



## HUDSON, NEW HAMPSHIRE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

### Minutes of the May 26, 2026 Board of Selectmen Meeting

7:00 PM

Board of Selectmen Meeting Room, Town Hall

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1. **CALL TO ORDER** – by Chairman Dumont the meeting of May 26, 2026 at 7:01 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, Xen Vurgaropulos, Heidi Jakoby and Kimberly Allan.

**Staff/Others:** Town Administrator: Roy Sorenson; Director of Development Services: Elvis Dhima; Fire Chief: Scott Tice; Public Works Director: Jay Twardosky; IT Director: Doug Bosteels; School Board Liaison: Heather Cook; Executive Assistant: Lorrie Weissgarber.

4. **PUBLIC INPUT**

Chairman Dumont: At this time, we're going to roll right into public input. Does anyone in the audience wish to address the Board on any issue at this time, which the Board has control of? Please come up and state your name and address for the record.

Deborah Putnam, 59 Rangers Drive. I simply wish to share some information related to cleaning up loose ends, connected with the dissolution of the Sustainability Advisory Committee. The committee had used funds for many years to cover the very modest membership fee for the Town of Hudson to have access to all information programs and events offered by Clean Energy New Hampshire. Out of respect for the long-term involvement with Clean Energy New Hampshire, I stepped up to call the former committee's main contact, Sarah Brock. Sarah has removed the email addresses of all former SAC members from their records. In their place, she has added BOS at hudsonnewhampshire.gov and R. Sorenson at HudsonNewHampshire.gov. I have given Lorrie the complete contact information for Clean Energy New Hampshire, along with Sarah Brock's extension. The membership will end on November 2, 2026. The second loose end is on the CRC Community Roadside Cleanup page, where a resident or group initially fills out a form requesting approval to host a roadside cleanup. This program was developed with the full support of the DPW, the HPD, and the HFD. It has become apparent that the SAC email addresses using hudsonnh.gov have been shut down. Thus, the submit link perhaps should be changed to route the application form to the director of the DPW, Jay Trodowski at HudsonNH.gov. Thank you for the opportunity to share information about taking care of these two loose ends. I was a volunteer of the Sustainability Committee since the spring of 2014. I am very proud of all that the Sustainability Committee accomplished over the years. Thank you.

Chairman Dumont: Thank you.

Kate Messner, 10 Third Street: I just need to correct the record and educate those who are not familiar with or may have forgotten how all this came to pass with forming Hudson Community Power. So, I just want to make some points. The history of the HEAC, Hudson Electric Aggregation Committee, later called Hudson Community Power, a subcommittee of the Sustainability Committee, was formed in a very different energy market. The forming of the HEAC was totally sanctioned by the BOS and we reported on a monthly basis at each and every SC meeting where a BOS selectman liaison was present. Second, we were diligent in both our research and methods over a period of years. Several companies came and gave multiple presentations to the entire Sustainability

Committee, again with selectman liaison present over the course of our deliberations. All of these presentations are public record. At the time, Freedom Energy Logistics was partnered with Colonial Power and Colonial Power had no, zero experience in New Hampshire. We were not comfortable with that and we didn't think the BOS or the town administrator would be comfortable with that. The subsequent financial difficulties of CPCNH, the HEAC recommended company, were and are in no way attributable to anything any of us on the committee did, nor could anyone foresee the creative way that Eversource chose to recover their losses and that the PUC, Public Utilities Commission, and the state legislature would approve such behavior. This affects Eversource's competitive rates enormously. Third, it was we, the Sustainability Committee, who encouraged the BOS to bring community power or CCA, Community Choice Aggregation, to the voters via a warrant article and we worked together with the BOS to come up with wording. As you may recall, it received a three in four approval rating from the voters. There were two parts to the warrant article. One, whether to allow the BOS to stand up community power and two, to allow the BOS to choose a company. It's because of this effort and this language that the BOS can pursue an alternative CCA arrangement now without having to go back to the voters. Fourth, it was because of my commitment to the Sustainability Committee that I volunteered to serve as the alternate member rep to CPCNH, the chosen company. Now that the Sustainability Advisory Committee has been dissolved by this board, it no longer makes sense for me to serve in this capacity. All the information that I distill and report on a monthly basis is available on the CPCNH website. Reporting is done in arrears, so the May 1st report that I sent this morning, I mean, yeah, May 1st document sent this morning has the April numbers. The June 1st will have May's numbers, etc. The report tends to be available around the third week of the month, so please consider this my resignation and my role as complete. The last point I want to make is that what disbanding of the Sustainability Advisory Committee may say about the Town of Hudson. At your April 28th meeting, Mr. DeVant said that the town departments formerly may not have been sustainable, have been sustainability-minded, and now are. I beg to disagree and say that we could all stand to do better. Mr. Guessferd correctly wondered if the sparks of the ideas for many of the town's sustainability efforts had actually come from the prior committee, and the answer is yes, they had. If we as a committee had been starry-eyed about things like recycling, and we may have been before, after we had Jay come and talk to the committee, we no longer were. On the contrary, we were even more committed to finding fiscally responsible ways to minimize our town's contributions to the state's landfills, which is a responsibility and an obligation of every municipality in the state. In my opinion, it was a mistake to disband a team of committed, enthusiastic volunteers who simply wanted to help the town's sustainability efforts. I fear this decision will reflect an indifference for Hudson's environmental footprint within the state. I hope I'm wrong. Time will tell. Thank you for allowing me the time to make these points, and for allowing me the opportunity to volunteer for the town for the last six and a half years.

Selectman Jakoby: Thank you.

Chairman Dumont: All right, does anyone else in the audience wish to come up and speak? Not seeing anyone, we will close the public input at 7.09 p.m. We'll roll into recognitions, nominations, and appointments.

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

Chairman Dumont: We have no recognitions or nominations, but we do have an appointment of a Benson Park Advisory Committee member. I believe it's Jan Horvath. It's a reappointment. It was a year or two ago that they had joined the committee, if I remember correctly. Do we have any questions, comments, motions from the board members?

Selectman Jakoby: I've worked with Jan. He's dedicated to the park, and I think his reappointment is appropriate.

Chairman Dumont: All right, do we have a motion?

**A. Recognitions – None**

**B. Nominations – None**

**C. Appointments**

- 1) Benson Park Advisory Committee – Jan Horvath, member reappointment
  - o Member vacancy to expire April 2029

Selectman Jakoby made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd, to reappoint Jan Horvath as a member of the Benson Park Advisory Committee with a term to expire April 2029. Motion carried, 5-0.

Chairman Dumont: Next up, we have consent items. Does any board member wish to move any item for separate consideration?

Selectman Vurgaropulos made a motion, seconded by Selectman Allan, to approve Consent Items 6A-F. Motion carried, 5-0.

**6. CONSENT ITEMS**

**A. Assessing Items**

- 1) Elderly Exemption Requalification
- 2) Abatement Applications

**B. Water/Sewer Items**

- 1) Sewer Abatement

**C. Licenses & Permits & Policies**

- 1) Tag Day Permit – Humane Society for Greater Nashua
- 2) Pole Licenses – Alvirne Drive

**D. Donations – None**

**E. Acceptance of Minutes**

- 1) May 12, 2026

**F. Calendar**

05/12	7:00	Board of Selectmen	BOS Meeting Room
05/12	7:00	Board of Selectmen	BOS Meeting Room
05/27	7:00	Planning Board	Buxton Meeting Room
05/28	7:00	Zoning Board of Adjustment	Buxton Meeting Room
06/02	5:30	Supervisors of the Checklist	BOS Meeting Room
06/03	8:30a	Highway Safety Committee	BOS Meeting Room
06/03	7:00	Budget Committee	Buxton Meeting Room
06/08	7:00	Cable Utility Committee	Hudson Cable Access Center
06/08	7:00	Conservation Commission	Buxton Meeting Room
06/09	7:00	Board of Selectmen	BOS Meeting Room

**7. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. BOS Bylaws – Administration/ Discussion**

Chairman Dumont: Next up, we have our bylaws. This is our, would be considered our second read of these bylaws. Mr. Sorenson is pulling it up on the screen. Board members, what are your thoughts?

Selectman Jakoby: Okay, I'll go. I think the highlighted areas reflect our conversations in a positive way. I was just skipping, oh the first place that I have a comment is under eight, no not, oh no, under F, employees, town administrator. I don't know if anybody has anything before that, so that's why I was waiting.

Chairman Dumont: You have the floor.

Selectman Jakoby: Okay, so just looking at the format and the paragraph that's here, I was just wondering if we should just format it as like an A, B, C, D, E kind of thing, because it's coordinate daily administrative functions of the meeting serving as liaison between the Selectman and town departments, and then B coordinates with town

council the preparation of agreements and other, they're kind of individual things the way I read it, is that correct? Or I don't know what anybody else thinks.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: Yeah, put your curser there and hit enter.

Roy Sorenson: Yeah, it's Adobe, it's probably not going to let me do it. But ...

Selectman Jakoby: No, no, and I just thought to do that A, B is coordinate, C is attends all Selectman meetings, because it just marries the format early.

Selectman Guessferd: So yeah, and then, but then you have this rogue format down here.

Chairman Dumont: So let me, well, so let me ask you, so would A just essentially become responsibilities and you would number them?

Selectman Jakoby: Ah, much better.

Chairman Dumont: That'll make it, that would be ...

Selectman Jakoby: that would be much better.

Chairman Dumont: Yep.

Selectman Jakoby: And then the one revision that we spoke about briefly, but we did not speak about as a whole board, was, I know that the town administrator is responsible to work with the chairman to create a draft of the motions for the meeting. Okay. Remember, we were talking about parliamentary procedure or procedure, and you didn't like those words.

Roy Soernson: So, you on B right now?

Selectman Jakoby: It's not there. It's not there. It's, we talked about coming up with some language. So, I thought long and hard about it. And it's only if everybody agrees. If nobody agrees up, I, we don't need to do this. So, my understanding is that that's what's done, is that you make up draft motions with the chairman. So, my question was, do we do reviews the agenda with the chairman creating draft motions in accordance with past practices or proper procedure, and the guidance of the chairman?

Chairman Dumont: So, so I guess to that point, the only thing that I would say is, so really the draft motions come from department heads and Roy. Obviously, I review them when they get, as they're going through the agenda, and we talk about them there. But ultimately I would say it's really the purview of the board of selectmen as to how that motion works out, right? There's no obligation of any member here to concede to those draft motions. They could change them, tweak them, add information to them as we've done in the past, but they're purely kind of recommendations.

Selectman Jakoby: Right. But some of those motions I know are vetted through legal counsel and or Robert's Rules of Order to just ensure that they're being done properly. So, I was just trying to create that space for you, chairman, or the chairman, and the town administrator to do that. And maybe it's enough in here that, that it says that he consults with town council.

Chairman Dumont: Yeah, I, so that's what, I think that's where I would look at it, as is consulting with town council, because I don't see, I mean not that I'm aware of, at least not since I've been chair, we don't typically look to Robert's Rules for the, for the motions. It's normally information based on department heads, accounts, or depending on the motion, legal advice.

Selectman Jakoby: Well, I was just going back to the misunderstanding around electing a chair and a vice chair, and that correction was made last year and then was still incorrect this year.

Chairman Dumont: So, that was a procedure that this board chose to follow. Ultimately the board dictates how, how those get done.

Selectman Jakoby: And that was not an appropriate motion. So those are the kinds of things, because I know the previous town administrator did often recommend proper procedure or recommended motions. So that's something that we no longer want the town administrator to do. Okay. So, we just want the, to leave in

coordinates with town council, the preparation of agreements and other items needing selectmen signatures, but, or, or other motions?

Chairman Dumont: I'll, I'll, I guess, concede to other board members to see what their thoughts are.

Selectman Jakoby: Because I noticed for some of those motions, it's really important to get legal consult before they come here.

Chairman Dumont: Quite frankly, I would look at that as items that gets handled under the agenda, that type of information gathering. But I don't believe, I wouldn't put it in the bylaws, I guess, my short, short and sweet of it.

Selectman Guessferd: It is very specific information, I think it's, it's more procedural. And I'm not necessarily...

Selectman Jakoby: It's fine. I'm fine. So, we're going to leave it as is, but do responsibilities and then...

Chairman Dumont: break those down.

Selectman Jakoby: Okay. Like I said, I'm okay if nobody wants to do it, but I at least want to say it.

Chairman Dumont: That's fine.

Selectman Jakoby: And then in B, it's just redundant. I don't think the word, so the green area, so the board, a comprehensive draft of the evaluation document at the meeting prior to the March election, but then it's saying the final evaluation documents shall, prior to the next annual election. So those two dates don't really work.

Selectman Guessferd: Yeah, I was wondering about the wording about myself, actually.

Selectman Jakoby: So, I just wondered if it should be board, the aggregation, the information presenting to the board, a comprehensive draft of the evaluation document at or before.

Chairman Dumont: I would almost eliminate...

Selectman Jakoby: The green entirely.

Chairman Dumont: Eliminate the green and leave the current seat of board of selecting must complete the final evaluation document prior to the next annual election.

Selectman Jakoby: I think that, that's fine.

Chairman Dumont: That way you have, you know that you're expecting to get the comprehensive draft and that you have, the board itself will have to make a decision on that before the election.

Selectman Jakoby: Excellent. And then my final one, well, I have two more.

Selectman Guessferd: Yeah, I think that makes sense.

Selectman Jakoby: So, the final evaluation document shall remain on file in the human resource department. So, the final evaluation document shall be reviewed with the town administrator and remain on file on the human resource department. Nowhere do we say we're reviewing it with the town administrator.

Roy Sorenson: It's in my contract.

Chairman Dumont: Yeah. No, I think it's fine to be in there.

Selectman Guessferd: A decent point.

Chairman Dumont: I think it's fine to be in there. I will say, obviously, and Mr. Sorenson's point, typically there, those details are in the personnel contract, but I don't have a problem with it going in.

Roy Sorenson: Do you want to add that in there?

Selectman Jakoby: The personnel, but his contract reads June.

Chairman Dumont: So, the dates are definitely all screwy. And I think that this will hopefully simplify that. And hopefully as we move forward with new contracts, we'll keep that in mind. I think that that date was an error on our part, but I think we all understand where this should go moving forward.

Selectman Jakoby: I think it's important to just say shall be reviewed with the town administrator.

Chairman Dumont: No, that's that's fine. Yeah, we're we're obligated to do that. So, I'm fine with putting that in.

Selectman Jakoby: Okay. And then my final question was under two executive assistant, the last paragraph that on page nine that says after the meeting. And should the last word be instead of discretion, town administrator's direction or discretion? It's fine either way, but it struck me ...

Selectman Guessferd: Down here, right?

Selectman Jakoby: Yeah, it struck me.

Chairman Dumont: Yeah, I mean, I think discretion sounds better to me, but I think that I think that the intent is about the same. So, I guess I'll look to the board to see what their thoughts are.

Selectman Jakoby: OK, I'm fine either way. Just thought I'd raise it because Selectman Guessferd and I went back and forth on a word last time.

Chairman Dumont: That's fine, yeah. That's why we're doing this.

Selectman Jakoby: That's all I had.

Chairman Dumont: All right. Are there board members and everything else? So, I believe based on our bylaws and what's in the existing one, this would count as a new read. And obviously, we would need to take time to review it and bring it back for approval at the next meeting. That's my thought of it. Ultimately, I will say, again, this board can do as it wishes. So, I'll turn it over to you guys.

Selectman Guessferd: But I think you can go either way where, you know, where we could, if we're all comfortable ...

Selectman Jakoby: With the minor changes.

Selectman Guessferd: With a minor, I'm going to say, you know, hereby adopt the revised bylaws as, you know, with revised changes agreed to during this meeting or something to that effect. But we could do it either way. If your people feel comfortable going to the next meeting and reading it and making sure it's good. I think we've kind of been through this a number of times.

Chairman Dumont: I would agree.

Selectman Guessferd: And my view would be, let's just, you know, as long as everyone's comfortable with those changes, let's just do this.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: No, I agree. They're all very minor changes. Nothing core change.

So, I'm OK with that. OK.

Chairman Dumont: All right. So, does somebody have a motion?

Selectman Guessferd: I'll make the motion since I ...

Chairman Dumont: Go right ahead.

Selectman Jakoby: Can I just see up to the town administrator? OK, so. So, you know, we're going to put in responsibilities. And then A, B, C, D.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: Mr. Sorenson doesn't have a way to edit it.

Selectman Jakoby: No, no. But I just want to make sure that ...

Roy Sorenson: Where do you want the word responsibilities?

Chairman Dumont: So, A would become responsibilities. And then underneath that, it would break out the three different sentences as, you know, subsections.

Selectman Jakoby: That's what we're agreeing to.

Chairman Dumont: Yeah, that's fine.

Selectman Guessferd: OK. All right. Hold on a second. I'm just writing this down. All right. It might be a little wordy. We'll see here. The Board of Selectmen hereby. My motion is to the Board of Selectmen hereby adopt the revised bylaws as presented with minor revisions agreed to at the 26 May 2026 Board of Selectmen meeting.

Kimberly Allan: Second.

Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Allan, for the Board of Selectmen to hereby adopt the revised bylaws as presented with minor revisions agreed to at the 26 May 2026 Board of Selectmen Meeting. Motino carried, 5-0.

Chairman Dumont: Yeah. The only thing I will add to that just for discussion, and you can tell me if you think this sounds better, is bylaws as amended at the 2026 meeting. But I'm fine with it either way.

Selectman Guessferd: I amended kind of infers that. It was already something was already there in place in my mind.

Chairman Dumont: That's fine.

Selectman Guessferd: Just say as draft.

Selectman Jakoby: Thank you for the discussion. I appreciate it.

#### **B. Policy Sub-Committee – Administration/Discussion**

Chairman Dumont: All right, next up, we have the policy subcommittee. Mr. Sorenson.

Roy Sorenson: All right. So, for tonight, these four policies in front of you, and I'm going to kind of I might pivot back to your bylaws too. So, kind of bear with me on this and move on. I'll explain why. So, before you tonight, you have FIN 010 budget transfers. Then when I say FIN 015 audits, FIN 020 fund balance policy, FIN 021 investment policy. These four are final in new form. We changed the format of them. You'll see them. They are included. This policy subcommittee wishes for the board to sign off on them and adopt them at this time. As far as changes go, it would just be budget transfers and audits. Those are newer policies, fund balance and investment policy. There are no changes. And those latter two, we have to adopt annually anyways. Now, just to make everybody's head spin, the committee did set up that new format, similar to what Selectman Jakoby was saying with the number and labeling system and all that. We've since worked through this. I've worked through this with staff. And if you get to the backside of your package, you'll see a brand-new format.

Selectman Guessferd: I was wondering what that was, which is nice.

Roy Sorenson: It's very nice, much more professional looking. This is the format. We're trying to kind of just basically have a brand across the board, whether it's policy, job descriptions, whatever it might be in form of our policies or any type of administrative document. So, what we would do, provided the board's okay with the actual policies, is just take them from that, what I would just call a simple black and white version and plug them into this more modern executive style version. And I just put one in there as an example of how it might read. You'll see that I put the transfer appropriations budget, I'm sorry, policy in there. That being said, I would take that same format after what you just talked about with the revisions for the Board of Selectmen bylaws, and we put that in there as well.

Selectman Jakoby: So here, this is my concern about the new format here. When you talk about a policy, it would be very difficult to reference a section out of the new format. And I think that's partly why we enumerate within the bylaws and within other documents so that we can say, you know, when something occurred, we can go to finance policy, finance policy 020 subsection two, number, you know, number or subsection three. Without that enumeration, it's very difficult to point directly to a particular part of the procedure, both for staff and for others within the administration.

Selectman Guessferd: Can the headings include numbers?

Roy Sorenson: Yeah.

Selectman Guessferd: We could just include numbers in those headings.

Selectman Jakoby: I mean, I don't disagree with that. Yeah, because the policy committee, you know, I think we went purposely to numbers and away from just headings because of that reason.

Roy Sorenson: Yeah, we can obviously put the numbers back in. That's not an issue.

Selectman Guessferd: Yeah, I tend to like to be able to reference to a particular paragraph with a number.

Selectman Jakoby: Well, especially if we're dealing with any issue with anybody, then you can hone right into it and quote it and sub footnote it.

Selectman Guessferd: Just at the section level, I just say at the top.

Selectman Jakoby: Just at the section level. Okay.

Selectman Guessferd: Yeah, because I don't seem long. Oh, no. And when I go look at the other policies, they're typically not sub numbered.

Selectman Jakoby: They are not sub numbered. They're just bulleted.

Selectman Vurgaropoulos: So I think there's a certain amount of legal ease, too, not that we want to go to court first. When you go to court, you're having that direction to go to court right out of the gate.

Selectman Guessferd: Section, such and such. Yep.

Roy Sorenson: So, after that discussion, in general, I would be looking to adopt or readopt those four. And we'll obviously come back. We'll be back at the next meeting with a bunch more as well. The group's actively working on six more tomorrow. Yeah, and then we'll have five more finance after that. So, there is a recommended motion there for the board, if you so choose to take action on these four tonight.

Selectman Jakoby: I'd like to make a motion for the Board of Selectmen. The Board of Selectmen hereby adopts the following policies upon the second reading. FIN 010, budget transfers. FIN 015, audits. FIN 020, fund balance policy. And FIN 021, investment policy, as recommended by the Policy Subcommittee.

Selectman Vuraropoulos: Second.

Chairman Dumont: Motion by Selectman Jakoby, seconded by Selectman Vurgaropoulos. Any discussion? Go ahead.

Selectman Guessferd: I have several comments. They're more editorial, really. But before we adopt them, I'd like to actually have these. It won't take long.

Chairman Dumont: OK.

Selectman Guessferd: I just had a few comments. On the first one, the transfer 6.1. OK, they do have subsections. This one does.

Selectman Jakoby: You lied to me.

Selectman Guessferd: This one does. I didn't lie. It says the department heads may request transfers between line items within their department budget subject to approval by the finance director and governing body where required. What exactly does where required mean?

Selectman Vurgaropoulos: It should say where required by law.

Roy Sorenson: What section are you on right now?

Selectman Guessferd: 6.1 on page 3. 6.1, second line, where it says where required. That makes sense.

Roy Sorenson: It should actually say when required, I believe.

Selectman Guessferd: I mean, it kind of leaves it wide open in my mind. I agree with that. When is it required? That's my only comment on that one.

Chairman Dumont: Was the intent for it to be when or where?

Roy Sorenson: I think it's actually when. I think that's a... But I mean, either way, I mean, if you want to add more clarity to it, we can certainly do that.

Selectman Guessferd: Required by law? Is that what's meant by it?

Chairman Dumont: The only thing that I would submit to approval by the finance director...

Roy Sorenson: It's not by law because it's by policy. We set the policy.

Chairman Dumont: Right, yeah. It wouldn't be by law. Because these transfers, you wouldn't be able to find that anywhere.

Selectman Guessferd: Right, okay. When required by policy.

Chairman Dumont: I think it'd be when required or when required by policy or, you know...

Selectman Vurgaropoulos: I think when required by policy makes more sense. If you don't have the policy part on it, in my head anyways, that sentence ending at when required, it points you back to, well, when do the department heads need to transfer? And that's not the intent.

Chairman Dumont: The only thing I guess I would point to that is does the policy actually dictate when these transfers need to occur? Or is it as you're going through your fiscal year that they come up?

Selectman Guessferd: I'm not going to follow my sword on this, but...

Chairman Dumont: No, I just want to make sure that we're not...

Roy Sorenson: As an example.

Selectman Jakoby: No, this is what we need to do. Yeah.

Roy Sorenson: Since I'm looking at the Fire Chief, he can overexpand any line within his budget as long as it doesn't go over his end number in his budget, bottom line budget. Okay, the question becomes, and he did a lot of this during the budget prep last year just to kind of equalize numbers. So, every year we went to the budget process, we weren't saying, oh, you were 10 grand over there last year. How come? So, it's truth in budgeting. And the reason you would want to go negative in some of your lines anyways and not do a transfer is to show something back to either the board of select or the budget committee. There's a reason why that happened. Now, let's just say he goes over budget completely. That's a totally different story. That's going to come back to this board and you guys need to approve. Or, we need to know where's that money coming from to cover the deficit in the fire department. So that's just the department level transfers.

Chairman Dumont: So, with that, I would tend to believe it should just be when required. And keep in mind, obviously, this is still subject to the finance director and the governing body. So, you can't do anything without that.

Selectman Guessferd: Correct.

Chairman Dumont: And that's what 6.2 says.

Selectman Guessferd: Okay, and that's fine. I mean, I'm not going to ...

Selectman Jakoby: So, do we want to just edit that to when required?

Selectman Guessferd: When required.

Selectman Jakoby: Yeah. Take that as a friendly amendment.

Selectman Guessferd: Yeah, yeah.

Chairman Dumont: What else you got?

Selectman Guessferd: All right. That's all I got on that one on audits. I thought I thought that the audit policy was a bit sparse, I guess I'll say. But I think we'll have to look at that again next year, you know, when it comes up for annual review and maybe add a little more meat to it. I don't know if it needs meat, but the only other thing I thought that might be a little bit missing, but again, having that much meat in here, I'm not sure that there's a lot

of definitions, but there was no definitions as in with the rest of them. There's definitions, but it just really kind of talks about legal authority. So, if there's no definition, again, it's just something I noticed and I didn't know if definitions were missing or whether or not.

Roy Sorenson: Which one are you talking about?

Selectman Guessferd: Finance audits.

Selectman Jakoby: 015.

Selectman Guessferd: 015.

Roy Sorenson: So, section two?

Selectman Guessferd: Yeah. Where it says definitions and legal authority. There's legal authority in there, but no definitions. But again, reading it, reading through it, I'm not sure there's a lot of definitions needed.

Roy Sorenson: Audits are strictly by state law. We have to follow state law on the audits.

Selectman Guessferd: Right.

Roy Sorenson: I don't think we're going to cite the whole state law here. We're just going to reference it.

Selectman Guessferd: Oh, no, no, I wouldn't expect us to. Again, that was just kind of in my mind, a comment that I had when I was reading through it going, are there any definitions required? If there's not, OK, that's great.

Selectman Vurgaropoulos: I just want a point of clarity. When you said when we do the annual review, were you talking about the review of the stock rate or the review of the annual budget?

Selectman Guessferd: The policy.

Selectman Vurgaropoulos: OK, because this is in the three years.

Selectman Guessferd: OK, three years. It's going to be three years.

Selectman Vurgaropoulos: I just wanted to clarify that.

Selectman Guessferd: When we do that tri-annual review.

Chairman Dumont: For the sake of making it simple, why don't we just strike out definitions and just leave legal authority?

Selectman Guessferd: That's fine by me.

Chairman Dumont: I think that worked. Does that work for everybody, Mr. Sorenson?

Selectman Guessferd: A friendly amendment?

Chairman Dumont: Do you believe the definitions needs to be in there?

Roy Sorenson: It's fine. I mean, it's fine.

Selectman Guessferd: It's more of like a standard thing for every policy. They always have definitions. But I think for this one, you don't need to have it there. Because it does beg the question. But again, it's more of an administrative thing. I'm not looking to kind of tear it apart or anything. And then number 10, the word management. And maybe that's where definitions are required. What is management?

Selectman Jakoby: F1-010.

Selectman Guessferd: Page 2. Yeah, 10, audit findings and corrective action. It says management. What is management?

Chairman Dumont: Audit findings calls out management.

Roy Sorenson: Number 10. Well, that's the board.

Selectman Guessferd: The governing body?

Chairman Dumont: So, you could do, yeah, governing body.

Selectman Guessferd: And there's your definition right there.

Roy Sorenson: Yeah, that's where you would come back to definitions.

Selectman Jakoby: So, we're going to change management to board of selectmen?

Selectman Guessferd: Yeah. We could just say the board of selectmen. That way you don't have to put definitions in.

Chairman Dumont: There you go.

Selectman Guessferd: There you go. All right. OK, that's all I got for that one. I just had a purely editorial one on finance fund balance policy 020. Just make sure that we bold those definitions like we do on all the other policies. There's only one where they weren't.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: Oh, yeah, the first words, yeah.

Selectman Guessferd: Yeah, they weren't bolded. Again, I know I'm being picky here.

Selectman Jakoby: No, it's important. Thank you.

Selectman Guessferd: And then I want to add a definition there which says governing body. It means the board of selectmen. I thought it said governing body in there somewhere. But it does say the board of selectmen under 6. So maybe we don't need that. Yeah, I don't see anywhere else where it says the governing body. So, let's not put the governing body in then. All right. I'll just bold this one. And I think that's all I had for the investment policy. Yeah, that was it.

Chairman Dumont: All right. Any other discussion? That was my next question. So, we had a couple of amendments. I just want to make sure we didn't have any else getting thrown out there. Are those amendments friendly to the motion maker and the motion maker and the seconder?

Selectman Jakoby: Yes, so I have an amendment to page three. We're amending 6.1 from body where to body when. And I have on page one of FIN 015, we're deleting in number two definitions end, just leaving legal authority. And then I have in again in FIN 015 item 10, I have deleting management and replacing it with the board of selectmen. And then in FIN 020, requesting that item two, the words that are bulleted be bolded. In section two of decimation, the defining terms.

Chairman Dumont: That's what I had.

Selectman Jakoby: All those are acceptable to me.

Chairman Dumont: To the seconder as well.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: Was it me?

Selectman Guessferd: We let you make the second because you were the.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: Yes. I apologize.

[Selectman Jakoby made a motion, seconded by Selectman Vurgaropulos, for the Board of Selectmen to hereby adopt the following policies upon the second reading: FIN-010 Budget Transfers. FIN-015 Audits. FIN-020 Fund Balance Policy, and FIN-021 Investment Policy, as recommended by the Policy Subcommittee with amendments made at the 26 May 2026 Board of Selectmen meeting. Motion carried, 5-0.](#)

## **8. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. IT Department Update Presentation – IT/Presentation**

Chairman Dumont: All righty. That takes care of our old business. Next up, new business. IT Department update. Mr. Bosteels, come on up.

Doug Bosteels: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Ladies and gentlemen of the board. Good evening. Thank you for the opportunity for me to present the IT department update. And with that being said, this is going to be short and sweet. And to the point. So, let's start off with my extensive organization chart. It's tough, it's a tough job.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: You know all the names.

Doug Bosteels: So, there's myself, IT director. There's a senior IT specialist and two IT technicians. And we're going to some of their job duties. So, the IT specialist basically ensures that the infrastructure is stable, secure, continuously monitors the network updates, all the peripherals for compliancy, mentors junior staff, and most importantly, manages and leads all projects with myself for the town. The IT tech, and these aren't all their duties, these are just a few. IT technicians twos are looking at the help desk tickets that come in. They also offer infrastructure updates and monitoring, security, adherence, oversight, and they support our senior IT specialist. And please stop me and ask questions when you have them. So, our mission statement is pretty solid year after year. We try and drive technology advancements by creating seamless digital experiences and add value to the municipal infrastructure. Pretty much in a nutshell what we try and do. I think that we're pretty successful at that. So, some SMART goals going back to FY26. We completed the townwide network infrastructure update, which basically took all of our infrastructure switches and replaced them with up-to-date PoE switches. Wiring, we did extensive work in our computer rooms with rewiring our racks, moving things around, neatening things up. In preparation for our second goal was a system-wide phone system that we installed, which was a success, it's been up and running since February 1st. So, that was a huge goal for us that we were able to complete. We did some VLANing of those networks to basically segregate departments so that we opened up our network and made it flow a lot easier inter-department-wise. So, some of our FY27 goals moving forward is we want to finalize the VLAN. We still have a couple more VLANs to put in place, specifically at the police department. We've rolled out our YubiKey MFA. YubiKey is for most of our users. We're going to finish that up. We have a few more to dole out. We want to complete the emergency phone backup systems for the PD and the fire department. So, if our phone, one of our network hubs go down, they can just utilize our secondary, vice versa, because we have three points of entry in the town. So, we can point the phones to all three entry points. And then update, install a new storage array for the town infrastructure, our virtual environment is one of our big goals. So, our SWOT analysis, strengths, weakness, opportunities, and threats. I think our strengths are really our knowledge department-wise, our strong security postures, our skill set in the workforce is big. We constantly strive to learn and try and bring new technologies in. Weakness, of course, you're going to hear this, I think throughout the town, budget is always a weakness. If the budget doesn't get passed, then it can cause issues. User adherence to certain items, cybersecurity, legacy systems that might be out there. Again, Windows 10 is no longer supported. If we have any Windows 10, which we might have one or two, I'm not sure. I think we only have one. And then maybe data silos that might be out there into department-wise. So, those are weaknesses. Opportunities, cloud migration, you're going to hear that a lot. A lot of our stuff is going cloud. Our phone system is in the cloud. Some of the PD applications are going cloud, fire applications are going cloud. I just sat in on a meeting today with one of our security points at the police department going into the cloud. So that's a big opportunity for us. Storage, as far as upgrading our storage capabilities, is a big opportunity for us coming forward. And citizen engagement, when we get our new website up and running, citizen engagement is going to be huge. Maybe we have a web bot that citizens can utilize. So that's all room for opportunity for us. And again, threats, cyber-attack, it's always a threat. More communities are getting attacked. We have to stay on our toes. We're constantly watching. Again, budget. Remote entry is a big one. We allow remote entry. Users to go home with a laptop, log in, and get onto the network. It's definitely a threat. If your machine at home gets broken into and you're logged into our network, guess what? It can cause problems. So those are some of the threats that we see. So, these are some helpdesk metrics I threw out there that we've completed in FTOI 26. Again, this is all from our helpdesk. People logging tickets, calling us. I'm not going to go through them all, but you can see we're kind of busy. That's just helpdesk. That doesn't pertain to any projects. Yes?

Selectman Guessferd: The one that says information technology? Those are obviously you guys.

Doug Bosteels: We're creating those tickets.

Selectman Guessferd: Do you create yourselves?

Doug Bosteels: Yeah, so if we're working on something, we will create a ticket if it's something we work on. Again, if it's infrastructure-wise, or we're updating a computer, updating a server or something of that sort, we'll create a ticket just so we can track ourselves.

Selectman Guessferd: That's something initiated by you versus another department?

Doug Bosteels: Correct. Okay. And then we always send a helpdesk survey out after every issue is resolved or closed. And so, this is just some of the feedback from our helpdesk surveys that we send out, the questions we ask. The most part, I think they're probably in the 95 percentile.

Selectman Guessferd: I'd like to be at zero on the professionalism. That's great. No fair and no poor. You guys are professionals.

Doug Bosteels: You know when you're ready and I can switch? Thank you. And always, cybersecurity awareness. So, there's a saying up here, the quote, there are only two types of companies, those that have been hacked and those that will be. And that is the truth. It's just a matter of time. So, we have to stay vigilant. And we tell that to our users all the time. The know-before software that everybody has to take tests on a constant basis is very helpful. Keeps our users aware of what's going on, what to look for. If you're not expecting an email, it's probably not a good email. So that's rule of thumb. So, we go to Primex security awareness trainings probably about once every two months. The last one we went to, they talked about the Hillsborough issue. And we learned a lot more about that issue, how it happened. And actually, it happened from a remote user. They had admin rights on their PC at home. Somebody got their password. Their password they used throughout the town through other applications. And they were able to get in. And that's what happened.

So, we have to stay vigilant. And again, we're always looking at the town audit, seeing what we have to do to be compliant. Again, know-before training is huge for us. And that's my dog and pony show.

Roy Sorenson: So, Doug, on that know-before, there's two parts to that, right? There was the one part where you watch the video, you answer the questions. And then the other one is the Primex video.

Doug Bosteels: The Primex video we did last year. But I want to bring another one in, to be honest with you. I'd like to try and do that once a year. Maybe even have Primex come back in and talk to people. I thought that was really beneficial. Because the IT group going up to Primex and listening to this stuff, we know it. But it's getting the users to believe it, what we're being told. So that's the tough part.

Roy Sorenson: And then just on some of the stuff we've worked on, obviously. It's great to go to new technology, whether it's in the cloud. Doug's part of the RFQ working group for finance software. And we're grabbing information from other parts of the country and everything else. So, there's bits and pieces from other places in there. And you can kind of see some nuances that we have. Well, you can't use that. It won't be compatible with the software we have. And how everything speaks to each other. And even the new website, for that matter. While it's all great, it takes a good amount of time. It does. Just getting everything up to snuff and run it. And working the kink cell before it's actually flowing in a manner that's more efficient than.

Doug Bosteels: Yeah, you don't just throw things in the cloud. I mean, there's a whole process that you have to go through to get things to the point where you feel it's safe, secure, and able to be utilized. So again, a lot of people throw, oh, put it in the cloud, put it in the cloud. Well, it's really not that simple. There's a lot more to it behind the scenes. Is your network connectivity reliable? Is your ISP that reliable? Is your uptime 90%, 99%? There's no such thing as 100% uptime. There never will be. So, you have that to consider. OK, if my network goes down, if my internet connectivity goes down, does this application still work? All things you've got to consider.

Roy Sorenson: All right, connectivity between staff. You talked about staff. And obviously, their abilities are in certain areas, I think.

Doug Bosteels: Yes.

Roy Sorenson: And to share with one another as well.

Doug Bosteels: Yeah, so we make a point to sit together and work on project stuff. The senior IT specialist will sit with the technicians. I'll sit there. We'll all brainstorm. We each bring something different to the table. So, we

communicate a lot. We'll have department meetings every other week, monthly, depending on what we need to talk about. We do have a list of items that we're working on. I didn't put it up there. It's just stuff we need to get done type of thing. Housecleaning is what I call it.

Selectman Jakoby: I just had a couple of questions. Looking at your 2027 goals and some of the opportunities and weaknesses listed, are you addressing the data silos? Because I didn't see that as one of your goals. And I just wanted to know how or if.

Doug Bosteels: Yeah, so a lot of the departments are using PDFs. And they're storing PDFs. And almost every department does it. How many times has somebody stored that same file out on the network? So, we want to go through that type of thing and figure out, are you doing the same thing that they're doing? And how many of these files are actually out there using disk space they don't have to? So, we're constantly trying to look at that.

Selectman Jakoby: So that's just a constant maintenance that you're trying to address. It's not necessarily a goal with a finite deadline to do? OK. And then the citizen engagement, you talked about the web bot or the website. What's is there a goal around that?

Doug Bosteels: So, the web bot is basically an app that people can get in and ask a question of.

Selectman Jakoby: Yeah, I'm not concerned about the web bot so much as the website and the goal around that.

Doug Bosteels: So, the goal around the website is ...

Selectman Jakoby: Both you and others, right?

Doug Bosteels: Yeah, so the goal really is. So, the website had to be redone because of the ADA requirements. It was actually pushed out a year. It was going to go live, I think, a month ago and we weren't quite ready. So, it's been pushed out a little bit. OK. But as Roy had mentioned, it's an extensive learning curve for those people that are editing that website and putting data in there. So, it's a little bit more engaged than we thought it was going to be. So, we're just giving those people that need to learn that and get things in there, the extra time to do so.

Selectman Jakoby: So, it's just a matter of really wanting to launch it with everything in place so that there isn't frustration on the part of the community to make it happen.

Doug Bosteels: Absolutely. We don't want to have to go back in and reinvent the wheel.

Selectman Jakoby: Well, that's what I just thought it was a good time for an update.

Doug Bosteels: Absolutely.

Selectman Jakoby: So, my other questions were, I know when I did the walkthrough and stuff, how has been the decluttering? And I know you cleaned up the wires and stuff. Have you been getting rid of some of the extra equipment and everything?

Doug Bosteels: So, we right now take a lot of the extra equipment over to Oakwood and we're going through it. We're decommissioning some of the old PCs, taking hard drives out. And then we got to figure out what to do with the hardware at that point.

Selectman Jakoby: Excellent. So that's a continuous process as well. No, good to hear because I know we had talked about that. And I understand I've had really good results with the phone system. I just want you to know because I'm the one who calls everyone on their work number and leaves messages. And I think everybody's gotten my message and gotten back to me now. So, kudos on that. And I know that you guys were working some at Oakwood. So, what is the situation right now for your team and this building? Because I know I'm going to be asking every department that as far as space and logistics of your physical stuff.

Doug Bosteels: We actually moved over to Oakwood for three days a week just to collaborate and get together and work on different projects. And again, mentor the junior folks, the senior IT guy and mentor the junior folks. And it gives us some time to get away from people walking in the office and disrupting what we're trying to do. That type of thing.

Selectman Jakoby: Yeah, no, that's a good point.

Doug Bosteels: And it's worked out really well. We've gotten a lot of the project work done. So, we continue to do that. The office space in here is pretty tight, honestly.

Roy Sorenson: That's being modest.

Doug Bosteels: Yeah, it's very tight. I actually have moved over to the police department. My office is over there now. The payroll person is going to take my office that was here. Because she needs some privacy. So, I volunteered and headed over to the police department. But literally, you could sit anywhere in town and do a good job. But yeah, it's very tight down there.

Selectman Jakoby: Well, I think it's important to know because I didn't know that you had moved. So, I think that's important that I know where to find you.

Doug Bosteels: One nice thing about this phone system is people can just pick up their phone, bring it to the new office and plug it in. It works. There's no configuration needed, it just works.

Selectman Jakoby: Excellent. And has Oakwood been comfortable and met your needs? As is?

Doug Bosteels: Yes.

Selectman Jakoby: I just wanted to ask because I've been there and it seems good, table, nice collaborative space.

Doug Bosteels: We have, you know, we put a small switch in there. We're all connected on a network and it works out.

Selectman Jakoby: I think that's great. Thank you. Those were my questions.

Doug Bosteels: You're welcome.

Selectman Vurgaropoulos: You just had a question. Thank you. I reached out to you about the website. I think you said June. Are we still on that timeline?

Doug Bosteels: So, it may be July. I'm going to work with Lorrie on that timeline. Okay? But yeah, there's some different types of things. For instance, the agendas for the board meetings and whatnot. It's totally different how to get those onto the new website. So, it's just a learning process and making sure that past agendas are on there and all the items that we need. Okay. So, it's just a process of going.

Roy Sorenson: It's staff driven. Yeah, but it's not based off of the federal guidelines. That's all 28, right?

Doug Bosteels: Yeah. So, it gave us a little more time to... Because I was on the impression the guideline was set for April when we had to have that website ADA compliancy done. And they pushed it.

Selectman Jakoby: Right, or 27.

Doug Bosteels: Yeah.

Selectman Jakoby: Or 26, 27.

Chairman Dumont:

Okay. Selectman Allan, did you have anything?

Selectman Allan: All set.

Chairman Dumont: All right. Thank you very much.

Doug Bosteels: Thank you so much.

Selectman Guessferd: Appreciate the update, appreciate it. Very important.

**B. Boat Launch Design and Permitting at Merrill Park – DSD/Decision**

Chairman Dumont: All right. Next up, we have the boat launch design and permitting at Merrill Park. Mr. Dhima.

Elvis Dhima: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good evening, everyone. As you all know, Planning Board secured \$1.5 million from Target related to a boat launch Merrill Park. We were able to secure \$300,000 related to design and permitting prior to them getting the seal for the main building. We have received that money, we went out. We had a mandatory pre-bid meeting at the site. We attended... We had six firms attend the mandatory pre-bid meeting.

On May 15th, we received two bids prior to deadline. And we received one after the deadline, which was disqualified. Now, VHB bid was about \$150,000. GZA, which was disqualified, was at \$224,900. And Fuss & O'Neill was at \$242,700. When we went back, looked at the proposals, they all meet the minimum requirement. They were qualified. VHB, the way they structured it, was bare bones, if you want to call it that. So, they had additional tasks in there that they recommended, but they did not put it in the proposal. They just said you should do X, Y, and Z. There was four of them. So, Fuss & O'Neill was robust, was in full. So, I reached back to VHB the same day and I said, what would it take for this additional cost that you're recommending? And I need an answer by 2 p.m. the same day of the bid. They came back. They said for \$78,100, you can do the four additional tasks. We can't probably do it with the bare bones. I feel that if we have a solid design done to go out to bid for the construction, we are going to be asked at some point for the additional tasks. So VHB basically total came at \$227,855, which is still lower than Fuss & O'Neill and basically in line with the GZA. So, with that said, you have two proposals for you and two recommendations for you tonight. One to do with the base bid, which is the low bid, and second to do the additional task, which still brings VHB the low bid. And with that said, I'll take any questions you might have.

Selectman Guessferd: So, I have two questions.

Elvis Dhima: All right.

Selectman Guessferd: The third proposal, when was that received?

Elvis Dhima: It was about 10:07 a.m.

Selectman Guessferd: So, 10.07 a.m.?

Elvis Dhima: The bids were due at 10 o'clock. That bid.

Selectman Guessferd: Seven minutes late.

Elvis Dhima: Seven minutes late. Correct.

Selectman Guessferd: Okay. Did the bid contain everything it needed to contain?

Elvis Dhima: It had basically all the things we were looking for, I didn't look at it into details. I looked at it more at the price because I wanted to make sure I had a good gauge. And I would say that they were in line to what we were looking for, yes.

Selectman Guessferd: Okay. Yeah, my concern is, I mean, the rules are the rules, right? I get that. Believe me, that's what I do for a living. You know, we bid on contracts.

Elvis Dhima: Yeah.

Selectman Guessferd: They, you know, seven minutes late. It can't, you know, what they usually say is can or cannot, you know, may or may not be accepted if it's late. If it's a couple days late, maybe that's a little something. I just want to make sure I understood exactly what the timing was and what that bid contained, whether it was totally out of, you know, didn't respond to everything.

Elvis Dhima: So typically, I mean, I've never in my 12 years here accepted anything after time. And typically, what I would do is if it's a minute late or two and they're coming in late and we're about to open the bids and the bids are basically open and the third one comes in late, I can see a minute, you know, or two as we open the bids. Seven minutes late, as you can see on the format sent to you, the clerk only opened two bids at the time of the opening. Now, the other side of it is it would not be fair, I think, to the other people that submit things in time.

So, if we had someone that challenges that, then, you know, the first time will be seven minutes. Second time will be half an hour. Yeah, where do you draw the line? These are professional services. I expect someone who is going to be required to carry a quarter million-dollar project that the first thing that they would do is be on time and on budget. So, to start that process with missing a deadline, it does not provide a lot of confidence in me thinking that these people are going to basically send a message. Yeah, it is. And I can see someone being, you know, from out of state, for example, but I think these folks were out of New Hampshire. So, it is all about planning, right? You plan and most of these guys, I think, as you can see, Fuss and O'Neill submitted it on May 25th, but they got it here at 8:35 a.m. A lot of folks come in at the last minute or they will come in and sit for the bid opening. Unfortunately, in this case, something happened on their end and it was unfortunate. But I opened the bid because I wanted to get a gauge on the price. When you get something at \$150 and \$242 when your bid is at \$250, are your bids selling? You want to make sure that, you know, did we miss something?

Selectman Guessferd: Right.

Elvis Dhima: And at \$225, kind of like, all right, this is kind of where it needs to be in. But as I said, VHB kind of provided a bare bone. I asked them why they did this approach and they basically said that they have gone in for the full catalog version and they've lost because previous clients have said, no, I want you to do bare minimum. So, they're kind of going in with the reverse now when they say we can do this for bare minimum this, but you should be doing all these additional tasks for X amount. And then they provide that later on. I don't want to come back here for a change order. I want to be upfront about exactly what the cost is.

Selectman Guessferd: Right.

Elvis Dhima: And the fact that they're still lower and kind of in line with the GZA.

Selectman Guessferd: To continue on there. So, we'll go to that piece of it. So, VHB came in and their number was lower. Now, did they have the \$78,000 in their bid as an option? They just said \$78,000 or just had the four tasks?

Elvis Dhima: No, they had the four tasks.

Selectman Guessferd: It wasn't priced at all.

Elvis Dhima: It wasn't priced at all. Correct. So, I requested them for the same day, giving them a small window. I think I was done with the reviewing the proposals about 11:30 a.m. So, I give them about two, two and a half hours to get back to me. It was a deadline by two o'clock. Okay. They submitted that to me prior to, I didn't want to give them a day or two or three. If they were not going to submit that, I was going to go basically saying, nope.

Selectman Guessferd: But the criteria upon which you evaluated the proposals though, was it bare bones criteria or was it the additional tasks? The point I'm getting to is, you know, treating everybody the same.

Elvis Dhima: It's equal, yes.

Selectman Guessferd: You gave them an opportunity to put in additional tasks. Yes. Which if they were above, over and above, and I'm looking at it a little bit from the contractor's perspective, I guess, maybe. But if you tell me that I've got to give you A, B, and C in my bid, and I do, and my bid comes in pretty low, but then you come back and tell me, no, we also want D, E, and F. You know, everybody bid to A, B, and C.

Elvis Dhima: Yes.

Selectman Guessferd: The company did add additional things in there, but your criteria was pretty much across the board. This is what we want. I'm not trying to interrogate you. I'm just trying to make sure.

Elvis Dhima: Yeah, yeah, yeah. No, absolutely.

Selectman Guessferd: So, yes. You gave them an opportunity to kind of, I'll say, make good on their bid. So, I just want to make sure that everybody was treated fairly here.

Elvis Dhima: Yes. So, it's a great point, and it was something I was struggling with as I was reviewing it. I think if I had to hire VHB for \$149,700, I think they can get it done. My only concern is between the design and the construction, there's going to be things that the contract is going to ask for that we need to provide later on. So,

you can always go back later and say, all right, I'm going to provide this additional task later on. I didn't like it either, because I like to have the full version.

Selectman Guessferd: Sure, yeah.

Elvis Dhima: But I also see their side, when you provide the best option available, and then you have someone else on the other side saying, well, I wasn't really looking for the Cadillac version. I was looking for you to do basically what I need for minimum requirements related to designing a boat launch. I don't want you to go outside 50 feet and tell me you're going to stabilize the slopes on both sides and things like that. I go back to the building department or building code, for that matter. There's a lot of folks that come here and say, you should ask for more for the roads. Well, we go by bare minimum. What's required? What are our minimum requirements? I guess what we usually have when folks come in, they're going to say, if you're looking for nine inches of gravel, I'm going to give you 8.9929. I'm not going to give you 9.1, 9.29. So, do they meet minimum requirements? Yes. Could I have gone an extra step? Yes. Would it have been ideal if they said, we can provide this additional task for X amount of money? Yes, that would have been perfect. The perfect setup saying we can provide X, Y, and Z. But they didn't. But what they did do provide is actual being upfront about saying, you should probably look at these additional tasks. They're highly recommended. But they do not provide a quote for that. And I think something has happened to them in the past related to pursuing certain projects, getting burned. So, this comes from experience getting burned on other projects and then basically going through this approach. I think if the original and the Delta was higher than Fossett O'Neill, I would have said no. So, I think the fact that we're still going to be spending less between bare bones and the additional tasks, I take comfort in that.

Selectman Guessferd: Yeah, I mean, there is a theory that says that, you bid low and change order the heck out of it.

Elvis Dhima: Yeah. No. Yes.

Selectman Guessferd: There's no way to do it.

Elvis Dhima: No. And that's why I didn't want to do that. That's why that additional task for you tonight, for the first time, because I don't want to come back. I don't believe in change orders myself. I've said that over and over again.

Selectman Guessferd: Yeah, because companies will do that. They'll take the minimum requirements. And then they'll change your order to death. Oh, you really need to do this once you're on contract.

Elvis Dhima: And that is why we set up the ceiling at \$250, not \$300. Because if I set the ceiling at \$300, guess what? They would have gone at \$300. So, I basically kept in mind that we need \$50,000 for usually like certain things that might come up or the fact that we need to pay for the permits. You know, the state needs to eat too. And so do the feds. If we start getting through the shoreline protection and all that stuff. Coming at \$225 and \$250, even better. But yeah, it was one of those things when I, this particular one, I went 100% on cost.

Selectman Guessferd: Yeah, I noticed you said low better.

Elvis Dhima: Yeah. And the reason for that is I gave the information at the pre-bid meeting. It was mandatory. So, it was a lot of questions after. It's like, did you attend the meeting or not? And I was hoping they come up with it because sometimes you don't want to give them all the answers. They're the designers, right? If you do this for a living, you've done enough boat launch designs, you should know exactly what you're getting into. I shouldn't have to give you, spoon feed you everything. And if I do, that's not probably the right person I want to hire for something like this. So, but their approach was a little different to your point. Okay. It was, they all brought in different things, but yes, Fuss & O'Neill was the Cadillac version and they were bare bones. So, somewhere in the middle, if I have to compare, it would be \$225, \$227 and \$242 and they're within 10% of each other at that point.

Selectman Guessferd: All right, thank you.

Elvis Dhima: Thank you.

Chairman Dumont: Any other questions, comments?

Selectman Jakoby: So, I just have kind of bigger questions just so that I understand and the public understands. So, this is the boat launch that's at Merrill Park that is specifically for fire rescue, but will also be available to the public.

Elvis Dhima: No, this is going to be for the public that the fire department can also.

Selectman Jakoby: Thank you, I said it backwards.

Elvis Dhima: Yes, it's the other way around. No, it's the other way around, but the theme is the same. This is going to be for everybody. It's going to be for recreational use. It just happens it's going to have a dual function. It's going to be used by the public, not just Hudson residents in this case, because you took federal money for the Merrill Park, but the fire department now will have access to this as well, which is on our side of the river. It's closer to central. It's a win-win.

Selectman Jakoby: Right, and that the final docking or recreational use will be determined later on?

Elvis Dhima: If you want to expand, are you talking about expanding beyond the boat launch?

Selectman Jakoby: There's all kinds of different configurations for boat launches, whether you do for kayaks or for paddle facilities versus for what they're going to need it for, what the fire's going to need it for.

Elvis Dhima: This one will be related to you backing up a truck to drop any kind of boat. It cannot be a yacht, obviously, because we don't have any Russians probably with the big yachts in this town.

Selectman Jakoby: No, I understand.

Elvis Dhima: It will be basically a regular boat launch that you will see like similar to the one in the Nashua side. You can back out, drop it, anchor it at a dock, park your vehicle, and off you go.

Selectman Jakoby: So that begs the question, if at any point there are additions that want to be made like a kayak, there's some easy kayak ramp or other things that can be done. I know I was at the NRPC National Regional Planning Annual Meeting, and they said that there are funds available for recreational use. So, I just wonder, as we move forward with this, they said any funding could be matching funds. It doesn't have to be municipal money. So, it could, in theory, be the Target funds matching for some of this. And I just wanted to raise that because I personally would like a really nice kayak launch in addition there. And I know some people had talked about how Merrill Park was a place where there was a more recreation area for picnicking or other things. So, this is going to be a big change to Merrill Park. So, I just want to think about where do we talk about the scope of those changes as this goes on? Because it's, I mean, it's a three-, four-year project.

Elvis Dhima: This is step one.

Selectman Jakoby: So, I just didn't know where that fits into the planning going forward into our strategic planning for Merrill Park.

Elvis Dhima: I will tell you. No, it's no, no, no, no, no. I want to actually thank you for asking because I was going to piggyback and go a bit about that. So, as you all know, the way we did Robinson Pond boat launch is we're going through a grant for the construction because we did the design a certain way and we followed all the requirements. We're going to get a 50% match on our design portion as well. So, for this particular project, we're going to go ahead and look into recovering 50% of this 225 we're going to spend tonight. And in addition to that, we're going to go and pursue a grant related to the construction piece that's going to get us 50% match. So, what does that do to your questions related to bigger planning? If we can save money on the design and the construction, and we're talking about probably close to a half a million dollars here, then there's nothing preventing us from expanding from the boat launch to now adding something else, which is a kayak or other things that we can add.

Selectman Jakoby: Cleaning up that.

Elvis Dhima: Stabilizing the slopes and that came up.

Selectman Jakoby: Yes, absolutely.

Elvis Dhima: And then adding parking to it.

Selectman Jakoby: And security.

Elvis Dhima: Well, security too.

Selectman Jakoby: That was my other ...

Elvis Dhima: Absolutely.

Selectman Jakoby: I'm really concerned about security at the boat launch.

Elvis Dhima: PD is going to have to go out there and keep an eye on things. And I do not foresee utilizing this during the winter. So, we're going to have to do some kind of winter. I don't see DPW taking a Bobcat and driving there to get rid of the ice. I mean, maybe. I don't know. Maybe they send me over there.

Selectman Jakoby: So just for the public, this is step one.

Elvis Dhima: Yes.

Selectman Jakoby: But you do have in mind the whole park. Because I know a lot of people, I have people who live near there and we talk about Merrill Park. As many people who know when I ran, I talked about Merrill Park. So, I think this is a great first step, I like the bids, I agree with your decision. And thank you for listening to my ideas.

Elvis Dhima: Absolutely. And there's nothing preventing folks from using the boat launch to ...

Selectman Jakoby: Right now.

Elvis Dhima: Right now, or to utilize the boat launch once it gets built to drop the kayak out of that too. But if it's like a different one that we can have adjacent to it, you know, like you have the stairs and you have the handicap access going to it, like a ramp, so be it. But the idea is if we can recover some of these funds, the \$1.5 million, and come back to the board and be like, what would you like to use X amount of funds? Because that money is going to go back for recreation use at Merrill Park if we get to recover some of it from the feds. It'll be up to the board to decide. Maybe you'd end up doing a bathroom over there. I don't know. I don't want to say the B word, but you know, like Benson Park. But you know what I mean?

Selectman Jakoby: But there are specific grants for recreation within, which was fascinating at NRPCs. So that was nice to hear. Got to connect it to recreation though for that money.

Chairman Dumont: Yes, it does.

Selectman Jakoby: That's what I learned.

Chairman Dumont: There's a lot of people that go for it.

Selectman Jakoby: Thank you so much. I support the recommendation by Mr. Dhima to go with VHB.

Chairman Dumont: Any other questions or comments? Hopefully a motion.

Selectman Guessferd: To approve. There was two motions here, right?

Elvis Dhima: Yes, two motions.

Selectman Guessferd: To waive 98-7 bidding procedure of the Hudson.

Elvis Dhima: Nope.

Selectman Guessferd: Where are we? No, right here we are. All right, to waive. That's this one here?

Chairman Dumont: Motion would be to award the contract for design and permitting of a boat launch at Merrill Park to BHB, the lowest responsible bidder, as recommended by the Director of Development Services in an amount not to exceed \$149,750 to be funded from the target funds account number 092000-2050-000-586.

Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Vurgaropoulos, to award the contract for design and permitting of a boat launch at Merrill Park to BHB, the lowest responsible bidder, as recommended by the Director of Development Services in an amount not to exceed \$149,750 to be funded from the target funds account number 092000-2050-000-586. Motion carried, 5-0.

Chairman Dumont: All right, I'll make the second motion.

Selectman Guessferd: I'll actually make it this time.

Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Allan, to approve the additional recommended task proposed by VHB as recommended by the Director of Development Services in an amount not to exceed \$78,100 to be funded from the Target accounts account number 092000-2050-000-586 for the design and permitting of a boat launch at Merrill Park. Motion carried, 5-0.

Chairman Dumont: Thank you very much, Mr. Dhima.

Elvis Dhima: Thank you very much. You have a great night.

### **C. AFG Grant Application – Fire/Decision**

Chairman Dumont: You too. Next up, AFG grant application. Chief Tice, come on up.

Chief Tice: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and good evening, everyone. Last week, we were notified that the Assistance of Firefighter Grant opened abruptly with a 30-day turnaround, which means we have to have the application in by June 22nd. The Assistance Firefighter Grant does, you know, potentially various things. You can buy equipment with it, you can do training with it, you can take up health and safety initiatives. We were just finishing a two-year AFG that paid for the fire ground survival training, the enhanced physicals for two years, and the mental health checkups for two years. So, we're just finishing that one up. This one, we're looking at, we're still doing some research based on the matching our needs to what they label as high priorities, because they typically only fund high-priority projects. But right now, we're looking at some tri-band portable radios, replacing the gear extractor at Central Station, which a gear extractor is a heavy-duty washing machine for our protective clothing that's built to take the contaminants out of our gear after a fire, and a gear dryer, and our cardiac monitors and stretchers. So that's what we're looking at right now. So, what I'm asking for tonight is simply permission to apply for the grant. If we were to apply for the grant and were awarded the grant, then I would come back and do a public hearing, and you'd have the opportunity to either accept or not accept the grant.

Chairman Dumont: Questions? Comments?

Selectman Allan made a motion, seconded by Selectman Jakoby, to authorize the Fire Chief to apply for the FY25 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG). Motion carried, 5-0.

### **D. Public Safety Platform Truck – Fire/Decision**

Chairman Dumont: Next up, public safety platform truck.

Chief Tice: Go ahead, Chief. So, each of our three stations has what's called a primal vent system in the apparatus base, and this is a fan and piping that's mounted in the ceilings of the apparatus floor, and then we have hoses that drop down where each of the trucks parks, and the hoses are attached to the exhaust with an inflatable boot. This is to take the exhaust out of the station, so it's not building up in the station. When the trucks start up, they're pulling out back and in. At central station, to fit the tower when it comes in, we have to reconfigure some of the piping and move the fan to make room for where it's going to be. Another project that we're going to need to do at some point, this is the original system. We've had this in the stations for about 20 years. They're going away from this type of air actuated system to a magnetic system, where it'd be a magnet that attaches to the truck, and both units operate on a sensor, so when they get to the end of the station, pull it out of the base, it trips the sensor. Currently, the air deflates from the rubber boot. With the new systems, the magnet will deactivate and pull away from the truck. We have to do the reconfiguration to get the tower into the station. The most effective way and efficient way to do the boots is to have them come out and do them all at once. That

does not have to be done now, but it will have to be done at some point. What I'm asking the board to look at, we have money in the budget to do this year-end, but we've talked several times about trying to use Target funds where we can in place of taxpayer dollars. I'm asking the board, if they think this is an appropriate use of the funds set aside to procure the tower truck, and then if the board does think that that's appropriate, would you rather want this to do, use those funds or use budget funds to get this done?

Chairman Dumont: Board members?

Selectman Vurgaropulos: No, I think it's appropriate. It's directly connected to the tower truck. We wouldn't be talking about this upgrade, maybe not right now, probably eventually, but probably expedited it with this truck coming in and having to do reconfiguration. I think it's appropriate to make sure that we keep everybody safe, especially like you guys hit a car, start the truck, let that thing warm up while you're suiting up. You don't want to be huffing that in, everybody gets there, they're already hypoxic. I think it's very appropriate. I think it aligns well with it.

Chairman Dumont: Other board members, questions or comments?

Selectman Jakoby: Will this be able to be completed before the truck is delivered?

Chief Tice: It will be, yes.

Chairman Dumont: Can you just speak just briefly to the waiving the bid procedure? I know we're using the Target funding for it, but can you just speak a little bit to that?

Chief Tice: Yes, so the Plymovent System has, Plymovent has authorized dealers per region. In this region, it's air cleaning specialists, and they're the only authorized dealer to work in this area on the Plymovent Systems. So, the work would have to be done by air cleaning specialists.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: I do have one more question.

Chairman Dumont: Go ahead.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: With the new system, actually with both systems, current system and the new system, let's say in the off chance there's a failure to decouple, is there a breakaway point so it doesn't rip the whole system out of the wall?

Chief Tice: There is, yes. It's happened several times.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: That's what I figured. I get it, this attaches to the vehicle, but I didn't see that decouple feature fail, and then all of a sudden, you're ripping the whole unit out.

Chief Tice: No, yeah. There is a breakaway in the hose.

Chairman Dumont: So, it's like a gas pump. You see the guy's driving.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: Yeah, he's driving up behind him, bouncing behind him.

Chief Tice: What?

Selectman Vurgaropulos: Becomes a slingshot.

Chairman Dumont: Yeah. Just pulls you back in. So, with all that, you have two motions in front of you. What does the board want to do?

[Selectman Jakoby made a motion, seconded by Selectman Vurgaropulos, to waive Chapter 98-7 bidding procedure of the Hudson Town Code for the purpose of reconfiguring the Plymovent System by Air Cleaning Specialists. Motion carried, 5-0.](#)

Chairman Dumont: Next up, Selectman Jakoby, want to take the next one?

[Selectman Jakoby made a motion, seconded by Selectman Allan, to release an amount not to exceed \\$32,000 of the Hudson Logistics Center Platform Truck Money \(account 09-2000-20-5000-0584\), as defined by the condition 61\(e\) of the Hudson Logistics Center Amended Site Plan, to the Hudson Fire Department for the reconfiguration of the Plymovent System at the Central Fire Station. Motion carried, 5-0.](#)

Chairman Dumont: Thank you and have a great day. Thank you very much, Chief.

Selectman Jakoby: Thank you.

**E. Town-Wide Paving Program – DPW/Decision**

Chairman Dumont: Yeah. Next up, we have Townwide Paving. Mr. Twardosky.

Jay Twardosky: Good evening, Mr. Chair, members of the board. Since 2010, we had rolled over our existing Townwide Paving contract, a very modest increases every year. This year, when I looked at doing that, the numbers didn't look as competitive as I thought they should be. So, we went out to bid. We sent our bid packets to four different bidders. We advertised it in the Telegraph. We advertised it on a town website. For the pre-bid meeting, we actually had five companies come in and look at it. After that, one bowed out. So, we had four bids and very competitive bids. And what you see in front of you is the recommendation for the company that had the lowest bid and the highest score.

Selectman Guessferd: Okay. So, this is the one that normally in the past we've gone to Brox, right?

Jay Twardosky: Correct.

Selectman Guessferd: Yeah. So, it looks like they came in a little bit higher.

Jay Twardosky: Yeah. There was a lot of fluctuation in the asphalt cement prices, and their numbers didn't seem like they were going to be quite as competitive. We saw a couple other comps in the area, and it just didn't look like it was advantageous to go that route.

Selectman Guessferd: And will this be the first time you're working with Busby?

Jay Twardosky: No. Busby actually subcontracted for Brox for a number of years.

Selectman Jakoby: I thought that's what you'd said.

Jay Twardosky: So, we have a pretty good, a really good relationship with Busby.

Selectman Guessferd: That's good. Okay. So, you're comfortable. You're comfortable in addition to the price. You're very comfortable.

Jay Twardosky: Absolutely.

Chairman Dumont: I'm very familiar with the area. All right. Questions, comments, motions?

[Selectman Jakoby made a motion, seconded by Selectman Allan, to award the contract for the 2026 Townwide Paving to Busby Construction Company, Inc., the lowest priced and highest scoring bidder, as recommended by the Director of Public Works, for an amount not to exceed \\$1,046,250. Motion carried, 5-0.](#)

Chairman Dumont: Just a quick piece of discussion. I just want to thank the Public Works Director, Mr. Twardosky, for going out for a formalized bid.

Selectman Jakoby: Yes, thank you.

Chairman Dumont: I was happy to see that you were able to get four people, and it gives everybody a good perspective at where paving's at, what we're seeing for budget numbers, and what we need to look at going forward. So, thank you.

Jay Twardosky: It basically reset everything, so we know where we are going in the future.

Selectman Guessferd: That's good. I have a comment. No, it's just an editorial amendment on the motion. Yeah, it was a typo. The lowest price and highest scoring bidder.

Selectman Jakoby: Oh, lowest price and highest bidder.

Selectman Guessferd: Yeah, but that's interesting. I appreciate it. I noticed that tonight. I was like, how could it be the lowest and highest scoring bidder?

Chairman Dumont: No problem.

Selectman Jakoby: I'll take the amendment.

Chairman Dumont: Scribner's here. So finally, to the motion maker and the seconder. All right, all set.

## 9. SELECTMEN LIAISON REPORTS/OTHER REMARKS

**Selectman Allan:** I sat in with the Benson's Park Committee for my first meeting and it was great. It's a great group of people. I really enjoyed it. They just had a couple of concerns. One that we kind of chuckled about was the building that they want to put the wagon in. The door that they measured was fake. So, it's a door that doesn't open. So, they're looking for other options, maybe the museum or if there's another way to get the wagon into the building. But they said that they're going to go ahead and figure that out. But it was, she said, I don't know why I didn't think to open the door. I just measured the door. And I said, well, I probably would have done the same thing. They had a couple of concerns. We have utility trucks that are taking up a section of parking next to our senior center. They said on the weekends, that's becoming an issue as the park is starting to fill up on the weekends with the nice weather. We didn't know whether or not those trucks could be moved or who the trucks belong to. We don't know if they're DPW, if somebody is doing construction in the area, tree removal or something and utilizing that parking lot. But they'd really like to have the parking lot back, at least for the weekends, if not all the time. And then just a couple of concerns with the parking lot. There's some bushes that are in the way. There's just a couple of parking spots by the dog park. And when people move, when people are coming down the hill into the park, you can't see. Wondering if maybe it's a slowdown sign or if maybe the bushes could just be pushed back so people can see each other while they're moving. And I did not get the chance to sit in on the school board meeting. We had lacrosse and I'm a mom first, so I went to the meeting.

**Selectman Jakoby:** I wanted to just reiterate that I had the wonderful opportunity to help HCTV do a – record the PMA concert. And I was one of four cameras people there. And I highly recommend it. If you have an AV person in your – like you always wanted to do AV or operate a camera, I highly recommend it. It was fun. It was fascinating. And the end result came out really well. And I know which shots were my shots, which was really cool. So, I highly recommend it. I figured if a selectman can do it, anybody can do it. No. Sorry, I'm just speaking for myself.

Chairman Dumont: Probably accurate.

Selectman Guessferd: Yeah, probably.

Selectman Jakoby: And I know that they really appreciated – they really appreciate volunteers. Because if they can have four camera angles versus just one or two, it really changes the production. And they do it in real time. So, they're not – even though they have the full feed of all those cameras, what they're trying to do is they have a director there who's cutting back and forth and they're live building it. I guess that's the best way to put it. They're doing it live. So, I just wanted to let people know that. And I just have a statement that I wanted to make regarding the Sustainability Advisory Committee. I want to personally apologize for the way the Sustainability Advisory Committee volunteers were informed of the dissolution of the committee. In hindsight, I needed to amend the motion or ask for the motion to be amended so that we have a period of time to transition and inform the members of the decision. There are many statewide organizations that the committee has established relationships with. And it would be unfortunate for those relationships with the Town of Hudson to suffer. I believe we as a board need to recognize the importance of creating a seamless transition for the work of this committee and all committees. This committee has existed in one form or another for over a decade. And I believe preserving that institutional knowledge is important. Additionally, the number of hours and commitment of Karl Huber, Deb Putnam, Ed Thompson, Kate Messner, Chris Thatcher, Jacob Keller, Robert Larson, and Craig Putnam needs to be commended and appreciated. The combined number of years and hours these individuals have devoted to the Town of Hudson is immense. And I am grateful for their efforts. This does not include the many volunteers who came before this group to establish sustainable practices and education throughout our community. When elected, one of my goals was to create a kinder, more professional way of conducting town business. And unfortunately, I failed in this instance. I rededicate my efforts to help put in place policies and

procedures that preserve the dignity of all involved. So, I just want to take responsibility for not amending that motion and planning a smoother transition for the Sustainability Advisory Committee. And I do appreciate everyone who has contributed over a decade's worth of volunteer efforts in town for that committee and for that effort.

**Selectman Vurgaropoulos:** I currently have nothing at this time. I've got a ZBA meeting coming up on Thursday. And so that's all I've got going on.

**Selectman Guessferd:** Okay, we had a library meeting, the Board of Trustees, the library last week. Nothing significant. We're still going to be working with them on the transfer of the building moving forward at some point here. We'll schedule them in. Tomorrow night is our next planning board meeting. We have four cases. It's going to be a busy night. So, if anybody's interested, one of the ones, I think it's called New Business, is 84 Lumber, who was approved a while back. And many people may be wondering why that site hasn't begun development yet. So, we're going to be entertaining them coming forward with a request on that. So, stay tuned for that. It should be an active meeting tomorrow night, I think. Let's see. Rec Department. Tennis is coming up. I'm going to get my stuff in order here. Summer tennis programs, which are very successful every year, are coming up. Registration for youth and adults. And it opens tomorrow. So, get out there. And they do fill up. So, if you're interested, then get out there and sign up as soon as you can to get a spot. And then senior programming. Our folks from Alvirne, the band, the chorus and the special band, will be hosting a concert over at the senior center for the patrons. I don't know if I'm stealing any of your thunder.

Heather Cook: No, no, that's fine.

Selectman Guessferd: But they're excited about that. So, they always do a great job with the music program over at Alvirne High School. It's first rate. So, I know our seniors will be getting a treat here. Beyond that, I'd like to say that I think yesterday we had a very, I'll say probably one of the best Memorial Day ceremonies we've had in a while. The Library of Park was festooned with flags. We had the big flag from the ladder truck. And lots of great speeches. The American Legion does a great job organizing this every year. Our congressional representative Megan Goodlander was there. She made some comments as well. And I just want to thank, we had a lot of people. And that was what really made it really kind of special. There was a lot of people that showed up. Not that a lot of people don't. This is a very patriotic town. And it was really nice to see all that, supporting our fallen veterans, you know, those who have made the ultimate sacrifice. So, it was an excellent ceremony. I just want to thank our citizens for coming out and supporting that. Beyond that, one of the things that I just, I guess I just want to make one other comment is that kind of a significant thing happened that our, the band has a manager who's been around for 50 or so years. His name is George Rowe. And he manages the band. He's done everything he can. He's transferred that off. He's kind of gotten to the point where he's stepping back finally after a lot of years. He's also, if you see him out there, you've seen him on there on the firing details all over the years. And so, he's the guy who's there leading the firing detail and has been there again. So, he's kind of a bit of a fixture in town here. And even though he's not a citizen of Hudson, he was honored by the American Legion 48 Band. So just wanted to have a shout out for that. Anybody was there. I think they appreciated the fact that he was honored. And really, that's what I've got.

**Chairman Dumont:** Thank you. So, I'll piggy-back on Selectman Guessferd since I spoke about conservation last time, but I thought Memorial Day was absolutely fantastic. Hudson, the Legion, and everybody involved, HCTV, police, fire, everybody does an amazing job. It's just a good thing to see the school be involved as well as all the other organizations.

Selectman Guessferd: Can I make a quick comment on that?

Chairman Dumont: You can go right ahead.

Selectman Guessferd: I forgot to mention. HCTV actually did a, was putting together kind of a video, something that's going to be out there. So, stay tuned regarding Memorial Day, how the American Legion basically plans it and kind of all the things that have to go into a Memorial Day celebration that we do here. So, I'm looking forward to it. I don't know how it's going to, you know, how it's going to go. I know it's going to come out great. But they spent some time yesterday interviewing some people. And so, I'm looking forward to seeing that.

Chairman Dumont: Awesome. Thank you for adding that. Yeah, I think overall it was great and I'm looking forward to see that as well. I won't steal his thunder, but I got to attend the Boston Post's Cane Ceremony with Mr. Sorenson. That was a fantastic thing with the historical side he does. And that's all that I have. So, I will turn it over to Mr. Sorenson.

**10. REMARKS BY TOWN ADMINISTRATOR – Presentation**

Roy Sorenson: All right. Thank you, Mr. Chair. So, my update, we'll go up to the top. So pictures are worth a thousand words. So, this field of flags, you know, obviously Hudson does a great job from what everyone said tonight. I didn't get a chance to attend the Hudson festivities yesterday as I was in Manchester for a different event. And I'll talk about that next week. That was for the Phaneuf family and the dedication of the paver. And I'll have that info in my next TA report. But I mean, if we just did this and the Legion does a great job, it's fantastic. So, kudos to the community.

Selectman Guessferd: Do we know the people? I don't know how many people really know what those flags represent. Each one of those flags is a veteran in town and sponsored by a friend or a family member to put up there. The field of flags goes all over the country. It happens in a lot of different places.

Roy Sorenson: It's just awesome to see.

Selectman Vurgaropoulos: Just a little tidbit too, what most people probably don't know unless they actually walk through the field of flags is each flag has a dog tag of that member.

Roy Sorenson: Yes. Fantastic. Master Patrolman Jason Downey received the Donna Briggs Leadership Award. As you know, Patrolman Downey is our wellness officer, obviously with Donna Briggs as well, who was with Hudson. This is a monumental award. Kudos to him for winning that. I think he's great at what he does. So, he was celebrated for that last week with the critical incident stress management for first responders. And he continues his work.

So, he's doing a great job there. I think he's doing it town wide as well. Certainly helps the rest of the staff. So, I talked a little bit about technologies and everything else. And I guess this is the future. At least everybody's saying that. Artificial intelligence, AI. What's interesting is we have been looking at some different platforms of AI and how to use it. PD and Captain Broderick. We actually sat with PD and Captain Broderick. He's very well versed in this. And he had the ability to get some training through some governmental sector trainers, specifically for police enforcement, and showed us some of the things you can do and how they can interact with what they're trying to do, whether it's policies, procedures, job descriptions, reports, RFPs, RFQs, whatever it might be. And so, we started with him on this. And we're going to continue to proceed with that. We're going to see if we can actually get some training on the town and municipal side as well. So, this is going to help immensely with a lot of our administrative work. What it can do. It's kind of crazy because when you're talking to AI, it's like you're talking to a human and you're making changes on the fly and correcting it. It's pretty impressive. So, we're starting to dabble in it. We'll continue to do that over the next, immediately through the future as well. Hudson Fire last week was the CPR Challenge. So, you can see that's Firefighter Dowgen performing on the CPR mannequin, as well as Kyle Levesque, who's our training officer over at Fire. Obviously, it's a big month, but it was a big week last week in that it was EMS week, as well as public works week. And I'll get into that too. But you can see the role it's been in place. I didn't realize how long it's been in place, actually, since 1974. So, kudos to them. It's something that this community, I think every community relies on, right? When you call for service, particularly if it's an ambulance and there's a life-threatening event, they show up and they're there to help. So that's important. Speaking of public works, last week was public works week as well. I can't make this up. I know Mr. Dumont, who is a developer, I'm not sure if he would run a sewer line in between two telephone poles. But in this instance, you can see the sewer service. Actually, the sewer service on the left right here, the pole actually went in and took that sewer service out. They didn't know the sewer service was there. The folks had an issue on Central Street, the location. We went in there. We found out that they hit it. We prepared it. We still had some blockage in there. So, DPW went downstream. This is a route, a massive route that was in this sewer manhole. So, they get in there, camera it, and it took that out as well. So, the things you find and just that happen over time, it's just, it's something short of amazing. So, speaking of public works, the Lions served them lunch last week. It was a

fantastic event. They did a great job. The guys enjoyed it. Well worth it, given the fact this past winter. And then they've been extremely busy, as I mentioned, in the spring. So, they really, there is no rest for the weary between the street sweeping, the general maintenance, fixing drainage, fixing manholes and things of that nature. But thanks to the Lions Club for donating. This is something that they're probably going to continue to do on a daily basis too, which is great. May recognition for our employees. You can kind of see the list of folks up there. You got three public works folks up there, 27, 23, and 21, respectively. And pretty diverse moving your way through it, all the way down to Laurie May, our finance director. So, she's been here a year now. So, time goes by pretty quick. That's a good sign, yes. So, congratulations to those folks. And then my history snippet, and the chairman spoke to this a little bit. We did get invited to the Hudson, New Hampshire Historical Society celebrating Gerald Winslow from Boston Post, Kane. 97, he'll be 98 this year. It was a great event. And we certainly had a great time. And there was a lot of folks there. Very interesting individual. He was a U.S. Coast Guard veteran, graduated from BU. Hudson, New Hampshire, he came here in 1950. He was married for over 59 years. His wife's no longer here. She had passed away. Three children. He went to the Postal Service in 1964. Became postmaster in 71. Retired in 1988. I got to say, for a 97-year-old, just fantastic personality. And just, you wouldn't think he was 97. Let's just put it that way. We did invite him back. He does go to Maine for the summer and he'll be back in October. We would like him to come to a board selection meeting. And we'll make a formal presentation to him here. And he said, absolutely. So, he's going to enjoy his summer. And when he gets back in town, he's going to give us a call. But I just want to thank the Historical Society for inviting us and allowing us to be part of that ceremony. Just a couple things to finish up and add. As I mentioned, this month, the May recognition, it recognizes a series of public service. Police, fire, public works, EMS, as we mentioned. So, I want to thank the staff for all that. Obviously, a lot of things that happened Memorial Day. And for those that have served as well. Our veterans that are no longer here. And remembrance of them. I did get to go to Manchester, as I mentioned, to celebrate the Memorial Day up there and that was for the Phaneuf family for the dedication of the granite pavers. Part of the new memorial up there. It was a great event, Don and Nancy were there. The Phaneuf's as well, I got to spend some time with them. And Governor Ayotte was there, Representative Pappas, Don Buldock and the Mayor of Manchester as well. So, it was a great, great time, the monument is beautiful. And the great thing is the brick for Captain Phaneuf is right there on the front. It's amazing. Right in front of the memorial. So couldn't ask for better placement. And as I mentioned, I'll have some pictures of that and the celebration of that at the next meeting. That's all I got.

Chairman Dumont: Thank you very much, Mr. Sorenson. Next up, Ms. Cook.

#### **11. REMARKS BY SCHOOL BOARD**

Heather Cook: I wanted to thank you, Senator Vurgaropulos, for explaining that each flag was... I'm sorry. Did I butcher your last name?

Selectman Vurgaropulos: I'm sorry. No, you called me Senator. Oh, I'm an elected man.

Selectman Jakoby: Wow. That was easy.

Roy Sorenson: Highest ranking man in the room. That got his attention.

Heather Cook: Oh, boy. Well, thank you for the laugh with that. But I wanted to thank you for explaining the tribute with the flags in town, how each one is dog tag. That was really interesting to hear. And it was such a beautiful tribute and an important reminder of the meaning of the importance of Memorial Day. All right, so getting back to school boards. Our last meeting was last Monday, May 18th. The district voted on snow plowing services and awarded the contract to Morin's Landscaping. We discussed the annual budget developmental timeline. We also discussed still ongoing alternative transportation for students. E-bikes. That's still an ongoing discussion, but we did present a draft procedure. And then the FY 27 general assurances document from the New Hampshire Department of Education was passed. This is a document that is developed by the state's Department of Ed for general assurances, requirements and definitions for participation in federal programs that must be signed by all sub-recipients. So, that is on the website this week in case anyone's interested. Lastly, the board voted on fund balance end of year purchase requests. And then as some of you have mentioned, it's a busy few weeks coming up here in the school district. Lots of events. This week we have the JROTC awards night. Next

week we have the CTE awards night and then a whole bunch of concerts and tours scheduled. So, lots of exciting things.

Chairman Dumont: All right. Thank you very much. Our final order is motions to be made regarding our non-public sessions. So, I'll turn to Mr. Sorenson for the first one.

**12. MOTIONS MADE IN NONPUBLIC**

Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Jakoby, to approve the promotion of Captain Stephen McElhinney to the position of Deputy Chief as recommended by the Police Chief based out date of July 1, 2026 and a pay rate to be negotiated with the confines of the FY 27 budget and upon the signatory of the Board of Selectmen Chairman. Motion carried, 5-0.

Selectman Allan made a motion, seconded by Selectman Vurgaropulos, to seal the Board of Selectmen non-public session meeting minutes for item 2A of the May 26, 2026 meeting per RSA 91-A:3 (c). Motion carried, 5-0.

Selectman Vurgaropulos made a motion, seconded by selectman Guessferd, to seal the Board of Selectmen non-public session meeting minutes for item 2B of the May 26, 2026 meeting per RSA 91-A:3 (c). Motion carried, 5-0.

Selectman Allan made a motion, seconded by Selectman Jakoby, to appoint Melissa Latulipe to the position of Senior Accounting Clerk with effective date in terms of salary to be negotiated by Town Administrator to be finalized upon signed conditional offer employment executed through the signatory of the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen. Motion carried, 5-0.

Selectman Vurgaropulos made a motion, seconded by Selectman Allan, to accept the resignation and/or retirement of custodian Wayne Madeiros, effective June 26, 2026, with thanks and appreciation for his years of service since 2003. Motion carried, 5-0.

Selectman Jakoby made a motion, seconded by Selectman Allan, to allow the HR Generalist advertise for the position of custodian. Motion carried, 5-0.

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Vurgaropulos, to adjourn at 8:50 p.m. Motion carried, 5-0.

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

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Dillon Dumont, Chairman

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Bob Guessferd, Vice-Chairman

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Xen Vurgaropulos, Selectman

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Heidi Jakoby, Selectman

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Kimberly Allan, Selectman