



HUDSON, NEW HAMPSHIRE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the April 14, 2026 Board of Selectmen Meeting

7:00 PM

Board of Selectmen Meeting Room, Town Hall

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – by Chairman Dumont the meeting of April 14, 2026 at 7:21 p.m. in the Selectmen Meeting Room at Town Hall.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Police Chief, David Cayot.

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; Police Chief – David Cayot; Police Wellness Officer – Jason Dwoney; School Board Liaison – Heather Cook; Executive Assistant – Lorrie Weissgarber.

4. **PUBLIC INPUT**

Chairman Dumont: At this time, we're going to go right into public input. Is there anyone in the audience that would like to address the Board on any issue that the Board has control over at this time? If you do, please come up, state your name and address for the record.

Todd Pollack, 62 Barretts Hill Road: Good evening. I am here to alert the board to a looming public safety and infrastructure issue. On March 23, T-Mobile Executive Response confirmed that they have permanently decommissioned the cell tower at 236 Central Street, a stealth flagpole site in our town center. Most alarmingly, they admitted there is no replacement planned for at least six months. This has created a massive dead zone along the Central Street corridor, including the 7-Eleven and First Baptist Church area. I have documented dozens of residents on community forums who can no longer make reliable 911 calls or access data in this high-traffic area. To my knowledge, T-Mobile did not provide the town or the public with the 30-day notice required by federal law, 47 CFR 63.71, for service discontinuance. Because they have continued to bill residents for a service they intentionally withdrew, the New Hampshire Attorney General's Consumer Protection Bureau has officially opened an investigation into this matter. I have handed you a copy of their notice, file number 2026183059. Furthermore, a formal complaint is pending with the FCC, ticket 8509990, regarding T-Mobile's failure to follow federal discontinuance protocols. I am asking the board to support its residents by: (1) directing the town administrator to demand a cell on wheels—also known as a COW—from T-Mobile to restore emergency connectivity immediately; and (2) directing the planning department to review the 236 Central Street permit for abandonment-of-use violations under our town ordinances. We should not allow a multibillion-dollar corporation to leave the heart of Hudson in a blackout for six months just to save on their bottom line. Thank you.

Chairman Dumont: Thank you very much. Is there anybody else in the audience who wishes to speak tonight? Going once, going twice, with that we will close the public hearing session at 7:24 p.m.

5. **RECOGNITIONS, NOMINATIONS & APPOINTMENTS**

A. **Recognitions** – None

B. **Nominations**

- 1) Conservation Commission – Patricia Keller, *alternate position*
 - o One (1) alternate vacancy to expire December 2028
 - o One (1) alternate vacancy to expire December 2026

We'll roll right into recognition, nominations and appointments. We have two nominations, the first up will be for Conservation Commission for Patricia Keller. Come on up, please. If you could, just tell a little bit about yourself, why you're interested in the position. The Board of Selectmen may have a couple questions for you.

Patricia Keller: Sure. I am very, I love Hudson, it's a great town. I was at work one day when one of the members came in, and they were discussing some things with him. He said, why don't you step up and join the committee? I said, great idea, and here I am.

Chairman Dumont: Are you familiar with the hours of the committee, the meetings that are entailed? Do they have some trails that get maintained through them? Are you familiar with all the aspects of it?

Patricia Keller: Yes, I'm recently retired from the federal government, so I have time.

Chairman Dumont: I'll just verify—so you have time to make the meetings, review the packets that get put out, and, if possible, come to town hall to speak with the engineering department? They're the direct liaison for that one if you have any questions concerning a meeting or anything like that.

Patricia Keller: Absolutely.

Chairman Dumont: Any other questions from board members?

Selectman Jakoby: I just want to thank you for stepping forward when someone asked. It's a big thing to do—I really appreciate it, and I'm glad you have a passion for this town."

Patricia Keller: Yeah, definitely.

Chairman Dumont: Thank you very much for stepping up to volunteer. So, if there's no other questions, typically what gets done is we take it under advisement and we'll make a decision at the following meeting. You're more than welcome to come on out at that meeting, if not, we will have Mrs. Weissgarber reach out to you and let you know of the status.

Patricia Keller: Sounds great.

Chairman Dumont: Thank you so much.

Patricia Keller: Thank you very much. Have a great evening. You too.

2) Cable Utility Committee – Michael Campbell, member position

- o Three (3) member vacancies to expire April 2029
- o Two (2) member vacancies to expire April 2028
- o One (1) member vacancy to expire April 2027

Chairman Dumont: Thank you. Alright, next up, Cable Utility Committee. Mr. Michael Campbell. Come on up. I know we're all familiar with you, but please state your name, tell us a little bit about yourself and what you're looking to do.

Mike Campbell: Hi, I'm Mike Campbell on Baltusrol Drive. I want to be part of the Cable Committee because I think it's, HCTV is one of the most important assets this community has. Growing up in the Lakes region, our public access station was in my high school and it was actually one of my first jobs was working for the public access station because I was in a CTE program that worked with it. When I moved here, keeping up to date with all the information was great. I want to support it any way I can. As a member of the school board, I was on the committee for two years, so I know what's expected. I know what the meetings are like. I know their schedule and I'd like to still be part. Diane reached out to me and thought it might be a good fit, so I thought I'd throw my hat in the ring.

Selectman Guessferd: You should have some additional time now.

Mike Campbell: My Mondays happen to be free now.

Chairman Dumont: Well, thank you very much for looking for other opportunities to volunteer. You answered my question about timing and just making sure we make the meetings. It's always been one of my biggest

concerns just with everybody and all the committees that are here. Do we have any other questions or comments from anybody?

Selectman Jakoby: I just again want to thank you for coming forward and being committed to helping the town in whatever way you're passionate about.

Chairman Dumont: Thank you very much, we'll let you know next week.

Mike Campbell: Thank you all very much.

C. Appointments

- 1) Building Board of Appeals – Michael Lawlor, member reappointment
 - o One (1) member vacancy to expire April 2029

Chairman Dumont: Next up we have appointments. First up is the Building Board of Appeal for a reappointment of member Michael Lawler. I don't believe he's here. Does anybody have a motion, questions, comments? Typically, obviously with an incumbent, it's pretty usual that they're not required to be at this meeting. A motion will be made by a board member to reappoint unless there's any concerns. Selectman Allan?

Selectman Allan made a motion, Seconded by Selectman Jakoby, to reappoint Michael Lawler as a member of the Building Board of Appeals with a term to expire April 2029. Motion carried, 5-0.

- 2) Cable Utility Committee – Len Segal, member reappointment
 - o Three (3) member vacancies to expire April 2029
 - o Two (2) member vacancies to expire April 2028
 - o One (1) member vacancy to expire April 2027

Chairman Dumont: Next up, Utility Committee for Len Segal. Three-year member vacancy to expire in 2029. Questions, comments, motions? Selectman Guessferd?

Selectman Guessferd: I'll just make a comment. I was on the Cable Committee for a year or two as the Selectman rep. Len is a valuable asset for that committee. He has provided a lot of input, a lot of great, he's got some experience in the area as well. So, as far as I'm concerned, I'm glad to see he's stepping up to be reappointed for another few years. And I'm willing to make a motion if I can.

Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Jakoby, to reappoint Len Segal to a three-member vacancy position to expire April 2029 for the Cable Utility Committee. Motion carried, 5-0.

- 3) Cable Utility Committee – Stewart Kroner, member reappointment
 - o Three (3) member vacancies to expire April 2029
 - o Two (2) member vacancies to expire April 2028
 - o One (1) member vacancy to expire April 2027

Chairman Dumont: Next up, we have Cable Utility Committee again for Stewart Kroner. Member reappointment looking for a vacancy to expire in April 2029. Questions, comments, motions, Selectman Guessferd?

Selectman Guessferd: I'll make the same motion. He's done a good job. He's done a good job on the committee.

Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Allan, to reappoint Stewart Kroner as a three-year member vacancy to fill that vacancy to expire April 2029 on the Cable Utility Committee. Motion carried, 5-0.

- 4) Sustainability Advisory Committee – Debra Putnam, member reappointment
 - o Two (2) member vacancies to expire April 2029
 - o One (1) alternate vacancy to expire April 2028
 - o One (1) alternate vacancy to expire April 2027

Chairman Dumont: Next up, we have Sustainability Advisory Committee. Deborah Putnam, member of reappointment, looking for a vacancy to expire April 2029. Do we have any comments?

Selectman Vurgaropulos: Yeah, I think Deborah is very passionate in that position. I think she does a very good job.

Selectman Vurgaropulos made a motion, seconded by Selectman Allan, to reappoint Deborah Putnam to Sustainability Advisory Committee for the two-member vacancy to expire April 2029. Motion carried, 5-0.

5) Sustainability Advisory Committee – Chris Thatcher, member reappointment

- o Two (2) member vacancies to expire April 2029
- o One (1) alternate vacancy to expire April 2028
- o One (1) alternate vacancy to expire April 2027

Chairman Dumont: Next up, we have another Sustainability Advisory Committee. Chris Thatcher, member of reappointment, for a member vacancy to expire in 2029. Questions, comments?

Selectman Jakoby made a motion, seconded by Selectman Vurgaropulos, to reappoint Chris Thatcher to the two-member vacancy to expire April 2029. Motion carried, 5-0.

6. CONSENT ITEMS

Chairman Dumont: That takes care of nominations and appointments. Next up is consent items. Does any board member wish to remove any item for separate consideration? We'll have a motion to approve 6A through F.

Selectman Vurgaropulos made a motion, seconded by Selectman Jakoby, to approve 6A through F. Motion carried, 5-0.

A. Assessing Items

- 1) Abatement Applications
- 2) Tax Deferral Application
- 3) Elderly Exemptions
- 4) Elderly Exemption Requalifications
- 5) Elderly Exemption & Veteran Tax Credit
- 6) Veterans' Tax Credit
- 7) All Veterans' Tax Credits
- 8) Disabled Veteran Tax Credits
- 9) Solar Exemption
- 10) Certification of Yield Taxes Assessed/Timber Warrant
- 11) Gravel Tax Warrants

B. Water/Sewer Items – None

C. Licenses & Permits & Policies

- 1) Outdoor Gathering Permit – Sensory Seekers
- 2) Night Trucking Permit – Brox Industries
- 3) Raffle Permit – Hudson Fish and Game

D. Donations – None

E. Acceptance of Minutes

- 1) April 14, 2026

F. Calendar

04/14	7:00	Board of Selectmen	BOS Meeting Room
04/15	6:00a	Library Trustees	Hudson Cable Access Center
04/16	7:00	Benson Park Advisory Committee	Hudson Cable Access Center
04/18	8:00a	Planning Board Site Walk	207 Central Street
04/27	7:00	Sustainability Advisory Committee	Buxton Meeting room
04/28	7:00	Board of Selectmen	BOS Meeting Room

Chairman Dumont: All right. We are going to go out of order at this time and take up new business 8A, which will be followed by 8B, and then we will roll back into the typical agenda of 7A for Old Business. So, at this time, I will recognize Mr. Sorenson for the Hudson Fire Department NDA boot drive.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Hudson Fire Department MDA Boot Drive – Administration/Informational

Roy Sorenson: All right. Thank you, Mr. Chair. I am going to ask Elias Brodeur of the Hudson Fire Department, IAFF Local 314, to come on up. And he will walk us through the request for them to do the boot drive this year. You do have everything in your memo. So, with that, I'm going to turn it over to you, Elias.

Elias Brodeur: Thank you for having me. My name is Elias Brodeur. I am a member of the Hudson Fire Department, as mentioned before. I am a member of the union. I am taking over now from, I'm sure you're aware of, Adam Levor, to be the head coordinator of the Muscular Dystrophy Association boot drive that we'd like to do every year. It will be super similar to last year's proceedings. We'll be doing it over a course of several months, with the first one being upcoming April 21st, with the rest of the dates and times listed in the package we were given. It will be taking place in the same exact point, in a series of intersections and medians surrounding the common area in the town, over by Veterans Bridge. All the volunteers, like always, will be members of the fire department, or sometimes members of their family. All the proceeds, as before, will 100% be going towards charity. We won't be taking any of the funds ourselves. Last year actually went pretty great for us. We placed first in the state, and we grossed around \$16,000, which is pretty awesome, so kudos to Adam. I think he did wonderful work, and I'm hoping to keep it up just as before. And I think really it is, as it always has been, a fantastic charitable organization, being founded sometime around 1954, and over time I believe has grossed around \$700 million. I think that's nationwide. So, I think they've done a lot of great work, and I'd be happy if you'd allow us to continue doing that charitable work. I'll open it up now to any questions you guys have, anything I can clarify.

Chairman Dumont: Questions, comments from the board?

Selectman Guessferd: You've got a high bar.

Selectman Jakoby: Yeah.

Elias Brodeur: I'm going to be trying my best, and I'm also blessed I have a lot of great people around me who's going to be helping me out in the department. I'm not alone. I have a lot of help.

Selectman Jakoby: It's always a great fundraiser.

Chairman Dumont: I think it's great to think of. It's always nice to see you guys out there and do this. Is there any concerns over anything that's been proposed?

Selectman Jakoby: Nope.

Chairman Dumont: You are all set, so you're good to go.

Elias Brodeur: Thank you again for your time. Thank you very much.

B. BOS Election of Officers – Administration/Decision

Chairman Dumont: Next up, we will handle the election of officers. So, at this time, what we're going to do is handle the election of Chairman first, and then we'll work our way down through Vice-Chairman. So, with that, I will open up the nominating period for the Chairman, for the Board of Selectmen. Do we have any nominations from the floor? Selectman Vurgaropulos.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: I would like to nominate Heidi Jakoby.

Chairman Dumont: We have a nomination of Selectman Jakoby for the position of Chairman of the Board of Selectmen. Do we have any other nominations? Selectman Guessferd.

Selectman Guessferd: Actually, I would like to nominate Selectman Dumont as Chairman for the upcoming year.

Chairman Dumont: We have a nomination of Selectman Jakoby, a nomination of Selectman Dumont for the position of Chairman of the Board of Selectmen. Are there any other nominations at this time? Not seeing any, I will close the nominations. We will move into the voting period, at which time we will handle typical of the Board of Selectmen is via voice. So, we can go around, selectman by selectman, and then cast our vote. And at the end, we will tally those votes, and we will elect a new officer. So, I will start over on this side since Selectman Vurgaropulos made the first nomination. Selectman Vurgaropulos, your vote.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: Selectman Jakoby.

Chairman Dumont: Selectman Allan, your vote.

Selectman Allan: Selectman Dumont.

Chairman Dumont: Selectman Jakoby, your vote.

Selectman Jakoby: Selectman Jakoby.

Chairman Dumont: Selectman Guessferd, your vote.

Selectman Guessferd: Selectman Dumont.

Chairman Dumont: And my vote will be for myself, Selectman Dumont. With that, we have a 3-2 for Dumont and Jakoby, Dumont being the new Chairman of the Board of Selectmen for this coming year. With that, we will move into the nomination of the Vice-Chairman, and again, we will follow the same procedure, and I will open up the nomination period. Nominations for Vice-Chair. Do we have any? Selectman Allan, I apologize.

Selectman Allan: I'd like to make a motion to nominate Bob Guessferd as the Board of Selectmen Vice-Chair.

Chairman Dumont: We have a nomination of Selectman Guessferd as Vice-Chair. Do we have any other nominations?

Selectman Vurgaropulos: I'll nominate Selectman Jakoby.

Chairman Dumont: Selectman Guessferd for Vice-Chair and Selectman Jakoby have been nominated. Do we have any other nominations from the floor? Not seeing any, I will close the nominations and we'll move into voting.

Chairman Dumont: Selectman Vurgaropulos, your vote.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: Selectman Jakoby.

Chairman Dumont: Selectman Allan, your vote.

Selectman Allan: Selectman Guessferd.

Chairman Dumont: Selectman Jakoby, your vote.

Selectman Jakoby: Selectman Jakoby.

Chairman Dumont: Selectman Guessferd, your vote.

Selectman Guessferd: Selectman Guessferd.

Chairman Dumont: And my final vote will be for Selectman Guessferd as well. So, we have the new Vice-Chairman for this coming year will be Selectman Guessferd and that will handle the election of officers. One other one that I do want to take up that I think is of utmost importance that's been waited on and I'm being told the planning board is also holding off on their election until we complete this would be the election of that planning board member. So, with that we're going to follow the same process we just did with the past two. We'll do nominations and then voting. So, at this time, I'm going to open up nominations for the planning board ex-officio officer. Selectman Allan.

Selectman Allan: I'd like to make a motion to nominate Bob Guessferd as the planning board liaison.

Chairman Dumont: We have a nomination of Selectman Guessferd.

Selectman Jakoby: I'd like to nominate Selectman Vurgaropulos for the planning board.

Chairman Dumont: We have a nomination of Selectman Guessferd and Selectman Vurgaropulos. Do we have any other nominations? With that we will close the nominations and move into the voting mode. Selectman Vurgaropulos, what did you vote?

Selectman Vurgaropulos: I voted for myself.

Chairman Dumont: Selectman Allan?

Selectman Allan: Selectman Guessferd.

Chairman Dumont: Selectman Jakoby?

Selectman Jakoby: Selectman Vurgaropoulos.

Chairman Dumont: Selectman Guessferd?

Selectman Guessferd: Selectman Guessferd.

Chairman Dumont: And myself I will also vote for Selectman Guessferd. So, again with 3-2, Selectman Guessferd is appointed to the planning board for the next year. So, with that, that handles our typical or following the same process that we did last year of election of officers and planning board appointee. We do have liaison assignments obviously typically what we did is the previous meeting that the chair would have been elected and then those would have went out at this meeting. However, obviously we just handled the election of officers. I did have everybody's suggestions and I have a rough copy of that and we'll be sending that out via email over the next day or so and you should get that. If you have any questions or comments, please let me know. If it's something you want added to the next agenda please let me know and we can do that at the following meeting. However, obviously there's other meetings in between now and our Board of Selectman one that need to be attended to.

7. OLD BUSINESS

Chairman Dumont: With that, we're going to roll back into our normal business of 7A, the Sustainability Advisory Committee Charter. And once I can find my paper here. Alright, I will recognize Mr. Sorenson just to kind of bring us back around for the Sustainability Advisory Committee Charter.

A. Sustainability Advisory Committee Charter – Administration/ Discussion

Roy Sorenson: Thank you, Mr. Chair. So, this is item 8F from the March 3rd, 2026 BOS meeting. It was a first read for a new charter for the Sustainability Advisory Committee. It was redlined to a certain extent. That finished charter, or what would be the final charter, is attached to this memo here. I know there was some other ancillary discussions on the committee in general. That's why I did not propose any type of recommended motion here. I think the board can take that up in discussion regarding this advisory committee and how you might want to proceed.

Selectman Jakoby: I have a question. Did this include the corrections from the meeting?

Roy Sorenson: Yes.

Selectman Jakoby: There were just some grammar and some wording things that they had changed. Nothing contextual?

Roy Sorenson: After a couple of periods of conversation.

Selectman Jakoby: I just wanted to affirm that. Thank you.

Chairman Dumont: A couple of things I know that I brought up in selecting Jakoby, we had conversations with it. We talked about where this charter is going to go and I think now would be a real appropriate time to have that. I personally see it as the non-profit that I think me and Selecting Jakoby were in agreeance on that previous night. I know she said that she had some conversations with them. I did have some conversations with a couple of the members on that as well. With our restraints on their finances, I think it's more beneficial for them to head in that direction and I think that they'll still be able to advise the board of selectmen about upcoming possibilities.

That's kind of where I'm leaning at. Selecting Jakoby, obviously you're the liaison. I don't know if you've had further discussions with them or if you're still...

Selectman Jakoby: Well, I have. They don't have any interest in becoming a non-profit. As this stands, it's an advisory role. The conversation was that they would not do as many... It says it in here. The things that got them into concern were taking on too many activities that cost money. I think this charter makes it clear that you have to have the money first and that if you are getting donations for something, that has to be in place. I think we're doing the same thing with the Benson Park Advisory Committee. We're making some really clear statements. If that's too restrictive, then they may choose to... They may choose another course. They said that within the budget that they have, they want to continue to be an advisory committee and that no current members had an interest in forming a non-profit. That doesn't mean that there's not someone in the public who might see a non-profit as an option. My other question was with this charter, is this something that this board wants or needs, which is something I told them. I said that's ultimately the question for the five of us.

Chairman Dumont: That's kind of where I'm leaning on is **personally**, I think that as far as the town's role in what they're doing, I think that it's admirable what they're looking at. I personally think that they would be more successful and have a little bit more room to grow and seek better funding and get some more things done through the non-profit. I understand that there's some work involved in that, but to me that's kind of where I'm leaning at this time. Do we have any other comments?

Selectman Jakoby: So, are you suggesting that we dissolve?

Chairman Dumont: I'm leaning towards that. I could be persuaded. Like I said, when I brought it up two meetings ago now, I think we had some similar conversations and similar feelings about if it had run its course or not. I know you've had closer conversations with them as their rep.

Selectman Jakoby: I think the other thing that came out of our conversation was that at the time they were formed over the years, they had a much larger role in ensuring that recyclables were more cost effective. They're not anymore. Lighting and different ways of being more sustainable, there were a lot of opportunities for municipalities to get grants. The money was in a different location. To your point, now the money is not there. I'm with you on the defense about the purpose set forth here. I understand the purpose. I'm not sure how much is out there for them to help the municipality moving forward. We've gotten our windows. We've gotten our lights. I don't know. Even being close to that committee, I'm not convinced. The other thing too I want to add is DPW is taking a much more active role. Mr. Sorenson has helped them being more proactive in communicating to the public. That was a large role of this committee, was communicating to the public. Maybe it's a transition year of may we keep it for another year and revisit this as we transition and see the many changes in DPW and the ability for them to communicate out. I know it's like the flyer for the composting. I think that came out of your office and out of Lorrie Weissgarber developed that. There's more happening within our departments and less that needs to happen here. That's my overall assessment.

Selectman Guessferd: I do agree that being a non-profit would give them a lot more flexibility in terms of the things that they do, the things they can accomplish, funding, sources, things like that. I think what they perform, they perform a function that is needed, that kind of emphasis on sustainability, on green practices and things that will benefit the community down the line. But I do think, from my perspective, it might be more positive for them. I know it may be daunting when you haven't put together a non-profit. We do have somebody in the room here who did recently. I just think it's a lot, I think they can do a lot more with it. And then come up with some other things that they might, we might not think of.

Selectman Jakoby: I just want to be really clear to this board, because they said be really clear. The group of people that we've appointed are not going to do that. They feel that their role is to be advisors within the municipality to all of you. I just want you to know that. This group was not going to be the group that makes that up. They wanted me to make sure I was clear. I'm sorry. Sorry. I hear them. Like I said. So, yep.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: I don't have much on this. I'm not even remotely involved.

Chairman Dumont: Alright.

Selectman Allan: I'm kind of with you guys. It's a tough call to make on whether or not you dissolve a committee that's an advisory board that's been around. But what's left for them to do? Do we keep them on another year? Do we see if they can work with the town and see how they can be helpful? I'm kind of sad that they're not willing to become a non-profit because when you become a non-profit there's so much more that you can do within your community and it's not hard to become a non-profit and I think it opens more doors to you in the way of grants and money coming in and then the stuff that you can do within your community and not have the holds of the town really. You're your own boss when you are a non-profit. So, I'm sad to hear that none of them are interested in that venture.

Chairman Dumont: I mean I out of everything from Selectman Jakoby's comments to Selectman Guesswork I'm going to kind of reiterate, I think it reinstalls in me, I think that the big thing is too Selectman Jakoby's point about what they were created to do versus where we're at today just doesn't seem to line up. So, for me I'm not comfortable putting forward another charter in a kind of wait and see moment you know I think that's more reactive than anything I think, I do think it would be appropriate to dissolve I would hope that they take a second look at the non-profit part of it especially with the charitable gaming that's now involved I think that they could still be advisors in that role but I think over the past year they've morphed themselves from advisors to more of a community group with some of their activities that they're putting out there they're not really advisory activities they're kind of outreach if anything with the Pumpkin Smash and all that stuff so that's where I'm at.

Selectman Jakoby: So I just want to disagree with your characterization because their goal has always been and their charge from this committee has always been to do sustainable outreach to the community and they did the Pumpkin Smash in collaboration with Alvirne's sustainability committee and they have made see I can argue both ways they have made strides to marry with marry with, to partner with the Alvirne's sustainability committee so I think there's value in keeping them and to have them, to see if they can live into this charter, because my question is does anybody have issue with this charter? I think the charter is much clearer than it's been before I think it sets their roles and responsibilities very clearly we just reappointed two people they have a full committee I don't think there's any reason not to allow them to continue for a year and maybe have them come discuss back with us their enthusiasm or lack thereof before we go forth and just eliminate it

Chairman Dumont: To that point obviously this has been an ongoing discussion for a significant amount of time I've had some conversations, I know you have they had their own conversations I personally just think it's time for a decision. I don't have a problem with the way the charter is written I just don't see it really being necessary at this time anymore to some of your previous points about the way that the town is moving forward and moving ahead with everything so I guess that's where I'll stop put my shovel down

Selectman Guessferd: These are legitimate positions. I think maybe not just from, there's an optic here as well and yes there have been discussions about it. I don't think the public has been fully engaged necessarily with some of the discussions on this point and because of that, I would charge them to come to us and I would say I would support holding them for a year. Holding it and giving them a charge to come to us or maybe to the public because maybe somebody in the public can help them and say, hey look, as you said, it's not hard to do this, just some paperwork you've got to go through some hoops. But it's more administrative maybe it makes some sense rather than just kind of, I just don't feel I necessarily want to just say okay we're done here but I do think we are going there right now unless there's some other initiative. I mean we saw how quickly someone could put together a non-profit for a necessary community desired need and so they certainly could do this. Somebody could step forward and do the same thing, they wouldn't have to be a member of the committee but they could help them out and maybe convince them that it's better to have something that they can support and move forward with than nothing at all because that seems to be where we're heading right now.

Selectman Allan: I have a question is this something that we could table for now and bring it to the next meeting and allow them to come into public input and speak on the issue?

Selectman Guessferd: Or even just an agenda item.

Chairman Dumont: Yeah, yeah, we have the authority, anybody can lay it on the table and we can bring it back at the next one. Which is kind of where if there was no flavor for one or the other way, I was thinking was probably the best way to go right now. I will just say again, to follow up on Selectman Guessferd's point, I guess I would

just look at the simple fact when we're looking at the charter and, is it necessary at this time? If seeing that the non-profit is probably the future of it that we think that's the better route, well, then setting that up the logistics that come after that is a separate conversation that can be had at any time. That's why I kind of honed in on, maybe I jumped the gun a little bit about it. I'm just not seeing the charter fit in with what the town or how it's operating today. And, I'm fine with laying it on the table and ask them to come back and have the conversation, look for some public outreach or something along those lines. Selectman Jakoby.

Selectman Jakoby: And the reason why I think that's important is because we have so many volunteers who are committed to this committee and to not have to have them come forward and to say that we are seriously looking at dissolving this committee and what does that look like for all of you?

Selectman Guessferd: Yeah, I totally agree with that and give them an opportunity and come to us and tell us what are you advising us on now. All these things that we've done great work with in the past, here we are. What do you see us gaining in terms of advisement from you at this point? And if not, then we're just not, we don't think that it really should be a committee

Selectman Jakoby: A standing committee.

Selectman Guessferd: A standing committee that is kind of maybe run its course.

Selectman Jakoby: Right.

Chairman Dumont: I think that's appropriate. Is everybody okay with we put that on the table, we'll take it up at the next meeting? Alright, so we'll lay that down on the table for now we'll take that up at the next meeting.

8. **NEW BUSINESS**

Chairman Dumont: Alright with that we will roll over to item 8C, let me just find my place here. I will recognize Mr. Sorenson again, Hudson Community Power Plan.

C. CPCNH Withdrawal – Administration/Presentation

Roy Sorenson: Alright, thank you Mr. Chair. Item 8C is regarding the Hudson Community Power Plan. As you know we are a member community within the Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire, CPCNH. However, we did send them a letter with our intent to withdraw. You do have the backup—you can see the letter from our attorney to them, as well as their response letter. It's a process to withdraw, and I'll have to keep the board up to speed on that, given the timeline and what's required to do it. Nonetheless, we did adopt a community power plan, so I asked another group that provides these services—not exactly the same as CPCNH, but they are working with other communities—to present tonight. Everything before you is informational; there's no action required at this time, other than determining the purview of the board moving forward.

Do we want to go back to the way it was with the Eversource default rate and let consumers make their own choices, or do we want to join forces with another group and see if we can get better rates for the Town of Hudson? We all understand why we're withdrawing from CPCNH. We went through a series of meetings last year in that regard. Selectman Allan, you weren't here at the time, but they ran into some financial issues with how their organization operated. Over the last three periods, their rate has come in higher than the Eversource default rate—and not by a little; I would say by a lot. So, we made the choice at that point to withdraw. Given that, I don't want to take up too much time—we have a lot to cover. I'm going to ask Nick—hopefully I'm pronouncing your last name correctly—Nick Shostak. If you could come up, he's with Freedom Energy Logistics. I'll let your group introduce yourselves, and then I'll turn it over to you to talk a bit about your organization and why we should entertain moving forward with you or another provider instead of CPCNH.

Nick Shostak: Absolutely, and thank you all for including us on today's agenda. I'm Nick Shostak, as Roy mentioned, the CCA team lead here at Freedom Energy. I'm joined by our CEO, Bart Fromuth; our VP of Sales, Carol Anne Watts—who is also a Hudson resident—and Howard Plante, our VP of Procurement. We've put together a brief slide deck. We met with Roy and discussed what would be most beneficial for this meeting, particularly in terms of what we can provide and how we differ from CPCNH. As you've already decided to leave, the goal is to avoid getting caught in the same cycle of rising rates. A little about Freedom Energy: we were

founded in 2006, and we actually just celebrated our 20-year anniversary. We're headquartered here in New Hampshire, in Auburn, and we also have an office in Westborough, Massachusetts. Over the past two decades, our success has come from taking care of our employees while also providing our clients with the best opportunities to save money and build long-term savings. We do that through multiple avenues—net metering, strategic procurement, renewable strategies, demand response—you name it. We cover all areas of energy. We are currently serving over 100 municipalities throughout the Northeast. Not all of them are listed here, and some of our CCA clients aren't shown at the top either—we still need to add Windham and Hampstead—but it demonstrates our long-standing history and broad client base, which reflects our two decades of experience in the market. As for the benefits of CCA, these are fairly general and likely part of why you joined in the first place. There's Choice—you can opt in or opt out. I include these points because, in terms of New Hampshire regulations, we operate no differently. We adhere to all New Hampshire PUC regulations: it's opt-out with the ability to opt in at any time, there are no charges or fees, and the program is entirely self-funded. There's no tax burden on taxpayers and no financial burden on the municipality. Everything is financed through the program itself. As you know, savings aren't guaranteed, but the goal is to deliver long-term savings and price stability over the life of the program. The key features I'll discuss—particularly what we offer at Freedom that hasn't been utilized in your current setup—will highlight why we believe this is a stronger strategy moving forward. The number one feature—and likely what has caused some challenges for CPCNH in terms of recovering past losses—is the use of multiple suppliers. When issuing an RFP or seeking bids, you're typically getting at least three bids to ensure a truly competitive process. That creates a strong bid stack, gives you real choice, and helps secure the best possible rates. It also provides protection. Each time you enter a new contract, you have the option to select a different supplier. If your current supplier experiences losses, they can't simply increase your next rate and expect you to absorb it. If they try, they'll fall to the bottom of the bid stack, and another supplier can step in with a better offer. With this approach, the Town of Hudson is protected. Each contract cycle resets competition, and the risk is placed on the supplier—not the municipality.

Bart Fromuth: Just a quick point of clarification, in terms of how our program is different from CPCNH: they use a sole supplier—sole source. CPCNH is the supplier for the aggregation, so when they take a previous loss, that loss gets rolled forward into the next contract cycle. Through our platform, using multiple suppliers, all the risk, as Nick mentioned, is the burden of those suppliers during that contract cycle. So, let's say that we placed you with a supplier that took some losses this past winter—there would be no mechanism for them to capture those losses automatically in a forward rate cycle, because we're just going out to bid. As Nick mentioned, we put it out to bid to the three or four suppliers; they respond to that, and certainly that supplier is free to try to carry those losses forward, but their price is going to be higher than the other suppliers that don't have those legacy costs. That's a significant advantage for our platform, for our customers, versus what CPCNH does.

Nick Shostak: Absolutely, I know we had mentioned it before in terms of CPCNH. County Administrator Sorenson and I had spoken about some of the caveats of the agreements, and through our research of the Joint Powers Agreement, the customer service agreement, and the New Hampshire PUC regulations, it really gives CPCNH no authority or legal standing to make you responsible for any past losses. So, any losses they've incurred in this current rate cycle—as long as you're leaving and gave them enough leeway, I guess, or warning that, hey, don't include me in the next rate cycle—then those losses can't be passed on to you.

Bart Fromuth: So, just a point of clarification there: for August being your next rate cycle, if you give CPCNH notice that you don't want to be brought forward in that next rate cycle, their only mechanism to recover losses that you've previously incurred as a result of the program can only be collected up until August. Because the program, under state statute, is entirely self-funded, there's no mechanism for CPCNH to file a lawsuit against you to collect forward funding from you, because it has to be borne by the aggregation itself while it's with CPCNH. So, once you've departed, that's it—the book is closed. Wherever those losses might have been as a result of serving Hudson, those are borne by CPCNH and the remaining members.

Nick Shostak: I love that reaction—ooh. So yeah, we got that covered. So actually, we've done four public info sessions for the town over the past couple of months, and one of the key, I guess, points that has come up when residents have asked why did you choose Freedom, why didn't you choose CPCNH—because they were also up for that same CCA program—and really, it was local control. With CPCNH, you have a one-size-fits-all approach; everyone has to fit in that same bucket. You have to adhere to the same rate cycles, you have to use all the same

renewable options, you don't have any choice, you're always in a six-month contract. So, with Freedom, you actually have that opportunity to choose your rate structures, choose the contract lengths, the contract terms, renewable options—it provides you the full autonomy of your own program to manage it for the town, as opposed to just fitting in and really giving the authority to the larger communities that are involved with the CPCNH offering.

Bart Fromuth: And somewhat similar to how, Mr. Sorenson, you might procure third-party supply for the Town of Hudson—you might go out for multiple years rather than six months. Six months is somewhat of an odd strategy; especially if the market's low. When the market's low, you want to go longer term; when the market's high, you want to go shorter term. But by always implementing a six-month strategy, you're really staying in the same cycle that the utility's in and not getting a significant benefit versus their structure. So, some of our communities—Salem, which Mr. Sorenson comes from, Hampton, and others—have looked at longer-term strategies and locking in during periods of opportunity for two years, three years. Now, there are some communities where, when we went to go launch, all of a sudden the war in Iran broke out, so we went shorter term because of the fact that prices were elevated. And we are fortunate right now, as Nick will get into, I think, in a slide coming up—all of our aggregations are below the utility to compare right now. It's not to say that at some point in time we might not have a cycle where we're above a utility, especially if you're doing a longer-term strategy with a multi-year procurement. But we're allowing ourselves and the community to take advantage of that information to make a decision for yourself, whereas right now in CPCNH, the collective makes the decisions. So, if you don't have the voting power of a Concord or a Nashua or a Portsmouth, you're kind of tagging along for the ride. You don't get that opportunity to select what makes sense for the residents and ratepayers of Hudson. With our program, it's entirely based upon what the select board would like to do in terms of their strategy going forward. So, if you want to do a three-year commitment, you can do that. If you want to increase your renewable inclusion, you can do that. If you want to decrease your renewable inclusion, you can do that. All of these are at the purview of the town itself, without having to ask anybody else for permission.

Roy Sorenson: Yeah, so, I think that's the key, right? So, you have choices right whereas we don't have that right now. We're buying a six-month block and that's what you're locked into.

Nick Shostak: Yeah, and actually, you must have read the slides, because strategic purchasing is next—six months to five years. You actually can choose that contract length. It's greater autonomy; it gives you the opportunity to find those right opportunities, or buying opportunities, in the futures markets to be able to lock in for long-term stability. If you don't have that, then you're just pigeonholing yourself into such a strict model that really is not much different than the utility, because you're so susceptible to those, you know, volatile—the volatile markets and the big changes. So, did I miss anything here? I don't believe so.

Bart Fromuth: I think just another comment, too, on the long-term approach is—you know, the savings are great; that's the reason for the program at large—but when you take a look at some of the retention rates, especially down in Massachusetts, which has a program that we model our program based upon, where they do longer-term contracts, it's that budget stability for the folks in town that are on fixed income. They're taking a look at their energy bill and they're saying, "Hey, I use the same amount of electricity in August as I did in July—why did my rate just go up, you know, 30%, 40%?" If you get a nice entry point for a long-term position, you can smooth out that volatility so that there's some continuity in terms of the energy prices that people are paying, which is more and more important these days with the volatility.

Nick Shostak: So, there's actually another option that I didn't even mention before, and it's a community fund option. So, with CPCNH, you're contributing to their reserve funds without choice—you have to contribute to that fund. So, it actually comes through the rates, because it's an entirely self-funded program. Our structure allows you to choose whether or not you do actually want to build a local energy fund or local community fund. You can add, just as an example, a tenth of a penny onto the rates to build it up for electric charging stations, or upgraded, you know, meter reads, or anything like that.

Bart Fromuth: Street lamping, LED.

Nick Shostak: So, really it's your choice. It's just another one of those local control options where with CPCNH you know the money has gone into the reserve funds and over the past two winters they had lost, had to use up all those reserves due to losses.

Bart Fromuth: Yeah, your losses—sorry—your reserve fund under our program is never used to suit your losses from the supplier; it's used how you want to use it in terms of moving forward with energy initiatives that are important to your community.

Nick Shostak: So, the proof is always in the pudding, and that's actually what we've got here. So, these are some of our recent launches within the past year. Salem, which is actually where I live as well—and very happy, because the rates have been so much lower than the utility over the past nine, or I guess for the first nine months of our two-year contract. So, a lot of these are on a similar contract length; Salem is the longer one here at two years, and in that first nine months we've already guaranteed a savings of just close to four million dollars for the community. For Londonderry, Merrimack, and Laconia, they're all on similar rate structures in terms of seven-month contracts, looking for that next buying opportunity coming in November. It's still starting off with great initial savings. And then Windham—the only caveat to theirs is they actually chose to provide the four renewable rate options that Laconia, Merrimack, and Londonderry had not chosen to do. So, in that case, their default rate actually provides an additional 5% renewable contributions over the 25% standard. They still have their maximum savings rate—that is the 25% standard for renewables—then they also have an increased rate for 50% renewables and 100% renewables, because that was really important to them to include that as part of their program. So, choice is a great feature with us here. So, I just put together some potential next steps, and some of which you guys have already done. You submitted to CPCNH not to be included in the next rate cycle starting in August. I provided the consulting agreement to Administrator Sorenson to review. As a reminder, there's no cost or obligation to move forward with any CCA program with us. If you're signing on with us to be your consultant, that's exactly what it will be. If there's not a successful CCA program to launch, or you choose not to do so, then there's no financial burden on you whatsoever. So, after that, essentially, you'd have to vote to approve the consulting agreement, and then we'd start an RFP process—kind of similar to what we've already discussed here—to review pricing, contract lengths, and determine what's best for the Town of Hudson.

Bart Fromuth: Our contract is typically five years in length. As Nick mentioned, that five years simply covers your choosing to go with Freedom if you move forward with CCA. But let's say that you sign the agreement with us and you take a look at the pricing we put together for you, say this isn't for Hudson—we don't feel like moving forward—you can go back to Eversource, and there's no early termination provisions as a result of that. So, the only way that we get paid is if you have a program on flow. Let's say that we do our initial contract and we do a 24-month contract—you come to the end of that 24-month contract and Hudson decides, again, this isn't for us—you're allowed to leave as soon as that 24-month contract concludes. There's no notice period or anything like that that's required for us. There is a notice period required for the PUC, just to let the utilities know that a number of customers are coming back to standard offer. There's nothing in the contract that binds you to remain with us—there's no carry-forward losses, anything of that nature—so it's very, very flexible from that standpoint. We can go and do a significant amount of investigation for you through the consulting agreement, but again, if you get to a point in time later this summer and decide we've taken a look at this, this isn't for Hudson, we want to return to the utility, that's still well within your right and doesn't violate the terms of our agreement.

Nick Shostak: Just so you know what's fully on the table for the Town of Hudson, in terms of what we're discussing now, is really no interruption to your CCA program—it's just a switch over in consultant with whatever supplier we would choose through an RFP process. If you did choose to leave and go back to the utility, in terms of timing, you could be looking at roughly nine months to twelve months to be able to relaunch an opt-out program, which would require the notices and everything like that to essentially restart the program. What we're talking about would only be for the current default customers that are currently opted into the program through CPCNH.

Chairman Dumont: So, that was a question I was looking to get answered. Obviously, when we started up the program, you had to opt out—everybody was rolled into it, they had to choose out. So, by you taking over, we're not starting that process over; it's just the ones that are currently in that Community Power program that will stay, and then obviously they would still have the option to opt out if they wanted to. But we're not going to roll in a bunch of people and have to say, "Hey, you need to make the choice."

Bart Fromuth: Correct. Yeah, you do have that option. So, some communities in the past have stopped a program and then relaunched. If you ever go back to the utility, in terms of just folding the program or pausing the program, anytime you relaunch, per state law, you do have to send those notices once again. But if you have a continuous program, then you do not need to send the notices, and you would not impact anybody that's previously opted out.

Chairman Dumont: Yeah, because that was my only sticking point with the whole thing. I mean, like, it's the goal, and I really appreciate the presentation, by the way, but obviously not everybody watches the meetings. Not everybody's privy to the information. For them just to find out, "I have a different utility now" or "a different provider now," it was a little upsetting to some of them. So, I just wanted to make sure we weren't, you know, if going this direction, just going to put a bunch of people in there.

Selectman Jakoby: So, anyone can opt in?

Bart Fromuth: Anybody can opt in, yes.

Selectman Jakoby: At any time once we start the program?

Bart Fromuth: Once we start the program, anybody can opt in. There's one caveat to that, is for large commercial customers. So, large commercial customers, because they can have larger percentages of the overall aggregation load, there's a risk premium that would be associated with them coming back and forth as they see fit. And so, our programs, we typically advise our clients not to let large commercial come and go as they please, because it raises the rate for the smaller rate payer. So, they got one bite at the apple, but if they leave, they come back to a market-based rate rather than a fixed rate.

Chairman Dumont: Questions?

Selectman Jakoby: I just want to comment. I really appreciate the presentation and the options for sustainable power as well and you know those choices that are so important to all of us as citizens, to have choice. So, thank you.

Roy Sorenson: So, if you, if you look at the rates, CPC and H currently is .14663, OK? And if you look at the rates from—I don't know what pages these are—I don't know, 8, 7, 8, 9, and 10 maybe? Yeah, I mean it's not even, not even the same ballpark. And Salem locked in for two years at that rate, huh?

Bart Fromuth: 11.1, yeah, it is important to know, you know, the 9.5 rate that you see in front of you looks super attractive, but keep in mind that doesn't contain any winter months in it. So that's a seven-month rate that goes over a lot of shoulder season. The Salem rate is 11.1, but we signed that prior to the war in Iran and the last winter we had. So, realistically speaking, if you're looking at an August start rate with us, I would surmise that your 12-month rate would probably be somewhere in the neighborhood of about 11.8 cents, just to be realistic in terms of your expectations.

Roy Sorenson: Just similar to where Eversource is right now.

Bart Fromuth: Their days will probably go up anyways. I believe Eversource's will go up significantly just based on the under-collections they reported at the PUC. They're at 11.3 cents right now, and we're thinking, projecting they might be as high as 13 cents come August 1st. Aren't they projecting anywhere from a 5 to a 30% increase? That's on the delivery of the kilowatt hours, the transmission distribution rates, but they have not announced where they're going to be for the actual supply of the kilowatts. And usually, we find that information out right around the middle of June, and it's finalized about the first or second week of July.

Roy Sorenson: So, for municipal buildings, we're a different consortium, and that's what we locked into for two years. Similar to that rate, the 11.18 rate for two years.

Chairman Dumont: I'm sorry if you spoke to it in here, but as those come due, and if we were considering this, whether it be a six-month or a seven-month or up to that five-year window that you mentioned, does your company offer advice to say, hey look, you're in August right now, lock in for the six-month, this is what we're projecting, then there will be a better rate and possibly lock in for a longer period of time once you get through

those winter months? Obviously, there's no guarantee, but do you offer advice, counseling, as you go through that stuff?

Bart Fromuth: Absolutely, yeah. I mean, part of our program is to ensure that we're giving you the best advice possible, because if we lead you astray, it's going to be a very short relationship that the two of us have, similar to what happened with CPCNH. So, our goal is to find openings for you to take advantage of long term, and if they're not there, to advise go short term, bide our time, wait to see if any catalysts go in our direction to move prices lower, and then wait for that long-term opportunity. But our goal is to get you, at some point in time, into a long-term contract that makes sense for Hudson.

Roy Sorenson: But it seems like, as the chairman mentioned, it is on an individual basis almost. Were you working exclusively with Hudson?

Bart Fromuth: Exclusively with Hudson, yeah.

Roy Sorenson: CPCNH is a governing body. They go out, they set the rates, and that's it.

Bart Fromuth: Yeah, you are your governing body. So, Salem doesn't have input, Londonderry doesn't have input, Merrimack doesn't have input on what you do. Hudson only has input exclusively as to what you do.

Nick Shostak: And you're not losing buying power. The town of Hudson on its own has enough buying power to secure the best rates possible for the town of Hudson.

Chairman Dumont: And that's a good point. So, because of the size of Hudson, is there a disadvantage, or I guess for buying power, or when you're purchasing blocks, is there a threshold to size that you say, okay, well yeah, you're significantly larger, you're going to get a lesser rate?

Bart Fromuth: Great question. So, unfortunately in our business in the sale of kilowatt hours, there's a threshold—let's call it 10 million kWh—at which point you get diminishing returns in terms of your size. Electricity is all dictated, for the most part, by time of use, right? So, we're taking a look. Communities that have a significant commercial footprint are probably going to get better rates than someone that just has a purely residential profile. And so that's the big thing that's going to matter in terms of when we look at rates for Hudson. You know, your time of use is going to matter, and you're going to have a similar portfolio to a Merrimack or a Londonderry when you go out for bid than potentially like a Manchester or an Asheville scenario. But you're not losing—the critical point is you're not losing buying power by leaving the 50-town consortium of CPCNH, because again, once you get over that threshold—which you easily exceed, you're probably around 100–110 million kWh is my guess based upon your population—you're 10x that threshold in terms of size to get good pricing.

Chairman Dumont: I'm just curious about when you talk about commercial versus residential. So having that commercial base actually benefits the smaller rate payer. Am I understanding that correctly?

Bart Fromuth: The caveat being the small commercial base, right? Almost 92% of large commercial industrial users in New Hampshire have already migrated away from default service. So, your big businesses in town are likely already doing something on their own, similar to what the town is. So, this program won't impact them. But if you have a lot of small commercial in your community—Salem saw a lot of advantage in this because of all the small commercial that they have—they're largely in the same boat as residential. About 80% of that community is still on default service with the utility. And so, there's a big appetite for the suppliers to get that business into the aggregation portfolio because it does lower the overall rate because of the time of use profile.

Chairman Dumont: And Salem's obviously bigger, but Hudson does still have a significant mom and pop commercial presence.

Bart Fromuth: Absolutely.

Selectman Guessferd: So, who actually physically negotiates the rates? Are you negotiating the rates with the suppliers to your supply chain?

Bart Fromuth: Yeah, so we'll set up what I would call a rolling RFP. So, we'll put out a request once we've gotten data from Hudson on your rate base to send it to the suppliers. We'll set a date for maybe the next Wednesday to get indicative pricing back. We'll then review that with Mr. Sorenson, the select board, and if we find an avenue

or an opportunity that we like for an entry point, we might go back to the suppliers and say, hey, these prices look good for this term, we want a fixed bid date of next Thursday, can you have prices to us by 10 a.m.?

Selectman Guessferd: So, we're actively involved in that process.

Bart Fromuth: Oh, absolutely.

Selectman Guessferd: That's the bulk of the negotiation process.

Bart Fromuth: We have no signing authority. We're a consultant shop, so we make recommendations to the town, but **ultimately**, it's your decision. You have signature authority on this.

Selectman Jakoby: You're just like the medium for us. I'm sorry?

Bart Fromuth: Correct. We just organize everything and put all the information together for you to make the decision, with help from our advice and guides.

Chairman Dumont: So, I've already asked a few questions. Any other questions from other board members? I just have one final one. And just to be, I guess, kind of upfront and honest about it, if anybody's wondering, what is your benefit, right? So you are that middle man. What is your benefit? How do you guys operate? What do you get by getting Hudson as a customer?

Bart Fromuth: Our fee is directly built into the CCA rate. So, when we present the prices to you, our tenth of a cent per kilowatt hour is built right into the rate. So, for instance, Salem has the 11.1 cent rate. Their rate without our involvement would just be 11.08 rather than 11.18. So that's where we make our fees. So if you sign an agreement with us and decide not to move forward, there's no active aggregation for us to make money, and that's a risk that we take in that. Or if you ever cease the aggregation at a later date, there's no early termination fees that you owe to us. We only get paid by customers that participate in the program with that one tenth of a cent per kilowatt hour.

Chairman Dumont: Thank you. Are there any other questions, comments? Mr. Sorenson, do you have anything else?

Roy Sorenson: I didn't put a recommended motion here, but I think given the presentation and the current events where we are right now, I don't think it's a bad idea to actually sit with Freedom and look at a draft community choice aggregation contract or something to review and come back to the board other than just waiting. In the meantime, concurrently we're moving away from CPCNH. But we are getting closer to the end of the rate period, so something's got to give.

Selectman Guessferd: Right, but there isn't cost associated with that.

Roy Sorenson: Well, we can't, we wouldn't withdraw prematurely. If you read the letter you don't want to. We actually do have a cost to withdraw prematurely.

Selectman Vurgaropoulos: I had to read that twice because it threw me for a loop because they're like, no, you're good, you don't owe us anything. And then it was like, how about that \$1.9 million dollars?

Selectman Guessferd: I had to read it a couple times myself as well.

Roy Sorenson: We will get through the period, but we need to be able to move forward and have something in place for the next cycle.

Selectman Jakoby: Instantaneous.

Chairman Dumont: Yeah, I would like to see the agreement.

Selectman Jakoby: Yeah, I would as well. So, do you need a motion?

Roy Sorenson: I would ask for a motion, yes.

Selectman Guessferd: Authorize you to begin the process of...

Roy Sorenson: A draft CCA with Freedom Energy.

Selectman Guessferd: Obtaining a, yeah a draft CCA with Freedom Energy

Selectman Jakoby: For Hudson Community Power.

Selectman Guessferd: Is it Hudson Community Power?

Nick Shostak: You retain the name.

Selectman Jakoby: We retain Hudson Community Power is us. So, to give him authority on behalf of Hudson Community Power.

Selectman Guessferd: I'll make that motion.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: Second.

Selectman Jakoby: I want the public to understand we are still Hudson Community Power. We are choosing whether to continue our supply agreement with CPCNH or right now we've terminated with CPCNH and now we're looking at Freedom to be our new supplier for Hudson Community Power. I just want the public to be clear because they keep putting both of those together and they're different entities. Totally different entities. You know I'm an explainer.

Selectman Guessferd: That's good, but they understand that.

Chairman Dumont: So just so I know we've had a potential motion in a second, if we could just rescind that for a second. I'm going to have Mr. Sorenson read it.

Selectman Jakoby: And then you'll do it.

Roy Sorenson: For the Board of Selectmen to authorize the Town Administrator to in the Hudson Community Power Plan to work with Freedom Energy Logistics on a draft agreement to move forward with their services.

[Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Jakoby, for the Board of Selectmen to authorize the Town Administrator, in thereof Hudson Community Power plan, to work with Freedom Energy Logistics on a draft agreement to move forward with their services. Motion carried, 5-0.](#)

Roy Sorenson: Thank you gentlemen. I will be reaching out to you this week. Thank you very much.

Chairman Dumont: Thank you very much for coming out.

D. Boat Launch Fund Request Status Update – DSD/Informational

Chairman Dumont: Next up we have the Boat Launch Fund Request. I will recognize Mr. Dhima. See if we can keep you on that five minute.

Elvis Dhima: Yes. Excellent. So, there's no action required tonight related to this. This is related to 2025 in October. Fire Department came in, talked about the need for a boat. Now going to discussion, I'm going to a boat launch. And discussion went into \$1.5 million dollars. The target has committed to the community related to the certificate of occupancy for the main building. Which led to the chairman asking if some of those funds can become available now. Taking into consideration that we need something and worst-case scenario they're going to say no. So, the next day we did actually ask exactly that. As you can see on the correspondence. And what do you know? Went up the chain of command and we got a letter on March 27th saying yes, we will release the funds. And I'll tell you tonight we already received the funds. So, there's \$300,000 in the bank. And I already spent it. I'm kidding. I haven't yet. But I will. And long story short, we have the funds. We're going to go out for a request for proposal for engineering services related to the design of a boat launch at Merrill Park. Just like the intent was when the town created Merrill Park. And the permitting associated with that. And I think \$300,000 is a very healthy number. Maybe we'll get way less than that. And the intent is to get this ready, which is probably going to take about a year or two. And then when they get the seal for the building, they're going to start releasing the rest of the funds. And then we have the money for the construction. But at least we won't be wasting another couple years as we get the money. We'll have someone ready to go. With that said, that's what we had. So, I just

wanted to close the loop on that. You know, you asked. I asked. They said yes. We have the money. We're going to be going out there very soon. That's about it. I'll take any questions you might have.

Chairman Dumont: Perfect. And if anybody could squeeze out some pennies, it would be you. That's perfect.

Selectman Guessferd: Very happy to hear that.

Elvis Dhima: It's going to be great because it's going to provide access to us from our side. And it's probably closer than Nashua has it, which has to be off a branch to a branch to get to the river. This is as good as it gets. And it's much needed for the region. But I care more about what we need here anyway. The chief is only going to be charged I think only \$10 every time he sees us. I'm kidding. We're open to everyone. It's going to be a great addition to the community. I mean, it's just that simple. It's going to be a great attraction. I think a lot of folks that have boats in Hudson are looking forward to it. I can tell you already. I already got the people lined up.

Selectman Guessferd: They're going down to Lowell.

Elvis Dhima: It's going to be beautiful.

Selectman Jakoby: Just for accuracy. In the letter this \$300,000 comes from the first payment over three years. Am I reading that correctly? The riverfront recreation is \$1.5 million payable in \$500,000 annual payments three years beginning at the time of the CO which is the certificate of occupancy for those out there of the main building and recurring on the anniversary. The early payment which is our \$300,000 satisfies the first year's payment the remaining funds are intended to be sent according to the original planning decision. So, then the first year the additional we'll get is \$200,000 and then for the two years after that the \$500,000 each year. Just so the public is very aware that once we get the occupancy it doesn't mean that all of it gets released. The way it was agreed to is that when that occupancy certificate comes out, we'll get towards this project only \$200,000 \$200,000 additional worth of funds and then not until the following year the \$500,000 unless we ask in their kind. I just wanted to point out that that's what's in the document. For those who always ask about Target.

Chairman Dumont: I think that's important to point out. I mean I think it's important to point out the working relationship that Mr. Dhima, the town has with Target and their willingness to say we didn't have to give it to you now but we went ahead and did that. When that gets completed and the CO is issued there'll be another \$200,000 in that first year which is obviously a significant amount. Hopefully the burden reduces the taxpayers projects in the future.

Selectman Jakoby: And for the public right now the certificate of occupancy may be 2029 was what they projected.

Elvis Dhima: That appears to be the case. I will say as of today the main GC, which was Clayco, they're moving out. They have moved out. There's another company coming out in Mass. to start doing the building. They will be cutting the door base.

Heidi Jakoby: The doors are going in?

Elvis Dhima: We've been told there is discussions about the actual concrete slab being poured in as well. The building department is handling that. We have discussions with that. The next phase will be building the office space within it. There's discussions there that tells me they're still committed and they're moving forward. The right players are still in play. I'm hoping this is some significant progress in sight. The biggest thing is we don't have any more dust issues out there now with the vegetation finally established.

Selectman Jakoby: Some of their trees look pretty... They're struggling a little bit.

Elvis Dhima: They're struggling a little bit. They're leaning a little bit. We do have a healthy bond in place for the landscaping. There's an issue out there. That's what their money is for. I think over a million dollars. We're in good place. They're moving in the right direction. It looks like it's still alive and it's doing well. We'll see where it goes.

Chairman Dumont: Hopefully with the doors it'll look less like a prison.

Selectman Vurgaropoulos: It's going to be a prison with garage doors.

Elvis Dhima: It's going to break it a little bit.

E. Hudson Logistics Public Safety Money – Fire/Decision

Chairman Dumont: Thank you very much. Next up we have the Hudson Logistics Public Safety money. I will recognize Chief Tice.

Chief Tice: Thank you Mr. Chair. Good evening again. This past November and December we put all our operational personnel through the IAFF Fireground Safety Class. This is a class based on real incidents of firefighters getting into bad situations. They look at these situations and develop this program primarily so firefighters learn not to get into these situations but if they do then how to get themselves out of it or assist in their own rescue. How firefighters working nearby can then assist. And as a last resort sending more firefighters into the building to assist. All the comments I got back on this class, best class that our people had gone to. At the beginning of this I made it mandatory so I always make a lot of friends when I make training mandatory especially for four days. But after that they came back and they said most of them said this was the best class they'd ever been to. The quality instructors, the quality of the program. This was also a train the trainer so everyone that went through the class and they all completed it successfully. There was no passes. It was a serious pass fail class. All our people did pass it. They became instructors so now internally we can't host this class outside but we're licensed through the IAFF. We can teach this class internally so we can continue to refresh. We can also certify all our new employees when they come in and we can put them through the class with our people and get them certified. The cost of the class was covered 90% under the assistance the firefighters grant so that was the cost of the class and the overtime. Our outlay financially was very reasonable for something of this magnitude and this good. At this point I'm asking to spend some of the money from the target public safety funds to buy the props so we have the props to teach a class and these props they're proprietary licensed from the IAFF to one particular company so we would also have to do a sole source purchase to do this.

Chairman Dumont: I appreciate you speaking of the last part because that's what I was going to ask you too. Just one quick question. If we didn't receive the grant for the training what would the cost to the town of Hudson have been to do that? Do you know?

Chief Tice: I don't remember exactly off the top of my head but it was in the neighborhood of \$150,000 to \$200,000.

Chairman Dumont: So, obviously using the \$30,000 is well worth the quality of the training that everyone received.

Chief Tice: Very worth it. For the feedback that I got the amount of feedback, the high price for the class. This was a class that was only Hudson personnel so we sent half the department to one, half the department to the other so it gave our people in a large group an opportunity to work together. The instructors were from all over the country so some, Manchester has some people who were big into this but we had people from San Jose, from Dallas some pretty big departments come up here and provide training so it was very, very worth it.

Chairman Dumont: Thank you. Questions, comments? Selectman Jakoby?

Selectman Jakoby: I'd like to make a motion.

Chairman Dumont: Go right ahead.

[Selectman Jakoby made a motion, seconded by Selectman Allan, to release an amount not to exceed \\$30,000 of the Hudson Logistics Center public safety money account #09-2000-2050-000-583 as defined by condition 61\(d\) of the Hudson Logistics Center Amended Site Plan to the Hudson Fire Department for fire ground safety and survival training props, adhering to all purchasing policies. Motion carried 5-0.](#)

[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 purchasing training props from CPAT Distribution Inc. Motion carried, 5-0.](#)

Chairman Dumont: I just want to say I really do appreciate using that money to really benefit the taxpayer and offset those future costs.

Chief Tice: I appreciate your support and I think that's going to do a lot for us as we continue to work through that in the future.

F. OUR Rescue Grant – Police/Decision

Chairman Dumont: Thank you very much, Chief. All right. You as well. All right, next up we have our rescue grant. I will recognize Police Chief Cayot and Captain McElhinney.

Chief Cayot: Thank you, Chairman. I'm going to actually defer to Captain McElhinney as this grant falls under him.

Captain McElhinney: Thank you. We're seeking authorization this evening to accept a grant in the amount of \$7,070.15 from the Our Rescue Foundation, which is a non-profit organization which supports the mission of combating Internet crimes against children and mis-exploiting children. The money will be used to offset the cost of our Cellebrite contract. Cellebrite is a digital forensics tool which we use to extract information from cellular telephones and further of our investigations typically involving Internet crimes against children. Typically, our yearly licensee fee for Celebrate is \$14,000 roughly, so this is basically covering about half of that cost. Are there any questions I can answer regarding the grant?

Chairman Dumont: Questions, comments?

[Selectman Allan made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd, to authorize the Police Department to accept a \\$7,070.15 Our Rescue Assistant Grant to cover a portion of the cost for the department's ongoing license agreement for Cellebrite digital forensics software. Motion carried, 5-0.](#)

Chairman Dumont: Thank you. Thank you very much for that as well and for bringing in again some more grant money. It's always appreciated.

Captain McElhinney: Absolutely.

G. CALEA Presentation – Police/Presentation

Chairman Dumont: Next up we have a clear presentation. Chief? Assuming this one's yours.

Chief Cayot: It is. Thank you, Chairman. So after our trip out to Tucson in mid-March to accept our CALEA accreditation, I talked to T.A. Sorenson and he asked me if I could come in and give a little presentation just to talk about CALEA accreditation, kind of say where we're at and where we're going moving forward, but also just to help explain in case anyone had any questions about why we do this and what it is. So first we'll talk about what is CALEA. It's the Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies. It's a gold standard in public safety to provide law enforcement agencies with the best practices of what you should be doing as a law enforcement agency. It's been around since 1979 so CALEA and I are the same age. And there are two different versions for law enforcement agencies. There's LE1 and Advanced Law Enforcement Accreditation. We're Advanced. LE1 is 185 standards, but doing the Advanced, there's 461 standards that we comply with. Approximately there's some that don't apply to the Hudson Police Department and there's a few that we're allowed to take as they're not mandatory, so we're allowed to waive those up to a certain percentage, but it's approximately 461 standards that we comply with. So, the CALEA process. It used to be a three-year process. It's now a four-year continuous process. For the first three years, we do an online review with a compliance service member or a CSM. So, they'll pick approximately 80 to 100 of those standards and they'll look at them online. So, they'll make sure we're complying with them. If they have any questions, they'll reach out. We'll answer them. They may ask us to change some stuff or ask us why we do what we do. So, we'll explain that to them and then they'll give us a review for that year. When you get to the fourth year, you have your final online review with the CSM and then after that, it moves into an on-site review where an assessor will actually come out on-site for three-ish days, ask questions, view the facility, interview a ton of people. He did over 40 interviews when he was here. I know we met with you, Chairman, and the Town Administrator and asked some questions. He then writes up a report that he submits to the Commission. They review that report and this is why we went out to Tucson.

When we went out to Tucson, we then sit in front of the Committee and they can ask us questions. So, the Commissioners can ask us questions about anything in that report, anything about our agency. They were very nice to us during the review hearing. They really just had complimentary things to say. They didn't really ask us too many questions. It was more just curiosity and wanted to learn about the Hudson Police Department. And then Town Administrator Sorenson said some very kind words. They gave him the opportunity to speak so he did a great job speaking about the Police Department and the Town as a whole. And then the Commissioners make a recommendation. Their recommendation was for us to receive our CALEA award. They then have a banquet the next night where they take a full vote of the entire Commission and that's when they voted to award Hudson its eighth award. So now we'll talk a little bit about Hudson PD and CALEA. So, our Accreditation Manager, Roger LaMarche, he's the one who did those yearly reviews. He's the one who set up everything with the Assessor when he came out. Huge part of the process. Everyone at the agency is, but he kind of spearheads it from the front and then the entire agency is on board, gets him what he needs so he can fill those proofs. We've been doing this since 2003. That's when we got our first award. So actually, that's when we got our first award. We were doing it for three years prior to that leading up to getting that award. So, myself, Officer Downey, who we spoke with earlier, I think are the only two sworn officers who actually were there prior to our first award. Everybody else at the agency has been there since we've been an accredited agency. And the reason I tell you that is, it's pretty much in our DNA now. Everyone there, that's all they know is CALEA. So, it's not like, oh, why do we do... It's just what everyone knows who comes in and works for the Police Department.

Chairman Dumont: Real quick, while you're on that point, can you speak to how other officers who are looking for employment look to that standard?

Chief Cayot: Absolutely. So, when people are looking for a job, they know that when they come to an accredited agency that we're following the best practices in law enforcement and that we follow certain standards and that we're not just making it up as we go. So, it is something that people look for and typically when people come in, we'll ask them about it when we interview them. And they'll usually know about it and be able to talk about it and we'll have a discussion back and forth about why it's so important.

Chairman Dumont: Thank you.

Chief Cayot: Like I said earlier, we are advanced accredited and this year we got the Meritorious Award. What that means is that we've just been accredited for more than 15 years. So, we actually got it last time and this time we got the Meritorious Award. There are 18 municipal agencies that are CALEA accredited in New Hampshire, so we are one of the 18. Just to give you some numbers about CALEA, there's 1,021 approximately accredited agencies in the United States and from the CALEA website, only a few agencies hold the advanced level accreditation, which is the most prestigious and rigorous standard set by CALEA. And just for context, there are approximately 18,000 law enforcement agencies in the U.S. So only about 1,000 of them are accredited and even a lot fewer of them are advanced accredited. And like I said, it was our 8th award that we received out in Tucson. And this is just a picture of us getting our award. So that's the group we brought with us along with several members of CALEA. The town administrator made very good friends with Craig Hartley, who is standing next to me in that picture. I believe he actually even has a cell phone number now. And just a little bit more about CALEA, a lot of times people ask us, well, does it tell you how to operate? Does it tell you what you have to do? And it doesn't. It provides the best practices and the reason I put the football field there is one of the ways you can look at it is the best practices are like the boundaries to the football field, but we decide how we're going to operate in there and how we're going to get to the goal line. So, we have some rules to follow, we have those boundaries, but we get to decide how we get there. And that's what we're doing when we prove those standards is we're putting that information in there to show them, hey, these are the boundaries you gave us, this is how we're getting there and getting to that final outcome that you wanted. Just a couple of certificates that we got in the mail. I thought it said questions there, but I'll answer any questions about CALEA that you guys may have.

Chairman Dumont: Board members, questions, comments?

Selectman Vurgaropoulos: I don't have any questions. I've heard you talk about it so many times, but this is amazing. The work you guys do and the fact that we've held this accreditation for so long and been meritorious. Couldn't be more proud, to be honest with you.

Captain McElhinney: Thank you.

Chairman Dumont: I'll echo that. Being a part of the interview with Mr. Sorenson showed that obviously not only were they here to see how you guys were doing, but they also kind of reinstalled in myself how well you've done in the past and how well you continue to operate. So, again, I just want to hats off to you guys. Hope you had a great time out there and enjoyed the award and continue the hard work.

Chief Cayot: There was also some great training out there about artificial intelligence. Okay. Just to quickly go on, when the assessor was here, yes, they come to learn about us, but a few things that he learned about us, he was actually bringing back to his agency. So there was a few things he learned that he thought were great ideas that he wanted to bring back and implement.

Roy Sorenson: I think it's a great accomplishment. I remember when I took the position I was talking to, at the time, it was Chairman Guessferd, and he was saying we have a world-class police organization here in Hudson. I don't think he said that just to say that. I think he meant that. And this certainly put you there. I mean, 2003, just as an example, Salem, I think, got CALEA certified last year, right? So, I think you were well ahead of the curve. I don't know how many agencies in New Hampshire were certified in 2003, but I don't think it would be that many.

Chief Cayot: There were a couple ahead of us.

Roy Sorenson: Yeah, maybe two, right? So, and then to achieve what is the meritorious, I think it was 0.3 or 0.4 percent. I mean, it's pretty amazing. So you should be proud of your accomplishments. Not just you guys, but everyone else that put the work in in advance of you guys as well.

Chief Cayot: I was going to say, it's the men and women of the Hudson Police Department who do the work day in and day out, and the work they do fills those standards, and they follow the practices that have been set forth.

Selectman Jakoby: I think that's a really good point. It takes the entire department to be living up to these standards in order to get those certificates. So, thank you for pointing that out.

Chief Cayot: Yeah, we couldn't get there without everyone being on board and everyone following.

Chairman Dumont: Any questions, comments? All right, well, thank you very much. Really appreciate it.

Chief Cayot: Thank you very much.

Chairman Dumont: Gentlemen, have a good night. Take care.

H. Friends of Benson Park 2026 Events – Administration/Decision

Chairman Dumont: All right, next up, we have the Friends of Benson Park 2026 events, and I will recognize Mr. Sorenson.

Roy Sorenson: All right, so this is just a request from Natalie Newell, Friends of Benson Park. She's the Board President. You saw some of these previously. I think this is some of the things that Selectman Jakoby was talking about, too, just to get word back to the BOS in a timely manner. Here's some events that they would like to host. You can see the dates and the times. And we will communicate this with both DPW as well as Benson Park Advisory Committee.

[Selectman Jakoby made a motion, seconded by Selectman Allan, for the Board of Selectmen to hereby grant Friends of Benson Park the authority to conduct events as requested for the 2026 season. Motion carried, 5-0.](#)

I. Benson Park Advisory Committee Sign Request – Administration/Decision

Chairman Dumont: Next up, we have the Benson Park Advisory Committee sign request. Mr. Sorenson.

Roy Sorenson: All right, Benson Park Advisory Committee, so they're looking for volunteers, and they want to purchase a sign to post. I think they already have the sign up, and I did talk to Susan Clement in advance to do that, given the getting the sign and the meeting dates. Basically, again, just a simple request. They will use funding from their budget, which they have available. They had success with putting up these banners last year. You can

see a copy of the banner on, I think it's page 3 in your packet. Pretty straightforward. Certainly helps them do what they need to do to keep fences up and running and, you know, keep it a community gem.

Chairman Dumont: Yeah, I agree. And the QR code's always a good idea. It makes it nice and simple for people.

Selectman Jakoby: I did want to make a comment before making the motion, just that the QR code is there for people to fill out and sign up for any of the cleanup dates, and that the Friends of Benson Park actually, currently is the group that's organizing that QR code. So, there is a hope in the future that that will come in back to the municipality. So that's one way in which a non-profit works closely with the Advisory Committee, both of whom are necessary in this case. I'm just pointing that out, because this is where I go back and forth. So, now to make a motion.

Selectman Jakoby made a motion, seconded by Selectman Vurgaropoulos, for the Board of Selectmen to hereby grant the Benson Park Advisory Committee authorization to purchase volunteer signs for Benson Park, including posting accordingly to the public. Motin carried, 5-0.

J. Benson Park Advisory Committee Wagon Request – Administration/Decision

Chairman Dumont: Next up we have the Benson Park Advisory Committee wagon request.

Mr. Sorenson.

Roy Sorenson: All right, so this appears to be a simple request, but let's get through it. You do have a letter from the Windham Rail Trail Alliance. They have a freight cot, which was restored by an Eagle Scout as part of the project, and they're offering it for display. They are requesting that if we did receive it, we would display it inside and not outside. So that in of itself is a little bit of a challenge. Maybe that's something we have to work with the Friends ...

Selectman Jakoby: Well, I can ...

Roy Sorenson: You want to speak to that?

Selectman Jakoby: Yeah, I can speak to that, because we have a few plans. So, I did have the opportunity to go see this item. It's really cool, because you can push it, like, it pushes really easy even though it's like a big, heavy metal, you know, luggage cart. Anyway, so there are a couple of options. Ultimately, the advisory committee is recommending that it be displayed in the train station. It will fit, but as you all know, the train station is in the process of being, well, we're in the mitigation process to get it mitigated so that the interior can be used. So then, we would need to find a secondary place to store this until such time that that is possible. There are a few options that the advisory board is considering that needs some measuring, one of which being in the kitchen, because if you go around back, there are garage doors there, and we believe it would fit in there, although we'd have to move the lions, that it might be able to be stored there until such time it can be brought up the hill to the other location. We did also discuss the fact that Windham is willing to move it, so we don't have to make those arrangements, but I do think the questions that I had are the questions that Laurie May brought up about insurance, liability, and things like that. So, the real question is, do we want to move forward and look into those options to consider doing this? I think it is a great opportunity to partner with a neighbor, because I think in a lot of ways, Benson Park was a regional gathering point for southern New Hampshire.

Chairman Dumont: Two questions. The mitigation, do we have a time frame on that yet?

Selectman Jakoby: I'm trying to get that detail. Unfortunately, Mr. Madden has had some health issues, so the current chair is trying to get all that paperwork and everything forward. My understanding is that there are funds for that, and there have been approvals, so now we just need to make it happen. So, it should be short order. That's what I was told.

Chairman Dumont: I completely agree with some of Laurie's concerns, and obviously you brought them up. Now, I think that this truly is a partnership. The Rail Trail Alliance has acknowledged their lack of space, and they need assistance in that. Would they be willing to cover insurance for this if we're covering the facility?

Selectman Jakoby: Well, that's what we would have to find out, whose coverage. Because they still own the item, so they may have coverage on the item. And how does that look? I don't know. The first question was whether we'd even entertain this. Because we haven't done anything like this previously.

Chairman Dumont: Yeah, they should have a policy for that. I mean, I don't know what else they have, but I would imagine typically on those items you have that item just listed as insured, and then the insurance company would just want to know where it sits.

Roy Sorenson: I'm kind of looking into this now. I did reach out to Primex, because I think maybe there's an MOU that's in place. I don't know how long we would entertain having it on loan, but I think you want to identify the period, the place it would be located. They would have to carry the insurance, and we'd be indemnified if anything happened to it. So, there'll be some type of agreement in place. I don't think it's a heavy lift, but again, nothing's simple in the world of government. And then just move from there. I think the general spirit of the request is what we're trying to capture here. I wouldn't move forward unless that was in place with certainty anyways.

Chairman Dumont: That's what I was going to ask. Obviously, I see the recommended motion, but would it be more appropriate to just have a consensus, pull that information together, and bring it back at the next board meeting, hopefully?

Selectman Jakoby: Yeah, I was going to amend it to just move forward. In general, we would like to make this happen, but we would need to do that additional due diligence. But the Benson Park Advisory Board was fully committed and thought this was a really good idea to move forward. Just so you know, the sooner they can move it, the happier they're going to be. Just because they looked all over town. I want the community to know they looked all over town and checked every place to put this on display because of how nice it is.

Chairman Dumont: So, are you anticipating that these answers will be had before our next meeting? Or do you think that...

Selectman Jakoby: We can try.

Chairman Dumont: There's one or two ways, right? We can either say, okay, contingent upon receiving that information and favorable review from Council and Mr. Sorenson, and we can authorize him to sign it, or we can say, you know, just bring that back to the next meeting.

Roy Sorenson: If I may, I would just table this for now. I think within the next two weeks we can get an answer. We'll talk to folks involved, myself or Selectman Jakoby, and then if there's an MOU required, I can draft that. That's not a heavy lift.

Chairman Dumont: I'm good with that. Everybody else all set?

Selectman Jakoby: So, I'll let them know that we hope to bring it back next, if we have any information.

Chairman Dumont: You can let them know. I mean, I think it's fair. It seems like the consensus is that we can get that worked out. We're on board.

Selectman Jakoby: Okay, great. Thank you.

K. Board of Selectmen Bylaws – Administration/Discussion

Chairman Dumont: All right. Next up is the... Sorry. Let me just table that. Board of Selectman Bylaw Review. Mr. Sorenson.

Roy Sorenson: All right. So, I think Selectman Jakoby did request for these to be on here. I mean, if you read the bylaws, you can review these on a daily basis or whenever you feel necessary. I have included... I just gave you the outline on the front page just to kind of break it down or cheat sheet. And then you see the detail which is attached, the latest version of the bylaws. And with that, I'll turn it over to the board for discussion.

Chairman Dumont: This was initially brought up by Selectman Jakoby, so I'll look to her first to see what her thoughts are.

Selectman Jakoby: Yeah, so I just wanted to have everyone review it because there are some... a few wording issues and a couple of... at least one particular item that Mr. Sorenson identified as might be good to be changed. And they're minimal changes. It's like the one we were looking at was items on the agenda would go to the Executive Assistant to the Board of Selectman before Thursday at noon. But there's really a preference for that to go to the Town Administrator and the chair previous to that. Also, you know, something else that... and we can choose not to revise them at all. I'm just telling you why I wanted this on here. My other thought is that I find that often there are items that come up shortly after our meeting that will go on the next agenda but members are not informed, mainly the chair is informed that there should be some method here to say you know, at the chair's discretion please let the board members know as soon as possible about items coming on. Because I just sometimes find I can't get my answers... questions... my questions answered by Monday to get on Tuesday. And some items come a long time ahead and other items don't. So that was one of the adjustments I was thinking of. You know, the big adjustment is still going from Selectman to Selectboard but that's where I'm at. I don't know that we want to spend time doing this this year but I at least wanted to bring it up because I think minor corrections we should do.

Chairman Dumont: Yeah, I mean I think it's appropriate to review them. I mean obviously the last revision date is March 7th, 2023 and there was only one board member present for that last review. So, I think it's appropriate to take a look at it. What I think would be best Selectman Jakoby, is if you have some changes, outline them or redline them. I would ask the other board members to take a deep dive into this and let's see if we can have our first read at the next meeting if that's okay with anybody.

Selectman Jakoby: Will I have a first read at the next meeting?

Chairman Dumont: Or at least gather everybody's suggestions.

Selectman Jakoby: Yeah, that's what I would like. Just to gather the suggestions. And then see whether there's general agreement on those changes.

Chairman Dumont: Yeah, because I mean to your point about what makes on the agenda and when, I will tell you that obviously tonight's the perfect example of some things that came up last minute that didn't get prioritized differently. And so maybe there's some ways that we can communicate that a little bit better. I'm fine with looking at all those things. Obviously, I try to be as flexible as I can with the staff to make sure that we're not impeding on their business to make sure that they run as smoothly as possible. But I think we can definitely take a look.

Selectman Jakoby: And to my point, to your point, I think it would be good to put that in here too. That staff have a different, you know staff can submit options to the chair at any time, especially time sensitive things. I think that just makes it clearer to the public and to anyone who's going to come on and be elected that that's going to happen. Because it happened a couple of times where I was like, what the heck is going on? But if I knew that was something that was going to happen and happen, that would be helpful. So, I think there's a place for that here.

Selectman Guessferd: Basically, if something's timely, it needs to be put on there to avoid an interruption of workflow or services or deadlines for whatever reason. Those things probably, we should get them on there.

Roy Sorenson: It is vice versa. I'm open to keeping anything moving as much as we can given the meeting sequence and all that and every other week and sometimes we have a bigger gap. With due respect to obviously our workload and how we put these packets together, something of substance and a backup, I'm not a big fan of rushing, right? Because we won't be able to put that together. So that's the other thing.

Selectman Guessferd: If we just stay some level of discretion, I would say on the chair's part, for things like that that can be brought forward if they're timely needed or in accordance with a deadline. And that way people wouldn't go, well, that wasn't on the agenda. And avoid some of that.

Selectman Jakoby: And part of my request for just additional information is that I was at one meeting that something was brought into the agenda, into the room because it was timely and I had no information and I was told, well, it's on the desk upstairs. I'm like, well, that's not a fair way for me to be able to have an informed decision. Yet, if I knew that this timely thing might be coming, then I would like, okay, then I'll make sure I get

here and read it. So just that's where that's coming from going forward. So, thank you for putting this on. I appreciate it.

Chairman Dumont: Alright. So, everybody take a hard look and then we'll revisit this again next week. Fine.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: I'll take my book home and I'll read it at home.

Chairman Dumont: Our tabling section is going to be pretty packed for the next meeting. Alright. Next up is 8L.

L. Selectman Jakoby Request – Administration/Discussion

Chairman Dumont: Again, a couple items that Selectman Jakoby had asked to do on here, so I will turn over to her.

Selectman Jakoby: Just a quick question to my other selectmen. One of the things that has been talked about a lot is for us as a board to set some goals or a strategic plan for our board and what we want to do for the year. These are things that we could discuss as agenda items or not. I just wanted to bring that up because we have not had an open conversation about what are some of the goals that we as elected officials want to see happen this year moving forward. Some of which needs research, some of which doesn't. But if there's not a consensus on an item, I don't think, you know, we may not want to spend hours and hours doing that research if it's not the board's goal to do. So, I just raised that. I don't know that we need to do anything today or just give it some thought. We do have those workshop days. That gives us an opportunity to have an open discussion. So, I didn't see this as a huge strategic plan necessarily. I saw this more as for the five of us who were elected, what are some of those things that we all want to pull in one direction together? Because I think they come up, but I think I'd just like to bring it forward.

Chairman Dumont: I think I've heard a common theme. Obviously, Selectman Allan is new here, but a big one I'm sure she's even heard since her past two meetings is buildings, land. What's going on with that and where are we moving forward? Obviously, we had the discussion last year about the library building and some things like that. So, I definitely think some attention needs to be brought on that. I've had some conversations with Mr. Sorenson about that. Then there's some other items obviously that we've had other discussions in public and non-public that I think we need to put some focus around. So, I'm open to a workshop to a couple of those. I think that so we can plan it out correctly and possibly we may need a non-public and a public session for some of these. So, I think the appropriate way to do it is if everybody again had some ideas that they want to pull together, send them off to myself and to Mr. Sorenson and we'll do a straw poll individually with Mr. Sorenson to see if we can have some dates lined up with everybody on one of those workshop days, but I don't think it's a bad idea. There's a couple of things I think we just need to put some focus on that. We don't need to have the rest of staff sit through and deal with it.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: So, what's the request to us? You want us to think about items or you want us to take a date?

Chairman Dumont: So, the first one is some major goals, right? Things that we've talked about.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: Okay, I got you. I just wanted to make sure I heard you.

Chairman Dumont: Yeah, that's where I would start and then once we get a list of those, I think that a few of them are going to overlap and then we can talk to Mr. Sorenson and see where it lines up on the schedule and I'll have him shoot out some dates.

Selectman Jakoby: And we have workshop dates designated.

Chairman Dumont: In between meetings.

Selectman Jakoby: Yeah, it's a question of which one would work, which actually just brings me into the second one, which is to discuss and set a date certain to create a plan to address the care and maintenance of our historic buildings and that might be within our goals first. But the reason why I brought this up is I did do, I've been obviously on the Benson Park Advisory Committee and there are three historic buildings within that property. Then we have the Hills Library, which is a historic property that we own. And then there's the historic properties

that are under the purview of the SAU and I'm trying to understand how all of these historic properties, because some people say that the house was given to the town, others say it was given to the school, and it's kind of interesting to think about how do all of these historic buildings relate to our budgets, both the town budget and the school budget, and then how do we maintain and honor what they are or not? Because we always have the option of not. But that's where this is coming from. So, I don't know if that's a separate item or if you want to put that within our goal planning.

Chairman Dumont: I think for myself they tie together, but I'm hoping to know what everybody else is thinking. I think they do.

Selectman Allan: Do you have a supporting document that lists all these buildings? I don't have one in my packet.

Selectman Jakoby: No, that's the whole point. I have just been ...

Selectman Allan: So, there's not a list of the historic buildings in town?

Selectman Jakoby: I do not have one. I thought, we thought that's what was interesting. I thought that the Elephant Garden was historic. It's not. And I only learned this by serving on that committee.

Selectman Guessferd: So, let me add on to that question. The planning board has been going through the strategic plan. Well, not just the capital improvement plan, but the strategic plan for the town and trying to make sure it gets updated. One of the chapters in there does include historic properties. It should be listed in there. We've got to revisit this in terms of, I think we're pretty much there now. I know we'll talk to Chairman Malley when we have our next meeting and talk to him about, you know, and we can I think where we can find it, I don't think it's been posted yet.

Roy Sorenson: No, it's up.

Selectman Guessferd: It is up. So, it's up on the website. I would go in and look at it.

Selectman Jakoby: But there are some questions regarding who is. That's all I'm saying.

Selectman Guessferd: It just says these are the buildings in town.

Chairman Dumont: So, to that point, NRPC, I believe, is who provided that initial list of those historic buildings. To the ownership question, obviously, we'll have to do a little bit more research about that. Mr. Sorenson has found out sometimes tracking down deeds is not easy.

Roy Sorenson: Well, I mean, so there's the stewardship of it, right? Where do they sit and how are they funded each year? I was going to bring back the Hills Library. The next meeting, if you want to hold, we can hold. It's the purview of the board. And how you break them out, right? So they're in run-of-town buildings. Where do they sit? Each year we will budget them. In the instance of the Hills Library, we would be taking funds out of the library budget coming up and breaking that out. That would come out of theirs, goes into ours.

Selectman Guessferd: I was going to mention that in my report.

Roy Sorenson: Yeah, we have to look at the authority of the actual CRF for that building, too, because I'm not sure we have the right information on that as far as the members to expend. Whether that's the board or the library trustees, I don't know. We could do some research. Not a big deal, but we have to find out. I'm going to talk about some other things tonight and some of these things coming up, like your capital improvement plans. We haven't done one since 2020. So, these things need to happen. Strategic plan's a little bit different because you're kind of laying out a picture of the immediacy, but yeah, I think you cover it all. You'd have to sit down with a workshop and identify where you want to put your focus.

Selectman Jakoby: Yeah, because we can't do it all. Yeah, definitely.

Chairman Dumont: For me, one of the main ones is the town properties, town buildings. Ownership, maintenance of... I'm a firm believer if we can get some of those town properties that aren't of necessity back onto the tax rolls, that would be a huge improvement for everybody and liquidate some of those.

Selectman Jakoby: I just have one other thing that came up and I apologize, but it's related to Hills Library. Christine Madden mentioned to me that there are war commemorative plaques up in the loft at Hills and being the 250th anniversary of our country, we may want to put that on one of our goals to figure out a good place for them because they can't be seen now, they are dirty, and they need some care and maybe a new place. And I put that out to the community because anything that we do, we probably might need some additional help to find.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: They're made of bronze, right? I looked at the pictures you sent me.

Selectman Jakoby: Yes, they look like bronze or brass and they look like they're individual plates because they had to get them up there, so that's what Linda Pilla said, that she believes they were individual plates. But it goes all the way back. It's really cool.

Roy Sorenson: I can look into it. I can look at it.

Selectman Jakoby: And just to thank you for getting these on the agendas just so that we could see, because I don't want to do a lot of research if it's not the will of the board to look at it.

Chairman Dumont: I think it's come up quite a few times. Like I said, the town properties one is definitely a huge one. I'm sure that there's a few other ones if we all put our hats on that we can put some effort towards.

Selectman Jakoby: Thank you.

M. Policy Subcommittee – Administration/Decision

Chairman Dumont: With that, we'll roll to the Policy Subcommittee. Mr. Sorenson again.

Roy Sorenson: Given that we now have a new board after the last election, we can continue, well, we have to continue moving forward with the Policy Subcommittee. I guess the question becomes who do you want to appoint to that? Currently it's Selectman Jakoby and Selectman Vurgaropulos. There'll be a lot of work to do by this subcommittee now that I have the HR Generalist's position in place as well. So, before you nominate yourself, think about all the work you're going to have to do. Or maybe you want to nominate someone else to do the work. I don't know.

Chairman Dumont: And that would turn over that. So, I was going to ask if you guys are interested in continuing to serve on that. Is it something that you want to do? I completely agree. I'm very happy to see obviously we have the HR Generalist now too. That'll help with that a lot.

Selectman Jakoby: I would like to continue especially now that we have the HR Generalist on the committee if that's the will of the board.

Chairman Dumont: Anybody else that's interested?

Selectman Vurgaropulos: I could continue, but I wouldn't mind saving my PTO. So, if she wanted to do it, that'd be fine. But I'd be more than willing to continue doing it.

Chairman Dumont: Selectman Allan or Selectman Guessferd. Do they have any interest?

Selectman Allan: He did not nominate me, sir.

Roy Sorenson: If nominated, I will not serve.

Chairman Dumont: So, I guess with that we will maintain the status quo if that's acceptable.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: Thanks, Bob.

Chairman Dumont: I do think you guys worked through quite a few of them last year. I was happy with the outcome. I was fine with that maintaining.

[Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Allan, to appoint Selectman Jakoby and Selectman Vurgaropulos to the Policy Subcommittee along with the Town Administrator and HR Generalist to review all policies on file and make revisions as necessary for board approval Motion carried, 5-0.](#)

N. FY2025 Town Audit Items – Administration/Presentation

Chairman Dumont: Next up, the Town Audit Items. Mr. Sorenson.

Roy Sorenson: All right. Informational, I draw your attention to the big board and we're going to just kind of go over some things. So, if you remember, we did have Plodzick and Sanderson in to present the audit, the full audit. At the time, they did not have the single audit completed. That is complete. It is upstairs in the BOS office. I did email you folks early on for general read. It's not as intense of a document as the full audit, obviously. But I just want to cover it, just give you a synopsis of what they said. They did not find, if you just read the last paragraph, in their opinion, the Town of Hudson complied in all material aspects with the compliance requirements referred to the above. It could have a direct material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ending June 30, 2025. Its focus is on federal monies, how we expend those monies, and are we doing it properly. And they did not find anything that was of any concerns. So, the single audit is complete. It is posted on the website as well. I know there were some folks on the Budget Committee and others that were looking for that document, which they do have, by the way. I did send that to them.

Selectman Vurgaropoulos: Excellent. Thank you.

Roy Sorenson: All right. I just want to talk a little bit about the 2024 audit versus the 2025 audit. So, in 2024, they noted these are just areas of their saying that maybe we should look at the sewer fund balance. They also cited review and reaffirmation of town policies. I think we just covered that. We addressed that last year with the Policy Subcommittee. We continue to do that. Again, policies and procedures over federal awards, we did, as the Policy Subcommittee knows, we put our federal grant policy in place, and we were cleared from that in 2025. That was not a comment or area of significance anymore. Payroll processing, they identified as material weakness. We fixed that as well. However, we have some work to do there. I'll get into that in one of the upcoming slides. Same thing with capitalization of infrastructure assets. Again, these are all things we addressed over the past year with the Policy Subcommittee and with the Board of Selectmen. So, we made a lot of progress. The 2025 audit, which was very good. You heard Mike Campo, who was in here, that spoke to that. I did recognize some things, which is the sewer fund, water fund, and that's going to be the reserve fund balances there, general ledger and staffing, and then cybersecurity. Cybersecurity is an ongoing comment. They do that to all communities. I am working with Doug and the Policy Subcommittee. We'll see our formal policy coming forward. All right, so kind of let's get into it and see the work that's been done. As you can see here, our focus last year with the town policies, a lot of it was financially based. There was a lot of things happening in finance last year. I anticipate that that will happen again this year. So those will be some of the things we'll be focusing on. But in general, you can see the work of the committee. Because of that, obviously we cleared a lot of comments within our audit. So kudos to the Policy Subcommittee. Payroll processing. Now there were some things in the 2024 audit. Again, two years ago, okay? We cleared those. We've been doing some different things, as the Board's well aware as far as how we do our timekeeping. Our time cards and how the timekeeping is kept. While we cleared their comment from 24, I'm still not necessarily satisfied with how we're doing it. So, I have tasked finance with putting together a better solution. I think the Board's going to see that in an upcoming meeting. It may even be the next meeting. Basically, we need better systems to standardize and strengthen timekeeping practices. Keep in mind we pay back our own time here. That's something to note. That's important. So, we want to make sure our timekeeping is up to snuff on that. You'll see something coming forward on that. I think which could be a potential future solution. Capital assets. I spoke to this. Capitalization of infrastructure assets. What do we have? What is the value of them? How old are they? What's the useful life of them? You can see the resolution. We have successfully implemented a system for tracking and depreciating those assets. That was a heavy lift. A lot of groups worked on that over the past year. When you talk about connecting as a team, Mr. Dhima played a big part in this. Obviously, he deals with quite a bit of assets. DPW Finance played a big part of this as well. We were able to resolve that issue. I did mention this previously. Capital Improvement Plan. Tribute question for the board. I think I gave the answer away. Let's see if anyone's paying attention. When was the last time we had a formal Capital Improvement Plan? 2020. We have some work to do. We should be doing that every year. When we talk about some goals that we should set, that'll be one of them. I'll start looking into that. General ledger and staffing. These are ongoing. We've had a lot of shifting with staffing in the Finance Department. As you know, we're still working through as I mentioned last year with some of the other departments, how we look at our individual departments and how can we develop them as we move forward for the future. They've been working hard down

there. One of the things they've been doing is they're looking at software upgrades, but they're also looking at procedures. If somebody does leave, we have documentation on what we have and how to best utilize that. You're not searching for things because you're not familiar with the software or the software is old and it's clunky, which is where we are. We work through it and they've done a good job, but we'll continue to look at this one over the coming year as well. All right. So, a fund and water fund. They mention these because we are using our fund balance to offset some of our debt and our cost. Now, you will recall with the budget process for '27, which is already in place, in the sewer fund in particular, we looked at reducing some of our capital needs. So, we pulled back, which means the debt that would have been in there for capital isn't in there and we're going to try to catch up on some of our revenues to catch our expenses. Mr. Dhima also came to the board and raised the sewer rate. I believe it was maybe two years ago. So, we didn't see the full benefit of that rate increase. We just got a year's worth of data. I am still not confident that that is enough for sewer. We're going to look at that. They mentioned the water fund. So what are we doing differently in the water fund right now? We're not using our wells because of PFAS, so we're buying more water. It's costing us more. So we're starting to deplete our fund balance a little bit to offset our expenses so we're not having to jockey the rates in a significant manner. Either way, and we just went over the bylaws, we're supposed to look at the water and sewer rates on an annual basis anyways. And then if we're going to set the rates, we wanted to try to do it in April. That gives us one meeting for the following July. I'm not promising anything to the board for the next meeting other than I've already sat with finance and development services to create a... We're going to look at the rate structure. It's not just going to be, well, we think it should be this and that. We're actually going to put together a matrix that would make sense for the board to consider a rate increase or offset or whatever it might be. I will say this with water, as you know, we bought the water utility. Next year is the last bond payment so there will be some debt service and principal forgiveness coming off. However, you still want to be able to improve your capital. We have the new line coming in from Nashua and there may be some other lines to improve. I'll leave that to Mr. Dhima. That's his field of expertise. So that could be offset. And that's pretty much it. I kind of worked through that pretty quick. I don't know if I threw too much at the board but if you have questions other than I just want to say from my standpoint I've said this many times that the staff working together and focusing on where the urgency needs to be did a great job and I think you saw that with the audit presentation and then the follow-up with the single audit.

Chairman Dumont: I just want to echo that. I think yourself along with the employees of the town of Hudson have done a tremendous job bringing us forward as far as what you listed off in the '24 audit, the '25 audit and continuing on. So, thank you very much. Questions or comments from the other board members?

Selectman Guessferd: I'll piggyback on that a little bit. I mean considering the personnel issues that we had this year within that department a lot of great work was done. This last year we've made a lot of improvement despite that. So, I think it's only going to look better.

Roy Sorenson: We're getting there. So, we're cleaning some things up which is good and moving forward. Alright.

O. Revenues & Expenditures – Administration/Presentation

Chairman Dumont: Revenue and expenditure. Take it away. Keep it going. I like it.

Roy Sorenson: Alright. Revenue and expenditure. This is through March so where should we be at this point? 75%. Right. At this time of year given us the last quarter of the year coming up. So, if we look at those numbers just by numbers alone general funds at 80%. It's a little bit above 75. Soil fund 65% and then the water fund is at 92%. This is expenditures only. Now if you take a look at the encumbrances which are included in your report that factors into the actual expenses. \$1,322,215 still incumbent in the general fund. Soil fund we have \$193,881 encumbered. And in the water fund \$436,600. Water and soil a lot of that is obviously your cost to send the soil to Nashua and on the water side the contracted services for the utility. Alright. We'll break it out a little bit closer. We'll take a look at the individual departments. 75% of where they're currently sitting and again you have all the breakdown in your packet if you want to look at all the hot numbers and details. But for the most part everybody is kind of where they should be. DPW had a tough winter. That's why they're well above their 75% high water mark right now. Police again vacancies as well and I'll get into that. Recreation is up slightly as well and then non-departmental the big one here is insurance and solid waste. Overall if you're looking at 100% encumbrances \$1,322,215 like I said on the last slide you take those encumbrances out we're probably right about where we

should be a little bit north of that. So, what would create us to be a little bit north of that? Well major expenditures to date. Solid waste contract \$1,721,461. Paving is done for the year \$811,000 and some change and then the insurance that your workers comp, property and liability paid out already a little bit under \$680,000 to date. This is a combination of encumbrances and expenditures in some of the departments that kind of shows you why they may be trending a little bit high. Again, encumbrances are earmarked. They'll be paid out. Some of these actually are expenditures as you can see. This was the fire department work with the HVAC work and the floor work. The fire truck leases that have to be paid every year. Police vehicles. Community grants have already been paid out. Legal. A lot of this is an encumbrance. That may not be the expenditure at the end of the year. It could go up or down. You can see fire personal protective equipment engineering services. Salt. Obviously, a big number, right? Knock on wood, I don't think we're going to need anymore but we'll see. But anyways \$311,000, \$312,000 roughly. And fuel. I think we'll be okay with fuel given the current state of affairs with the cost of fuel. I think we might get to the end of the year. We'll see how it affects FY27. That could be a different story. One of the questions Selectman Vurgaropulos that the budget committee had was prior year encumbrances and what has been expended to date. So, they've almost been cleared. You can see we had prior year at \$726,445. \$705,266 of that \$256,000 has been expended. So, there's not much left with leftover encumbrances from the previous year. Which is good because you don't want those hanging around. Revenue snapshot 75% we talked about. We're at 83% which is obviously well above where we want to be. Motor vehicles is a big one we always look at. And I highlighted that if you may recall in the February report. I'm going to come back to that on the next slide. And then some of the other bigger ones we look at. Highway block grant we should be getting some more money in on that. You see it's a little bit lower but typically that will level off. You can see how well we're doing with investment interest and the ambulance to date which is great. There's been plenty of discussion around the cable franchise. It's going to continue to go down. We know that from Mike Johnson's presentations. Alright so when I talked in February and we looked at motor vehicles. That's going to be FY25. So, this was FY26 and this is where we were at the time when I reported. So, there's a huge gap there. The area under the curve as they say right. And I was concerned about that because I was curious whether people weren't buying cars anymore. What was going on? What was happening? Because this is a significant part of our revenue that we take in. So, we need to watch this pretty significantly. Because don't forget that line was raised too for expected revenues over the past two years. Well, prayers were answered because we had an excellent March as you can see. Good things happened in March. We almost collected \$800,000 in new vehicle registrations. So, you can see how we kind of recovered that period. So, I think we're on track there to make our mark. We'll meet our mark on that which is good news. General fund interest revenue. And this is just kind of a snapshot of the last three years. And it shows you where we are right now. We're here. But what our treasurer has been able to do is collect additional interest on some of our funds that we're not moving as much. The other thing we looked at as you may recall was her ability to switch banks. Because some banks were going to offer it. Some weren't. So, she did that and we're in a much better place. And we'll be continuing to move that forward. So, she's done a great job with that. So, I would expect us to hit our mark on the interest revenue as well. If not exceed it.

Selectman Guessferd: Doesn't the trustees of the trust also have something to do with this as well?

Roy Sorenson: Yeah. Well, they manage their own too. So, this is the treasurer that handles this one. Specifically, the treasurer for the town funds. Those are going to be your capital reserve funds.

Selectman Guessferd: Yeah. And they do a great job as well.

Roy Sorenson: Alright. Salary snapshot. PD is obviously the largest and this is just salaries alone. This isn't the expenditures within the departments. 28% for FIRE. 22% for DPW 19% for the rest of the general fund. Obviously, we'll keep an eye on the big three because that can sway the budget one way or the other. So, we should be at 75%. We're currently at 77%. And I'll kind of just give you the breakout versus 25% and you'll see where we're trending. So, fire is right on the mark this year. You may recall they were higher last year because of vacancies. That's happening with PD this year. DPW. This is basically your winter overtime. They don't have any vacancies. General fund we have two vacancies. Overall, you can see the list of vacancies. We don't have a ton of vacancies right now. So, we're making progress. In fact, some of these will come down. The folks were high as the board knows. They're just not here yet. Alright. Capital reserve funds. Again, this is money that could be will be submitted to the going back to the trustees Selectman Guessferd, as you mentioned, that these have been paid out of the budget right now. They were approved for capital reserve fund monies and we can put these monies

back in. So, you're looking at what? \$240, roughly \$300,000 there potentially to go back into the budget. This is the Hudson Community Recreational Park and that's donation money that'll be reinstated back into the engineering services line and then Conservation Blood Apostle will land at \$90,000. That'll get reimbursed too. So, all these kinds of plays into that 77% number I said which is real expenditures versus 75%. That's it. Any questions?

Selectman Guessferd: Love it. Love these reports.

P. Town Administrator Report – Administration/Presentation

Chairman Dumont: Questions for the board? Alright. So, you're trying to jump ahead of the liaison reports now.

Roy Sorenson: I am. I was figuring I saw back in here I think it was the executive assistant...

Selectman Guessferd: He doesn't want us stealing his thunder.

Chairman Dumont: I'm good with it. I didn't change it but I just figured I'd throw that little dig out there.

Roy Sorenson: I thought it went smooth at the last meeting.

Chairman Dumont: The only thing is I just wanted to make sure now I can remove item number 10 which is your remarks. You don't get two bites of the apple.

Selectman Jakoby: You didn't remove that. That was my point.

Chairman Dumont: Alright. So, take it away with your report.

Roy Sorenson: I mean I may steal some of your thunder but you certainly are free to speak to it. PD was here. Just some stats for them. Their March 2026 report. This is obviously something that Chief Cayot and his group does. They do a great job with this. They send out the full detailed report but you can see the breakdown. I mean they're extremely busy. When you break these numbers down over a period of whatever it is, 31 days there's a lot happening. So, they do a great job and they are an active law enforcement agency. So, this is a big one. Myself and the Chairman spoke with Matt Mayberry of the New Hampshire Builders Association. He's working with the on the Clegg family side for this dedication. He's going to put his group together. We're going to celebrate the dedication of this portion of 111 to Senator Robert E. Clegg Jr. That is the date. Rain or shine will be determined. It's a 12 noon time dedication. Hudson Nashua line. Once we do the dedication there will be some designated speakers. If you want to speak I would say reach out to myself or the Chair. If you're going to attend let us know because we'll put together a list of people that are attending. There's going to be a lot of people I think on the other side as well. Senator Carson is planning to be there as well. And obviously members of the Clegg family. Patricia Clegg and the group. It looks to be setting up for a special day. This has kind of been in the works for almost two years now. So now it's finally coming to fruition. We'll reveal the sign and then on the other end by the Wyndham line that sign will be revealed as well. We'll have DPW on the other end.

Chairman Dumont: We're going to talk with Mr. Twardosky. He'll have somebody waiting with the radio and pull off the other side.

Roy Sorenson: We'll set up the logistics and we'll send that out. Obviously, the board will be copied on that and kind of let you know who's going to be there and how that's going to play out. But that's coming up. That's going to be next week.

Chairman Dumont: That would be the intent. So, a lot of the planning, to Mr. Sorenson's point, we've been trying to work with the family of who they want there and how they want this handled out of respect to them. But if everybody could let Mr. Sorenson know if they plan on to attend just to make sure that we have an adequate list and run for everybody and you'll get told where to park and where to go.

Selectman Guessferd: Like being told where to go.

Roy Sorenson: We'll have all the logistics ready to go. Speaking of that I will actually, I'm sure the board will be there, but VFW Loyalty Day, I do need the RSVP back to them in recognition of our folks this year. On the Town side, Don Kirkland, Police, Shane Grayson, Cody Paladino, Nick Collinshaw, and on fire, Kyle Levesque. So

obviously this is a great night that the VFW puts forth. I enjoyed it last year. I'm looking forward to it again this year. I think they do a great job. So, I'll send an email out. Just need to know who will be there from the board and who you'll be bringing with you. See some of the past recipients too. Jim Michaud will lose his crown. We'll have to break the news to him.

Selectman Guessferd: I think Elvis still wears his. Yeah, yeah.

Roy Sorenson: Spring cleanup. So, I have talked to some folks. We talked a little bit about sustainability tonight as well, advisory committee, DPW, trying to do a lot of roadside litter pickup. You know, when you have a bad winter, I don't know why, I don't know why people litter anyways, but they tend to litter more. It's a bad winter. So DPW, as busy as they are, they have been able to get out and get after some roads and they'll continue to do that. Sustainability will be doing some roads as well and we'll be posting that. They also have some private groups they're working with that will come in and we'll have some roads for them. The Boy Scouts look like they're going to help out and we also have reached out to the Sheriff's Office to see if we can get some folks in from there to help as well. So, this will be ongoing over the month of April. As we know, April is Earth Month, so the ability to kind of clean things up and push winter into the rearview mirror and move on is always a good thing.

Selectman Jakoby: Can I just add something to this? Sure. For the public, just a reminder that if there's a section of road or somewhere in your neighborhood that you want to clean up, feel free to do that. DPW is happy to work with you so that you can just leave the bags out and they'll come pick it up. So just call DPW. They're looking for volunteers all over.

Roy Sorenson: 100%.

Selectman Jakoby: I just wanted to do an ad.

Chairman Dumont: Definitely reach out to DPW because they're not going to know to pick up a random trash bag on the side of the road.

Selectman Jakoby: And if you see a random trash bag, know that someone might have just cleaned up. Because I did see someone do that the other day.

Chairman Dumont: Which was awesome.

Roy Sorenson: Yeah, anyone that can help would be great. I mean, it's unfortunate that it needs to be done, but...

Chairman Dumont: I like your idea. I'd like to see the prisoners out there cleaning up. I think that's always fantastic. Give them something to do.

Roy Sorenson: Yep, we're working with them as well. We did this last year, so they're coming back. I think I'm going to give the actual departments a format of how we're going to do that. So, it'll be a limit on slides and how we approach it. You know, you talked about strategic planning a little bit. I think it's kind of the task that I set with the departments. We'll work through that this year. I'll actually come back on my side from administration as well. I didn't get a chance to actually do that last year. I thought the departments did a great job, so I'll probably kick this off next week, and then we'll do an update each meeting after that, as we work through the year and head towards the budget season. This was on your memo tonight, but just highlighted a little bit here. I'd just like to make sure we might talk to it as well, but Benson Park Events. I didn't know this, but Natalie sent this out in an email. It's the centennial of the Benson Park. 1926. It's pretty special. So, they'll be doing a celebration there, September 12th specific to that. Family Fund Day and Centennial Celebration. So, I think that'll be a great event for folks in town and anyone else for that matter that looks to attend. So obviously it's been a challenge for the town of Hudson, so looking forward to that. But it's still too much thunder. I appreciate you letting me go first, Mr. Chair, and I will throw some height remarks for the night.

Chairman Dumont: Thank you very much. We're going to roll right into the liaison reports. We'll just start on that end.

9. SELECTMEN LIAISON REPORTS/OTHER REMARKS

Selectman Allan: I had the honor of sitting in on the school board meeting last Monday, and it was great to see the students engaged. They came in and talked about their recent trip that they took to Iceland. They had a beautiful slideshow set up. Lots of interaction with the board with questions and what they liked, what they didn't like, what they'd do it again. And then they also got the approval to take their next trip, I believe, in two years. So that was great to watch. So, congratulations to them on their trip and getting their next approval.

Selectman Jakoby: I just wanted to remind everyone that Benson Park's first clean-up day, volunteer spring clean-up day is Saturday, April 18. So, there is a QR code if you want to sign up. And I think the Friends of Benson Park is doing a volunteer breakfast that morning. So please go to their site and take a look at that. I saw that the Friends of Hudson Dog Park had some beautiful work done by Regis Landscaping. So, they did some really nice things there. So, you might want to take a look. They're doing some awesome work and really taking pride in the dog park, which is nice to see. The Sustainability Committee we went through today. And I just wanted to congratulate Selectman Dumont and Selectman Guessferd for being elected chair and vice chair for this year.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I only had one meeting. It was the Budget Committee meeting. They had a couple of requests. One was wanted to know about the target exaction funds and the status of them. They also wanted to know what our expenditures were. That's why he had this all built into his because he already had it on his mind. There was a couple other things. He's working on those items for me. You're coming to the next meeting, right?

Roy Sorenson: Yeah, I'll be at the next meeting. If they have questions on the single lot, we can answer them. There are other requests that they put forward.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: The other one was tough. They wanted to see what our tax base was commercial versus residential, which might be a hard ask. We don't know if we have the ability to split it.

Chairman Dumont: I did see the email come across. I appreciate you seeing me on the request for that. I'm sure we'll be able to talk to Jim about seeing if we can put something together for that.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: The only other thing that I thought was interesting, Jasper leading the charge, him and a couple others, they're looking to try to set the default budget real soon. I don't know how feasible it is. I think there's a couple little nuances that we need to look at. They believe they have the authority to set the default right up front, and then obviously do the budget when the budget comes around. We'll have to evaluate that and make sure that we have all the legal standing and the ability to do all that. That's the stuff that they're working on.

Roy Sorenson: Well, I think some of that hinges on the bill up in Concord. I don't know when that's going to be out of... It's in the Senate now, isn't it?

Selectman Vurgaropulos: Yeah, and I think it hinges on what those bills... There's a couple bills up there doing stuff.

Chairman Dumont: Right. They made their way over to Senate. We'll see where they go from there, but certainly not going to be within the next couple of months. That's for sure.

Selectman Guessferd: Yeah. All right. Library tomorrow night with the board at the library. As Roy mentioned, we're going to be seeing them soon. We'll be talking about the library and the transfer of responsibilities and how that happens and that sort of thing. The planning board is next week. We've got a couple cases lined up. There's a small site plan meeting on Monday, which I'll be attending as well. The other one is REC. REC is always my favorite to bring up. There's actually a couple very timely deadlines for some things coming up. Tonight, if you haven't already signed up for the Mother and Daughter Tea this weekend, the tickets close tonight on the website. Just a reminder, if you haven't signed up yet, please sign up. This is a new event and it's gotten a lot of interest. It's this Saturday and there's going to be ice tea, I guess, pastry snacks, and dancing. It'll be fun. I think the sneaker ball was this past weekend, two nights, and that was pretty successful. They've really... The town has really kind of taken that and grasped it and it's been a well attended event. The only other thing is tomorrow's deadline for early bird summer program. Enter your kids in the summer program. The early bird discounts end

tomorrow. Doesn't mean that registration ends, it just means that the early bird discounts ends tomorrow. Cash in on the savings. If you haven't already signed up your child, sign them up by tomorrow and they'll get them in there at a lower rate. They've already taken in \$85,000 in revenue over the last three weeks for the early bird registrations, which is great. This is a good revenue maker for them. People are taking advantage. Get in on the savings. For me, that's pretty much it.

Chairman Dumont: Thank you very much. I'll be quick. I attended the New Hampshire DOT public hearing on the 26th. There was a lot of information there, history, a lot of residents that showed up asking questions. It's a long process for those parcels as they're going through the disposal of those. Most likely from what I gathered and some of the questions that I've been getting answered, it's somewhere around a year's process and that's if everybody works together. Still determined what the next steps will be, but I was happy to see that there seemed to be a good crowd there asking questions and trying to figure out what's going on with a lot of that land obviously runs through Hudson. Also, ZBA has been going through some training. We'll continue to do such. There was some that night and there'll be some coming up. That's kind of where the ZBA once a year the staff tries to bring in some classes and get everybody up to date on that. And then one funny note to end on that I got quite a bit of a kick out of that I saw on Facebook and then when I walked into the selectman's office, I saw today was the Pettis Selectman picture. I thought that that was pretty good and I got a good chuckle out of it. So, if anybody has seen it, take a look at the picture that's in the selectman's office.

Selectman Jakoby: I thought that was pretty funny. The music names was funny.

Selectman Guessferd: Oh, I definitely have to see it then.

Chairman Dumont: Yeah. It was an April Fool's joke that was put on Facebook. It looks like caricatures of all of us on dog bodies.

Selectman Jakoby: They were all smiling.

Chairman Dumont: Honestly, I thought it was a pretty good picture.

Selectman Vurgaropoulos: I think you were a cop.

Roy Sorenson: Yes, you were a police dog.

Chairman Dumont: It was pretty good. But anyways, I got a good kick out of it. I like the community's humor behind it and everything. So, I just wanted to throw it out there as a happy note. But Mr. Sorenson, do you have something?

Roy Sorenson: No, just pictures before we depart. I just want to get, obviously, a picture of the board now that we actually have the election of offices and all that. I want to go back in time a little bit to how we've done in the past, which is typically you folks up here, if you're okay with that, at the head table and you have your grouping in. While cleaning out some of the town administrator's office, we found pictures of the old town council and how they were taken back in the day and the old board and everything. So, if we kind of mimic that, it'd be good. Thank you.

Chairman Dumont: I will turn over to our school board liaison, Ms. Cook.

10. REMARKS BY TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

11. REMARKS BY SCHOOL BOARD

Heather Cook: As Selectman Allan said, in our last meeting, which was on April 6th, at Alvirne High School, the science teacher presented with students from Alvirne of their most recent trip, some trip to Iceland. Over February break, they shared pictures and their experiences, including visiting the Blue Lagoon, the Black Sand Beach, and the lava tunnels, which personally looked most interesting to me. And the Alvirne Science Department announced that their next STEM trip is going to be, as Selectman Allan said, in April of 2028 to the Galapagos Islands. Yeah, very exciting. And then in other news, the district discussed purchasing new laptops for both district staff and for students. And Hudson scored second place in the 2026 Chess Championship on March 28th.

12. MOTIONS MADE IN NONPUBLIC

Selectman Jakoby made a motion, seconded by Selectman Vurgaropulos, to promote Master Firefighter/Paramedic Ryan DiFranza, to the position of lieutenant/paramedic, at an hourly rate of \$41.16 (step 3), a non-exempt position, in accordance with the International Association of Firefighters Local #3154, as recommended by the Fire Chief. Motion carried, 5-0.

Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Jakoby, to appoint Heather Celeste to the Deputy Tax Collector position effective April 15, 2026 as recommended by the Tax Collector. Motion carried, 5-0.

Selectman Allan made a motion, seconded by Selectman Vurgaropulos, to accept the resignation of the Senior Accountant Clerk Magdalena Whitmore dated April 10th, 2026 with gratitude for her service. Motion carried, 5-0. * Note, her letter was dated April 10th, the effective resignation will be July 10th, 2026.

Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Allan, to allow the Hudson Finance Department to advertise for the position of Senior Accountant Clerk. Motion carried, 5-0.

Selectman Allan made a motion, seconded by Selectman Vurgaropulos, to amend the employment terms thereof for the Finance Director to be negotiated by the Town Administrator, moreover, finalized upon signed Employment Agreement through the signatory of the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen. Motion carried, 5-0.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Vurgaropulos, to adjourn at 9:51 p.m. Motion carried, 5-0.

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

Dillon Dumont, Chairman

Bob Guessferd, Vice-Chairman

Xen Vurgaropulos, Selectman

Heidi Jakoby, Selectman

Kimberly Allan, Selectman