

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the November 28, 2023 Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER - by Chairman McGrath the meeting of November 28, 2023 at 7:17 p.m. in the Selectmen Meeting Room at Town Hall.

Chairman McGrath addressed the room stating, we had a public a meeting with our attorney client session prior to the meeting. So that's why we're late opening up tonight.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE led by Selectman Dumont

3. ATTENDANCE

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

Staff/Others: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator; Tad Dionne, Police Chief; Scott Tice, Fire Chief; Fran Enos, Deputy Fire Chief; Gary Gasdia, School Board Member; Jill Laffin, Executive Assistant

4. PUBLIC INPUT

Chairman McGrath addressed the room saying, does anyone in the audience wish to address the Board on any issue which the Board has control of at this time? If you do, please come up to the the chair and have a seat and give your name and address for the record.

- 1) Cody Wojick, Salem resident, President of the Southern NH RC Club

Hello, my name is Cody Wojick, I'm not a Hudson resident, but I'm here representing a Hudson based organization, the Southern New Hampshire RC Club, which we have talked about in the past. I'm here to speak with you regarding the solar farm, for which a warrant article had been voted to be created. We have a little bit of new information, and I just wanted to present it to you for whatever use you may have of it. In the past, it had been said that we had been operating at the West Road Landfill on what's known as a handshake deal. After some research, we found out that that's actually not correct. In the July 13th, 1999 Board of Selectmen meeting, there was a unanimous decision to allow us to use the facility in accordance with a memo from Kevin Burns, the Road Agent. And again, it carried unanimously. So the reason we didn't know about this previously is Daryl Wagner, who was the member who had negotiated this and done a lot of the work, passed away a couple of years ago, and those records were lost. But thanks to a little bit of looking through old minutes and some some help, we were able to find the minutes and find this memo and, and basically come to the, to the realization that we've been operating there on more than just a handshake deal. So just wanted to let everybody know.

Chairman McGrath replied to Mr. Wojick saying, And those minutes they'll be distributed to the other Board members. I've seen them. I've seen what was voted on by the Board of Selectmen at the time. Most of those people, or I would say most of them, have passed away. There's a couple that are still with us. Fortunately, one of them is in Florida right now, and I don't know when she'll be back and I don't know where the other person is, but I did read over the conditions that they placed on your your group. And it seems to me based on what I read, I don't have them in front of me right now, but based on what I read, you were in violation of most of them. Mr. Wojick replied, that's that's news to us. Chairman McGrath continued saying, I read them. I read what you, what you agreed to and what you agreed to. Most of the conditions were not met, so we'll....Mr. Wojick interjected saying, I'd be really interested in knowing what those were. Chairman McGrath, replied, well, you'll have you know, you'll have that opportunity if someone wants to revisit this item. They'll have to get a majority of the Board to vote on it, to rehear it. You'll have to get a majority, which is three out of five. And and we can revisit it then. But until that happens, we won't revisit it. But I'll make sure that everybody gets what I've seen. Mr. Wojick replied, Okay. That would be, that would be great. I again, my my my purpose in telling you this was just to make this information more

visible. Chairman McGrath replied, I understand. Mr. Wojick replied, thank you. To which Chairman McGrath replied, you're welcome.

2) John Hayes, Litchfield resident, Member of Southern NH RC Club

Good evening, John Hayes, also representing the Southern New Hampshire Radio Control Club. I do not live in Hudson. I live in Litchfield. So I just want to read you something that I had written that I think is just just better understanding. First of all, I'd like to thank you for hearing the Southern New Hampshire Radio Control Club's information over the last couple of meetings. I realize you'll be voting on the warrant article this evening, and maybe that's not true. Before the vote, I would encourage you to reconsider. Last meeting, you heard from several of the Club's supporters. Our national organization, the Academy of Model Aeronautics, of which the club is part of, is also partnered with the EAA. The Experimental Aircraft Association, of which I'm also a member. The EAA recognizes that the future of aviation often starts with the radio controlled model. The early inspiration lies in the foundation for our astronauts, airline pilots, military pilots, aerospace engineers, and general aviation pilots. For me personally, it's been 55 years adventure, gaining skills, accomplishment and learning.

At the last meeting, John Stevens, Technical Director for BAE Systems, talked about the tangibles and intangibles, and what we do is a perfect example of the intangibles. You may not see the value of what we do, but we inspire, challenge and reward those who are part of this segment of aviation. We're at a site that has produced two world champion aerobatic pilots. I said yes, world champion. Also, we've been a practice site for three time National Cross Country Soaring Champion. These are the intangibles, no question. Money is the tangible. The need for money will never go away. If you fill our site with solar panels, you'll just be looking for your next source of money. It's never ending. Once you give up open space, it's rare and that is so rare and valuable it will never be available again.

Many of you have had children that have gone through sporting programs supported by the town. Without those sporting options being available, they never would have had the opportunity to participate and perhaps excel. We are a group that offers the opportunity for children and adults to experience flight without ever leaving the ground. How far one can go is only limited by their desire and imagination. Over the 24 years of our using the top of the landfill, we've asked nothing from the town. What we do and how we maintain the site is solely supported by our members.

We mentioned the special allowance with the FAA before following, allowing us to fly at higher altitude than allowed anywhere around. This took a year to secure this, with a vote taken by aviation experts from all aspects of full scale aviation. We are a recognized FAA certified airspace. This was no small accomplishment, which was only allowed due to this unique location. At the last meeting, I said personally I would be willing to help the town find another suitable site for the solar panels. I have located a potential site in Litchfield. Its location is right behind Litchfield's Campbell High School. The property is owned by Hudson and is a water pumping station at nearly 33 acres. There is a portion of this flat area about the same size as the landfill site. I have maps here I can give you to consider. Please. You have it within your power to put a hold on the warrant article and explore other sites. Or start with rooftop panels and municipal buildings. Um, I appreciate your time, and I'd like to hand these over and pass them around. In the upper left there is the area that's bounded by green and that's that's the site in Litchfield.

Chairman McGrath asked Mr. Hayes, so why doesn't Litchfield have a site available for your group? Mr. Hayes replied, why don't they have a site? Chairman McGrath replied no, why do they not have a site available for your group? Mr. Hayes replied, because the landfill site was unique in that nobody could use it at the time. And because of because of our airplanes. Not everybody likes to have them flying around. We used to fly in Litchfield, but now that's a golf course. So every time we've jumped around, somebody has been anxious to develop the site. Chairman McGrath replied, okay. Thank you.

5. RECOGNITIONS, NOMINATIONS & APPOINTMENTS

1. Conservation Commission - (1 alternate vacancy expiring 12/31/26, 1 alternate member vacancy expiring 12/31/25)

Linda Krisciunas (incumbent alternate member)

Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to appoint Linda Krisciunas as an alternate member of the Conservation Commission with a term to expire 12/31/26. Carried 5-0.

2. Zoning Board of Adjustment - (2 member vacancies expiring 12/31/26, 2 alternate member vacancies expiring 12/31/26)

Normand Martin (incumbent member)

Selectman Dumont made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin to appoint Normand Martin as a member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment with a term to expire 12/31/26. Chairman McGrath recognized Selectman Guessferd who said, Okay, I'm going to kind of bring the question to Selectman Dumont. The last time this came up with this individual, there were some concerns about social media, things like that with him. And so with reservation, I think from my perspective, I, I voted for him to, to be appointed. In your experience sitting on the Zoning Board right now, how has your experience been with with him on the Zoning Board? I think in my experience he's attended pretty much, I think all meetings that I've been a part of since I've started as the liaison there. He's been an active member. He's shown interest in it. I'm not familiar with the issues that you guys had in the past. Obviously I wasn't a part of that, but since I've been on the ZBA, I haven't had an issue with anybody on there. I think they've all been attentive and they've they've been showing up and they've been participating. Selectman Guessferd replied, okay. Chairman McGrath reiterated, motion made and seconded to appoint Normand Martin as a member of the Zoning Board of Adjustment with a term to expire 12/31/26. All those in favor? Motion carried 4-1, Selectman Roy opposed.

Chairman McGrath then addressed the Board saying, and I'm voting for Normand because I think he's paid his penance for the. Inarticulate and certainly questionable comment that he made at a meeting at a Selectmen's meeting when he was on the Board of Selectmen, when he was on the Zoning Board of Adjustment. When I was on the Zoning Board of Adjustment, he was the chairperson, and I thought that he did a very good job as chair. He went to all of the training that was needed. He participated in all of the meetings. He was the chairman of the meetings, and he led the meetings and he did a good job. So I think he's paid his penance for the, you know, the comment that he made that he should not have made. But but I think that that time has long since passed. So I'm, I'm in favor of Normand's appointment as well.

6. CONSENT ITEMS

Chairman McGrath asked if anyone had any item they'd like removed for separate consideration? Seeing none, Selectman Dumont made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd to approve Consent Items A, B, C, D, E & F. Carried 5-0.

A. Water/Sewer Items - none

B. Licenses & Permits & Policies

- 1) Raffle Permit - Hudson Fish & Game Club
- 2) Pole License - Eversource - One (1) Pole on Executive Drive
- 3) Hawker/Peddler License - B & B Catering

C. Donations - none

D. Acceptance of Minutes

1) Minutes of November 14, 2023

E. Calendar

11/29	6:30	Budget Committee	BOS Meeting Room
11/29	7:00	Planning Board	Buxton Meeting Room
12/06	8:30	Highway Safety Committee	BOS Meeting Room
12/06	6:30	Budget Committee	Buxton Meeting Room
12/07	6:30	Budget Committee	Buxton Meeting Room
12/11	7:00	Conservation Commission	Buxton Meeting Room
12/12	7:00	Board of Selectmen	BOS Meeting Room
12/13	6:30	Budget Committee	BOS Meeting Room
12/13	7:00	Planning Board	Buxton Meeting Room

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Votes taken after Nonpublic Session on November 14, 2023

1. Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to hire Owen Sullivan for the position of mechanic in the Department of Public Works, with a salary of \$25.56 per hour, Grade XII, Step 1, in accordance with the Hudson Public Works Department employee agreement, with a date of hire November 19, 2023. Carried 5-0.
2. Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin to hire Gordon Graber as a police officer with a salary of \$33.33, Step 4, all in accordance with the Hudson Police Employee Association Contract. Carried 5-0.
3. Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Dumont to hold a public hearing on November 28, 2023 to remove alternate Planning Board member, Autumn Scott. Carried 5-0.
4. Selectman Guessferd made a motion to adjourn at 9:42 p.m. this was seconded by Selectman Morin. Carried 5-0.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Public Hearing - Acceptance of One-Time House Bill 2 Highway Payment

Chairman McGrath recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia who explained, If you recall, some months back, we received a one-time payment from a Senate bill for the Public Works for the Highway Block grant. This is a one-time award. Again, this is from a House bill. It's \$155,234.38. It's a one-time payment that we will use for towards our paving program. But to do it properly, we are holding a public hearing to actually accept it. It's not something that we can really reject, but we think it's appropriate to make it a public hearing as we did the last time. So what you'll need to do is open a public hearing if there's any comments, if not, close the hearing and after that then you can accept the money.

Chairman McGrath opened the public hearing at 7:35pm asking, Is there anyone present who would like to speak on this matter? No one present, and I can tell you that it's just staff that's in the back of the room, not anyone else. I'll close the public hearing at 7:35 p.m. Selectman Roy made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin to accept a one-time payment of \$155,234.38 from the State of New Hampshire Department of Transportation was that was allocated to the Town of Hudson based on the passage of House Bill two. Carried 5-0.

B. Resignation - Alternate Planning Board Member

The Town Administrator was recognized and said, you have correspondence we received from Alternate Planning Board member Autumn Scott resigning her alternate position on the Hudson Planning Board. I would recommend that you accept the resignation of Ms. Scott. Selectman Morin made this motion, seconded by Selectman Roy. Selectman Dumont was recognized and said, I think it's just important to note, for the record, that the process was started by the Board of Selectmen to remove this member from the (Planning) Board. I'm happy to see that the resignation came in to finalize that process. So I think that's the right way to go. But I do think that it's important to let everybody know that there's a certain amount of respect and responsibility that comes with these boards, and that I think everybody should appreciate. So thank you. Chairman McGrath replied, and just to add to your your comment, if they take an oath of office, they have to adhere to that oath.

Selectman Guessferd was recognized and said, as the Select Board liaison to the Planning Board, I just wanted to also kind of recognize that that it's every effort was made to to work with her and to to find out what her plans were. And for, so the bottom line was we finally were able to communicate with her and this was the result. So I think this is, again, as Selectman Dumont said, probably the best way to handle it in the end. And she gets to move on to whatever else in her life is, is going on. Chairman McGrath replied, yeah. And and I believe that she got a phone call advising her that she should submit a resignation. Selectman Guessferd replied we don't know that. To which Chairman McGrath replied, no, we don't know that. But I'm presuming that. And I'm not often wrong. But it doesn't matter. I'm willing to vote in favor of it. So. Motion has been made to accept the resignation of Alternate Planning Board Member Autumn Scott immediately, by the way. Carried 5-0.

C. Warrant Article X - Funding for Benson Park Renovation Capital Reserve Fund

Chairman McGrath said, Warrant article ten funding for Benson Park Renovation Capital Reserve Fund. Town administrator replied, it's actually article X because we are that deep into the alphabet at this point with our warrant articles. I don't want to mislead anybody. We are well past ten. We are on X. So whatever letter of the alphabet that is, we're there. Selectman Guessferd said, we'll have to start with the double letters soon. The Town Administrator replied, don't jinx it. Selectman Roy then said, I wouldn't be surprised. The Town Administrator replied, I think we're getting there. So at their meeting on November 16th, the Benson Park Committee voted to approve a request for a warrant article to add \$10,000 to their existing Benson Park Renovation Capital Reserve Fund. The voters had approved a similar article at last town meeting, and the reserve fund has a balance of approximately \$76,940. So it's always up to you whether you forward these to them or not. Again, it's up to you. It's your call. We have a handful, probably 5 or 6 other articles to fund capital reserve funds. We are required to put them separately. So I bring this to you because the Benson Park Committee requested it. I don't know if the liaison has anything to say.

Selectman Dumont replied, so unfortunately, I was not present at that meeting because I had a ZBA meeting at that same night. So I was there, and that was just this past week and hadn't had time to to contact them about it. So I don't have any information about this. Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to move Warrant Article X, funding for Benson Park Renovation Capital Reserve Fund to the warrant. Carried 5-0.

D. Petition Warrant Article - Study the Needs for New Town Hall

Chairman McGrath recognized the Town Administrator who said, So we've received a petition warrant article. It's as is written here. I can read it if you want. It says: The Town of Hudson will conduct a study to determine the space needs for a new town hall. The study will include a look at renovating the existing town hall versus building a new one elsewhere in town, whether it be on land already owned by Hudson or land it would need to acquire. This study will include the cost of renovation versus buying land and building a new facility. A similar study was called for and not started in the 2020 Capital Improvements Plan." The Town Administrator went on to say, this is a valid petition with the valid voter signatures required, so it will be forwarded to the warrant. The question is whether you recommend or don't recommend this article.

Chairman McGrath recognized Selectman Roy who said, so I'm not going to recommend this article simply because we have already voted to do a study study for the town hall, and I think it's redundant. So I will have a hard time supporting this warrant article.

Selectman Dumont was recognized and said, so that's pretty much my two questions that I had. Are they aware that we were already in the process of this, or did anybody try to reach out to them to ask them if they would be okay with, with rescinding it, knowing that we're working on that? The Town Administrator replied, they can't rescind. I checked with the Attorney. They cannot pull it back. Selectman Dumont asked, even with a majority of signatures? To which the Town Administrator replied, they cannot rescind it. I checked with the Attorney. Selectman Dumont replied, fair enough. The Town Administrator then said, So whether it's moot, whether they did or didn't, I mean, everything you've done is in public. Selectman Dumont replied, I just didn't know if it would change. Just so they were aware that it was, you know, it was getting worked on. The Town Administrator replied, so this came in unsolicited, so. Selectman Roy interjected while the Town Administrator was speaking saying, so attorney, so Attorney Lefevre indicated tonight earlier before you guys got here, that one of the things that can happen is that deliberative session that either Mr. Sakati can say that he was mistaken and he shouldn't have put this forward, or they could whittle down the language so that it's it's kind of not feasible. Chairman McGrath interjected saying, they can, they can, they can amend their own warrant article. To which the Town Administrator added, anybody at the deliberative session who's a registered voter could do it. It doesn't have to be the petitioner. It could be one of you. Selectman Dumont replied, yeah. I was just curious making sure they knew about it.

Selectman Dumont continued saying, then my second question is if this does pass and we are already working on one, are we then obligated to do another one or was the one already working on....Selectman Roy, speaking over Selectman Dumont said, I already asked that question too. And there's no appropriation listed in the warrant. Selectman Dumont replied, right, there's nothing there. Selectman Roy continued saying, so so you know, with no appropriation, we wouldn't have to do it anyways. Selectman Dumont replied I mean, I would assume the one that we're working on would kind of take its place, but I was just wanting to make sure it wasn't going to push us into a corner of doing two.

The Town Administrator then said, to refresh everybody's memory, when we talked about doing it, we talked about it during the budget session. What we said was when we get towards the end of the year, we'll see where we have money left and then we would consider doing it at that point. We're not doing anything right now. Selectman Dumont replied, right. The Town Administrator continued saying I want to make that clear to everybody. But that's the intention. Should we get we get to the end of the year, you look at May and you say, yeah, it looks like we have X left. Let's appropriate or let's, let's transfer money. Chairman McGrath then said, well looking at some of the signatures on the, on the submitted one, not ours. There seems to be a lot of redundancy in that particular submittal. And the next one. The Town Administrator replied, I would probably use the word similarity as opposed to redundancy. Because they're both very similar. I mean as far as signatures go. Again it's a citizen's petition that we've received. We are required to forward it to the warrant. The question is is it recommended or not recommended.

Selectman Roy made a motion to not recommend the petition warrant article to conduct a study to determine the space needs for a new town hall. Selectman Guessferd seconded the motion. Chairman

McGrath asked, for the submitted one? Selectman Roy replied for the study hall. For the study for the new town hall. The Town Administrator said, the petitioned article. Chairman McGrath said okay. Selectman Roy then said, ours isn't a warrant article. We just voted on it. To use...Chairman McGrath interjected saying, I'm just making it clear, that's all. Okay. So can you read the motion back, Jill. Ms. Laffin replied, motion to not recommend the petition warrant article to conduct a study to determine the space needs for a new town hall. Chairman McGrath replied, Kara, Selectman Roy and Selectman Guessferd made the motion and seconded. *Motion carried 5-0*. The Town Administrator then said, so the article will go forward to the warrant not recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Chairman McGrath replied, correct. The Town Administrator replied, just making sure everybody understands.

E. Petition Warrant Article - Required Public Input

Chairman McGrath recognized the Town Administrator who said, We received a second one. It's requiring public input on on any public board, committee or general public meeting. I'll read it. "Should the town require any public board, committee or general public meeting to include time for public input regarding anything that board or committee has control over at the start of each meeting. This will offer consistent and reliable opportunities for citizens to express their thoughts, insights, concerns, thanks and ideas which will foster understanding and transparency." The Town Administrator then said, this article has the requisite number of registered voter signatures, so it is a valid petition. It would get forwarded to the warrant. Again, the question is do you recommend or not recommend this article?

Selectman Dumont was recognized and said, two things that I would like to point out is that typically with any board, there's a public hearing, that public hearing, you have the ability to speak on those, on those topics. The major problem that I have with this is the land use boards, is that a public input prior to the meeting could create a problem. I don't want to damper anybody's chances to talk or speak about something, but I think that there's just a process for it. And to have a public input about a case before it's talked about at the board or time that it's on the agenda, I think could create a problem. So for that reason, I would be against this.

Chairman McGrath then said, well, not only that, but it's it's going before the board for a hearing. Right? And all of the items can be prejudged by the public input. And that's....Yes, Selectman Roy. Selectman Roy replied well you can finish. To which Chairman McGrath replied, no. go ahead. Selectman Roy replied, Okay. So a couple of things there's a difference between public input and a public hearing. Okay. And then this warrant article doesn't say when public input has to happen during the meeting. So so you could do it, you know, say the Planning Board could do it after a case is heard or after all the cases are heard, you could do public input then. And that that would negate any.

The Town Administrator was recognized and said, I think it says at the start of each meeting. Selectman Roy replied, does it say the start of each meeting? The Town Administrator replied, it does. Selectman Roy replied oh, okay. So so we could, we could ask for an amendment to that and you know. Selectman Dumont replied, well, I think that again, that would be at the deliberative session like we talked about. But at least the way that's written today, that's that's why I wouldn't be in favor of it. I just think it creates a problem.

Selectman Guessferd was recognized and said, I really I have the same objection as Selectman Dumont for that very reason that we've talked about this in our Planning Board meeting and and it's it, to have public input prior to a to a particular case or, or a particular issue. There are public hearings and public input on pretty much everything we do on that Board. And but if they changed it, I'd probably be much more amenable to to having that during the meeting, but not prior to hearing those cases. So and across the board. Right. I mean, this is a very broad. I think the other part of it for me is to me, it makes it would make more sense to kind of parcel this out. In other words, you know, land use boards. Maybe it's a different scenario. We certainly want to be transparent. And I don't think there's anybody in this room that does not want that, want the public to have exposure to all the things that they need to have exposure to. But it's just

the way it's written and the broadness of it as well just kind of bothers me. But we'll see as it is as it's worded now. Selectman Roy replied, okay.

Selectman Morin was recognized and said, sitting in the Planning Board, especially on one of the biggest projects that's ever happened in this town, we had public input. It just wasn't at the beginning, and people were allowed to speak, and we know how long that took, and they had their say, so every other committee allows public input. And they had on public input in the Planning Board. And when we have a project, the abutters get a letter, they have their time to speak and they're the ones that are affected by it the most. We already do this. We do. Selectman Roy replied, but we're not required to. Selectman Morin replied, well we're not, but. Selectman Morin then said, but and I do have a question where the Planning Board is now elected, and we really don't have any say on them, can we force them to do this? Because they're... Selectman Roy interjected saying, well if it's a warrant article and if it passes then. Yeah. All the boards and committees will. Selectman Morin replied, well I understand the public do, but shouldn't they be voting on this? Not us. Well it's all the other meetings too, I get it. Okay. I'll take that back.

Chairman McGrath then said, well I need to clarify. I need to clarify that because the Zoning Board doesn't have public input. As far as I know, they never did. Selectman Dumont replied, every every case that I've been a part of so far, they always ask the public if...the Town Administrator interjected saying they have a public hearing, but it's not public input. Chairman McGrath interjected saying, it's not public input. It's a public hearing. It's a public hearing, to which Selectman Dumont replied, correct. Chairman McGrath continued saying and so that's A little that's a little different Selectman Dumont replied, yeah, so it's not an open form of public input, but it is a public hearing where anybody who's aggrieved would have an opportunity to speak for or against or neutral. Chairman McGrath replied, right, but that's got to be clear. I mean, it's like. The Town Administrator said, we have public input tonight at the beginning of the meeting, but then we had a public hearing, which is specific to that topic, and it can't be all these other topics. And I think that's the Planning Board difference is you have a public hearing on those cases. Selectman Dumont replied, exactly. The Town Administrator went on to say, but if you have public input ahead of it, I think there's a concern that people would prejudice or say things or something. I know thinking that's what you're saying. Selectman Dumont replied, it could be a wormhole at that point. At that point, you know.

The Town Administrator then said, the other question probably one would ask is, I understand what a public board and the committee is, what's a general public meeting that isn't a board or a committee? Selectman Roy replied, I think that...I would imagine that she's talking deliberative session or something like that. The Town Administrator replied, the whole point of deliberate session is... Selectman Roy interjected saying, I know, public input. The Town Administrator replied, that's the whole point. That's the whole reason it exists. It's unusual.

Selectman Dumont then said, I think it's important, but those boards have a certain process that that you have to follow. And I just would hate to cause an issue that there could be prejudgment. So that again, that's my, my reason.

Chairman McGrath then asked, so do we need to vote on that? To which the Town Administrator replied, Yeah. You need to vote because it's going to get forwarded one way or the other. So you either need to recommend it or not recommend it. Selectman Dumont made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd to not recommend the petition warrant article to require any public board, committee or general public meeting to include time for public input. Selectman Dumont then added, and again, it's not to damper, it is to protect those boards and the process that's already there. Seeing no further discussion on the matter, Motion carried 4-1, with Selectman Roy voting in opposition. Chairman McGrath addressing Selectman Roy asked, would you mind giving a reason for a nay? Selectman Roy replied, because I think that it's important for public input. And do I think that that maybe there should be some changes to the language, yeah. But I think that us cutting off citizens from telling us what they think is just bad business. Chairman McGrath replied, Okay. Thank you.

9. Board Liaison Reports/Other Remarks by Selectmen

Selectman Roy: I don't really have much. I just hope everybody had a happy and safe Thanksgiving. I know I had a wonderful time, but I hope everybody else did. And that's really all I have.

Selectman Dumont: I just want to point out that next ZBA meeting is the 14th of December. Next Benson Park meeting is the 21st. Again, always looking for volunteers that want to get involved.

And I just want to say a special thanks, because I was able to be a part of it as a citizen, but thanks to Fire Department, DPW, Santa Claus and the Lions Club for the tree lighting and the pictures that got taken Friday for all the kids, really appreciate that.

Selectman Guessferd: Okay, so next Planning Board meeting is tomorrow night. We're going to we're continuing to kind of pull together some inputs and things for for some amendments or for some warrants for zoning, for some zoning things. We've been working with the Zoning Board and trying to get those things ready for the warrant and for votes. And that's kind of one of our major, major activity right now. Selectman Roy asked so did you folks reform, there was a committee that was part planning. Selectman Dumont replied ZORK. Selectman Roy replied, Yeah, yeah. Did you reform that? Selectman Dumont replied, yes we went through the process. Selectman Guessferd replied, Yeah. Yeah. We had we had a small subcommittee consisting of members of both boards, right? Selectman Dumont replied, yeah, we had members of both boards, staff members as well. We had some suggestions we forwarded to Planning and they're handling that. Selectman Guessferd added, and you'll see I think you're going to see some, some improvements, some good things that are going to be coming forward.

So beyond that let's see. Sustainability met last week we're working a Christmas tree light recycling program. You'll be seeing more about that.

And the only other thing is Rec Department - a couple of good things coming up. We've got our fourth annual, which started during the pandemic, Sleigh Ride through Hudson. So Santa is going to be making his way through town starting on the 10th. Starting on. Yeah, 12/10, starting at noon. So I think it's a Saturday. Saturday or Sunday, I think it's a Sunday. It's a Sunday, yeah. Kicking off down at Ayotte's Market and making their way through the town, I think there will be a published schedule of kind of when they're planning to be in various neighborhoods around town. So you're not waiting around for, for, for hours, but I think it'll be worth the wait. I hear Santa is very jolly and ready to to meet everybody. Chairman McGrath then said, so he'll be going by my house? Let's let's hope he stops with plenty of gifts. Selectman Morin replied, I think he gives enough.

Selectman Guessferd then said, and then the the other thing that's happening along with the holidays here is the there is a collaborative event with 13 other rec departments and towns with the goal of creating a holiday night lights list, and that's ongoing right now. So basically, if you know somebody or if you your house is just fantastic, you think with your lights you can register so that the community members can drive around and view them. So it'll be all over 13 communities. And if you want to register, you have to register by Sunday on the website or on the Rec website. Or you can email Chrissy Peterson and the list will be released next week on the fifth. So that should be a lot of fun. If you really enjoy going around and looking at Christmas lights, that's I think everybody's really excited about that. That's all I got.

Chairman McGrath then said, you know, when I was little, they used to have lights on Presentation of Mary and they were beautiful. I think they were at the time, they were the only, you know, official lights in town. Selectman Guessferd asked, you mean like on the lawns and stuff out there? Chairman McGrath replied, well, I didn't, you know, like we didn't go around. I lived in the very south end of town, but my grandmother came up and my father took us for a ride to see the lights. So that was but it was a beautiful they did a beautiful demonstration on that building, and they had to discontinue it because of the mortar and the bricks. You know, they were damaged being damaged. So but that's a blast from the past. So yeah.

Selectman Morin: Wrap up tomorrow night for budget.

Chairman McGrath: I'm the next one up, and I don't really have anything of any real importance to convey. I will give you a bit of personal information that I'm not usually wanting to do, but I saw the surgeon a couple of weeks ago, and I think I'm all done with surgery. So the next step. Yeah. Thank you. The next step I think, will be outpatient physical therapy. And I'm hoping that my walking will get to the point where I can actually walk into a meeting and not have to be wheeled in. So that's my latest. Selectman Dumont replied, give us a heads up so we can go roll out the red carpet. Chairman McGrath replied, yeah, that's going to be a while. But as of now I mean that's to me that's good news. You know I'm still dealing with the I had two hip I mean they operated on me twice for the hip fracture. So and that wasn't fun and it was very painful. But I'm beyond that now. So. So hopefully, hopefully I won't be missing any more meetings. And I'm sorry that I missed some of them.

Selectman Roy then said to Chairman McGrath, so if I could just speak from experience a little bit, take your time with stairs. Stairs were the most difficult thing for me to get back when I, when I, when I had mobility issues. Yeah. Chairman McGrath replied, they're they're not starting with...Selectman Roy replied, I wouldn't imagine they'd start with stairs. Chairman McGrath replied, well I've been wanting to because before I had the, you know, before or fell. And because I have stairs coming into my house, I have stairs going up stairs, I have stairs going downstairs. And but then I fell and that changed everything. So I've had to slow things down. And so anyway, I think I'm back. Good or bad, for those that appreciate that or not. Selectman Roy then said, well, I'm glad your health is getting better. Chairman McGrath replied, thank you. Me too.

10. Remarks by Town Administrator

Town Administrator Steve Malizia was recognized and said, Just real quick for those who put their leaves out curbside leaf pickup is this Saturday, December 2nd. Have your leaves out in bags or or barrels by 7:07 a.m. one time only. This is the only time of year we do it, so get them out there.

The final tax bills went to the mailing company. They should be hitting mailboxes by early next week. They will be due January 5th. Just so everybody can plan accordingly. I believe there's been a posting on HCTV on the web page, but just to put it out there as a public service announcement, look for those tax bills are coming.

11. Remarks by School Board

Chairman McGrath recognized School Board member Gary Gasdia who said, So Selectman Morin stole my thunder. My opening thing. We start with the budget December 6th. So if anyone has public input or thoughts on the budget, it's all out on SAU81.org. You can see it. You can read every line and talk to the Budget Committee. I'm sure they'd appreciate it.

Other things going on. At our last meeting, the FFA organization came and presented, which is now becoming a pattern as their world domination tour continues. They went to the nationals and did all sorts, got all sorts of gold, silver and bronze medal and they ended up coming in second. I believe, in the country, which is fantastic, really unbelievable. So that's great and we're getting into concert season. So we have pretty much all the elementary schools, the middle school, the high school, all have their concerts.

And for anyone that is on Facebook, you may have seen this. We're asking for a vote. Our marching band, their show this year was Metallica based, which I know is Selectman McGrath's favorite band. She loves Metallica, I can tell. Chairman McGrath laughing asking who are they? Mr. Gasdia continued saying, so there are 102 entries around the country, one of which is the Alvirne High School Band. If you go on

Facebook on the Alvirne page, you can vote. If they get the most votes. The Music Department can get anywhere from \$10 to \$25,000. So and at a minimum, you get to watch a marching band version of Metallica songs again, which I know you love Master of Puppets. Chairman McGrath replied, I get back at people you know. To which Mr. Gasdia replied, I'm trying to get them in while you still can't walk.

Mr. Gasdia, then said, and then other than that, it's just the normal things going on. But seriously, if everyone can vote, that would be great, great recognition just to see if they can get some support in the town. So that's all we have.

12. Nonpublic Session

Motion by Selectman Roy at 8:04 p.m., seconded by Selectman Dumont to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:2, III (a) Strategy or negotiations with respect to collective bargaining. & 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. A roll call vote was taken. Carried 5-0.

Nonpublic Session was entered at 8:04 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 8:58 p.m.

Motions made after nonpublic session:

1. Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to hire Caiden Cox as a part time maintenance assistant in the Hudson Police Department, with a total of fifteen hours per week with a starting salary of \$15.00 per hour. Carried 5-0.
2. Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Dumont to promote Lieutenant/AEMT Martin Conlon to the position of Fire Captain/AEMT, a non-exempt position, in accordance with the Hudson Police, Fire and Town Hall Supervisors Association Contract, Step 1, with an annual salary of \$89,732 as recommended by the Fire Chief. Carried 5-0.
3. Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Dumont to promote Firefighter/AEMT Dennis Haerinck to the position of Lieutenant/AEMT, a non-exempt position, in accordance with the International Association of Firefighters Local #3154, Step 1, with an hourly rate of \$30.43 as recommended by the Fire Chief. Carried 5-0.
4. Selectman Roy made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd to hire Paul Bolduc for the position of Dispatcher in the Fire Department at the contracted salary of \$19.36 per hour, step 1, pending verification of full time Dispatch experience to place appropriately on the wage scale. 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.
5. Selectman Dumont made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to forward the Hudson Professional Firefighters IAFF Local 3154 Union Contract to the Fiscal Year 2025 Warrant. Carried 5-0.

6. Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Dumont to forward the Hudson Public Works Union Contract to the Fiscal Year 2025 Warrant. Carried 5-0.
7. Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Roy to authorize the Town Administrator and the Police Chief to hire student maintenance assistants moving forward. Carried 5-0.
8. Selectman Guessferd made a motion to adjourn at 9:02 p.m. this was seconded by Selectman Roy. Carried 5-0.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 9:02 p.m. by Selectman Guessferd seconded by Selectman Roy. 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