



HUDSON, NEW HAMPSHIRE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the October 14, 2025 Meeting

7:00 PM

Board of Selectmen Meeting Room, Town Hall

***Non-Public Session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, (a) & (b) beginning at 6:00 p.m.**

Regular meeting will begin immediately after Non-Public Session

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – by Chairman Dumont the meeting of October 14, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in the Selectmen Meeting Room at Town Hall.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Selectman Guessferd.

3. **ATTENDANCE**

Board of Selectmen: Dillon Dumont, Bob Guessferd, Dave Morin, Xen Vurgaropoulos and Heidi Jakoby.

Staff/Others: Town Administrator - Roy Sorenson; Police Chief - David Cayot; Fire Chief - Scott Tice; Director of Development Services - Elvis Dhima; Chief Assessor – Jim Michaud; Recreation Director – Chrissy Peterson; Supervisors of the Checklist – Garland Mann-Lamb, Kimberly Allan and Kathleen Haloon; School Board Liaison – Mike Campbell; Executive Assistant - Lorrie Weissgarber.

4. **PUBLIC INPUT** – None

5. **RECOGNITIONS, NOMINATIONS & APPOINTMENTS:**

A. Recognitions – None

B. Nominations – None

C. Appointments – None

Chairman Dumont: We don't have any recognitions, nominations, or appointments, so I'll move on to consent items. Does any member of the Board wish to remove any item for separate consideration? Selectman Morin?

Selectman Morin: Remove item D.

Chairman Dumont: We're going to remove item D. Do we have a motion for the other consent items?

Selectman Jakoby made a motion, seconded by Selectman Vurgaropoulos, to approve consent items A, B, C, E and F. Motion carried, 5-0.

6. **CONSENT ITEMS**

A. Assessing Items – None

B. Water/Sewer Items – None

C. Licenses & Permits & Policies

- 1) Raffle Permit – Knights of Columbus
- 2) Outdoor Gathering Permit – Nema Diwali Festival

D. Donations

- 1) Pickup Truck for Fire Department – Resident Raymond Richard

Chairman Dumont: Selectman Morin, could you just speak to item D?

Selectman Morin: Just as a donation, if the Chief wants to come up and talk about that at all.

Chief Tice: Thank you, yes, this is donated from a Hudson resident. He had a vehicle that he was going to send to the junkyard, so he thought it would be better use to donate to the fire department for training than to send to

the junkyard. So, we're going to take that, and we'll put it to good use training, and cut it into a lot of little pieces, and then send it to the junkyard where it was going to head anyways.

Chairman Dumont: And, you know, Mr. Sorensen brought up a great point, depending on how you do during your budget review, you might want to hold on to that truck, you might find you need it.

Chief Tice: It might have less rust than the one we're trying to get rid of, so.

Selectman Morin made a motion, seconded by Selectman Jakoby, to authorize the Fire Chief accept the donation of a 2013 Chevy Silverado 1500 WT from Hudson resident Raymond Richard, for training purposes, pursuant to RSA 31:95-e, with the Board's thanks and appreciation. Motion carried, 5-0.

E. Acceptance of Minutes

- 1) September 30, 2025

F. Calendar

10/16	6:00	ZBA Training/Workshop	Buxton Meeting Room
10/16	7:00	Board of Selectmen – Budget	BOS Meeting Room
10/16	7:00	Benson Park Adv. Committee	Hudson Cable Access Center
10/20	7:00	Town Hall Advisory Committee	BOS Meeting Room
10/20	7:00	Conservation Commission	Buxton Meeting Room
10/21	7:00	Municipal Utility Committee	Buxton Meeting Room
10/21	7:00	Board of Selectmen – Budget	BOS Meeting Room
10/22	7:00	Planning Board	Buxton Meeting room
10/23	7:00	Board of Selectmen – Budget	BOS Meeting Room
10/27	7:00	Sustainability Adv. Committee	Buxton Meeting Room
10/28	7:00	Board of Selectmen	BOS Meeting Room

7. OLD BUSINESS – None

8. NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Dumont: We will move on to new business. I'm going to change the order of business, and we're going to go directly to items E and F, and I will recognize Mr. Jim Michaud, if you could please come on up.

D. Veterans Tax Credit Expansion – Assessing/Decision

Jim Michaud: Good evening, board members and the public. I believe the first one is dealing with a potential warrant article to expand the totally and permanently disabled veterans tax credit. I should say it's service-connected, totally and permanently disabled veterans tax credit. The legislature passed the law, and the governor signed it. That stops us from combining the optional vet credit and the totally and permanently disabled vet credit. That legislation also expanded the maximum local enabling legislation on the disabled tax credit from \$4,000 to \$5,000. So that's what they did. So, we've been combining them, as all the other communities have been. So, if I'm a totally and permanently disabled veteran, and I'm receiving my tax credit, I'm getting a \$3,000 tax credit currently through 2025, including this year, and I'm getting my \$600 optional veterans tax credit, I'm qualified for both. So, I get \$3,600 as a tax credit off my bill. In 2026, the \$600 goes away. So, all they would have is the \$3,000 tax credit. So, if we do nothing, the board does nothing, and the voters don't do anything, then they'll have a \$600 tax increase, regardless of what you do with the budget. So, what I'm recommending, what other communities are also recommending, is that you at least keep them whole by increasing the totally and permanently disabled tax credit, moving it from \$3,000 to \$3,600. So, we're getting \$3,600 tax credit this year, they would get a \$3,600 tax credit next year, assuming you put it on the ballot and the voters are approving it. So that's a revenue neutral, right? It doesn't increase or decrease the amount of tax credits in the community. You might want to give a consideration to going more than \$3,600, to say \$4,000. Why is that? Well, the prior max was \$4,000. Our \$3,000 was the prior, prior max, and we just, we never moved it up to \$4,000. And that's something the voters could have done, it's something Board of Selectmen could have done, it's something I could have recommended, and I didn't, I did not. So, that's what I'm asking the board to consider, is putting a warrant

article on at an amount as you would determine. I have some math in my memo, there's only 71 of these, 71 properties that have the totally service-connected, permanently totally disconnected tax credit. And I laid out the math on how that impacts the rate. You know, it's a small number, 71. Our optional veterans tax credit count is around 1,000 plus. So, that's a, that's a, that's a different financial calculation. So, I'm sure the legislature had its, had its reasons. One of them is, in terms of disconnecting the two credits. If you're an all veteran, and you're totally permanently service-connected, you can't get both. So, I think what the legislature saw was, well, this, we have these two different groups of veterans. One can get them both, and the other one can't. So, they could have said, let's include the all vet with the optional. And, sorry, with the totally and permanently tax credit. But instead, they went the other way. They said, we're going to decouple them. So, that's it, if I haven't confused you yet.

Chairman Dumont: I just have one quick question. So, you said there's 71 individuals that are on the T and D right now. And, there's 1,000 that currently are receiving the \$600 tax credit, the optional?

Jim Michaud: There's 1,000, right, optional vet credit now.

Chairman Dumont: So, if we change to, let's say, just to make it whole to the 3,600, do you anticipate, you know, you'd have, I guess, the full, it'd be 1,071 that would now be receiving 3,600 versus, you know, just 71 getting the 3,000 and.

Jim Michaud: No, no, the 1,000 now are getting the 600.

Chairman Dumont: Yep.

Jim Michaud: I don't have a memo suggesting to change that 600.

Chairman Dumont: Okay.

Jim Michaud: This memo would change just one credit, the T and D, from 3,000 to a number certain. I'll just use 3,600. Okay. 71 properties.

Chairman Dumont: So, the optional does not go away.

Jim Michaud: The optional does not go away. It goes away for the totally and permanently disabled. They used to get two, now they're going to get one. But if you make the number the same, then there's no harm. So, the T and D.

Chairman Dumont: Yeah. Questions from the Board?

Selectman Guessferd: Not so much a question, I guess, but, okay. So, I looked through all the numbers. I looked through the, you know, a lot of great, you know, great information here. Especially the communities and the information on the different communities and what they are doing. Differently sized, same size as ours. And, you know, I do appreciate all that. My thought is \$4,000. And, you know, we're below the maximum right now. We stay below the maximum. I don't, I think it's, I think it's important that we support, you know, our permanently disabled veterans, but not, you know, cause a big hit on our, for our tax, taxpayers. But I think our taxpayers would probably be okay with just, it's basically an additional \$400, right? You know, per 71, right? So, 71 times 400, I think you have the math in here somewhere. It's \$28,500 in additional appropriations. So, that's my thought. So, I'll leave it, I'll leave it out there.

Chairman Dumont: Any other questions or comments?

Selectman Jakoby: So, are you making a motion?

Selectman Guessferd: Not yet. I just didn't know if there was additional discussion.

Selectman Jakoby: Sure.

Selectman Guessferd: If there's no additional discussion, then I will make the motion.

Selectman Jakoby: I will, I concur. I was thinking \$4,000 as well, you know, being that the minimum, you know, the minimum has, it has increased to a \$5,000 maximum. If we're going to \$3,600, I think the extra \$400 is just helpful, and we're dealing with 71, we're not dealing with 1,000 people. So, I would support a motion to that effect.

Selectman Guessferd: Okay, does anybody else have any comments? Because otherwise, I'll make a motion.

Chairman Dumont: So, I'll just share that my initial thought after going through this, because we hadn't got through budget yet, was to just make them whole at the \$3,600. I'm not against doing the increase that's there for a reason, and I think that if anybody's just serving, deserving, then obviously it would be that group. I would say we could have a preliminary discussion here tonight. We're going to be talking about all the Morin articles in November. If a formal decision wanted to be made then, but ultimately, it's the will of the board which direction you'd rather go.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: I support the 4,000 change. Make it, you know, make it even plus a little. The, with the \$5,000 being the max, like, I think that's fair. Kind of, in my mind, it kind of incorporates COLA into it, so.

Selectman Guessferd: Right, and there hasn't been an increase in that.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: Yeah, so like, I don't know that we actually put COLA against our exemptions, but I think it's kind of fair.

Chairman Dumont:

Chairman Dumont: Selectman Morin? Saw your hand first.

Selectman Morin: I, I agree with the two, but I agree with you. Let's just put it on the, the Morin article list and deal with it when the time comes.

Selectman Jakoby: I would, I would like to just take action on it tonight and create the Morin article. I think to Mr. Amisho's point, he said at any point, he could have brought forward an increase to the \$4,000 or an increase earlier, and that, when did the new, the new \$5,000? You said it went up to a \$4,000 max years ago, and then \$5,000 recently?

Jim Michaud: So, the \$5,000's effective for next year.

Selectman Jakoby: Okay.

Jim Michaud: That's the new upper limit. And I want to say it's been at \$4,000 since 2021. So. We had changed it to \$3,000 right on the cusp of the legislature, then bumping it from three to four.

Selectman Jakoby: Four, okay. So, we're kind of on the cusp of the next one.

Jim Michaud: Yep.

Selectman Jakoby: So that's why I feel we might as well just take care of it now and not have to deal with it again later, because Mr. Michaud is here. And he made, makes to me a valid case that it could have been done sooner. We haven't, the \$4,000 to me seems reasonable to go on the warrant at this point.

Selectman Guessferd: All right, I will also make a comment here. I appreciate the understanding of waiting to do it later on. I think if it's something we're going to do anyway, I mean, I'm going to vote for it one way or the other. And if we just take that into account when we're doing the rest of our warrant articles, again, we're going to be asking the voters to vote on it.

Selectman Jakoby: Right.

Selectman Guessferd: So, don't want to be a pick at the trough, but I think this is a worthy, an item, and to show the veterans our support. So, from my perspective, and just so everybody understands, most people who know me know I'm a veteran. I'm not a permanently disabled veteran, so this does not affect me personally. So, I just want to make sure that's clear that I'm not doing something, I'm voting for something here that's going to affect me financially. Otherwise, I probably wouldn't be bringing it up. I'd probably abstain.

Chairman Dumont: I appreciate the clarification.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: I was in the same boat. I was going through this, and I was like, I'm not quite there. So, I'm in the same boat as you. Not full, but I think it's worth it.

Selectman Guessferd: Yeah, so yeah, so I will make the motion, and we can decide how we vote. And I will honor whatever the vote is, and we can address it later if that's the way it ends up going.

Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin, to approve the forwarding of a warrant article to the 2026 ballot to increase the amount of the RSA 72,35 Service-Connected Permanent and Totally Disabled Veterans Tax Credit from \$3,000 to \$4,000. Motion carried, 5-0.

Selectman Morin: I'll second it, but I got a question. If we voted no, does that not set, that's why it needs to be worded correctly. Because if we, just to throw it out there, I'm going to vote for it. But depending how the vote goes, it could say, no, it's not going through the warrant the way it was read. That's all.

Selectman Guessferd: Well, if I'm reading the tea leaves correctly, I think it's going to pass. But I understand the sentiment.

Selectman Morin: But, okay, just so that was clear, though.

Selectman Guessferd: No, no, I think you make a valid point.

Chairman Dumont: I apologize. Selectman Vurgaropulos, did you get the second on that? Or was that ...

Selectman Vurgaropulos: I gave it to Selectman Morin.

Chairman Dumont: Selectman Morin, I just wanted to make sure you had the record correct. All right, any other discussion? We'll forward it to the warrant.

Jim Michaud: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

E. Solar Exemptions – Assessing/Discussion

Chairman Dumont: Thank you very much. You have the next item on the list for the solar exemptions. Take it away.

Jim Michaud: Thank you, and I'll just speak briefly to the last vote. We'll put it in legalese language, right? It's going to be approved by the attorney. There's a certain way that has to be presented in the statute. And then, of course, that'll all be reviewed. So, the next item is dealing with solar exemption. Currently, we have 100% solar exemption. So, if I have panels on my roof, if I own a commercial industrial building, and I have some panels, and I've applied for the credit, not everybody has applied, I get 100% of the value of those solar panels. It's not taxed at all. There are communities around the state that, A, haven't adopted the solar exemption. There's communities that have adopted it at 100%, and there's communities that have capped it. I presented some talking points, I would suppose, in the second paragraph. And the solar exemption is applicable to everyone that owns property, all kinds of property. Residential, commercial, industrial, it's not just for residential, it's for everybody. And I've included in a spreadsheet our largest solar installation that I could find for two Wentworth Drive, 329 kilowatts. They did not apply for the exemption. Just to give you an idea, the value that we've assigned to that is \$263,000, and the applicable taxes is about \$4,300, right? So, they're paying \$4,300 more because they didn't apply. But it gives you an idea of some of the scale. And yeah, we have some large buildings in the community. We have a large building being built. And so, I presented out there, I did it earlier this year on the SWOT analysis. Food for thought for the Selectmen. We can continue the discussion. The easiest thing to do is to do nothing, right, or postpone it. I did not go to Sustainability on this, right? This is me coming to you, so I haven't directed it anywhere else. And I just, I thought it was worthy of discussion on the board. Questions or comments from the Board?

Selectman Jakoby: I'll make some comments. You know, the key here that stood out for me is it goes by property ownership. It doesn't matter whether it's a big building, small building, or whatever. I have concerns. I think that putting a cap on it might be a good idea for the town, as many do, especially with some of the larger buildings that we have in place. The key here is you can't distinguish between residential and non-residential. And that's what I want the public to be aware of. So that's where my rub comes with what is fair to a resident and also fair to larger companies. So, I'm leaning towards putting out there some kind of cap. That's where I'm leaning right now, unless other people have other ideas.

Chairman Dumont: At the very least, I would agree with that. I will tell you, I'm gonna go a little bit further. I think that the exemption should be eliminated in totality. I don't believe that the value of somebody's home should be exempt because of their choice to put solar panels on there or not. Everybody has different opinions, different ways that they think that it's better to operate and run their home, and for whatever reason, you put solar panels on there and that value's exempt. And for the rest of the taxpayers to foot the bill and pick up the difference in that, I don't think is very fair. So, if you want to buy solar panels and you want to put them on, you want to make your electrical cheaper, go for it. I just don't think that the taxpayers should be footing the difference in that valuation, so.

Selectman Jakoby: Do we, I should ask Mr. Michaud, so do you know the history on why we didn't put a cap?

Jim Michaud: So, it was 2015, it was a petition warrant article. Okay. Petition warrant article failed.

Selectman Jakoby: Yeah.

Jim Michaud: But later that year, Board of Selectmen, under legal advisement from the attorney, determined that they could change it by, they could adopt it by ordinance. So, it was not, it just wasn't a discussion back then.

Selectman Jakoby: Okay.

Jim Michaud: It wasn't a cap or no cap. It became more of a weak, in my opinion.

Selectman Jakoby: Yep.

Jim Michaud: And I've included some of the minutes of that.

Selectman Jakoby: Yeah, I just was trying to understand.

Jim Michaud: We can do this. The attorney said we can do this. And that seemed to be more of a zeitgeist as opposed to, well maybe we should.

Selectman Jakoby: Right, right, right.

Jim Michaud: Kind of come up that way. And it was a different solar environment too, all right? There's more installs now, there's less installs then.

Selectman Jakoby: Well, and that's what I wanted to say. I mean, 2015 was a very different time than it is now. And I tend to agree with Chairman Dumont on this, that whoever's putting solar panels on, you're getting a benefit based on your use of electricity. I'm not sure why a tax benefit would be advantageous for the community. And that's why I look at tax benefits, advantageous for the community and for the individuals. And with the larger installments and things, I tend to agree with Selectman, Chairman Dumont.

Selectman Guessferd: Just as a point of discussion, isn't there a federal tax credit for solar on federal taxes?

Selectman Vurgaropulos: There is, but most of the time, you're probably going to say this, most of the time, and I know because I'm in this, you don't get that credit. Because most of the time when you sign up for your panels, you sign that credit away so you get a reduction on your panels. That's what a lot of people do.

Jim Michaud: There were changes in some bills this year at the federal level. So, I don't want to speak out of turn, but I believe the tax credit's going away at the federal level. But I'll hedge a little bit on that. And that kind of doesn't, we're doing our thing, they're doing their thing.

Selectman Guessferd: I understand. I mean, and I tend to lean in a similar direction, although I think probably in the direction of a cap at the most. But I mean, I do, I understand the fact that they're getting less expensive solar. Quite frankly, I'd kind of like to get some input from the public on this. I don't know if we end up getting any, because I'd like to see what the general feeling is beyond just what we're saying here. I mean, is this something that most people care about? And not that we're going to hear from everybody, but I know there's a benefit. There's definitely a benefit to the individual, to the individual property owner. I'm kind of a little bit on the fence on this.

Chairman Dumont: So, my point of view as far as the public goes, it was on the agenda. I think we've given notice from that forum. We could draft, obviously, I think the appropriate way would be to draft a warrant article if you

were to eliminate that exemption anyways, where the public will be able to voice their opinion on that. And then just to simplify it, I have a hard time government incentivizing and controlling or trying to control certain items of the free market. I think that it's better off to let the market handle it itself. If people want to purchase the solar panels, then that's the way to go. I don't think it should be incentivized through a tax credit.

Selectman Jakoby: So, let me just go there. So, the reason I'm pushed more and more towards getting rid of the tax exemption is, and thank you for this, the ballot results of March 10th, 2015, where there was a by petition, adoption of a property tax exemption for solar energy systems, and it failed. So, the public, at least in 2015, voted not to do that. So, if we put forth a warrant article to eliminate that tax credit, to your point, the public can have an opportunity to weigh in on that. And then again, come vote, and based on that, we will know the will of the people.

Chairman Dumont: And I will offer the same thing, obviously, that we spoke about before, with this could, if nobody's ready to make a motion here tonight, while I am, I'm not gonna force the Board to do something they're not comfortable with. It could be a preliminary discussion. We could finalize that in November with the other warrant articles. Mr. Sorensen, did you have something to add?

Roy Sorenson: No, I agree. I think maybe you hold this one until we hear what proposed warrant articles in November. As Mr. Michaud mentioned anyways, we will have to re-read the one you took action on tonight to make sure it reads properly. So, you're going have to address both of these in November anyways. Thank you very much.

Selectman Vurgarouplos: I'm not really, I'm kind of biased, I understand this. I think there's a benefit on both sides. I understand the majority of the benefit is to the user or the resident that applied solar panels to their home. I do think it's fair to apply a cap, but I do think there's a benefit both to the resident and somewhat to the town when someone does apply solar, because it does alleviate some of the grid and things like that nature. So, I would be willing to entertain a cap. I'm not really feeling elimination. Unless I get some more data.

Selectman Guessferd: No, I'm just going to say if we're going to address this in November, when we talk about the warrant articles. In between now and then, I invite the public to email us, contact us, and give us your input as well. But I think a warrant article, eliminating it, putting it out there for the voters, makes a lot of sense.

Jim Michaud: I'll add some additional data between now and then, right? How many properties have it? What's the average? What's the median? What's the average and median tax savings? There's folks out there that don't think solar adds any value at all. We've done our analysis. We believe it does. Not everybody, it's not universal, right? And we're talking about owned, right? You own it, right? At least we put no value on it. We still tell them to apply for the exemption. In case I leave, somebody else comes in and says, at least one's of value. But in any event, I would intend to bring in more data.

Roy Sorensen: Jim, if I might. So, the cap can go either based on the kilowatts or a monetary value? Is that correct?

Jim Michaud: I believe it's monetary value. I believe that there's communities that didn't cap it the way the statute envisions.

Roy Sorenson: Okay, and if the cap is in place, and more people come on, and that value goes down per property?

Jim Michaud: Well, if you say that we're going to cap it at \$50,000 worth of value, the first 50 is exempt.

Roy Sorenson: Okay, thank you.

Chairman Dumont: All right. So, at this time, I guess we'll ask you to bring in some more data for us when we go over more articles in November.

Jim Michaud: Very good.

Chairman Dumont: All right, thank you very much. All right, we're going to return back to our normal order of business. Item A, the public hearing for acceptance of Garden Circle. And I will recognize the Director of Developmental Services, Elvis Dima.

A. Public Hearing: Acceptance of Garden Circle – Engineering/Decision

Elvis Dhima: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good evening, everyone. As you're probably aware, Planning Board approved the nine lots of division not too long ago. It's complete. I think it's an understatement to say that they sold like hotcakes. But we have a beautiful single-family development out there right off Central Street. It's complete. Everyone has signed off. They're putting a ten-year requirement bond. I'm sorry, the two-year maintenance bond. That's already done, approved by the Planning Board. It's ready for approval and acceptance by us. It goes through you. It needs a public hearing tonight with a ten-day notification, which already took place. So, in a nutshell, this is ready for prime time. And with that said, I'll take any questions you might have.

Chairman Dumont: Questions or comments from the Board? None. I will open up the public hearing. Get my phone to get the right time here. At 7:28 p.m., if anybody's in the audience that would wish to come up and speak on this. Come up and state your name and address. Not seeing anybody, I will close at 7:28 p.m. I'll be looking for a motion from the Board. Motion would be to accept Garden Circle as a town road with a two-year maintenance, and as recommended by the Town Engineer and Public Works Director.

Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Vurgaropoulos, to accept Garden Circle as a Town road, with a two-year maintenance and, as recommended by the Town Engineer and Public Works Director. Motion carried, 5-0.

B. Department Update: Recreation – Recreation/Informational

Chairman Dumont: Next up we have the department update, and I will recognize the Director of Recreation, Chrissy Peterson.

Chrissy Peterson: Good evening. Thanks for the opportunity to present you the Recreation Department update. Rec is definitely one of my favorite subjects. My home away from home. So, let's talk Rec. So, this is your Recreation Department. I like to say that we are small, but we do big things. Obviously, myself, my Administrative Aide, who is much more than her job title, our Senior Service Coordinator, our part-time custodian, and then also considered employees are our summer counselors and our CITs. So, the vision statement of the Recreation Department is to be the cornerstone of the Hudson community, offering engaging programs and events that bring people of all ages together through shared experiences, strengthening Hudson as an active and connective town. Our mission statement is we are dedicated to enhancing the quality of life in our community by providing citizens with a broad range of exceptional, safe, and affordable recreational opportunities. We believe in promoting community pride by creating positive experiences that fulfill the needs of the community and create lasting memories. Our core values are built around and guided around the acronym CARES, because that essentially is behind everything that we do. So, C for community, we foster connections and pride. A for activity, we try to inspire, encourage healthy and active living for all ages. R for recreation, because at our core, that is what we believe in. E for experience, we create meaningful moments and lasting memories. And S for service, we serve our community with dedication and care. So, this is an overview of the Recreation Department. This kind of breaks down our two indoor facilities consisting of the Community Center and the Senior Center, our five outdoor spaces, and the wide range of programs and events that we offer annually to the community. This slide is a vendor breakdown. Although these people are not necessarily the owners of the facility, on staff, as employees, they are people that we need to secure to ensure that the programs and events that we offer run smoothly. So, just to point out one, for example, basketball, last year we had 57 teams consisting a breakdown of five different, sorry, leagues. So, we needed 57 coaches, and that's not including the assistant coaches. Excuse me. We also needed gym monitors because we utilize not only the Rec Department, but obviously we also use four gyms of the schools as well. And then we hire and secure referees and pay them. So, this slide begins our, did you have a question?

Selectman Guessferd: Sorry. I just wanted to clarify, when you talk softball.

Chrissy Peterson: Yes.

Selectman Guessferd: There might be another sport, but it's not actually the children's softball. The girls' softball is actually done by a private organization.

Chrissy Peterson: Yes, yep.

Selectman Guessferd: So, you're running adult softball.

Chrissy Peterson: Correct.

Selectman Geussferd: Men's and women's and co-ed.

Chrissy Peterson: Yes. Yeah, well co-ed is actually a private league that rents our field in the fall.

Selectman Geussferd: All right, just want to make sure everybody kind of understands that.

Chrissy Peterson: Yeah, good question. So, this begins our SWOT analysis, so this is our strengths. Some of those consist of having affordable events and programs, wide variety of programming offered from toddler age to the senior citizen community, dedicated, reliable, passionate staff with a commitment to community service, established facilities, a strong engagement for our social media platforms, strong partnership with the Hudson SAU, other municipal departments, and community volunteers, and a positive reputation as the hub of the community that promotes connectivity. Some of our weaknesses include outgrowth of current indoor facilities, lack of outdoor fields, budget constraints that can limit program expansion and innovation, condition of the Community Center parking lot in relation to our summer program, specifically mean kind of potholes, limited staffing and resources to meet growing community demands and lack of green space. Some opportunities we have would be expansion of the industrial drive pickleball courts into a multi-sport complex, targeting a new audience, meet changing recreational needs as they come, securing grants as funding sources, addition of green space for summer program, possibly removing some of the parking spots now that boating's not there anymore, to the right of the building for the summer program, paving in or filling in the potholes at the Community Center to make it a little more safe, updating the Community Center floor with a better suited floor for both athletics and events, and widening the driveway at the entrance of Liberty Field Gate, which is the Liberty Field slash Freedom Field Gate. Some threats we can possibly face would be competition from private organizations that could affect our participation and revenue, potential budget cuts, community expectations for low program fees despite rising program and operation costs, volunteer burnout, that's always a concern, lack of green space to accommodate the summer program needs, and progression of the community center floor affecting athletic programs. So, this is an overview of the revenue that we have for the general fund, so this breaks down, kind of shows you where everything comes from, and that kind of is broken down from our community events, our summer program, and our athletic programs. And I think it's clear that when looking at it, we've kind of continued our trend of record-breaking revenue. This past year, we took in \$361,000 dollars which was roughly \$42,000 more than the year prior, and it's approximately \$120,000 more since 2019. So, I think it shows the need and the demand for the department by the community. I should also mention too that when looking at the cost of, that it costs us to run each program, including the summer program salaries as well, in comparison to our revenue, they pay for themselves. Those programs are definitely paying for themselves. So, this slide is our senior program revenue, which this operates out of revolving fund. You'll see the breakdown where this money comes from, which would be our senior trips, our senior activities, annual membership fees. I think it's clear by the color of the pie chart that blue is definitely bringing in the most, and that's our trips. And we've had a huge increase in revenue there since we started offering international trips a couple years ago. So, this just gives you a little bit more look at some of our bigger programs to kind of give you an overview of the participation. So, for FY25, our basketball program, our revenue was \$45,850. That broke down to 57 teams consisting of five leagues, and we had 493 participants. Our summer program, our revenue was \$231,541, which was \$28,000 more than FY24, and we had 520 participants. Soccer, this one continues to grow every year. Revenue was \$40,534. That broke down to 51 teams and 532 participants. Our summer program, again, the revolving fund, but this shows you that we had 1,018 patrons. And then again, it just kind of highlights some of the revenue there. Community events, this one is ever-changing, kind of hard to nail down, but our revenue was \$24,124. I did list some of the bigger ones, like our father-daughter dance. You know, we have 500 people that attend that. Comedy shows on average are 300. One show could be 350, another show could be 320, kind of anywhere. Mother and Son event we started two years ago, and that runs on average at 320. So, gives you those. And then our SMART goals. One would be to continue to increase participation, not specifically for one program, but just kind of overall. So, we strive to shoot for at least a 5% increase. Some of those efforts would consist of expanding marketing efforts, possibly

offering promotion like we started to do with our early bird special for our summer program, where parents and people can save. And the goal would be to do that by the end of FY27.

Chairman Dumont: Okay. Excellent. Thank you very much. That was fantastic.

Selectman Guessferd: So, I have a couple questions, thoughts. I just want to make sure, based on the numbers, it only costs the seniors \$10 to join.

Chrissy Peterson: Correct. And then they pay for field trips and things like that. Yes, yep. Optional, always optional. The building is completely open. You can just go and socialize, have coffee, do what you want, but you can also sign up for aerobics, line dancing, field trips, different things like that.

Selectman Guessferd: Some of those field trips are pretty amazing fun.

Chrissy Peterson: They are. I'm considering chaperoning some.

Selectman Guessferd: Okay. With the growth in the summer program, it continues to grow every year.

Chrissy Peterson: It does.

Selectman Guessferd: Do you envision a point at which you're going to outgrow where you are?

Chrissy Peterson: I do, 100%.

Selectman Guessferd: And when would that be?

Chrissy Peterson: At the trend that we're going at, it could be this coming year. Yeah, to be completely honest, which is, it's tough. It's a great value for parents in town. There is, hands down, no program. We have done the data, we've done the research. There is nowhere that is as affordable as we are and as good of a value, but we can only fit so many. And we always have to balance it with our ratio from counselors to the participants as well. So, if people keep coming in, yeah, it's definitely going to be expected that we would have to shut it off eventually.

Selectman Guessferd: Cap the participants then.

Chrissy Peterson: Yep.

Selectman Guessferd: The only other thing is the new pickleball courts. That's gonna be another facility that you're gonna have available for folks to use.

Chrissy Peterson: Yes, yep.

Selectman Guessferd: And you're involved with that. If people have to come, who do they come to to preserve time or things like that?

Chrissy Peterson: So right now, it's just an open court. It's just like all our other courts. It's drop-in, first-come, first-serve. It definitely has pickleball etiquette rules that we do need there. But other than that, it's just first-come, first-serve. But I can tell you that our senior citizen pickleball crew is highly enjoying it, so yeah.

Selectman Guessferd: And it was immediate success, correct?

Chrissy Peterson: Yes, absolutely. They were waiting at the gate to get in before it was open.

Selectman Guessferd: Very good. I just want to say, your department does an amazing job. It's one of our, I think it's one of our shining stars in Hudson. And really, I personally appreciate everything that you do.

Chrissy Peterson: Thank you. We appreciate that.

Chairman Dumont: Mr. Sorensen, you had a question?

Roiy Sorensen: I'll defer to Selectman Jakoby first.

Selectman Jakoby: So, what do you think, currently, what would be the cap for the summer program, are you thinking? Are you thinking?

Chrissy Peterson: Probably 530.

Selectman Jakoby: 530?

Chrissy Peterson: Yeah, we had 520.

Selectman Jakoby: You had 520, so you're pretty much at the cap.

Chrissy Peterson: We are. I mean, numbers change every year, but the way that we've been going.

Selectman Jakoby: I just wanted the public to know.

Chrissy Peterson: Yeah, yeah, just to keep things safe. I just don't know if we can go too much more.

Selectman Jakoby: Well, and I think safety is really important. I think pointing out green space with your summer program is a really important one. And to your point, not having the elections there, what can happen at that property, I think is an opportunity, and something that you may wanna make sure, maybe setting a goal on how to review that space, and really look at your physical space. Because I didn't see, I mean, that's not really in the goals to do that.

Chrissy Peterson: It wasn't listed as one of my summer goals, but definitely it is one of them, yes.

Selectman Jakoby: Because I think that's a multi-year discussion. So, for me, it would be to get some piece of that on this next year to start that conversation. Because I know I had an opportunity to walk the property with you, and we brainstormed some wonderful things of where this program could go, having some background in this area as well. So, I would like to see something like that there. My other concern or opportunities, the question, and I don't know how this works, we have a lot of different, also private organizations or organizations using the fields and the different recreational spaces. Almost like, how might you use that partnership in the best possible way? I know it took partners to get the new pickable floral courts made and created. I'm just wondering if there are opportunities there with those groups to just think some outside the box. So those were the two areas that I would just suggest you know, putting on next year's or something. But those were a couple of things that I was looking at. I mean, I think it's really great all that is done with so little. But also, I know for the summer program or for any of these programs, some of, you know, you have some volunteers, but you also have some paid staff, and you need to pay people to help with these things as well. And as we know, you're competing against some hourly rates out there that are pretty big. So that, you know, if you need to use more revenue or increase that, I think that's another place where you really have to seriously consider adapting.

Chrissy Peterson: I do have that on my next week.

Selectman Jakoby: Oh, on your budget. Okay, good. Those were just some of the things that, as you showed this, I thought it was great. You know, I think it's really great opportunities and great people. And I always think it's important to say that you had, of the 520 participants, you know, that doesn't include the counselors and everyone else. So, it's above and beyond that, just for the public to know. And even with the participants on the sports, it's the participants plus the coaches plus all the others. So, it's actually exponentially higher than what is shown here. So, thank you.

Roy Sorenson: Yeah, I was going to say that. I think you'll be seeing some of this stuff when Chrissy comes in for the budget. Just a couple of things. So, the policy for the Pickleball Courts, we do have something in draft, so that'll be coming to the policy subcommittee. So that one's on me. I think Chrissy's already put that together, so I'll take that one. The green space at the community center, is this if I'm looking at the front of the building?

Chrissy Peterson: So yeah, if you're looking at the front door to the right, because our summer program is inside-outside, but we use the right side of the building, and DPW kind of puts up a fence for us. It would be nice to have some grass area.

Roy Sorenson: Is that the passive younger programs?

Chrissy Peterson: Is it what?

Roy Sorenson: Passive like younger program, like it's not soccer or?

Chrissy Peterson: No, no, no, it's just the summer program.

Roy Sorenson: And it's just for the, okay.

Chrissy Peterson: Yeah. Well, it's just kind of for everything. I mean, yeah.

Selectman Jakoby: Well, I might as well put the idea out that we talked about. So, the question was, is that side of possibly adding some green space, or if it makes more sense in another location, that's fine too. The other question was, how far does that property go back into the woods? Is there something that can be value added by doing some really fun things in the woods there as well? Because we both have some experience with some things like that as well. So, really looking at the overall property and what could be done with it, that might be innovative, and create maybe new programs or new opportunities.

Roy Sorenson: Okay, yeah.

Selectman Jakoby: Sorry, I had to put my two cents.

Roy Sorenson: No, I just, I didn't know if I was looking at the front, whether it was to the left or the right, but.

Chrissy Peterson: It's just that's the side that we use. So ideally, we, I don't wanna say lock the kids in, but we fence them in to keep it safe, and then we have everybody stationed to kind of watch everybody. So that would be the ideal spot to be able to have a grassed-in area.

Selectman Guessferd: Like on the left.

Chrissy Peterson: Yeah, yeah.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: Yeah, thank you. I would be interested to know how much real estate there is in the woods. There's all sorts of programs you could do, right? Like you said, there's all sorts of fun stuff. One thing that comes to mind is, I'll go back in the way back machine when I was in high school. For grade level, we had Project Adventure. I don't think it exists anymore. It's more of a obstacle course now, but they did all the belaying, tree climbing, and ropes course and stuff like that.

Chrissy Peterson: That's exactly right.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: And you could set those up in the woods. I find those extremely beneficial, not only from a physical standpoint, but team building and just community growth, like friends and stuff like that. So, I would definitely be interested in learning about that.

Chairman Dumont: Anything else from the Board? Thank you very much. It was a great presentation, very informative.

Chrissy Peterson: Thank you.

C. Department Update: Supervisors of the Checklist – Administration/Informational

Chairman Dumont: Next up, we have a department update from the Supervisor of the Checklist. I will recognize the Chairman, Garland Mann-Lamb, along with Kim Allan.

Selectman Jakoby: Do you need a third chair?

Kim Allan: Yes, that's what we need. All three of us right now.

Chairman Dumont: It's Kathleen Haloon, I wasn't sure if you were going to come up or not.

Garland Mann-Lamb: We're not quite as exciting, but just as important.

Chairman Dumont: All right, very important. Take it away.

Garland Mann-Lamb: Hello, all. So, we are very excited to be here for the first time for all of us. So, I am Garland Man Lamb. I was elected in the March 2025 election, and my term goes through this next election.

Kim Allan: I'm Kimberly Allan. I was also elected in the March election, and my term goes through 2030.

Kathleen Haloon: Hi, I'm Kathleen Haloon. I stepped in for the interim role, and my term goes to March 2026.

Garland Mann-Lamb: Yes, all right. So, Kathleen joined us in July as an appointed role through this next election, because we lost a supervisor right before the March election this year. And so, a lot of what we all have been doing is kind of learning together, and working on streamlining processes, and going through things. We'll talk a little about that. Okay. So, our mission, we are dedicated to maintaining an accurate and transparent voter checklist for the town of Hudson, ensuring fair access to registration, and protecting the integrity of our elections. Okay. So, this is a little bit about what we do. We'll talk about, but first, we'll just go through the upcoming elections for everyone. I had some people ask me if we're like, do we have November elections? We don't. Apparently, some towns do. So, we are going to be having the town election is our next election on Tuesday, March 10th, 2026. We do not know when the next primary will be yet. I don't, do we know when that, yeah, we don't know. I don't know when they're gonna decide, but it's anywhere between June and September. If we had it our way, it would not be June to August. But, we will take it when it comes.

Selectman Guessferd: Yeah, I think I understand why.

Garland Mann-Lamb: Yeah, I mean, it's a lot in the summer, and it's very quick, especially having the March election. Some towns also do an April town meeting. So, that becomes very close. People are gone in the summer, you know, all of that. So, we will see what those at the top of the state decide. And then, our general November 3rd, 2026. So, what are we doing between now and then? We are working on the checklist. So, we have had some corrections to make in the past few, or from the past year or so. As you know, November 2024 was a large election, and there was a lot of new election day registrations. And then, that kind of put a backlog, I think, through to the spring. And so, one of the things we are doing to keep the voter checklist up to date is that our next meeting, which will be a public session in a few weeks, is working on who we may look to remove from the voter checklist. So, these are folks who haven't voted, may have moved out of town. If you're not aware of how that works, we go through them all, clean it up. They get a letter in the mail. They can say, no, keep me on. If we don't hear from them, then they get removed. And that's a large process. So, currently, we have a backlog of about 600 people that we're going through. Those people may not all be removed from the checklist, but I just want to keep it, because on my next slide, I give you the number of voters. So, that may change in the next couple months as we're doing some of this as well.

Kimberly Allan: And I think for full transparency, the amount of voters that we have to remove is because there were some voters that were not removed previous to us. And if those people came in and they voted in the November election, we have to make sure that we're not removing them from the list because they are an active voter in Hudson.

Garland Mann-Lamb: Yes. Yeah, correct. All right. So, all of our meetings are public sessions. We, per the state election laws, need to meet at least every 90 days. And we, so our next meeting will be at the end of this month, where we'll be doing a lot of this cleaning up of the checklist. And then we'll be printing the new checklist that will go upstairs in the Town Clerk's office. And so, we are doing a full reprint. So, just so you know, that will be, because we anticipate there'll be a lot of changes for folks who were removed. And then, of course, everyone who has been added as well. Another thing that at our last meeting that we approved to do is go and have our voter registration events. So, we'd like to, well, it's not technically voter registration. It is a voter filling out of forms. And then we register them during our next public session, to be clear. And we were asked to do this in the spring to go into Alvirne. And the timing was a little bit tight with the end of the school year for the seniors. And so, our hope is to go in before the March election. So, in January or February this year, or January, I guess, get those folks, those students who are eligible to vote in the next election. Because they just need to be 18 by the next election. And then also plan for that in the school for after that and before. So, they are all ready for whenever the primary will be. Okay, so as of 10/1/25, Hudson had 18,388 registered voters. And this number fluctuates all the time. Just people move, people die, people become incarcerated. All kinds of things that changes people's voter registration status. Right now, we're not getting a lot of registrations. It's really just if folks are moving into town because there's not an election coming up. But we imagine that in the next few months, more people will because they will also be able to start requesting absentee ballots for the March election.

Kimberly Allan: Another thing we'd like to do is we want to propose a warrant article. Six years is a long time to ask us to be in this position. And I feel that if we were to shorten the year, the years to three years, maybe the outcome of people wanting to stay on as the Supervisor would be greater. When you look at six years, that's

daunting. You don't know where you're going to be in six years and you commit to that. Most of us would love to say, yeah, we're gonna be in Hudson, but lives change. People change. We move. Our situations change. And having a six-year term is absurd, honestly. That's asking a lot from one person. And I think if we were to do a three-year turnover, that we'd have more people interested in taking the position for one because it's not a desirable position. It's a lot of work and you have to really want to do it. And six years will also create burnout. And when you get burnt out, it becomes not fun. You don't want to be here. You don't want to do it. And I don't think that we want that. We want people to want to do this job. We want them to come in and say, you know what, three years, I can do three years. Not much will change for me in three years. And six years is just a bit much for a town position.

Garland Mann-Lamb: Yes, and there's been a high turnover rate. I haven't lived in town that long, but even since I've lived here, there's been quite a high turnover. And this wouldn't change any financial or anything like that. And it wouldn't impact the current terms of Supervisors. And this is something that came up on the new election laws this year. So, I honestly have not looked into other communities if they're moving towards the three-year model. But so, this is just where we can opt in to the three-year if we'd like to. And we definitely may be good. And so, for context with that, if we put the word article on the town meeting, the ballot in March, and it passed, then that would go into effect the next election. And it would be a three-year term for every next Supervisor to start. And in March, since Kathleen and I's position will both be up on the ballot, I believe it'll be a six-year and a three-year term on the March ballot this year.

Kimberly Allan: And I had a question, because I generally, I don't know the answer. So, there's only three of us. And we have two voting locations. What would we have to do to make it so that there's four of us, so there's two of us at each voting location? Because we're uneven right now. And I think if there was two of us, especially where we're so new, and if people were to come in for these positions as new as we are, they wouldn't be left in the same position that we are, where we're gonna have two in the middle school, and we're gonna have one at Alvirne. Because what if we have two people who are brand new?

Chairman Dumont: I think that's a good point. Personally, I'd have to review the RSA. I'm not that familiar with it. I don't know if you guys, when you were looking through the updates for the terms, if it specified a certain number.

Garland Mann-Lamb: It does specify three. I don't know if other, I don't know if you're able to do more, but I know you need at least three.

Chairman Dumont: Yeah, I have to look at that exact wording. Sometimes it's a minimum of an exact amount. But I definitely agree. I think if you had two at each location, it would definitely help out. Otherwise, you got somebody bouncing back and forth.

Garland Mann-Lamb: So, our next public session is October 29th, 4:30 p.m. If anyone loves to come, you're welcome to. And I guess for the voters in the community to know. Our sessions are always public, and so when I say, for instance, voter registration, it's really taking in voter registration forms, not registering folks to vote. Because we can only make approvals, rejections, remove, add, change things during a public session. So, if anyone ever wanted to come to a public session to register to vote that day, they're welcome to. So that's also why those numbers change, because someone may come into town hall, register to vote, change their affiliation, change their address. But those changes wouldn't actually take place until our next public session, when they are approved by, or, you know, decided by us. Questions?

Selectman Jakoby: Yeah, so just if you have to stay to three, when, if you want to do a three-year term, I think the most important thing is to have those terms offset. So, then the goal would be electing one new person a year? Is that what you're thinking?

Garland Mann-Lamb: Yeah.

Selectman Jakoby: Okay, I just wanted to bring that out to the public. So, then each year there would be one, ideally, if everybody stays there three years, every year there would be one new three-year term.

Kimberly Allan: Correct, and then when that new person comes on, they could be one of the two at the middle school, and then if the other person's comfortable being at Alvirne by themselves. As the senior member. Yeah, that's how we could split up the duties for that.

Selectman Jakoby: If you're limited to the three, but I do agree, if it is possible to go to the four, and again, that's the RSA, I think that's a really good idea so I'm very supportive of both of those.

Kimberly Allan: And I apologize for not looking, it popped into my head while I was sitting here, and I was like, I'm going to ask right now.

Selectman Jakoby: And I think your point of a three-year term is a valid one versus six. Six is a big commitment. And then, and also the rotating, and hopefully you can, you know, encourage others to come in.

Garland Mann-Lamb: It's also incredibly hard to keep track of. Because when, right, when someone, if someone, you know, resigns from the position, then they're coming in as an appointed intern for the year, and then they fill the rest of the term, so it's like very confusing.

Selectman Guessferd: Just a quick question. The public session, where do they take place?

Garland Mann-Lamb: Usually right in this room.

Selectman Guessferd: In this room, okay. Okay.

Garland Mann-Lamb: And they're always on the website, and it's on the flyer upstairs, and on HCTV.

Chairman Dumont: Any questions or comments? No.

Selectman Guessferd: You did a thankless job.

Selectman Jakoby: Yeah, thank you. You did a good job out there.

Selectman Guessferd: You really did. Thank you.

Chairman Dumont: I'm glad you guys came in for the update. A lot of people obviously are unaware of even the position itself, so I think it's very good.

Garland Mann-Lamb: Yeah, to be honest, when I walked into Town Hall on January 31st at 4:30 p.m., I said, well, I have a half an hour. I guess I'll put my name in. I didn't really know exactly what it entailed, and that's actually something that we have talked about a little bit, too, is kind of going into town elections, educating the community a little bit more before that filing deadline about what some of these roles actually entail, the time commitment, because it is a little, you can read an RSA, and you can read the 500 pages of the election manual, but...

Selectman Jakoby: Well, and I just want to say, I think that's a brilliant idea, and as much as you can use HCTV, and I think it would be great to see the three of you really talk about that or able to promote that in some way, because I think they lend well to people who are engaged. They are likely to see them, so I think that's a great idea.

Kimberly Allan: And I feel with some of the law changes we saw at the March election, that if you were a new registered voter, you had to prove citizenship, and everybody had a different story on how it went. All voters need to bring all of their stuff. No, please don't put that out there, so if we have these informative sessions where people can ask us questions, even if they show up to public input and just have questions, we can answer those questions and maybe stay away from some of the rumors on how it works, because we don't want people to come in on voting day and not have all the information and then be upset by, well, now I have to go home and do this, or I didn't need to bring any of this with me because I was already registered, so those miscommunications, if we could put a halt to those would be great.

Selectman Jakoby: Yeah, and I think the more information, oh, I'm sorry.

Selectman Vurgaropoulos: No, I was just laughing.

Selectman Jakoby: I think the more information you put out, the better, so thank you, and I think keeping us informed as well.

Garland Mann-Lamb: Yeah, we'll also be hoping for a lot more volunteers and some new volunteers. We have wonderful election volunteers, but it's always kind of a struggle to fill on the moderator side and on our side as well, so.

Chairman Dumont: Mr. Sorenson, did you have anything?

Roy Sorenson: No, I just want to thank the Supervisors. I see them quite a bit, talk to them, again, understanding or respect for what they do, and I said, hey, do you guys want to come in and present to the Board, and they're more than willing to do it, so thank you again, and keep up the good work.

Chairman Dumont: Thank you.

Kimberly Allan: Thank you.

Garland Mann-Lamb: Have a great rest of your evening.

F. Purchase of Rescue Boat – Fire/Discussion

Chairman Dumont: All right, next up is the purchase of a rescue boat. I will recognize the Fire Chief, Scott Tice.

Chief Tice: Thank you, Mr. Chair, and good evening, everyone. So, as we're working through our purchase of the rescue boat, we're at a point where there's two different ways we go, can go, and there's pros and cons to each way, and it'll affect the level of service we can provide, and I think this is something that the elected officials should have some input on. So, we've originally talked about this through the last couple years in the budget. The intent was to replace the Boston Whaler that failed structurally, so we're talking a 16, 18-foot boat with a 60 to 90 horsepower motor. Okay, these are a large boat that needs to go from the trailer into the water, recovered onto the trailer. We did this with the thought that we had a boat ramp coming in Hudson close by here in the near future, and it seems like this has been delayed a little bit with the Target project. So, this would mean we either need to go to Nashua to launch there, or down to Tyngsboro to kind of put this at the far north or far south, and it will cause a slight delay depending upon how far you think the central part of town, north and south. We do have the option of going with a boat that's a little bit smaller that can be manhandled into the water, which would allow us more flexibility in where we launch it from, but this is a smaller boat, smaller motor. It can handle the river, but it's not what we've talked about before, and we're very sensitive to that. I think we would also have problems towing some boats, which one of the calls that we do get occasionally is a disabled boat, and it's more than just a nicety to be able to tow them, a boat without power, stuck in a current could be a safety issue. So, I think we're at the point to have you as the elected officials have some input into this as we make our next move.

Selectman Morin: The boat that you put in the budget for a couple of years, how much was that for and what was the style?

Chief Tice: That was the same boat we're talking about now. It would be a 16, roughly 16-foot inflatable, rigid-hull inflatable with around 90-horsepower motor.

Selectman Morin: Okay, so my question is, if we had got that, what were we going to do with it because we can't put it in the water? That's why I thought, we thought at that time that we had the boat ramp coming a lot sooner than what it turns out that it's actually going to be here. We have a hard time getting the boat we have down those rocks at the end of Maple Street. A bigger boat is going to make it even worse. So, I guess you got to explain to me how a bigger boat's going to be better. I just, we're told we need a boat. You come to us with a boat. Now we can't get the boat because we don't have a boat ramp, but we want to get a bigger boat to go down those rocks that we have a hard time with the little boat we have now. Do we need a boat or do we not need a boat?

Chief Tice: We do, and we can go with the bigger boat. My concern, I just wanted to make sure the Board is aware that there could be delayed responses getting to the middle of the river, like the north and south. If you think of the town north and south, a delayed response getting there. And that question could come up because we're right here. The boat ramp is right there, or I should say the park is right there. The natural question is what takes us so long to get there? And I'm just asking for.

Selectman Morin: I got to say to you, you're the expert. You should be telling us what you need. We shouldn't be making a decision. Again, you put in a budget for two years to get a 16-foot boat. You kept telling us you need it, you need it, you need it. Now we got the money to do it, all of a sudden, well, why didn't we think of this before? We need a boat. We do a lot of runs on the river. I know, because I've experienced carrying the boat down those rocks before it was even fixed. And they have a hard time with the little boat we got now. I just don't understand with going a medium sized boat, it's not going to make anything better for the guys, and we're going to get somebody hurt. So do we need a boat or we do, you know, what are we going to do, is my question.

Chief Tice: If the Board is not concerned at this point about a delay, I would go with the bigger boat.

Selectman Morin: When we, sorry, sorry. When we had the Boston Whale, where did we put it?

Chief Tice: Over in Nashua.

Selectman Morin: Okay. Yeah, I can remember some long times getting. I get it. Thank you, I'm all set.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: Thank you, sir. You answered part of my question. So, we currently launch in Nashua for our calls?

Chief Tice: With a bigger boat that requires a boat ramp, yeah, it would either be Nashua or it would be down in Tyngsboro.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: Well, where do we currently launch?

Chief Tice: We usually take it right over here to Merrill Park. It's a smaller boat, remember, it's a smaller.

Selectman Guessferd: Is it the 14-foot?

Selectman Morin: No, it's what, 10 feet?

Chief Tice: It's a 10-foot.

Selectman Guessferd: That's what I was going to ask, yeah. Yeah, okay, so it's even smaller than the one we're looking to design.

Chairman Dumont: Yeah, Selectman Vurgaropulos, finish your thought.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: Yeah, I was just wondering, Merrill Park, South Hudson, is that that little?

Chief Tice: No, no, no, over here.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: Okay, sorry, I apologize for not knowing all my geography. The park that's in South Hudson, I can't remember if it's just past the border or not, is there opportunities for a boat launch that we can improve to make that more accessible area?

Selectman Morin: There's one at BAE, that would be the only one that we would have access to.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: Is there any reason that we can't have access to it?

Selectman Morin: We do have access to it if we had to down south then.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: Okay.

Selectman Morin: Because we've launched out of there before. I don't know what condition it is right now, but we have launched from a boat launch at BAE in the past. But again, that's a long run.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: No, I get it, but if we're trying to stay on this side of the river for quicker access, I'm just trying to think of other locations that maybe aren't public access points, but maybe we can improve upon it to make it emergency access points, which is maybe something to think about. I'm just trying to gather information. That's all.

Chief Tice: Okay, yeah, understood. And BAE, but again, I have no idea what condition it is, if they've done anything down there that would prohibit access to it, so I don't know.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: Okay, thank you.

Selectman Jakoby: I have a few questions. So, the current boat you have, that Selectman Morin was saying that you would carry down the steps at Merrill Park, that's a smaller boat?

Chief Tice: It is a smaller boat.

Selectman Jakoby: Okay, so now we're looking at trying to get a larger boat on a trailer so that it would need a regular boat launch to launch it. Originally, there was a boat launch going in where?

Chief Tice: In the future?

Selectman Jakoby: Yeah.

Chief Tice: To Merrill Park.

Selectman Jakoby: In Merrill Park, okay. So that has not, there's no clear date of when that's happening, so therefore, there's not an entry point immediately near us. So, your entry points are either over the river and through the woods to Nashua, or you said Tyngsboro, not BAE. So, Tyngsboro, so you have access to the hidden park? I think that's what it's called.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: Yeah, you knew where I was talking about.

Selectman Jakoby: Yeah, down there to take the, because there's actually a pole, so you take the pole down and you can launch there. But now, there was also an access from BAE in the past?

Selectman Morin: Yes.

Selectman Jakoby: Okay, so if there's access from BAE, I think it would be important to know what quality of that access is and what rights do we have to that access, especially if we're looking at such a large boat on a trailer. You know, what is the longevity of a boat if we were to purchase the larger boat?

Chief Tice: I would say 15 to 20 years.

Selectman Jakoby: Okay, so I think to Selectman Morin's point is, we really, if a bigger boat is necessary in order to do the job, then I would recommend getting the larger boat, but being really clear where that's gonna launch from and to Selectman Vurgaropulos' point, is BAE, what's the status of that ramp? And then, you know, really looking at where do we go from here? If a smaller boat does, because I'm also hearing from both Selectman Morin and yourself that a lot of the calls are for disabled boats in the river that need to be towed.

Selectman Morin: There's some, I don't know what they do.

Selectman Jakoby: I just didn't know the nature of the call. I would be curious what the most calls are and if it's necessary.

Selectman Morin: Our biggest problem, unless the Chief disagrees, is people on the bridges.

Selectman Jakoby: Oh, interesting. Okay, makes sense.

Selectman Guessferd: So, it's rescues.

Selectman Jakoby: Thank you. Personal rescues.

Selectman Guessferd: Personal rescues.

Selectman Jakoby: Okay, those were just some of my thoughts.

Selectman Guessferd: So, you can use the smaller boat for that, for sure, right?

Selectman Jakoby: For the rescues from the bridges?

Selectman Guessferd: 14-foot.

Chairman Dumont: All depends on the, on the, the current, right?

Chief Tice: Well, that's the benefit of the smaller boat is the access.

Selectman Jakoby: Access to the river, that you can get on the river more quickly?

Chief Tice: Yes.

Chairman Dumont: You don't need a formal, you don't need an actual boat launch. You can, you know, you set it in with a couple of guys.

Selectman Jakoby: And that's important for the public to know, that with a smaller boat, they have access more quickly, but wouldn't be able to aid a larger boat on the river that's disabled.

Chief Tice: And to Selectman Morin's point, that is still a tough access over at Merrill Park.

Selectman Jakoby: Absolutely. I've tried it.

Chief Tice: You know, the footing and whatnot is, is a difficult, difficult launch. So it can be, it can be faster because it's right here, but it is still difficult.

Selectman Jakoby: It puts some difficulty on the men or on the men and women of the firefighters.

Selectman Morin: It's the real risk of hurting somebody doing that.

Selectman Jakoby: Absolutely, absolutely. So it's, I would prefer not to do that.

Chairman Dumont: Selectman Guessferd, do you have anything further?

Selectman Guessferd: No, I think part of that was my, my question about what's the most calls? Is it, is it disabled boats or is it people? Because from what I'm hearing, it's likely people being rescued, personal rescue of people.

Chief Tice: In the most, in peril would be somebody in the river, a person in the river.

Selectman Guessferd: And obviously it's important to get to them quickly.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: Yes, thank you. What's the current status of the boat we have?

Chief Tice: The boat we have is in, is in good condition. It's a small boat with a small motor that can't handle the heavy current.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: What's the plan for that boat if we get the new boat?

Chief Tice: That boat can still be used in small areas, small, smaller streams, smaller ponds, shallow water, those types of things. It still has a purpose. But the problem ...

Selectman Vurgaropulos: And where do we store our boats?

Chief Tice: That's at Central Station, right next door.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: You have room for two boats there?

Chief Tice: We'll find room to put it, yes.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: All right.

Chief Tice: We'll make.

Chairman Dumont: We talked to Town Hall Advisory Committee. We can put it right down there. He'll be at the next meeting.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: I was gonna say, because there's not a lot of room for the cars that are here.

Chairman Dumont: So, a couple of things, just because we're on the delay with the current boat launch can you just speak to that so if anybody is paying attention, they'll understand.

Chief Tice: So, the money that comes from Target that's for the boat launch is tied to the certificate of occupancy. At this point, certificate of occupancy on the main building is not expected until 2029.

Chairman Dumont: Thank you. The other part of that, during the planning process there was talk of a boat launch, a new one at the Target facility. Is there been, is that completely gone at this point? Mr. Dhima's raising his hand in the back. We'll have him come up and speak to it.

Elvis Dhima: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So, first responders will still have access to a road going all the way to the river but it will not be a boat launch at the site. That's more for like training purposes, things of that sort. But there was never any further development to actually launch from that area in. So, it's more for access to them if they're trying to get someone or just another access point to the river but there's not actually any developments related to building that. It was originally and then they did not want that at the site because of Amazon's concern about sharing the site. Obviously, Amazon is gone, Target was too late but the bottom line is the \$1.5 million that the chief has been talking about, it's going to be invested at Merrill Park. In addition to that, Merrill Park, it's the most feasible from a topography standpoint to get this launching boat and also the area at Merrill Park also provides capabilities to provide parking as well for boat trails, things of that sort. So that's the ultimate destination and there's been plans before the chief and I got here that Merrill Park was a place to go.

Chairman Dumont: And I mean, it's more of a central location, it's a lot quicker obviously for you guys to gain access. Yeah, I would just want to throw that out there. And then that kind of segues into my other question was about utilizing another location but with Merrill Park obviously being the ideal one, has there been any conversation with the developer to try to see if we can push that along while they're going through their delays?

Elvis Dhima: They'll be up to the Chief, he's willing to sign off with the CO, we can do that tomorrow. So, I'm kidding. So, as you all know, the offsite improvements are coming close to an end, they might have to go back next year to finish a couple of things up but the building envelope is done, the shell is done. But they're having a hard time with this thing around what the layout of the roof, I mean, I'm sorry, the floor is gonna look like. So, they cannot pour the concrete until they know exactly what it's gonna look like. The reason for that is there's gonna be a lot of robotics. For the folks that showed up at the Life is Good, you all saw there was maybe 100, 200 people there and the rest was all robots going around. That could be the future there as well. So, even though it's about 1.6 million square feet, close to two, it could be mostly utilized by robots. So, we don't know, they haven't told us, but it appears they have three buildings like these, they still don't know which way they're gonna go. So, until that's done, I think the only thing we're gonna issue is certificate of completion, not certificate of occupancy, just for the shell. I think they're closing one of the buildings up, we're gonna give them a seal for the security building we refer to, they're gonna have guards out there, keeping an eye on the site. Obviously, it's very important to them, but that's about it. Now, things could change between now and then, 2029, no one can tell, but we're basically passing to you what's being passed to us. Things could change tomorrow, I don't know. Obviously, you're gonna know as soon as we do, but as of now, the plan of attack is we're gonna finish this up, close the doors, put a guard in there, and see you in a couple years or in a few years, we'll see. 2029, it's when the elections happen, so I don't know if it's a, I know you start wondering about that, but that's it in a nutshell.

Chairman Dumont: Well, let me ask, I guess, just a blunt question, has there been any conversation with releasing that first CO and some of the, and releasing maybe partial funds?

Elvis Dhima: The way the language was set up for the conditional, conditions related to the development, it had to do 100% with a seal for the main building, not the supporting building.

Chairman Dumont: You are correct, that's why I was just wondering if the conversation was ever had, it never hurts to ask.

Elvis Dhima: We can always ask, it appears that so far, there have been like, we can release it if you give us this, it's, I don't think, I can ask, I'll ask tomorrow, I don't think there's anything hurting, I, what I'll do, I guess, is I'll ...

Chairman Dumont: Doesn't change anything, at least we know the answer.

Elvis Dhima: Well, I mean, I think it's a very important point, I think the Chief came across, you know, what he had to do with the delays related to the, related to the, the ladder. I think your point, Mr. Chairman, if they release at least a certain amount of their funds, it allows us to start doing the design and the permitting, which is gonna take at least a year. So, my take on it is, if you're not willing to give \$1.5, how about half a million and we can get the design going and the permitting, that's gonna take a while, we all know that, we're dealing with the Army Corps of Engineers, we're dealing with the shoreline protection, the FEMA and all that. So, it's worth asking, I'll ask tomorrow.

Chairman Dumont: And the reason why I bring that up is because for me to make a decision on this going forward, and I appreciate the chief putting the time and getting the bids, which is exactly what we asked for, I wanna know at least, you know, if somebody asked me a question, what the plan is, and if we were able to say, hey, we're in the engineering process of this, we're permitting it, here's our plan, here's where this boat's gonna go, it's a lot easier for me to obviously support it, and I'm sure it'd be a lot easier for the voter to support it too. Absolutely.

Selectman Morin: It's probably outdated, but I'll give you some idea that was once going to be a boat ramp. So, there's gotta be, there was a plan and everything.

Elvis Dhima: Yeah, we have it, and we have it.

Selectman Morin: So, there's gotta be information to move this on faster.

Elvis Dhima: We do. We have preliminary plans, we have some renderings, I actually scanned them, I have them, because you, Select Morin, remember, we talked to the state a couple times, Fish and Game, it never came through. It was just a lot of talk. But I think the best thing to do is probably pursue this on our own. I think \$1.5 million is gonna get us through. And if we have to cut on costs, we just cut off on the onsite, which is parking or whatever, we're just gonna do an excess road and call it a day. But \$1.5, we fought very hard for that, we got it, they were fighting us on it, but I felt like when we're done with this project, it's probably gonna be \$1.5 by the time we break ground.

Selectman Morin: Because the cement boat ramp is sitting in the woods.

Elvis Dhima: Yeah, yeah.

Selectman Morin: So, the lights and everything, everything is right there in the woods.

Elvis Dhima: So, Selectman Morin's talking about prefabricated concrete pads, and they're sitting there, we're probably not gonna use them, because I think what they were trying to do is completely outdated technology. But maybe we can use them for a boat launch at Robinson Pond, which is gonna be coming soon near you. Anyway, so that's the next one we'll be talking about Thursday, I can't wait to get into it. But anyways, with that said, I will say the Chief and I will reach out to Target to ask them if they're willing to release some of the funds to get the engineering going. That way you'll have some kind of idea to where this is going for. So, we have a shovel-ready project, and they get the CO in 2029, and we have it, they're ready to go. That's better than 2030 or 2031, which you'll be looking at if you get access to that then.

Chairman Dumont: Exactly.

Elvis Dhima: Unless things change, like I said, but we'll see.

Chairman Dumont: We can only operate with what we have today. All right, is there any other questions, comments, requests? I think that's it, thank you very much, Chief, I appreciate it, we'll be waiting to hopefully hear back soon.

Chief Tice: Okay, thank you. Elvis, you should have stayed in the hot seat because you're up next again.

G. Corridor Funds Approval – Engineering/Decision

Chairman Dumont: The Corridor Funds Approval, I will recognize Mr. Dhima.

Elvis Dhima: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As you recall, 10 years ago, the Board of Selectmen at the time and the Planning Board started a beautiful partnership utilizing the Corridor Funds. We utilized over a million dollars in these Corridor Funds to improve not only physically out there along our corridors, but also technology as well, including hardware and software. We have about 10 years into the current equipment we have in place, and we're ready for the next generation one and with that said, I asked the Planning Board for their blessing, and they did. We basically utilized Corridor Funds to move forward with purchasing 10 processors, and they'll help us with keeping up with technology and making sure we have the latest and the greatest to push traffic through Hudson. With that said, I'll take any questions you might have.

Chairman Dumont: Questions or comments?

Selectman Jakoby: Can you just, for the public, speak to the first motion for the sole bid source?

Elvis Dhima: Yes, absolutely.

Selectman Jakoby: What exactly that means?

Elvis Dhima: Yes, so what that means is that we have to go through a certain vendor because the particular equipment that I have, it gets through a particular distributor. So, this particular vendor that we have, we have used them in the past, we currently use them right now, and they're the ones that basically we're gonna have to purchase them through. So, this is a very specific equipment, and that's why you have the waiver, relief, or request form added to it. In addition to that, they work with us to basically reduce the cost for this equipment by 23%. So instead of \$104,000, we're gonna actually be using about \$80,000 of our Corridor Funds to purchase them. So, I think that's a big break.

Selectman Jakoby: Yeah, and I think it's important to note that they are licensed distribute this equipment because it's very technical equipment.

Elvis Dhima: It is, it absolutely is.

Selectman Jakoby: And to have someone who's licensed, who warranties it, guarantees it, is critical in this process. So that's why I'm comfortable with that waiver, and I wanted to let the public know.

Elvis Dhima: Yes, and it's not just for the equipment, to your point, but also the support related to providing support for this equipment as well. That's right, for the installation and that. So, it's not just the hardware, it's also the software, and they're our middle person with the company that we purchase this with. So, if there's an issue, I don't go to Gridsmart, I go to my vendor, they can figure out the licenses and everything. It's been very smooth. I think that keeping up with technology has made a difference out there. Not as much as we want to, but we're keeping up with it, and we have access to it all the time, and it's made a difference for staff as well.

Selectman Jakoby: Excellent.

Elvis Dhima: I can't say it's been a pleasure dealing with the traffic. I think that's a little out there, but it's not as painful as it used to be, because our time responding and diagnosing, it's unbelievable compared to what we had before, which is, I don't know what's going on. Now we know everything. We get emails, we get responses. DPW can respond right away to anything. There's no issue, we all get emails. It's unbelievable, the alert system that's in place with these.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: I've got a question. Do you guys do a yearly audit of traffic flow patterns to change the signals to accommodate?

Elvis Dhima: We change them as we need them.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: How do you know when you need them?

Elvis Dhima: So, typically, you get a phone call from you, Selectman Vurgaropulos. This thing is not working. What the heck is the problem? But typically, what happens is we're actually looking at them constantly, and what happens is there's significant backups for no reason, and it's typically through the detection or flow. We will evaluate it and change the timing. I can tell you that I probably do it and consult with DPW on a monthly basis on certain intersections, absolutely. So, to your point, and it's a very good point, the traffic flow changes all the time. What we don't wanna do is respond to a change because of a certain thing. I can tell you that if there's an event happening in Windham, Pelham, London, Derry, or Nashua, and they tell us about it, we do make the necessary tweaks to make sure we can accommodate the additional time they need. But we're maxed out in most cases. You can go, I can put it green for two hours on Lowell Road. It's not gonna make a difference, and I tell it to everyone. We do things a little differently here when it comes to green time on certain corridors. Everyone decides to keep it to 60 seconds. We usually do about 60 to 90 sometimes if we have to just to keep the flow. And then we have what we call it peer-to-peer, which is intersections working together. And it's been very successful. It works, and then we have a maintenance contract with our controllers as well for the traffic controllers. This is processing the images. So, we're on top of it. We're one of the few set up right. And I think we

have amazing staff at Public Works that can actually handle this, because it's not for everyone. And a lot of folks will be like, I'm not touching it. I don't know what it is. Sub it out. We handle it all in-house.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: Awesome, thank you.

Roy Sorenson: You get data and traffic counsel on this anyways.

Elvis Dhima: Yeah, and we give that away for free. You should be charging it. I mean, you can't go. Everyone is just like, you have the traffic. We go down to like the actually, the turning counts. Did the guy, did he, did you go left? Did you go right? Did you go straight? Down to that, down to pedestrian, down to bike. It's just unbelievable.

Roy Sorenson: It beats that little clicker you used to have when you were a student.

Elvis Dhima: I still go in with a flashlight and do certain things. It doesn't work. And they're like, what are you doing? Get out of here.

Selectman Guessferd: I just envision him sitting in some room somewhere, you know, looking at, oh, there's Guessferd.

Elvis Dhima: Yeah, yeah. It's just, I won't say who, but I got an interesting call not too long ago, about three weeks ago, a month ago, and they were stuck on Birch. I think they were at T-Bones. And they called, they're like, this thing is not working. I said, let me have a look. Green it went. He's like, I got green. I was like, I know you did. I just gave it to you. He's like, oh, this is so cool.

Selectman Guessferd: Now he calls him all the time.

Elvis Dhima: I know, he does. It was, that particular one was sitting on a pole and hopefully we get that project done. But it's sitting on a pole that keeps moving, so every time we get wind, and if that camera moves in maybe like half an inch, the whole detection changes. And if there's no detection, drive to Nashville and you'll get a feel to how it feels when the detection doesn't work. You sit there and it makes no sense. But it's been very good. I think it's gonna be very good to keep it up with it. I think it's very important. And I think to this Board's point is not only doing what we need to do, but plan ahead for what needs to be done, making sure that we're leaving a good system in place for people behind us.

Chairman Dumont: Great. There's no other comments. I have an updated motion.

Selectman Jakoby made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd, to waive the bid process and sole source purchase of next generation traffic equipment to New England Traffic Solutions. Motion carried, 5-0.

Selectman Vurgaropulos made a motion, seconded by Selectman Jakoby, to approve the expenditure of up to \$80,214 for the purchase of next generation traffic equipment to enhance traffic operations with funding allocated as follows: \$40,107 from account 2070-000-701 (Zone 1 Traffic Improvements), and \$40,107 from account 2070-000-702 (Zone 2 Traffic Improvements) as recommended by the Director of Development Services, the Director of Public Works, and the Planning Board. Motion carried, 5-0.

H. GIS Flyover Agreement – Engineering/Decision

Chairman Dumont: Mr. Dhima, take it away.

Elvis Dhima: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In 2017, we start paying attention to what's happening in town and what we need to make sure that we know exactly what's happening. The flyovers have been part of that. We started with teaming up with other communities at first and that played out very well and then we continued to do that. We've been using the same vendor, which was Quantum Spatial, until they changed the name to NV5 Geospatial and they've been holding the same product since 2020. This flyover is for 2026. There was some friendly back and forth on the price, but they were able to accommodate us with the same price they've been holding on for the past six years, so I am very happy with that. And based on that, my recommendation is to sole source these guys and basically get this flyover done in 2026. It's gonna give us some of the best resolution for civilian use, which is three inch, and they've done an amazing job in the past. The biggest challenge with the flyover is tying it into control points in the ground. These guys already have that technology and they've done all the surveying

work. So, what does that mean? You can do the flyover and zip it together, but now how do you actually drop it in Hudson to make sure that the property lines that we have on the GIS are true to the ortho images? I can tell you, and I have a thousand story, but I'm just gonna tell you the one from today. A gentleman comes in, he's trying to do a second driveway. He doesn't really know what to do. He's just basically average Joe using a driveway he has used. He wants to pave it, this and that. And typically, if we didn't have this, and not understanding to what they're trying to do, I would have said, you need a surveyor to come out, do the plan, because we have this technology. He was able to save thousands of dollars by saying, this is where everything is. I'm trying to do it over here. You could see it on the ortho images and you can take a measurement away from it.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: I think you did it for me.

Elvis Dhima: I think the same thing, I think not too long ago, I think right after he got elected, he came in, he was trying to do the same thing. And obviously, we denied him the first time. And then, oh, he's just got elected, give him the driveway. No, I'm kidding. It was very, very helpful to him and us to explain the situation. And he saved you, I think, probably over a couple thousand dollars trying to get a surveyor to do the property lines, figure out what your driveway is versus ...

Selectman Vurgaropulos: The process worked very quick.

Elvis Dhima: What was I in there, what?

Selectman Vurgaropulos: You were in there five minutes. It took me longer to wait for you to come out of your office?

Elvis Dhima: Five minutes, yeah. Well, I was scared. I was nervous. I said, I'm not ready. My hair wasn't done. It was a mess. But you know from firsthand how helpful that was. That happens on a daily basis, not for staff, but also for the residents. They do their own research from home at times. It gets used by public works on a daily basis. I use it on a daily basis because I deal with water, sewer, drainage, everything else. The beautiful thing about how we pay for this is mostly from water and sewer. And then, Assessing Department has funds related to the maps, so they do that. And then, the rest comes from the Planning Board. Again, they collect money from developers related to updating maps, which is exactly what we're doing. So, it has no impact whatsoever to a tax dollar, which is the first thing that Mr. Sorenson asked. And he's like, I don't think so. And I was like, whoa, whoa, whoa. And then, once I explained it to him, he warmed up to the idea. Then, eventually, we made peace, and here we are. But yeah, we've been doing this, basically. This kind of mechanism to support this expenditure through this. And it's been very successful.

Chairman Dumont: I think the point you brought up, and it's a little bit off topic, but the use that the town staff gets out of this is absolutely tremendous. And the way that it's paid for is absolutely perfect. It's impact fees through development that happens here in town. Without that development, we don't have impact fees. Without the impact fees, all this would be flipping the bill through the taxpayer.

Elvis Dhima: That's right, that's right.

Chairman Dumont: It's a good use of the funds, that's for sure.

Elvis Dhima: Absolutely, and we do it every couple years. In a perfect world, we do it every year. But we're not perfect in Hudson. We're pretty close, though. So, we do it every couple years. We get a lot out of it, and I think it's been very useful. Another thing they're gonna do is they're gonna take the ortho images and convert the impervious areas that we have to basically show us where the road, the sidewalks, the curb, the driveways. It's very helpful when we're out there doing the MS-4 permit, for example, trying to figure out how much we've grown. But also, it helps us speak to understand what we're changing to different properties. Every couple years, you get a change out there. This is very helpful. And it removes that need to go to a property. If we can't see it, what's going on, I don't need to come to your property. We all understand and appreciate the privacy. We don't wanna come in if we don't have to. This helps us a lot.

Chairman Dumont: Selectman Guessferd, I see your hand up.

Selectman Guessferd: Well, just to summarize, so it's a \$34,000 project. Of that, only \$5,000 is coming from taxpayer funds?

Elvis Dhima: No, not even that. Assessing actually has...

Selectman Guessferd: The Assessing Professional Services Accounts? Okay, so none of it comes out of taxpayer.

Elvis Dhima: Correct. I believe Assessing has money for maps updates. That's what Jim, Mr. Michaud makes available for us and then Planning Department collects money from the developers.

Selectman Guessferd: Right, that's the \$10,000.

Elvis Dhima: And then the water and sewer is related to the utilities.

Selectman Guessferd: Right, the revenues that come in and they pay for that. So yeah, it's a very good use of funds. That's it.

Chairman Dumont: So same there, this one, we do have some updated motions here.

Selectman Jakoby: I just have one. So just so that the public is aware, so there is no procurement waiver with this packet?

Elvis Dhima: There is.

Selectman Jakoby: Just not here?

Elvis Dhima: There is.

Selectman Jakoby: Oh, it's not included? Okay. Oh, I apologize. That's fine, because I was...

Elvis Dhima: No, I'll put it in on the final bit, yeah. We had the waiver and the reason on the waiver, just so everyone is aware, is the cost is the same since 2020. That's been the main reason. They've been very successful, they've been good to us, but the main reason to basically waive the bid process for this one, and it's a very good question, thank you for bringing it up, is the cost has not changed. Yes. And they have the control points already in the ground, so we're not gonna...

Selectman Jakoby: I was gonna say, because a new company might have to set up new control points.

Elvis Dhima: Yes, that's exactly it.

Selectman Jakoby: So, it's kind of all set up for them already. And I don't have an issue with that. I just noticed the form was missing.

Elvis Dhima: Yep, I'm sorry. We will add it in as a revision on the next one.

Selectman Jakoby: Thank you.

Elvis Dhima: Thank you.

[Selectman Jakoby made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd, to waive the bid process and sole source the 2026 GIS 3" High Resolution Flyover to NV5 Geospatial. Motion carried, 5-0.](#)

Chairman Dumont: Next motion would be to award the contract to NV5 Geospatial for the amount of \$34,000 using the Planning Board Tax Map Update Account 1312-505 and the amount of \$10,070, the Water Utility Account 5592-252 in the amount of \$9,465 and the Sewer Utility Account 5410-252 in the amount of \$5,000.

Selectman Guessferd: And that's the Assessing Professional Services Account, the last one.

Selectman Vurgaropoulos: You skipped one.

Chairman Dumont: And this was the updated. The updated motion.

Selectman Guessferd: They skipped sewer.

Selectman Jakoby: The Sewer Utility, Sewer Utility. Assessing Professional Services.

Roy Sorenson: Add that to the end of the motion.

Chairman Dumont: So, this is the prior updated one.

Elvis Dhima: Making sure you're paying attention, Mr. Chairman.

Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Vurgaropulos, to award the contract to NV5 Geospatial for the amount of \$34,000 using the Planning Board Tax Map Update Account #1312-505 in the amount of \$10,070, the Water Utility Account # 5592-252 in the amount of \$9,465, the Sewer Utility Account # 5562-252 in the amount of \$9,465, and the Assessing Professional Services Account # 5410-252 in the amount of \$5,000. Motion carried, 5-0.

Chairman Dumont: Thank you very much. You have a great night.

Elvis Dhima: All right. Thank you, sir. I'll be spending some money tomorrow.

I. Lower Merrimack River Local Advisory Committee Nominations – Administration /Decision

Chairman Dumont: Next up, we have the Lower Merrimack River Local Advisory Committee nominations. I will recognize Selectman Jakoby.

Selectman Jakoby: I had reached out to two individuals who have always spoken to me about the river and about water, and that was Kathy Nardoni, who lives actually on Maple right across from Merrill Park and often does cleanup there for all of us, and Ruth Sessions, who lives downtown, and I think she was the sponsor of an Aquifer warrant article years ago, and both highly educated individuals. I see we don't have the application form yet, but they were both interested, and I know, I believe Kathy might have submitted her form to you.

Roy Sorenson: Yeah, so if I may, we have the forms from DES. We'll contact the two folks that you nominate tonight. They'll fill those forms out per DES, and we'll submit those to them.

Chairman Dumont: I think that's fantastic. Very difficult to find volunteers for all the committees that we do have here, so the only thing that I would say is everybody has a draft motion from them. I would just obviously put, pending the proper forms be filed with DES. Sure.

Selectman Jakoby made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd, to nominate Hudson residents, Kathy Nardoni and Ruth Sessions, to serve a three-year term on the Lower Merrimack River Local Advisory Committee, pending submittal of applications to the Town Administrator and NHDES. Motion carried, 5-0.

J. Revenues & Expenditures – Administration /Informational

Chairman Dumont: Next up, we have revenues and expenditures. Mr. Sorensen.

Selectman Jakoby: Oh, can I just say one other thing? Just to the public, there are two more positions open for the Lower Merrimack River Local Advisory Committee. There are two more openings. If anyone else is interested in that committee, please reach out to us. Sorry. I had to do my commercial.

Chairman Dumont: Nope, that's good. Appreciate it. All right, Mr. Sorensen, take it away.

Roy Sorenson: All right, thank you, Mr. Chair. So FY26 revenue and expenditures update. This is, we're at the quarter point, so that's obviously 25%. Take a look at where we currently stand. So General Fund, we're at about 28% expended this time. Sewer Fund, we are at 20%. And our Water Fund, we are at 17%. Now, these include encumbrances. You have all the data in your reports, all the numbers, but what are the encumbrances to date? So obviously, let's take a look at the General Fund. You have a little bit over, what's that, \$3.6 million. So, our minimal, \$33,000. And then in the Water Fund, we have a little bit under \$1.2. So obviously, those weigh in on that number, being 28%, 20%, or 17% versus the 25%. Take it a little bit further and break it out so you can kind of see how it lays out. Per department, just to get into the details a little bit. And I'll kind of walk through the ones that we're keeping an eye on. In essence, we're not necessarily keeping an eye on them because we know what's encumbered. In Legal, that's just a number that's encumbered. We haven't paid out \$75,000. We have a PO for that amount. As we get the invoices in, we charge them towards that account. Under Development Services Department, same thing. Consultation, engineering services, professional services. He has various contracts, but they're upwards of \$70,000 at this point. And then obviously, solid waste, that's the big one. So,

the contract is led for Casella, and they pay each month going forward. Take a look at our revenues. Again, 25%. Where are we so far? 18%. So, we're behind it somewhat. Now obviously, this is through the first three months. The data will come in. I'm gonna tell you right now, we've been busy with the audit and things like that. So, I think some of the billings that we haven't put in yet, you'll see on the next report. Either way, motor vehicles continues to head in the right direction, which is good, we're ahead of it at this point and then it's hit or miss on the other ones. I just highlighted building permits, inspections. Planning Board fees are actually up, that was interesting. I did put cable franchise on here, because I think that's something we're gonna talk about with HCTV as we move forward with the budget review. And I think that'll be a growing concern, not just for Hudson, for many communities here in the immediate future. That's it. Any questions?

Selectman Guessferd: No, looking good.

Selectman Jakoby: Thank you. I think it was great.

9. SELECTMEN LIAISON REPORTS/OTHER REMARKS

Selectman Vurgaropoulos: I got nothing.

Chairman Dumont: Not a bad thing.

Selectman Vurgaropoulos: Yeah, I got nothing. Sometimes good news is good news. I'm going to smack on this book a little bit.

Selectman Morin: I sat in the Budget Committee meeting. It wasn't much. Basically, the school had their presentation, and I'll yield when that time comes, talking about their health care. Sat in on the Planning Board the other night, and that went for 32 minutes, so. Not bad. Not much come out of that one either. And the only other thing is, I had talked about this in the past, the Hudson Service Network, which is all the organizations in town if some type of disaster or something happens. We had a meeting last week, and the police and fire chiefs attended the meeting, and they explained their side of things and what this group could do. The biggest one that we got out of the police was that they go to homes in town and they see a lot of things, so now they can contact this group. So, if they see that a child's sleeping on the floor, maybe we'd get somebody to purchase a bed or get some food over there. So, the police are working on that end to see the logistics of that and how that would work. But right now, everything's in place. Hopefully, nothing happens that we need to use it, but everything's in place to go if we need to do it. That's all I have.

Selectman Jakoby: Yes, thank you very much. I just want to thank, so I'm getting all the titles wrong. Oh my gosh. So, Mr. Dhima, the Director of Development Services, and Mr. Sorensen, the Town Administrator, and I had the opportunity to meet with the President of the Friends of Benson at the Elephant Barn, and we had some great conversation around being collaborative around the buildings, around all that's going on at Benson Park and all of the historic buildings that are in town. So, we continue to have those conversations, and I just want to let people know that it's been very productive to move forward with Benson Park and to understand the history and the legacy and to know that there's a lot of new people involved, and we continue to look for new people to get involved. So, I just wanted to thank the staff because I found that to be a very productive meeting. And Sustainability is coming up next week, as is the Benson Park Advisory Committee. So that's all I have. Thank you so much.

Selectman Guessferd: Let's see. We've already had our department update by the Rec Department. The only thing I need to say there is you may have heard already, there's gonna be a comedy show, which is another one of their fundraising events on November 15th. You can go to the Rec Department website and request tickets. There'll be a link there. Should be fun. About 300 or so people that go to every one of these shows. Looks like another great slate of comedians. So that should be good. Planning Board's coming up next week again. We'll see if it's gonna be 32 minutes or not, but I suspect it'll be a little bit longer. So, I haven't seen the agenda yet, so that's gonna be coming out very quickly. Besides that, I think library's coming up as well, and I think that's really all I have at this point. There's probably not a lot I have to say.

Chairman Dumont: Thank you very much. Just for myself, the focus is on the budget. I urge everybody public to get involved, pay attention, send in your questions, or come to the meetings and participate in the process. I

know when it comes time to vote on it, everybody has a lot of questions, and it would be good for everybody to try to participate through the meetings as we go, department by department. It might alleviate some of the questions or concerns as we get closer to the March voting season and the Deliberative Session. So just wanted to urge everybody to come out. We have those coming up this Thursday, the following week as well, and then the week after that. So, hope to see you.

10. REMARKS BY TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Roy Sorenson: All right, thank you, Mr. Chair. So, I'll just echo that. The grind obviously starts Thursday. I will do an intro to the budget for the upcoming FY27 to start the kickoff of that meeting. Then we'll have DPW, so all the ways, police, library, planning, planning board, zoning, and ZBA, and engineering. So that's gonna be the lineup for Thursday night. In looking at how we've done it traditionally, and I mentioned to the Chair tonight, pushing the warrant articles to November. I think we focus on them at that point as we get the budget out of the way, and obviously the Budget Committee also has to take a look at the budget as well. So, looking forward to that on Thursday night as we start that process. I just wanna mention that we do have Halloween coming up, so as is typical, we do have a policy that the Board has taken in the past, 6 to 8 p.m. on October 31st of each year. I would imagine the Board would continue that, and if so, we will post that accordingly. And I just wanna say thanks to the staff. It was all hands-on deck getting this budget prepared. Been particularly busy down in finance. I think you see the pieces coming together, so you saw the presentation tonight. You're gonna see pieces of what the departments have done throughout the year within that budget book, it's kind of setting up for this moment. So, as I mentioned, I'm looking forward to it, and I think they are as well. That's it.

Chairman Dumont: I just wanna echo that, you know, thanks to the staff, the department heads, yourself, Lorrie as well, and you know, even the Selectman's Office, getting everything put together. I know you guys put a lot of effort and a lot of time. There were some changes to help us be more efficient, and I just wanted to make sure everybody was aware of the hard work and time that you guys put into that, so thank you very much for that. Next up will be the School Board Liaison, Mr. Campbell.

11. REMARKS BY SCHOOL LIAISON

Mike Campbell: Hi. So, I guess I'll start talking about School Care at the start. I don't know if you guys have seen the news, but roughly about 90 school districts and towns recently received an unexpected invoice from School Care, which provides health care for the school district. It's a, what is called a risk pool. So, they get lower rates overall. So, when they have over funds, they refund them. You don't get a check, but it lowers our rates the next year. For the past 10 or so years, we've received refunds. This year, the past two years, they've been hit harder with costs. So, they're reaching out to everyone and basically billed us. Our share was \$1.47 million. And on Monday, we vote, last Monday we voted to utilize funds from FY25 to pay for the invoice to minimize the impact to the district taxpayers and our employees. We're looking into other options for health care in the future because costs aren't going down anytime soon. If you want more details, the chair, Chairman Dionne was at the Budget Committee and we had a very long presentation last Monday. Okay. It's not great, but it is what it is. And we are in a more fortunate position than other districts. Other districts are getting hit hard too, but we're on the other side of it now. In happier news, we approved the Washington D.C. trip, which is a yearly tradition for eighth graders to a very fast few days, hitting all the hotspots of D.C. So that will be next year as always. We also finished up a bunch of curriculum nights in all of our buildings, also called a celebration of learning, where it was either the parents would go and meet with the teachers or the students would guide their parents. Like my son at Hills Garrison guided us to his classroom and all of the, like we went to the music department, the art library and gymnasium. It was a really fun event. You learn about what the student experiences each day because I don't know about other parents out there, but my son magically forgets what happened in the past six hours the minute he gets off the bus. So, it's good to learn a little bit. And we're right behind you with budgeting. It starts next week. I wish us luck and you guys luck. Thank you very much.

Chairman Dumont: Appreciate that. And at this time, we're gonna take care of our motions that we handled in our non-public session at the beginning of the meeting here tonight. Mr. Sorensen, could you please read the first motion to the record?

12. NONPUBLIC MOTIONS

The following motions were agreed upon by consensus during the earlier nonpublic session of this meeting, then formally seconded and voted on during the public session, as follows:

Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin, to hire Carlos Garcia as a full-time police officer as recommended by Police Chief, with a starting salary of \$36.94 (step four) per hour, all in accordance with the Hudson Police Employee Association contract. Motion carried, 5-0.

Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Morin, to accept the resignation of probationary Firefighter/EMT Corey Partridge, as recommended by the Fire Chief, effective October 7th, 2025. Motion carried, 5-0.

13. EXIT NONPUBLIC SESSION – N/A

14. ADJOURNMENT

Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Vurgaropulos, to adjourn at 8:58 p.m. Motion carried, 5-0.

Recorded by HCTV and transcribed by Lorrie Weissgarber, Executive Assistant.

Dillon Dumont, Chairman

Bob Guessferd, Vice-Chairman

Xen Vurgaropulos, Selectman

Heidi Jakoby, Selectman

Dave Morin, Selectman