burns Hill Rd.
- 5) 2022 Property Tax Abatement Application: map 229, lot 16, 12 Ridgecrest Dr.
- 6) 2022 Property Tax Abatement Application: map 231, lot 2, 66 Gowing Rd.
- 7) 2022 Property Tax Abatement Application: map 110, lot 56, 12 Senter Farm Rd.
- 8) 2022 Property Tax Abatement Application: map 246, lot 46, 11 Muldoon Dr.
- 9) 2022 Property Tax Abatement Application: map 235, lot 6, 9 Dracut Rd.
- 10) 2022 Elderly Exemption Application: map 173, lot 52, 36 Baker St.
- 11) Elderly Exemptions: map 203, lot 067, 1 Butternut St.; map 162, lot 040, sub 001, 30A Lund Dr.; map 245, lot 005, 26 Par Ln.
- 12) Solar Exemption: map 134, lot 028, 43 Hazelwood Dr.
- 13) Current Use Lien Release: map 110, lot 48, 4 Putnam Rd.
- 14) Gravel Tax Warrant: map 209, lot 1, 48 Friars Dr.
- 15) 2022 Property Tax Abatement: map 240, lot 10, 37 A&B River Rd.
- 16) 2022 Abatement Application: map 149, lot 73, 23 Sutherland Dr.

B. Water/Sewer Items - none

C. Licenses & Permits & Policies

- 1) Re-adopt Fund Balance Policy
- 2) Re-adopt Investment Policy

D. Donations

- 1) Donation of \$325.48 from Heidi Jakoby to the Town of Hudson

E. Acceptance of Minutes

- 1) Minutes of April 11, 2023
- 2) Minutes of April 25, 2023

F. Calendar

05/10	7:00	Planning Board	Buxton Meeting Room
05/11	3:30	Trustees of the Trust Funds	Buxton Meeting Room
05/11	7:00	Zoning Board of Adjustment	Buxton Meeting Room
05/16	7:00	Municipal Utility Committee	BOS Meeting Room
05/17	6:00	Library Trustees	Hills Memorial Library
05/17	7:00	Hudson Electric Aggregation Cmte.	Buxton Meeting Room
05/18	7:00	Benson Park Committee	HCTV Meeting Room
05/22	7:00	Sustainability Committee	Buxton Meeting Room
05/23	7:00	Board of Selectmen	BOS Meeting Room

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Votes taken after Nonpublic Session on April 25, 2023

- 1.) Selectman Roy made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin to hire Cynthia Roberts for the position of Assistant Town Clerk/Tax Collector with a starting rate of \$19.03 per hour (step 1) of the AFSCME Support Staff Agreement. Carried 5-0.
- 2) Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Dumont, to appoint Donna Melanson as Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector as recommended by the Town Clerk/Tax Collector, effective April 26, 2023. Carried 5-0.
- 3) Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Dumont, to promote Lieutenant Patrick McStravick to the position of Captain at \$105,354.00 in accordance with the Hudson Police, Fire, and Town Supervisors Association Contract (step 4). This elevation in rank will be effective Monday, May 01, 2023. Carried 5-0.
- 4) Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Dumont, to hire John Layton as a full time Police Officer with the Hudson Police Department, with a starting salary of \$32.36 (step 4) per hour, all in accordance with the Hudson Police Employee Association Contract. Carried 5-0.
- 5) Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Dumont, to authorize the Fire Chief to enter into an MOU with the PFFH to adjust the classification of "years of service" in order to qualify for initial placement and movement within the step system as it relates to both new hires and current members. This MOU would become effective as of July 1, 2023. Carried 5-0.
- 6) Selectman Morin made a motion to adjourn at 9:44 p.m. This was seconded by Selectman Roy. Carried 5-0.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. 2023 Town Election Debrief - Town Moderator

Chairman McGrath recognized Town Moderator Paul Inderbitzen. Mr. Inderbitzen began by saying, Good evening. For those watching, I'll just do a brief summary of it and then I'll just have a couple of things I'd like to bring to the Board's attention. On the March 28th Town & School Elections, we had 3,095 ballots cast out of 16,146 people on the checklist for registered voters, which is only 19.2%. Not our worst performance at a town election, but not one of our better ones either. So a little bit, a little bit disappointing. We did have 277 absentee ballots and we had 36 new registrations for the day. A lot of people come in and feel that they come in, they get their ballot, they check in, they vote, and then they leave and things, hey, things are going pretty good. But I think some people don't always realize the amount of work that goes into it. The people that I have that work for the town, for the elections, they do it because they love doing it and they work very hard at it. We had to have extra training this year because of the poll pads over the last year or so. So there's a lot of effort and coordination, especially with two locations. So all those people that that set up the takedown, the DPW was fantastic. Our Election Worker's, Supervisors as well as town staff. Our Town Clerk staff helped us with the absentees and they seem to like doing that. And we needed their help because we didn't have as much as I'd like. I'm going to have to go out and look for more people to work. The elections, especially coming up in '24 town staff. Mr. Inderbitzen went comment, our custodian, Wayne Medeiros and the Hudson Women's Club who did the

pre-election counting, they do the post-election write in votes. They tabulate that for us. And then the Board of Selectmen always supports us in the election. So it couldn't have happened without everybody's dedication and the integrity of the people who work for the Town of Hudson for an election.

The Moderator continued on saying, as you know, we had a recount on the one board, the Board of Selectmen, three-year term office. The results of that count were almost identical to our count of the of election night, the machine count. And really that's just a small difference. But they can be attributed to the few voters who didn't mark their ballots correctly. That's one of our problems in terms of the small but the small difference. It was a very small difference. So the recount, however, is one that I don't I don't like doing recounts only because it's extra time and stuff, but it's always a way of. Showing that our elections and the tabulators that we're using are accurate.

So with very few changes in those votes for that for that office, it really assures the voters that our elections are accurate and they're fair and they hold up to scrutiny given some of the stuff that's out there these days. So but I will if anybody has any questions. I also gave you the breakdown of the check ins and and the machine counts before we had poll pads. The count of ballots we had for the night was really done by the machines and the checkout, but we couldn't really and we did that by hours. And it was kind of a good way to do it. But now with poll pads, we can accurately do an hourly check of when people check in and I didn't send it to you, but the poll pad program gives you a nice graph of showing the different times of the day. If you're interested in that, I can send that out to you. But I gave you the totals there that we had for both Ward One and Ward Two. Mr. Inderbitzen then said, and so we did about 238 voters per hour between both locations. So that that's an interesting statistic to to follow. And we can see where things get busy and where they don't for the future.

Chairman McGrath then said, it may help some of the voters that if they want to come in at a quieter time of the day or busier time, that information might be. Mr. Inderbitzen replied, right. I mean, it's out there so they can see that if they're if they're interested.

Chairman McGrath asked if anyone had any questions for Mr. Inderbitzen. Seeing none, he replied, boy, this is a quick meeting tonight, huh! Chairman McGrath then said, Thank you, Paul. I think if I can say something, I think that, as you know, I've known you for years, Paul. Long before you were the Moderator, when you were the Chairman of the Planning Board. For those that don't know and you, your expertise and your attention to detail is really remarkable. And as a, as a citizen of the town, I'm very appreciative of that. Mr. Inderbitzen replied, Thank you. Thank you very much. Have a nice evening.

B. Email Archiving Project - IT Department

Chairman McGrath recognized IT Director, John Beike. Mr. Beike said, Good evening. So I guess I'll start. So as a result of the Right to Know Committee, one of the recommendations was for the town to purchase an email archiving system. So the IT Department has already started the process to do that, and I've outlined a brief summary of what we've started. So I can, we, I worked with one of our channel partners that we purchase a lot of our equipment from. Because you can't buy an archiver directly from the manufacturer, you have to go through a channel partner or a vendor and we use a couple of those. So we asked them for a quote. So going back and forth, make sure we get the right sizing for our department, going back and forth again. So that all started before April and then we finally settled on the size that we should purchase. And that's what you have in front of you. You have a quote and a summary.

So the appliance would be an outright purchase of the appliance. That's a piece of hardware. It's around \$12,500, and then the next two items are required purchases, and that's for the software licensing comes in and the maintenance agreement. But when when they quoted me, the they quoted it, I believe, for 14 months because I asked them in April and I said, I need it in July. So they added two months. So I'm going to ask them to re quote it for 12 months. So it should come up the merit cloud storage, which is the backup to it's a backup of a backup. So if the if the unit fails, it's also backed up into the cloud. So if you need to

replace the hardware, it's it just downloads it back into the server. The next item is the being actually the licensing and the updates that you have to purchase those to the mirror in the updates have to be purchased with the with the archiver. The third item is the what they have is instant replacement. If this thing fails, for whatever reason, they make a phone call, they send another one out by the next day. And that's what the fourth item or the third item. So after the re-quote, it should come out about \$22,248 for the total purchase, 12 months of service plus the hardware. And that would happen in July well we would start in July. Do the quote, from the quote you would sign. So it might be July, it might be August by the time we actually get it on site.

Selectman Guessferd asked, what was that number again? Mr. Beike replied, it's a guess number cuz I just took, so it's \$22,248. To which Selectman Guessferd replied, yeah that's fine. Selectman Roy was recognized and asked these two, the subscription, is that, do we have to pay that whole thing up front? Is that a monthly cost? Mr. Beike replied, it's a monthly cost. The 292 is a monthly cost. Selectman Roy replied, okay. Mr. Beike then said then obviously, cuz it's the subscription, which is the licensing. You don't want to pay a monthly, so you just pay it in year, in year blocks, 12 month blocks. Selectman Roy then said and then I'm presuming it's the same thing for the, for the storage fee there. Mr. Beike replied yeah. So the first one is the outright purchase of the equipment. Then the next three are monthly services. But there, you can pay it monthly, but we would pay it on a 12-month basis. Selectman Roy then said, so then after that we would need about? Mr. Beike replied yeah it would be roughly \$9,700 a year. The Town Administrator added, recurring cost. Mr. Beike added, under the current cost. Selectman Roy replied, yup, yup, no, I understand. That's my question. Mr. Beike then said so the recurring costs on it's like \$9,700-\$9,800. Selectman Roy replied, okay. Chairman McGrath then said might as well say \$10,000. To which Mr. Beike replied it'll probably be \$10,000 next year. Chairman McGrath then said, I mean it, you know, I mean, that's close enough that, you know, you're not going to quibble over a couple of hundred dollars. So looking I mean, that's what I do at work. You'd look at the number and if it was closer to ten, you'd say 10,000. If it were closer to 5,000, you'd say five. You know, you want to make sure that everybody gets an idea of really what you're talking about.

Selectman Dumont was then recognized and said just so I understand, so I'm not misunderstanding, what exactly is the messaging archiving? What is it doing? Mr. Beike replied, so this would monitor the email. Internal email and external email. So anything that happens to pass through the email server will end up on this device. So irregardless of you deleting the message, your message out of your own inbox, this will still be archived. Because anything that passes in and out is archived. Selectman Dumont reiterated, it gets stored. He then asked, and does it sort those, make it easier for you to be able to go through and find certain information? Mr. Beike replied, it's quicker. Yeah. It's by user, you know, so or you can do a wide search but this is this is much faster search than trying to search it on the on the on the server itself. Email server. Selectman Dumont then said, and so basically so ultimately it's making it easier to sort out the files or sort out the emails. And then again, it's just storing everything as it comes in. Mr. Beike replied, yes. And also acts as another backup to the email server. So it actually will, might save us some money on the other side because we spend a lot of time making sure that server is always backed up. Selectman Dumont replied, right. Mr. Beike went on to say, this this also can act as a backup. Plus, it's backing up itself to the cloud. So if the device did fail, they put the new one in and it would just. Yeah, just reload itself from the cloud. Mr. Dumont replied thank you. Mr. Beike then said this is the one of the best ones on the market. This is kind of the gold standard where all other email archiving systems are measured from.

Selectman Morin was recognized and said is there a time limit? You know, we've got to buy all the space, all the years. Is there a time limit? They keep it and then it gets deleted or is this forever? Mr. Beike replied it's forever. Selectman Morin responded, its forever. So we'll have everything forever. Mr. Beike replied yeah once this goes online, you sent it or received it, it's in there.

Chairman McGrath asked, anyone else? Selectman Dumont was recognized and said a follow up on that. So obviously, if it is forever, the storage is going to continue to grow. Is that subscription fee based off of a certain amount of storage? And then could it get larger or does that fee ever change or is it kind of.

Mr. Beike replied, yes, and no. There is there is going to be a time where we're going to have to increase its size, but we specked this out, so we should get a few years. Okay. Because it's we specked it out at like at half. Right. So we should get a bunch of years out of it before we actually have to buy up to the next storage level. Selectman Dumont then said and I don't know if it's a question for you or maybe Steve, but is there a certain amount of time that we we should be keeping everything so that we don't have to continuously upgrade all that amount of storage? Like, you know, you go every five years or something like that and then you're able to to dump some of that, or do you have to maintain it in perpetuity? The Town Administrator responded, I'm not sure you have to main it in perpetuity. I mean, you might look at maybe a ten-year window or something. I don't think perpetuity. Selectman Roy asked, is there an RSA? Mr. Beike replied there's RSA specifications that pretty much govern that. Mr. Dumont replied, I was just curious how often you were going to have to do that. The Town Administrator replied like town clerk records that a lot of that's forever. But like accounts payable, for example, is six years. You can get rid of them after six years, right after six. So there's some number out there. Perpetuity is a long time. Yeah. I mean, you send an email back and forth. Okay. Selectman Dumont replied, right. Well, that's what I'm saying. There's going to be a lot that gets stored on there. Obviously, it's going to build up pretty quickly, so.

Selectman Morin was recognized and said so if there is a time limit and we get to that time limit, can that be removed in that save us money for that space to reuse it again? Mr. Beike replied I'm sure we could do that, but that's still going to be a few years out. Selectman Morin replied, right, no, understood. But but we were talking in the future that we may have to buy more space, but if we can use space that we already have. Mr. Beike replied yeah, we're going to have to learn a little bit and get a feel for how this is going to work in over time. And yeah, when we get 4 or 5 years out, we might say, Yeah, let's delete administrator's account because he's got way too much stuff in his email. (Laughter) The Town Administrator jokingly replied, fine with me!

Seeing no further questions from the Board, Chairman McGrath said I don't, we don't need to take any action. To which the Town Administrator replied, no it was just an update. Mr. Beike wrapped up saying Yeah. So like I said, in July, well, I'll re-quote it probably sometime this month for purchase in July and I'll be able to firm up the numbers. Chairman McGrath replied, Thank you, John.

C. Director of Public Works Interview Committee

Chairman McGrath recognized Town Administrator, Steve Malizia who said, so as you're all well aware, Mr. Forrence retired. We had posted the position back at the beginning of April. I posted a pretty widely. Lowell Sun, Manchester Union leader, the various municipal job sites. What I'm looking for is similar to what we did for the finance director and for the IT director, a subcommittee, because frankly, I thought we'd get more applications. I got four. I thought I'd get more, but I still think it's worthwhile to have a subcommittee two selectmen, myself and the Town Engineer at least vet the candidates and maybe see if we want one, two, 3 or 4 to come to the full Board. So I'm looking basically to get at least a selectmen or possibly two that have the time, that we could sit down and meet with these candidates because I think at this point I'd meet with all four just to kind of to see what, what we what we're looking at two internal, to external.

Selectman Roy said I find it interesting that that the Town Clerk got what, 25 applications for the position and we get four. The Town Administrator added, and we went more wide on this. I went down to Massachusetts Lowell Sun and all that. I can't explain it was out there. Yeah. You know, not a huge universe like the olden days, you know, we used to get like 60, 70 people for some of these jobs. Granted, they weren't all qualified, but nonetheless, you had a plethora of. Selectman Roy laughed and said but you could boil it down to four. The Town Administrator then said, yeah, so I have four. I don't want to make this overkill. We could do one or you could do two selectmen. It's certainly up to up to this board because four.

Selectman Guessferd asked, all qualified in your mind? The Town Administrator asked, yeah, I think all four have qualifications that I think I would probably speak to all four just to, just to get a full flavor. Yeah. I don't have any, you know, taxi drivers in this group. They're all somewhat affiliated. You know, they, they have some skills. So I think it's worthwhile to definitely do at least that first round and maybe get it down to, you know, top two. I don't know. It depends on what the committee wants to do, but that's sort of a trend we've seen. You know, I remember the finance director job we didn't have, when I applied for it back 20 something years ago there was 70 people. I think we had less than ten. It's just the universe we're in. Same with the IT Director. A couple of years ago, we had maybe, I don't know, 7 or 8 maybe. So I can't explain it, but it is what it is. So I'm looking to at least appoint 1 or 2 selectmen, depending on what you what the availability is.

Chairman McGrath asked, so anyone on the Board that would like to participate in that and have the time to do it? Selectman Dumont replied, I'd be happy to. Selectman Morin was recognized and said I can do it if either Selectman Guessferd or...Selectman Roy replied I won't. Selectman Guessferd replied I think I'll defer to you. Selectman Morin replied alright. The Town Administrator added given that you're going to probably be the liaison; it probably makes sense for you to, the two of you know. Selectman Morin said I could give somebody else a chance because I got the time versus you guys are working.

Seeing no further comments Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to appoint Selectman Dumont and Selectman Morin to the Public Works Director Interview Committee along with the Town Administrator and Town Engineer. Carried 5-0. The Town Administrator addressed Selectman Dumont and Selectman Morin saying I'll forward the resumes, the applicant resumes to you, and then we'll figure out some mutually acceptable times that we can start scheduling these folks. Okay, great.

D. Request to Advertise Senior Accounting Clerk Position

Chairman McGrath recognized the Town Administrator who said Next is from the Finance Director to post for the senior accounting clerk position that is available. I told her I would do this on her behalf. So basically I'm looking for permission to post that position. Seeing no questions or comments, Selectman Dumont made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin to authorize the Finance Director to post for the Senior Accounting Clerk position. Carried 5-0.

E. IAFF Local 3154 MDA Boot Drive

Chairman McGrath again recognized the Town Administrator. The Town Administrator explained, the IAFF Local 3154 is looking to do their MDA boot drive. This year they've proposed, I believe, four dates. Pardon me, three dates. Friday, June 9th, Friday, July 7th and Friday, August 11th at the intersections of Ferry, Derry, Chase and Library Street. This is the boot drive for Jerry's Kids. They've done this for several years now. They typically ask for your permission. They follow all the safety protocols. They've been doing this for quite a while, but they do ask for your permission to be able to do their boot drive on the 9th of June, 7th of July and 11th of August. Selectman Dumont made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd to approve the Professional Firefighters of Hudson, Local 3154 request to conduct an MDA Boot Drive on Friday, June 9, 2023, Friday, July 7, 2023 and Friday, August 11, 2023, at the intersections of Ferry Street, Derry Street, Chase Street and Library Street. Carried 5-0.

F. April 2023 Revenues and Expenditures

Town Administrator, Steve Malizia was recognized again and explained, we're through April. Basically, we're at about 79% of the way through the year. We have two months to go. It's a tight year. It's a default budget year. So I think we'll pull it out, obviously, as we always do. Again, we have a couple of pockets that we've been pretty good on. The Town Poor hasn't really been too bad. Neither has the Legal. We've kind of kept a good handle on that. So again, default budget, thank God we got a real budget for next year, but we'll come in and we'll make it. Auto registrations continue to do very well, 91.8% or almost \$200,000 ahead. And interest on our investments is picking up big time. So we've done very well on that. Doesn't help us spend more money, but it does help the bottom line. And so hopefully we'll have a, we will have a surplus that will grow a little bit. There were no questions or comments from the Board.

G. Board of Selectmen Liaison Assignments

Chairman McGrath asked does anyone have any issues with the assignments? Selectman Roy was recognized and said So I am going to have a significant life change and that will impede my ability to, to attend Budget Committee meetings. So I don't know if you want to adjust, umm adjust that or we work with it the way it is. Chairman McGrath replied well, I think we'll have to, I'll have to think about it and see if I can work out something else. Selectman Roy replied, okay. Chairman McGrath then said but, you know, I spent a lot of time on that and a lot of thought. And I tried to try to, you know, put you on boards that you requested and places that you didn't request but that I thought you could do. So. Selectman Roy replied to Chairman McGrath saying, and I understand that and I appreciate it. I do. I just you know, like I said. Yeah, well, you know, stuff happens. Chairman McGrath said things happen. So it may it may end up just being, you know, the alternate position will have to assume that responsibility. I don't know. I can't do it for obvious reasons. But we'll, I'll make a decision about that. I'll consult, consult with some. Okay. So everybody else is okay with their assignments. We need to make a motion to appoint Selectman Guessferd as the ex-officio member to the Planning Board. Selectman Morin made this motion, seconded by Selectman Dumont. Chairman McGrath added, for a one-year term. Selectman Roy interjected saying that's not the way it reads. Chairman McGrath replied, yes, it does. Selectman Roy asked, you have to reappoint every year? The Town Administrator said in your bylaws it's an appointment for a year. So given that the year has come up for Mr. Guessferd that... Selectman Guessferd interrupted saying gives you that option. Typically, it's for the term of the selectmen but yeah. The bylaws kind of...The Town Administrator went on to say, the bylaws clearly articulate it's one year. There's a carve out in the law that you can do it. So I just want to make sure we got you back on legally and no dispute. Selectman Roy replied okay that's fine.

Chairman McGrath reiterated Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Dumont to appoint Selectman Guessferd as the ex-officio member to the Planning Board. Carried 5-0.

Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Dumont to appoint Selectman Morin as the alternate ex-officio member to the Planning Board. Carried 5-0.

9. Board Liaison Reports - Chairman McGrath said so I'm not quite sure what to do about the liaison reports. Does anyone have anything to report on this week for yours?

Selectman Morin: I got something quick on conservation. It was basically a real quick meeting. They reviewed a report from the New Hampshire is on some work going on at Brox they review reviewed dredge and fill process and the biggest thing is we're really looking for lake hosts and they've been talking about this for several months. And what it is, is you go to either Ottarnic Pond or Robinson Pond and you sit at the boat ramp and you look at boats coming in out for invasive species and things of that nature. And it was kind of the way it's written by the state. It's volunteer, but it actually isn't. You get around \$17 an hour or something to do it. So, so, so a good senior citizen or somebody from high school. So those positions in Hudson have not been filled. So they are desperately trying to seek people that if somebody would do it. So if you can get ahold of Bill Collins, the Chairman of the Conservation Committee, and he'll get you set up. The Town Administrator added, we can contact him too and put it out on our media. Selectman Morin replied, yeah, he's actually gonna contact you guys. The Town Administrator replied is he? Good we'll make sure we get that out there.

Selectman Guessferd: I got a couple small ones. Planning Board is continuing to review and finalize chapters of the master plan. We'll be doing three more of those tomorrow night to hopefully finalize those after several meetings continue to make progress. That's good news.

Cable Committee -We moved the meeting till next month. We're going to have a meeting, our meeting in June and looking forward to that.

Rec Committee - there's just a couple things. The summer program is the early bird part of it. You know, you get a special rate is done, but they're still accepting applications and, you know, reservations or registrations. And of course, they're still looking for I believe they're still looking for folks to work the summer program as well. It's always a good job for some of the younger folks. Adult softball league began last night. That's always a big one this year. You know, every year the men's league and the women's league involves a lot of people. It's a good league tennis program is filled, but people can go on the website, the rec website and and register on the waiting list if they would like to join and hopefully we can get them in. And there's a dance coming up on the 19th and 20th. It's a two-night dance so you can pick one or the other. It's a father, mother, daughter sort of thing. It's a parent and and child dance, daughter dance. So either mom or dad can go and registration for that is through the 14th of May. So it'll be a fun night out. It's called Under the Stars Dance, so it should be fun. A little different sort of scenario this year. And then senior programming is there's going to be a mother's Day tea and next week at the senior center. So that's that's I think that's everything I have. Okay.

10. Remarks by Town Administrator

Chairman McGrath recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia who said, very briefly, the transfer station is open this week for all residents if you have your pass. So just let everybody know that's open.

There'll be a sewer line replacement tomorrow night (5/10) from Central to Chase. It'll be on the eastbound side starting at 7:00 at night, ending hopefully 7:00 a.m. on Thursday. So hopefully it won't impede any traffic, just a sewer line replacement. And happy Mother's Day to all the moms out there.

11. Remarks by School Board

Chairman McGrath recognize School Board member Gretchen Whiting who said, So I wanted to say thank you guys again for collaborating with the School Board. I don't come very often. Gary usually is the one that comes. So this is... I've been before, but it's been a while. So there were a couple of things. We do have a lot of the end of the year school activities occurring, Beauty and the Beast is and I don't have the dates offhand for them, but there is a play on Beauty and the Beast that will be being performed. We also have end of the year concerts through the middle school and the high school that will be done through the end of May. June is also another very busy month with the end of the year activities between the high school, the elementary and the middle school. The high the middle school just came back from their D.C. trip. So that was their yearly trip. It had been on hiatus for a few years, so it was nice to be able to have everything back, you know, normal. So we do have quite a bit of student recognitions happening with our DCI group that was at the School Board meeting last night. They will be having, I think it is June 3rd, a world cultural fair. They actually put the School Board through a test last night on geography, geographical flags. Ethan Beals did win that one. So but the school flags were representing all of the different cultures that are within the town and the high school. So it was really neat to see, Oh, that'll be interesting. But June 3rd, they are having a world fair over at the high school, so that will be exciting too. I believe that that's at 5:30.

The last thing I wanted to say was in the last few years, we've really worked hard together to create collaboration between the two boards and I think it's been very successful. Not everybody sees it, you know, at face value. When you take a look at the boards, you know, Gary comes and we have somebody that comes to school board meetings as well. But there is a lot of collaboration that happens behind the scenes. And I want to call it out because we did a playground build and the school district was able to save money by doing a playground build where we had volunteers from the community come and participate in that. And I want to say the Department of Public Works was crucial and provided a lot of help in that playground build. So there is a lot of collaboration that does happen behind the scenes, and that was just one great example of that. And I want to call it out and I want to give a huge thank you to the town and to the DPW for that HCTV did put together a time lapse of the project build, so I don't know when that will be available, but it was a very it was a huge effort on both sides and the community that did come out. We had a lot of volunteers and we didn't need the Saturday build really only took us two days. So and it will be open by Friday tonight. So thank you again.

Selectman Guessferd said Can I add on something that occurred also, our high school marching band represented our town once again at Disney very, very well. Yes, they did. Marching down Main Street during their trip down to Disney. Yes. A couple of weeks ago. That is correct. Yes. So it was a lot of shout outs for a lot of things. DECA went on their national convention. So, yes, but the marching band got to march down Main Street at Disney World. So that's huge. High school banner. And we unfortunately couldn't get the new uniforms for them for this, but we will have new uniforms for the next time they go into it. Selectman Guessferd added it's a once in a lifetime opportunity for those kids, to which Ms. Whiting agreed. Chairman McGrath then said I saw a snippet of that.

12. Other Business/Remarks by the Selectmen

Selectman Roy: A little over four years ago I had the honor and privilege to be elected to represent the citizens of Hudson as a member of this Board. I promise that I would support and insist on transparency of those elected or appointed. A few weeks ago, I was diagnosed with cancer. As devastating as that news has been I can reflect on the positives or indeed fortunate to live in such close proximity to the best cancer treatment centers in the country, probably in the world. I'm indeed fortunate to be surrounded by family and friends. Life from time to time poses challenges. I look on this as one of those life challenges I have to win. But life doesn't just stop when a roadblock gets in the way. I fully intend to carry out my professional and civic responsibilities to the best of my abilities as long as I am able. I can't begin to tell you the outpouring of support I felt over the past few weeks. I feel so fortunate to be a citizen of our great

community. So if you see physical changes over the next few months, that's why, given my talented medical team and support of my family and friends, I'm going to beat this. That's all I have.

Chairman McGrath replied to Selectman Roy saying I wish you the very best of luck. Thank you. And I know about life's challenges. I've had a few myself, so. And it just makes you stronger. You have to stay strong.

Selectman Morin: Selectman Roy, best of luck.

Just real quick, VFW held its Loyalty Awards and we had three employees recognized. Telecommunications Specialist Colleen Jefferson from the PD, Hudson Fire Lieutenant Kyle Levesque and Town Clerk/Tax Collector Pam Bisbing. Thank you.

Selectman Guessferd: (speaking to Selectman Roy) Absolutely everything's going to be good.

Um, I really don't have anything else to say at this point. Just happy Mother's Day for all the mothers out there. Thank you.

Selectman Dumont: I don't have anything to say at this point, but I do want to wish you (Selectman Roy) the best of luck. And obviously, if you need anything, we're all here.

Chairman McGrath: And I'll just say one more thing. So I talked to Gretchen (Whiting) today. Was it today or yesterday? Yesterday about the the bylaws for the School Board, and she was kind enough to send me the, the copies that she had and I'm going to look it over. I haven't done that yet. But you also gave me some good points that are in your bylaws that I think would be applicable to our board. So I'm going to look them over. I'll probably have I'm hoping to have something prepared for the next meeting that we can look at, pick apart, make changes to if we need to. But I think that there's, you know, especially about public input that needs to be looked at. And so that's the intention. And I thank you very much for talking to me and sending that information to me. I thought it was you had a great conversation and I was very appreciative of that. So that's all we have. So nonpublic. I guess that's it for the public session of this meeting.

13. Nonpublic Session

Motion by Selectman Morin at 7:49 p.m., seconded by Selectman Guessferd to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (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 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 7:49 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 8:26 p.m.

Motions made after nonpublic session

1.) Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd to hire Kenneth Ballou, Gabriel Burgess-Labonte, Logan Falk, Scott Levasseur, Steven Lubinger, Colin Murphy, Devon Rodriguez and

Earvin Wanjohi, for the position of Firefighter/EMT in the Fire Department at the contracted salary rate of \$17.78 per hour (step 1). This assignment will be a non-exempt position in accordance with the International Association of Firefighters Local #3154 as recommended by the Fire Chief. Carried 5-0.

2) Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd to accept the resignation of Fire Dispatcher, Cody Buskey, effective May 13, 2023. Carried 5-0.

3) Selectman Roy made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd to hire Christopher Sullivan for the position of Zoning Administrator at a starting salary of \$84,949 (step 1) per the Hudson Police, Fire and Town Supervisors Association contract. Carried 5-0.

4) Selectman Morin made a motion to adjourn at 8:29 p.m. This was seconded by Selectman Dumont. Carried 5-0.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 8:29 p.m. by Selectman Morin seconded by Selectman Dumont. Carried 5-0.

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

Marilyn McGrath, Chairman

Dave Morin, Vice Chairman

Kara Roy, Selectman

Bob Guessferd, Selectman

Dillon Dumont, Selectman