



HUDSON, NEW HAMPSHIRE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the June 9, 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 June 9, 2026 at 7:38 p.m. in the Selectmen Meeting Room at Town Hall.

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

3. **ATTENDANCE**

Board of Selectmen: Dillon Dumont, Bob Guessferd, Xen Vurgaropulos, Heidi Jakoby and Kimberly Allan.

Staff/Others: Town Administrator: Roy Sorenson; Director of Development Services: Elvis Dhima; Police Chief: Dave Cayot; Fire Chief: Scott Tice; Chief Assessor: Jim Michaud; Police Lieutenant: Matthew Flynn; Human Services Specialist: Kathy Wilson; School Board Liaison: Heather Cook; Executive Assistant: Lorrie Weissgarber.

A. **PUBLIC INPUT**

Chairman Dumont: At this time, I'm going to open up public input. Does anyone in the audience wish to address the Board on any issue which the Board has control of at this time? If so, please come up and state your name and address for the record. Going once, going twice. I don't see anyone. We'll close at 7:38 p.m.

B. **RECOGNITIONS, NOMINATIONS & APPOINTMENTS**

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

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

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

- A. **Recognitions** – None
- B. **Nominations** – None
- C. **Appointments** – None

We'll move into Consent Items. Does any Board member wish to remove any item for separate consideration?

[*Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Vurgaropulos, to approve Consent Items 6A-F. Motion carried, 5-0.*](#)

C. **CONSENT ITEMS**

A. **Assessing Items**

- 1) Elderly Exemption
- 2) Elderly Exemption Requalification

B. **Water/Sewer Items** – None

C. Licenses & Permits & Policies

- 1) Block Party Permit
- 2) Pole Licenses

D. Donations – None

E. Acceptance of Minutes

- 1) May 26, 2026

F. Calendar

06/09	7:00	Board of Selectmen	BOS Meeting Room
06/10	7:00	Planning Board	Buxton Meeting Room
06/16	7:00	Municipal Utility Committee	Buxton Meeting Room
06/17	6:30	Library Trustees	Hudson Cable Access Center
06/18	7:00a	Conservation Training Class	Buxton Meeting Room
06/18	7:00	Benson Park Advisory Committee	Hudson Cable Access Center
06/19		**TOWN HALL CLOSED**	
06/23	7:00	Board of Selectmen	BOS Meeting Room

8. NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Dumont: We are going to take up all business at the end, as long as there's no objection of the Board, since we're running a little bit late here. And rolling into New Business, I'd like to move Item 8E up first. So, if we could, I will turn over to Mr. Sorenson.

E. Stop Sign Funding Donation – Administration/Decision

Roy Sorenson: All right. Thank you, Mr. Chair. So tonight, we have a donation from the Hands of Hope Club, which is an Auburn High School group. And I'm going to ask Madeline Perron to come up. She's the co-president, he's a junior at Alvirne High and tell us a little bit about their donation and why they're here tonight.

Madelynne Perron: Hi, my name is Madeline Perron.

Shruthika Bangaru: Hi, my name is Shruthika Bangaru.

Madelynne Perron: Hello, Board of Selectmen. Thank you for taking the time to listen to our proposal.

Shruthika Bangaru: We are the Hands of Hope Club, and we are the co-founders of it. We have started this club this year to promote and establish activism and change within our community.

Madelynne Perron: During the first week of school, my dad was hit by a car that failed to stop at the Wason-Musquash intersection. A number of accidents have occurred at this hazardous intersection.

Shruthika Bangaru: We have a growing concern for this because it can affect anyone at any time. We cannot let these accidents go ignored. It's time for us to make a change. One of the most common ways accidents happen is because of people running or ignoring the stop sign. Some data we've collected from Officer Colon is 51 accidents at Wason Road at Burns Hill Road and about 40 accidents at Wason Road at Musquash Road.

Madelynne Perron: We believe that the addition of two flashing stop signs at this intersection will make things safer for the driving public. Research shows that towns have seen a 42% decrease in accidents after installing flashing stop signs at problem intersections. These stop signs would be solar-powered, so it would be cost-effective.

Shruthika Bangaru: Through our own fundraising efforts, we have raised around \$400 to put into the cost of these stop signs. This was done through two HENA fundraisers, which are temporary art designs that go in your hands. And recently, we have organized a car wash that raised around \$220.

Madelynne Perron: After meeting with Mr. Dhima during our February vacation, we were able to get an estimate of the cost for two flashing stop signs. We reached out to the Alvirne Board of Trustees, and they gave us a very generous donation of \$2,200.

Shruthika Bangaru: With the total of \$2,600 we have raised and the support from the Board of Trustees, we have demonstrated our commitment to this project. Today, we are asking for the town's partnership in helping us make these intersections safer for everyone in our community.

Madelynn Perron: We believe that these flashing stop signs will make Hudson a safer environment for all drivers, from experienced to new drivers. Thank you for your time.

Chairman Dumont: Thank you very much. Questions or comments from the Board?

[Selectman Allan made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd, under the authority of RSA 31:95e, the Board of Selectmen hereby accepts with gratitude, a donation from Hands of Hope Club at Alvirne High School, a donation of \\$2,600 for purchase of two new stop signs to be installed by Public Works. Motion carried, 5-0.](#)

Chairman Dumont: Do we have any discussion? Selectman Jakoby.

Selectman Jakoby: I just want to thank both of you for really looking at this intersection. I live on the other end of Musquash and go through that intersection regularly. And especially at nighttime or at dusk in different times, those signs are difficult to see. So, thank you for finding a creative way of funding this for the town. We really appreciate you reaching out to the Board of Trustees, the Alvirne Board of Trustees, and seeking that additional funding after all your hard work. So, I just want to say thank you very much because I think that was really excellent, creative ways of using what's available to you. So, thank you.

Madelynn Perron: Thank you.

Shruthika Bangaru: Thank you.

Chairman Dumont: I want to add to that. It's a dangerous intersection. My sister-in-law actually got hit there in that same spot. So, I really appreciate you seeing a problem and taking some initiative to get something done over there. So, thank you very much for that.

Roy Sorenson: Great work. Thank you very much. Thank you.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. DSD Department Update Presentation – DSD/Presentation

Chairman Dumont: All right. So, we will go back to the regular order 8A, Development Services Department Update. Mr. Dhima, you have five minutes.

Elvis Dhima: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, it will be quick. Just an update. So, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Am I hooked up?

Roy Sorenson: Good to go.

Elvis Dhima: All right.

Roy Sorenson: You're good to go.

Selectman Vurgarouplos: I really enjoyed the AI imagery.

Elvis Dhima: That's good. There's a story to that, too. That's going to take about five minutes alone.

Selectman Vurgarouplos: Oh, yeah. All right.

Selectman Guessferd: Then skip the steps.

Elvis Dhima: Skip the steps. So, as you all know, Development Services consists of three divisions right now, engineering, planning, and zoning. The only difference you're going to see here is we have a GIS Specialist that starts in January 2027. Thanks to the Board's decision to make some changes for the next budget season, which got approved by the taxpayers. And you also see the associated planner going back and forth between planning and zoning. We have an open position right now, Administrative A2, under planning. We have not filled that

position yet. We're evaluating to see how that fits our new structure right now. So far, it's been working very well. There's a great coordination between the three departments and a good call on the Board for setting it up. Next one, mission statement. We're all about delivering ethical, fiscal, responsible, innovative, and sustainable services. It maintains public infrastructure, supports residents and businesses with practical solutions, enhanced quality of life, pursuing funding opportunities that advance community projects while minimizing taxpayer impact. That's it, basically. Keep the wheels turning, making sure we stay on top of things we plan, and we reduce the taxpayer's impact, which is big.

Selectman Guessferd: Where is that location?

Elvis Dhima: That's in Hudson now. It's a few years in the future, but you'll see the new town hall on the left over there. That's me working nonstop. Yes. GIS guy right here. It's all it.

Roy Sorenson: New town hall is in this picture.

Elvis Dhima: New town hall, yes. The next one, that's the new town hall right there. This is a little snapshot in the future, as you can see, Mr. Sorenson.

Selectman Jakoby: We don't have a new train.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: No, we installed the old bridge.

Elvis Dhima: Yeah, it is. There's an old bridge back there. It is. We're putting it back. Yeah, town administrator's hair has been taking a devastating and irreversible blow, while mine looks thicker and darker than ever. That's because, as you can see, he's thinking about the next project. Well, I'm kindly reminding him that we're not done with this other one down here. But as you can see, self-inflicted, obviously. That's it in a nutshell. So, what do we do? We do traffic, water, sewer, drainage, landfill, bridge, construction oversight. We do GIS management, mapping services, technical support, zoning administrating, code enforcement. And the list goes on and on. And our favorite one, grant applications, finance compliance, making sure capital improvement project stays on track. And we're pretty much into everything, for good, bad, or indifferent. We're going to do everything. Things to look forward to moving forward. After all, this is just an update. So, one thing I'm interested, I mean I'm very excited about is we got a new platform that we're currently testing internally. It's a first community incorporated AI in our GIS portal. How does that work? If you ask it which was the last property or what property has been purchased for over a million dollars, it will highlight those for you. So, it's pretty neat. So, looking forward to that, putting that out there for everybody. Right now, it's just a beta currently running internally. We've got the GIS person starting January 1st. Looking forward to that. A lot to do there. And also, a lot that could be developed for other departments as well. Public works with the paving program, keeping track of assets. We could incorporate fire and police into things that they need out there. So, this is not just for infrastructure. This is for human infrastructure as well, if you want to call it that. So, it's going to be a great addition if we get the right person. 2026 flyover is complete. So, if you had something illegal out there in your property, we got a snapshot. I'm kidding. We don't keep track of that. We'll be available very soon. I'm hoping in a couple months. So that's a big feature. So that's the main thing on the GIS. Planning, zoning, engineering regulations. As you all know, we're using target money to do a first, really, of its kind, a coordinated revision between land use regulations. Major overhaul, major undertaking, first of its kind. Probably the last one after we get a serious beating after trying to do this. But I'm confident it's going to be a good thing. Our major goal here is to align and get things consistently across the board, planning, zoning, and engineering. I think it's very important. And it's going to stay a good structure for things we're trying to do, capital improvements plan and our master plan down the road when the planning board is ready to go. Two things we're going to be looking at, sidewalk requirements. As you all know, we tried to do something here last time. It didn't go well. So, all I remember is Selectman Guessferd, rather than myself. We tried our best, but, you know, it is what it is. The good news is what we're planning to do, I think it's better than what we proposed. So, everything happens for a reason. See how I spin that around? So, it was a good thing that they denied it. No, I'm kidding. It is, though. We're going to do something that makes sense, and I think everyone is going to be happy with that. I think the planning board is ultimately the one in charge of making that revision at some point if they wish to do so. Another thing that has come up and something that we're going to tackle and maybe probably be successful, maybe not, is housing. Housing keeps coming up over and over again. So, what we're looking to do is, and I don't want to give everything here tonight, but what we're

looking to do is first-time homebuyers. What can we as a community do to set up the perfect conditions for a first-time homebuyer for a single-family home and for a developer that's going to create that condition? I don't know. We're looking into that to see if we can create some kind of pilot program, something that the planning board can maybe entertain. Maybe it's a good thing. Maybe it's not. We'll see, time will tell. But that keeps coming up over and over again, so I think it's worth a second look. And folks need to remember that this needs planning board approvals ultimately and town meetings for the zoning. So, everything we're trying to do is still going to have to go through a process, planning, public, and ultimately a town meeting. Our upcoming project is 2027. It's Robinson Boat Launch. As you all know, the Warren article passed for \$500,000 thanks to the folks that voted for it, taxpayer, board selectmen, and the budget committee, half a million. The nice thing is we just filed for \$667,000 because we're trying to get our money back for the design portion, and we have been qualified for that. So hopefully when I hear back, it's for \$667,000. What does that mean from a financial standpoint? It means that we can put less of our money in to do the project, or if something comes up, we have reserves to use that to do additional. So, it's really a very positive thing. Next thing is you all know Belknap Road Extension. I don't know if you heard or not. There was another accident over there this weekend, County. So, I guess we're doing the right thing after all. \$2.5 million project. We are in the proposed 10-year plan. We're doing the design right now. It's done permitting. We're struggling a little bit with DS. I have a meeting with them next week. The main concern they have is it floods right now, and it's going to flood in the future. So, to me it's like nothing is going to change, but they see it a little differently, so I'm trying to be sensitive about it. So, the way I see it is either give it to us or you deny it, and we'll go to court and we'll get it anyways. But hopefully we'll do it the easy way. So, we'll find out what the next week comes. They've been very good to work with. It's just we operate at a different pace than they do, and that's okay. Merrimack River Crossing, as you all know, Town of Hudson successfully secured \$1 million, which is currently being used for the design. That's currently underway right now. All the parties involved with this are being notified, including Pennichuck and the folks across the river. So, everything is looking good. I'm hoping we break ground next year. If not, it will be 2028. Why do I say that? Because it will be governed by the levels on the river, unfortunately. So, we could be ready to go. We have everything, and the next thing you know we don't get the green light because the river levels are too low or too high, which has a turbidity and velocity, and the nerds get going, and I'm like, all right, just tell them 2027, 2028. We don't need to know the details. Next one, Merrill Park Boat Launch. As you all know, we secured \$300,000. We've got a consultant working on it, and we're also going to look into if we can get some of the money back for the design and the construction as well. Now, one of the questions that has come up with the budget, Selectman Vurgaropulos brought it up. What happens if we have any money left? I don't know. Maybe we will have some money back. Who knows? It might be a miracle. The money will stay there for Merrill Park to maintain it, so we don't have to make this a burden for the taxpayers. I don't want it to be another Benson Park, but if we have any money left, it will just stay there, and the board can use it to maintain it or pay DPW to maintain the site once it gets up and running. But it will be a nice facility. This is obviously something that they put together in 1987.

Selectman Jakoby: I have options for Merrill Park.

Elvis Dhima: Yeah, here we go. But the two options they had back then was two roundabouts, believe it or not. They look like donuts.

Selectman Jakoby: I have better options.

Elvis Dhima: So, we'll see where it goes, but that's where we're at. Another project, Hudson Solar Farm. We haven't heard about that, but it's up and running. It's ready to go. Slope analysis is complete. We plan for a 4.19-megawatt DC solar farm. The Eversource completed a project evaluation in about six months, which usually is 12 to 18 months, so big thanks to them for pushing this through. But it looks like we'll be able to push in 4.2 to 4.5 megawatt. What does that mean? We can put a bigger farm than we expected, and we have the distribution system adjacent to us to put that out there. What does that mean from a financial standpoint? Because that's where we really care at the end of the day. Well, it means we're going to make more money from a revenue standpoint related to the leasing of that because it's per megawatt. And the other thing, too, is we'll be more powerful to sell at a discount for the town of Hudson facilities and the school department if they wish to.

Selectman Guessferd: It's going to be able to cover all of our needs, right?

Elvis Dhima: We are completely covered. We're about at 1.7. They use more energy than us, the school, so if the school rolls in, they'll have a significant. But the entire amount of 4.5 will probably be used in town between the school facilities and the town facilities. Not for the entire town, all the folks in there, but just the municipality. So, a big good news, really. So, design is pretty much ongoing. We need to deal with the landfill permit process because this is on top of a landfill. We need to deal with alteration terrain permits because we're changing that. Even though we're not doing any digging, we're basically putting the solar panels above the surface. So, it's a whole process you have to go through to make sure that the state is okay with it. So that's going through. But I expect construction to start early 2027. Even if it starts to be later, it doesn't matter. Operation right now for this, it's 2027. So, revenue will be kicking in either mid to late 2027, which is really good because we all know we can use the money. Capital improvement plans. Mr. Sorenson has been talking about this. He's getting it. That's why he had the gray hair earlier. So, interesting enough, in 2019 we did this, and look at all the projects we got done. So, do we have a capital project? Well, we had one, but we did it all. So, case closed. We don't need another one. I'm kidding. So, police, they completed their main project, which was police department expansion, that's done behind us. Benson Park had two projects. Haselton Barn roof, done. Kitchen building roof repair, that's also done. We had six projects under engineering, five of them complete. One of them is ongoing, which is Lowell and Birch. And school district department did very well. They got seven out of nine done. So, as far as I'm concerned, we did very well. The only project we didn't get done is under the finance department, town hall expansion. Oh. But it's still ongoing. Funny, though, how that was under the finance department, right?

Chairman Dumont: Yeah.

Elvis Dhima: Strange. But anyway, so this is something we need to tackle next year. Why do we need the capital improvement projects? We need that for a couple reasons. If you do a grant, you need to have that. If you're doing improvements and you're basically being asked about where you're going, right, where you're at, where you're going, this is what that capital improvement project is. I'm not asking for another COVID relief fund, but that's kind of what kind of got us through once we got that money. So, it's important. It's a good piece of document for the town to have. It's as good, I think, as a master plan. Project's coming up in 2028. I'm getting a little bit ahead of myself. But the reason for that is I want to use this opportunity to kind of tell you where we're going with the budget season starting. So, one of the one articles is going to be for \$300,000 for County Road. County Road right now is in good shape, but it's too narrow. If you've been out there, you've seen the guardrails beat up. The guardrails are basically bolted to the face of these concrete structures and they've come off. Why? Because of the salt and all that.

Chairman Dumont: They're just floating there.

Elvis Dhima: That is just floating there. So, what we're trying to do is we're going to put a couple feet extension on that structure. We're going to put new guardrails in. What that's going to allow is if we start the project on Lowell Road, which is going to be the next slide, it's going to allow safe traveling on County Road to basically accommodate to what we're trying to do on Lowell Road, and that's going to be on the next slide. So, this needs to happen before we start attacking the bridge on Lowell Road, and I'll get into that a little bit. So, this is coming up in March 2027 for \$300,000. That's just going to be one of the articles that the engineering department is going to be asking for. The design is already done, permitting already done. This was using COVID money/bridge money that we got. So that's already done. This is just the construction, it's ready to go for construction. Another one we're looking at, again, being proactive, Lowell Road. There's a bridge over there, as you know. That's basically Susie's Diner is right over here and T-Bone's old location over here. So, there's a bridge, and then it goes from a bridge to a pipe that's under the parking lot/building, and eventually gets on the other side. So, the bottom, or the walls, or the foundation, if you want to call it, that's in great shape. But the deck, the section that takes all the load off and transfers it down, that's in rough shape. So, currently it's rated a 5. What does that mean? It's in the pink list. Once it gets to a 4, it gets into what they refer to as in the red list. You get to a 3, you're still okay. You get into a 2, you need to be a little careful of that because this corridor handles 30,000 vehicles a day. And also, this is usually mainly to transfer very heavy equipment for Eversource and other utilities, like 30,000-pound transformers, things of that sort. This is the main corridor, so we want to make sure this is in good shape. This is a bit further out. We cannot do this until County Road is done. And that's about it. That's basically it in a nutshell. Any questions?

Chairman Dumont: Board members, questions, comments? Very good job, Elvis.

Elvis Dhima: Thank you very much. What was that for timing? Five minutes?

Chairman Dumont: Way more than five minutes, but not bad.

Elvis Dhima: What was that?

Selectman Guessferd: But actually, yeah. Thank you very much.

Chairman Dumont: Go find some money.

B. Sale of Town-Owned Property – Assessing/Decision

Chairman Dumont: All right. Next up is sale of town-owned property. I will recognize the Chief Assessor, Mr. Michaud.

Jim Michaud: Good evening, Board members. You have a memo in front of you. This is a follow-up from the Board meeting of April 28th. We have a zoning determination on this town-owned vacant lot, tax-deeded lot. It's up there on the screen. And the zoning determination says, yep, it's a buildable lot. It's a lot of record. And we have options. The Board can still say we don't want to go forward, we want to hang on to it. The Board can say, no, we want to sell it. The memo goes through the options. You could hire a broker. You could hire an auctioneer. You could donate it through charitable transfer. You could do a sealed bid. So, I'm not sure the direction the Board wants to go on this, which option. I've been pushing the option of sealed bid. If you're going to do a broker, now we're going to do an RFP. Now we're going to have to interview brokers. You have an auctioneer. You've got to do an RFP for auctioneer. Now we've got to interview them, and the Board has to award the contract to them. If we had multiple properties on hand, I'd say that's probably a good place to go through that process. But this is a one-off at this point. So, that's my recommendation. Of course, the Board can choose how it wants to do it. Most folks do a minimum bid. It's a sealed bid, but establish a minimum amount. I have a placeholder in there of \$125,000. There's no building lots that sell for \$125,000. They're selling for \$150,000, \$175,000, \$225,000, even small quarter-acre lots. If it's a building lot, it's gold. About this property, the plan for this property that was recorded in the registry in 1915, it's basically three little finger lots make up this one tax lot. So, it hasn't been surveyed in any recent time frame. If you drive out there, you think the house at 13 Oak Ave. owns this. It looks like it's part of their cartilage. It's not, and they didn't, and they cannot adverse possess government property. That's a state law. But if you're a buyer, you're looking at this saying, all right, well, I might have to get a survey. So, these things might serve to depress the market value a little bit versus something that's out there, is recently surveyed, and it's part of an established subdivision. One caveat we want to have on this is that we want to have a turnaround for snowplows. So that would be a condition of any sale. Board, have any questions? I think Roy and I would coordinate as far as putting together the sealed bid process, use any legal assistance that we would need. We'd advertise it to the abutters, including everybody on Oak Ave. Of course, the property owner that brought this to us, 13 Oak Ave., they're very interested in the property. I talked to their representative attorney earlier, let's see, actually yesterday. So, they're aware of tonight, they're aware of the memo, et cetera. They hold no special sway, right? They're going to compete in the public just like everybody else, but they're the ones that started this process in February, sending us a letter. And in my memo, you see there's been some checkered past on the taxation of this property. And once we get through the proceeds, if it ends up selling, the board agrees, then we'll have to divvy up what's the towns and how much goes to the court system. And we actually do know of an heir of the folks that we taxed it from in 1941. The heir is in Merrimack, and that's actually a result of 13 Oak Ave.'s attorneys doing a lot of title research. Because they thought they were going to make a claim of adverse possession on private property, in my opinion, based on my conversations. As it turned out, they couldn't. They're like, it's your property. So...

Selectman Guessferd: Just abandoned, essentially, right? The property?

Chairman Dumont: No, it didn't pay their taxes.

Selectman Jakoby: We took it over. That's right.

Selectman Vurgaropulos made a motion, seconded by Selectman Allan, for the Board of Selectmen to direct the Town Administrator, or his selected designee, to solicit sealed bids, with a minimum bid of \$125,000, for the sale of the subject property, Oak Ave, a.k.a. Tax Map 190, Lot 163, Sublot 01. Motion carried, 5-0.

C. ACO Supplies Donation – Police/Decision

Chairman Dumont: Next up, ACO supplies donation. Chief Cayot.

Chief Cayot: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So recently, the Hudson Police Department has had numerous cases where we've ended up seizing animals, mostly dogs. And once we do that, we're obviously responsible for the care of these animals. So, the other day, our animal control officer had been at America's Pets. She was buying some of the supplies to help us take care of these dogs, and America's Pets generously offered to donate approximately \$1,000 of dog food, dog treats, and a dog bed was included in that. So, I'm here to request that we can accept that donation from America's Pets.

Chairman Dumont: Discussion? Questions? Motions?

Selectman Allan made a motion, seconded by Selectman Guessferd, to allow the Police Department to accept a donation of dog food, dog treats, and a dog bed, and said donation have the approximate value of \$1,000. Motion carried, 5-0.

Chairman Dumont: Thank you, Chief.

Chief Cayot: Thank you very much, and I would just like to publicly thank America's Pets just one more time for the generous donation.

D. SNHHMMAD Membership – Fire/Decision

Chairman Dumont: Thank you very much. Next up, SNHHMM AD membership. Chief Tice.

Chief Tice: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good evening again. So, as we discussed during our budget hearings, we talked about moving from the Souhegan Mutual Aid Response Team to the Southern New Hampshire Hazardous Materials Mutual Aid Response District. So, the reason we talked about that, you know, they both respond for hazmat incidents, but we were looking to switch to the Southern New Hampshire team. It gives us more of an opportunity to work with our neighbors. These are the departments that surround us, aside from Nashua. So, Londonderry, Litchfield, Derry, Windham, Pelham, Salem are all part of this team, and this is who we do most of our mutual aid work with and work the closest with. It allows our people to be involved, so the SMART team is run by the Nashua Fire Department, and they respond, they do all that type of work. You know, being a part of the Southern New Hampshire team, our people would have the opportunity to become part of the team and respond and do hazmat work within the district. They're also working towards providing rescue services, which I look at rescue much like hazmat. They're high-risk, low-frequency events that require specialized equipment, specialized training. Towns our size, it's not practical, feasible to try to support that budgetarily on our own. So, we're trying to work with our mutual aid partners, spread that burden out, and spread the benefit out. And that's something they're working towards. Other services they also provide currently, they have drones, they have off-road vehicles, they have a rehab unit, and they have a command unit, which is all available to all the member departments, member towns. And again, it takes some of these specialized things and spreads the cost out amongst multiple towns to help provide these services, instead of each town trying to provide these on their own. And this is budgeted for, in the budget, we simply need the approval of the governing body to make that switch, and then I can write letters to both, withdraw from the SMART team, and then we have, the Southern New Hampshire team has their annual meeting later this month. It's a technicality, but they vote to accept us in, which we've been working on this with them for over a year, and they're looking forward to it. And they actually already invited us, included us in on some training. They got a grant to update their confined space equipment, and they bought rope rescue equipment, and when they held a training on it a couple weeks ago, they allowed our people to go, and we sent three people to participate in four days of training with them on their new equipment.

Selectman Jakoby: I'd like to make a motion, and I want to thank the Chief, because you brought this to us a while ago, so when this came back, I was ready. So, you answered all my questions previously, just so the public knows.

Selectman Jakoby made a motion, seconded by Selectman Vurgaropulos, to authorize the Fire Chief to terminate the department's membership with the Souhegan Mutual Aid Response Team, and join with the Southeastern New Hampshire Hazardous Materials Mutual Aid District, effective July 1st, 2026, and to authorize the Fire Chief to effectuate all agreements necessary. Motion carried, 5-0.

F. Town Deferred Compensation Plan – Administration/Decision

Chairman Dumont: Next up, we have the Deferred Compensation Plan. Mr. Sorenson?

Roy Sorenson: Thank you, Mr. Chair. So, at this time, we talked about this quite a bit last year. As you may recall, we created a working group to take a look at the Town's portfolio manager for our Deferred Compensation Plan. And that was driven by some of the employees who were concerned with, at the time, the current provider, their fees, and the costs as being part of that program. Understanding that, I assembled a group, as I mentioned in the memo. The group was comprised of Police Lieutenant Matt Flynn, Human Services Specialist Kathy Wilson, Finance Director Laurie May, and Fire Lieutenant Corey Girard. I do have Kathy and Matt here tonight, if I would ask you two to come up, if you don't mind. And they can speak to it a little bit. There's a lot of information in here. Ultimately, what it came down to, and their mission was to find the best plan for all the employees. This is a voluntary plan, so if the employees want to enter into it, that's on them. The Town does not contribute to it, so this is all on the employees. You may recall, the State came in and did a presentation. We also looked at another group called PF Pope out of Portsmouth, New Hampshire, as well as some others. It really came down to those two, and the differences or the selection to go with the State, which all the administrative stuff here is included, but I want Matt and or Kathy to kind of walk us through why we landed or ended up with the State over, say, a PF Pope or some other manager. That will turn it over to you, Mr. Flynn.

Matthew Flynn: Thank you, Mr. Sorenson. So yeah, approximately a year ago, we're currently under Mission Square here as the Town sponsor as we sit, and we were looking at other options, and the primary two in the New Hampshire area is the State of New Hampshire, who presented last October, and PF Pope. The primary difference between the two was the administration fees, the administrative fees. PF Pope did have higher administrative fees overall, which automatically included any enrolled members, financial advice, a financial advisor, I apologize. All these things were automatically included, whether you wish to take advantage of it or not. The State of New Hampshire plan has those options. However, it's on an individual basis. If you do take advantage of it, that fee will be added to your own. So ultimately, the mission of lower fees, better investment options was best met by the State of New Hampshire. We also put this out to all enrolled employees here, and the vast majority were also in support of the State plan for that reason as well.

Roy Sorenson: So, included in the packet, you have what's called the Joinder Agreement. This is the initial agreement that the Board of Selectmen would need to sign this tonight to enter into the State plan. You also have a memo from Mr. Flynn regarding this whole process. You have the employee acknowledgement and support for joining the plan and leaving Mission Square. I did also ask Mr. Flynn just for a compare and contrast, and that's what you see in the last two pages, which kind of solidified why the State option is the best at this time. The motion in front of you would ask, the Board would take action by signing this Joinder Agreement, and then I would be charged with finishing the process. So, what does that mean? That means any other agreements that might effectuate with the State, and also contact Mission Square to say we're withdrawing and sign off on anything that may be required there.

Chairman Dumont: Questions or comments from the Board?

Selectman Guessferd: Yeah, I just want to say, yeah, we've been talking about this for a while, and Mr. Sorenson has brought it to our attention, and we had the State come in, all of that. So, I'm familiar with this, and I'm glad to see that we have the support. We have the signatures on here. That's kind of what I was looking for here, is like the final piece, once we decided to kind of go in that direction, that you've got their support. That, to me, is huge. It's really important, so I'm in favor of this.

Selectman Jakoby made a motion, seconded by Selectman Vurgaropulos, for the Board of Selectmen to hereby authorize execution of the Joinder Agreement with the State of New Hampshire for adoption of the Public Employees Deferred Compensation Plan. Further, to authorize the Town Administrator to effectuate any items required for finalizing this process. Motion carried, 5-0.

G. Hills Memorial Library – Administration/Decision

Chairman Dumont: Good work. Thank you. All right, Hills Memorial Library. Mr. Sorenson.

Roy Sorenson: All right. So, this has been another topic of discussion that we've kind of talked about, but not necessarily brought here for formal type action. Understanding that, I think this starts the process of the Town really looking at the Hills Library and utilizing it. Utilizing the space that's currently there, what can we utilize it for, and things of that nature. The first step is obviously certifying here tonight that the Board of Selectmen say, all right, we will take over the maintenance of this building. Library Trustees are no longer involved. There are some nuances to this. The CRF is actually under the authority of the Library Trustees. So, if I'm thinking ahead to the next budget sequence, we could draft a Warren article to shift that, just a change of language. Something that we kind of did like with Benson's. And in the meantime, I would be charged with going out and communicating with the folks that may have some type of interest in this building, one way or the other. Who is that? The Historical Society, obviously. As well as the schools, because the schools meet over there. And then there's our town, our own town needs. And how can we use the building not once a year, not twice a year, but really for what we might need. There's been expansive studies with this building and just space in general. We have some space over there at the old Rec Center as well, Oakwood. And can we take some of that stuff and shift it over? Perhaps. This sets the stage. And I think I will be coming back in additional meetings on plans of what we might do over there. In the meantime, I will meet with the library trustees, I'll meet with the schools, and meet with the Historical Society. Does that make sense?

Selectman Vurgaropulos: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I know that we had issues with flooding and all that, and there was some mitigation done. But to my knowledge, it needs more.

Roy Sorenson: I do not see that and I met with the library on that. They cleaned it up. The most impacted area was just the immediate entrance. So, the floor was pulled up. So right now, when you go in, you just have plywood on top of the joists, and you see the concrete. The next level up, which, I mean, if I'm wrong, anybody can correct me, I think it was the children's library area. They removed all the bookshelves, they cleaned all the carpets. Not much flooding went up into that area anyways. It was just that centralized area right down where the boiler was as well and they cleaned it all out. They took out all the bookshelves. So, it's wide open right now. We walked the building. Just from a visual standpoint, or smelling like a basement and being musty, yeah. But there was nothing there to show that there was any type of urgency behind the mold still being there from the incident. I don't know that the problem itself was not alleviated, because I think what contributed to that is the drain, the horizontal drain pan that sat right at that door. I did have DPW, the sandbags might still be there whenever we have serious rain events to sandbag that and try to push it and keep it in the parking lot. We're going to have to do some research on that to find out where that pan drain goes and the capacity of it. And I think just in general, when the parking lot was paved, the contour was changed. And I don't know if that catch basin that's out in the parking lot can handle flash flooding. Now, I'm not telling the board we're going to put in a major new drainage system. The chairman here was looking at me with kind of that look. But there's stuff we can investigate and do in the meantime.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: Yeah, that's what I was edging towards. I know we did the initial mitigation, cleaned it up. So, I knew that was there. But the root cause was essentially the slope changes and everything from paving and everything outside. So ultimately, we're going to eventually have to address that so that we don't have another incident.

Roy Sorenson: I think in time we'll have to put some monies into it. We do have the CRF. We can start in there. I mean, just the boiler itself is circa, what, 1960 or 70? So, we're going to have to do some work. But it's a historical building. It's something that we should be cherishing and taking care of and utilizing as much as we can.

Chairman Dumont: So, your point is that the library did handle that mold mitigation. I would suggest anybody take a walk over in that basement. They did a good job at it. There's not much left, they ripped most of the stuff out. That was obviously the easiest way to get rid of it. But we've got to handle that.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: That's the most concerning part.

Chairman Dumont: You fix that, there's other issues over there that we're going to have to go through and Mr. Sorenson is aware of that. I think that would probably be one of the first ones.

Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Allan, for the Board of Selectmen to hereby direct the Town Administrator to meet with the Library Trustees to begin transferring maintenance responsibilities of the Hills Memorial Library to the Town in advance of and for preparation of the Fiscal Year 2028 budget. Further, the Town Administrator will meet with all current users of the building, notwithstanding the Historical Society, for establishing a strategic plan for the building to be delivered to the Board for consideration. Motion carried, 5-0.

Chairman Dumont: Do we have any discussion? Selectman Jakoby.

Selectman Jakoby: I just wanted to reiterate that when I went through the building, I also found that even the air quality was very good throughout the building, just so that the public knows. And I want to thank the library staff for not putting up re-putting up the walls, but to keep it open until we know what we're going to do. So, there's much more flexibility than if everything would have been reconstructed, and it did give us the opportunity to see that the re-sloping was still an issue, and without any additional damage to the building. So, I want to thank them for their care in the entire process, and all the efforts that the library staff put into keeping that building in the shape that it is in.

Chairman Dumont: Next up, Benson Park Lions.

H. Benson Park Lion Statuary – Administration/Decision

Chairman Dumont: Mr. Sorenson, all right go ahead.

Roy Sorenson: Benson Park Lions. So, this is a request from the Benson Park Advisory Committee. I'm sure the Board's well aware of the lion statuary that was there, then it left there, and now it's back there. So obviously, there's an interest in these, and they're pretty majestic if you've seen them. They do need some restoration, and we have an individual that has met with the Benson Park Advisory Committee that would be interested in performing that work, and they are experienced in preservation in that they've dealt with historical gravestones and things of that nature, which certainly need to be qualified to handle. But understanding that, and the gentleman, Lee Paul Tracy, and it would be his wife as well that would perform the work, they wanted to just make sure they're indemnified, right? That if what they try to do just goes sideways, the town's not going to hold them liable for that. And that's fair and respectable to make that request. I did draft an agreement. You can see that that is attached. So, Lee Paul Tracy, his wife Claudia Tracy, they both looked at it. They're okay with the agreement as it reads. And once we memorialize this and sign it, Mr. Chair, you would have to sign it as well. I would just witness it. And he can get going on his work over there. Now the materials will be handled through donations. Benson's Park has a donation fund. And I don't, I mean, I don't think there'll be any astronomical cost for the materials needed to do this, but you know, the sooner the better we get this agreement drafted, then we can get to work on these.

Chairman Dumont: Great.

Selectman Guessferd: The attorney looked at it as well. The attorney?

Roy Sorenson: Yeah. Yeah. This agreement is done.

Selectman Allan made a motion, seconded by Selectman Vurgaropulos, for the Board of Selectmen to hereby authorize restoration of the historic lion statuary from Benson Park as prescribed in the authorization for volunteer conservation and preservation of historic lion statuary and release of liability agreement. Motion carried, 5-0.

Selectman Jakoby: I just wanted to point out, I don't know how many of you have looked at the lions, that it is quite an extensive process and that everyone who has taken a look at them had the same concern. It is strictly

cement and cement sometimes is very difficult to restore. So, I commend them for volunteering, but, you know, let them see what they can do because, you know, there's a tail missing and a few other things to see what they're able to do, and I'm sure whatever they're able to do will be a blessing to the park.

I. Benson Park Yoga – Administration/Decision

Chairman Dumont: Next up, Benson Park Yoga. Mr. Sorenson, are you going to be doing some yoga?

Roy Sorenson: Yeah, so this is Yoga in the Park, I guess. This is actually Friends of Benson Park. They just wanted to put this request, this came in this past week. Simple request, and it's just for a woman to perform yoga. Benson Park on June 27th, 2026. It's free. Gentle yoga, it's called. And it'll take place from 9-10. Maybe we can get Elvis over there and do some goat yoga.

Selectman Guessferd: Maybe we can get Elvis over there and do some goat yoga. Make sure it's clear it's not a Yoda class. It's a yoga class, not a Yoda class.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: Not a yogurt class.

Selectman Guessferd: Not yogurt.

Chairman Dumont: Free yoga. Questions, comments, motions?

[Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Allan, for the Board of Selectmen to hereby approve the request from Friends of Benson Park for a yoga class on June 27th, 2026. Motion carried, 5-0.](#)

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

Chairman Dumont: Friends of Benson Park 2026 events. Mr. Sorenson.

Roy Sorenson: Alright, so as the Board's well aware, this is the centennial year of Benson Park, so they're doing various celebrations which some events you've approved previously. This one in particular is the day that they will hold most of their events and talk about their centennial celebration. It's September 12th, 2026. As part of that, this came in after the fact. Again, you already approved the date for them to do certain things. This was an add-on, and this was to have food trucks and some other promotional booths there as well. Looking at the deed to the property, this is allowed. I did have the attorney look at it as well. It's a one-day event. It's nothing that's going to be staying there forever. They come that day, they leave that day, so that's certainly recognized or prescribed in the deed, so we have no concerns, and I think it'll be great for their centennial celebration.

Chairman Dumont: Great. Board members? Anybody?

Selectman Jakoby: I think it's a great opportunity to begin this process and to see what's possible and how well it does going forward. I think that they have to have the same other forms and stipulations rate any of their vendors, so they're covered. Just laying the public know, it's like there's a whole process to it, but it starts here.

Chairman Dumont: Government always creates processes. Is that followed up by a motion?

[Selectman Jakoby made a motion, seconded by Selectman Allan, for the Board of Selectmen to hereby grant Friends of Benson Park the authority for activities, prescribed as limited use, within the Benson Park deed for the Family Fund Day and Centennial Celebration event on September 12, 2026. Motion carried, 5-0.](#)

K. FY26 Budget Revenues & Expenditures Update – Administration/Decision

Chairman Dumont: Next up is our Budget Revenues and Expenditures update.

Mr. Sorenson. Alright, so we're going to go to the big screen for this one. Making some good progress here. So, you have some backup here. Typically, it's my presentation. You have what I call the shortened report here. The one or the full detailed Muni-Smart report, which is hundreds of pages, that's upstairs in the Board of Selectmen's general read if you wish to take a look at that. Oh, I'm sorry. I'm on the wrong one.

Selectman Jakoby: Yeah, that's not the one.

Roy Sorenson: Getting ahead of myself. Trying to jump the gun with the Account Administrator report.

Chairman Dumont: Always trying to jump ahead.

Roy Sorenson: Alright. Sorry about that. We'll start over. Alright, so May, this is through May, obviously. So, where are we at that point of the year? Again, if you just look at the numbers and nothing else, 92% of the year. That's obviously rounded up to 92%. Our General Fund is currently at 91%. Our Sewer fund is at 71%. And our Water Fund is at 96%. Now there are encumbrances in this. So, what are those encumbrances? General Fund encumbrance to date, or as of the end of May, \$1.369 million. The Sewer fund has a little bit over \$300,000. And the Water Fund slightly under \$500,000 at \$486,000 and some change. Alright. Let's dive down into the details a little bit of the General Fund. 92%. Let's take a look at the individual departments and where they sit on the chart. And all the guide rail and green above. As you can see, most of them are trending right where they should be. There are some that are slightly up a little bit. Now assessing, that's driven by professional services. So that'll all balance out probably on the next actually it will balance out on the next report. DPW, it's salary driven. As we talked about, police, salary driven as well. Fire's underneath, which is good. Recreation, some of that is salary driven and other of it is some expenses as well. And then non-departmental is always going to be above that line typically because your solid waste contract sits in there. And that's obviously incumbent beginning of the year. So overall, that should actually say, I'm sorry, 92%, overall, we're at 91%. Encumbrance is in there, 1.369 as I mentioned. If you take those out, and this is part of your report upstairs and you want to look at expenditures only, we're doing very good, 81%. So, we're in much better shape now than when I reported this to you last year, I will say. So, the budget is really starting to take shape here as we head towards the finish line. Alright, sewer fund, we'll get into that a little bit and kind of show you where that is. Overall, you can kind of see operations is expended pretty much straight out and that's because we send our waste and our contracts to Nashua as part of our contract to send our waste over there in advance. That's procured immediately. Our revenues are on 56%. Overall, the budget was at 71% as I mentioned. Your encumbrance is a little bit over 300. You take that out, we're at 57%. So, 56%, 57%. What does that mean? I think this fund, you're going to hear more about the sewer fund, you heard it within the audit given the rates because we need to get that balance. You may say, hey, that's great 56 and 57, it's not because we took a lot of capital out of the budget and we also got to crank our revenues up. Those revenues are way too low so we're definitely going to have to take a look at the rates in the sewer fund as well as the water fund and those two items were identified in the audit. So, I'm probably in another month we'll be back with the finance director and the development services director on these two funds and potential rate, taking a look at the rate. Water fund, a little bit different. Now the reason the water fund has to be looked at more closely is we're buying more water, okay, so that could tip us into the other side of the revenues going higher, I'm sorry, the expenditures going higher than the revenue. To date we're at 100% collected in revenues, which is great. Overall, we're at 96%. So, the water fund looks good, we still have another month left and obviously we're going to be selling a lot more water here over the next month as well. Encumbrance is a little bit under 500 as I mentioned, you take that out, it's right in line where it should be. Now there's one thing on water is we take a look at the rates and we talked about just the water utility as well, the Board's well aware of that and how that may proceed into the future. Buying more water because our wells are offline and once we get this new transmission line and then Mr. Dhima talked about, that's probably where we're going to be. I don't think those wells are ever coming back online just because of the PFAS regulations that are in place and that's not going to change. It would cost extraordinary to try to fix those wells and have them back up to speed. Now there will be some principal and debt coming off because we did purchase the water company, that will come off but there's going to be a balance there I think as we move forward, so stay tuned on that. Major expenditures in the general fund right now which is kind of driving a lot of if we did have major overages, as I mentioned the solid waste contract, paving is obviously done for the air, our insurance that's workers comp, property and liability and then PD I just added in the debt service because that's paid right at the beginning of the year too and that's shown in their budget so that's obviously reflecting why they could be a little bit over as well. We break down into, this is a combination of encumbrances and or expenditures and you can kind of just see some of the bigger items there that are driving that. Now most of these are either expended to date and they'll all balance out the last month and this will be the highest expenditure you'll see on them as we move forward. Fuel, we should be ok given the circumstances and if you look at these DPW items these are basically done for the year, I mean traffic lights isn't done, that could come up again but street lining, that's SNL, that's done for this year this fiscal year I should say and then obviously we're not buying any more salt right now the encumbrances this is something the

budget committee had asked previously there's not much left out of the FY25 encumbrances one of the things I tasked the finance director with was as well as just backing up another five years to see what we have on the books currently that are still encumbered and see if we can actually pull back on those and close those out as well, so she's Laurie May is working on that currently. Alright, revenue snapshot, so there 92%, where are we? We're at 96%, so that's trending in the right direction. Motor vehicles the number's excellent right now and I'll dive into this in the next slide and give you more break out on that. M&R is meals and rooms that's complete, that's our final number for the year, \$2,588,000 if we look at some of these other floor items that we kind of focus on sometimes that's FY25, if we look at FY26, cable fees, we've talked about at length, that number's going to dip it's going to continue to dip, but our investment interest which you'll see on the next slide is doing well ambulance fees and our highway block rent, while it looks good here, we have to take a look at that revenue in next year's budget, it's just not budgeted properly so we'll have to adjust that number. Alright, motor vehicle revenue, we kind of lay it out and you kind of see FY24 number right there, we go into FY25 it was a great year, our target number for this year was \$6.15. I talked about that area of concern where we dipped a little bit, we corrected and got back on track, so we've already beat our number, we're at you know, a little bit under \$6.4 with a month to go, so even if we get another \$400,000, \$500,000 we're going to finish the year very well in motor vehicles. But that number has gone up every year too right, it's \$6.15 and then it's going to go to \$6, I think it's going to \$6.5 this year, so it's something to keep an eye on because you know that could, you're getting closer to where you want to be, as we talk about with revenue planning, we're always trying to take a conservative approach. Similarly with general fund, this is general fund interest revenue only we are doing extremely well this year, you can see our target number \$3.75, we've already completely beat it by a wide margin and we've got another month to go. Barbara Bouley will be in here I think, she'll be here in July to do her report, she's the town treasurer she'll talk about some of the things we did with the funds that's kind of enabled us. Alright, overtime snapshot, so these are just the three big departments obviously, they drive their overtime can swing the budget one way or the other street department, that's their budget for the year 200k, 92% of that's 182, so that's probably where they should be, obviously they're not there, they're at \$4.15, \$3.42, \$215,000 in the red all driven, most of that by winter work, now they still have their spring time work, they're going to get through they're probably going to make that up in the budget so they're going to finish probably a little bit, slightly over, but that money will be made up within their budget. That's to say that other areas are going to struggle there's some bigger line items in there and I think the board understands that and those are some of the closer things we have to look at as we move forward. Police patrol the Chief has talked about this at length he's had some vacancies over the year so he's had to fill those in, so that's what they were budgeted for, this is where they should be based at 92% they're at \$576, \$671 and there's the red line at \$258 now, he hasn't, he's been still having some vacancies so some of that patrol money is going to come back, it'll actually backfill, this is overtime only remember this is not straight time so you'll make up the difference with some straight time money and that money will come back in and make up the deficit at overtime. COM stands for basically their dispatch, because he's had some vacancies in there so you can kind of see where that is, that was a big area for him this year as well so \$42,000 in the red there again, probably going to be made up within the overall budget anyways. Fire department was budgeted, I think, more accurately per se than it was last year at this time, they were, you may recall the huge deficit they were in. But suppression's doing very good, small margin there and that money will be made up in straight time as well so no concerns there. And then communications, this is what you want to see with any of these charts, alright? This is the model you're looking for. Now unfortunately it's not always the way it works out. But in general, the big three, as I call them, I think there's a balancing going on there and at this time last year it was kind of the other way around. Police and fire flip-flop it'll all come out in the end and then even some of the vacancies on the administrative side of the town hall side it'll help offset or balance some of that.

Chairman Dumont: Discussion on any of that Board members?

Selectman Guessferd: You've been doing well thank you very much.

L. FY28 Budget Preface – Administration/Decision

Chairman Dumont: Alright next up is the FY28 Budget Preface. We tasked Mr. Sorenson with a couple things to look into so I'll turn it over to him.

Selectman Vurgaropoulos: I apologize I forgot to actually reply to the email.

Roy Sorenson: Which one was that?

Selectman Vurgaropulos: For the employee ones.

Roy Sorenson: Alright so this goes back to what I've kind of was tasked a couple meetings back with. Can we get a jump on FY28 and what are we looking at given the state of the economy? The state of what's happened? Whatever was introduced into '27 if you had the town vote. How does it affect what we might be looking at moving forward? So, first look and these are some of the things you just covered CPI. We're projecting '28 here, this is very difficult, I'd rather be this is worse than being a weatherman, I guess. But we'll go through the exercise. CPI 2-3%, employee wages 3-5%, it's typical right? What we see in our contracts anyways. Here's a big one, health insurance 6%-14% and this is the range, by the way, this is the range of low number to high number potentially. We do have the RFPL for the broker for health insurance, so we'll see what happens with that. Electricity's another big one, there's a big range there. Gas, natural gas, propane, seem to be kind of steady, 1-4%. This one's just this is a huge range, minus 2-4%, minus 1-4% gasoline and diesel. Who knows what's going to happen. Alright, so there'll be probably some discussion on how we might model that coming into '28. Construction materials 2-5%, I don't know what, Mr. Chair if you're seeing anything on that end, but there's probably going to be some increases if the gas prices stay up. Public safety equipment same thing. Property and liability, here's your big ones, and we've already seen that in '27's budget versus '26's. It's just again, workers comp 3-6%, and I will say, I think at the next meeting we did get money back, because we did extremely well on workers comp this year, so we're going to get a refund. Alright it can't go towards '28, but it'll go back to the general fund. Alright, in summary, highest risk, property and liability insurance, health insurance, electricity moderate pressure on the budget wages, construction materials, public safety equipment, workers comp, natural gas, relatively stable. And, I don't say gasoline or diesel would be stable, other than it's either going to stay high or it's going to drop to where it should be. Alright, let's put this in context, so property and liability. If we said it was 14%, those are the two items, and that's a 600 and whatever it is \$50,000 line in that item I showed you on the last report, that'd be an additional \$75,000 on that. Alright, so this is in addition to what we currently have on '27's numbers alright, that's 14%, \$75,000. I'm going to combine these two, health insurance and wages, because they go together obviously, that's how we budget them. This is a big one, alright, 12%. That number's typically anywhere from 7 to maybe 10 on the high end alright, why is it up 12%? Well, we talked about the health insurance. We're also adding four firefighters full time, alright, so there's a direct impact right there. So, what you usually see on average, if you look at your labor and benefits line on one of the front pages of the budget book, and if you looked at the previous year, you'd see a range or a differential around \$2.4 million say. You're looking at more like 3.4, 3.5 ok, so you're getting out of the gate, and we're already 1.1 million higher than where we might have been the previous year. Electricity, potentially with what we have in the budget now, a \$65,000 increase in '28 that's across the board, 8% increase. Solid waste recycling contracts coming up, I don't know what's going to happen here, other than I just put 4% on it. Ok, \$115,000 on top of that number, which is already at 2.5 million. I think the chairman asked about outside the budget request and just a little bit of history on that. So, we kind of did this last year, so with the gray bars, that's the requests that come in from the department heads, alright? And this is what the Board has approved over those years based off of the requests. So, last year we had a high ask, and it was actually a low give back to keep the budget where we wanted it, but you also gave a 2.5% increase as part of the operational budget, too. But you can kind of see how that's laid out so that's a consideration that the Board needs to look at.

Chairman Dumont: This doesn't include warrant articles that the Board ...

Roy Sorenson: It does not include warrant articles. This is stuff that's just going to live in the budget, it's a large request, and we say hey, we want to put it in the budget. Alright, so here's where we are now. What does the Board want to do? I will be coming back with my budget preview July 14th, do you want me to give you something? Do you want me to give you the budget parameters, the percent increase that I think? Do you want to set the increase, and that's going to be for your operating expenses. I would hold the same philosophy as we did last year, we pull out the utilities all together, we take them out, we base that off of forecasting. We take out any contractual items, because they're going to go up regardless of whatever the percentage is you put on it, right? Because we have a contract, and then, what is the number? Last year you went 2.5%. Out of budget requests, does the Board have a target number? How do we want to run this process? Do you want me to talk to the department heads and say overall the target number for out of budget requests is X and as they come in, how

do we get to that number? Or, do you want them to just put their budget requests together, they come here with \$500,000, you review it they come here with \$2 million, you review it. Okay, health insurance is a wild card, it's to be determined and if we push the process, let me actually come back on that. Warrant articles, that will be real cost items, so I'll try to see where the department heads, Elvis talked about a little bit tonight. Now remember some of our warrant articles from this past year, there was no tax rate impact because we were getting monies back either from the state or whatever it might be. I could tell you right now what are some of the big items going to be and would they land potentially in warrant articles or out of budget requests? That's a discussion to be had. The financial software it's got to be a large number, okay, where does it live? You need to make that decision. The CBA for the firemen, obviously, that's going to be a warrant article. Fire department is looking for a new fire engine, they talked about that last year. We deferred it, that'll be a major item. Now the interesting part about the fire engine is we want to get the authority to enter into a multi-year agreement lease, this Board anyways, but you won't make your first payment until, I think it's FY29. So, that'll be an interesting warrant article and some of those payments will go back into the budget and he would have two or three lease payments coming out of the budget. So, it's an offset, but, there's still a tax impact, you can't say there's no tax impact, because there is it's a cost, it's an impact. Staffing requests, does the Board want to entertain staffing requests? What is the extent of that if you are willing to do that? And then, the budget schedule. Selectman Vurgaropoulos is well aware of this, they're asking us to push the schedule up. I'm not opposed to doing that, but, I need directive because I have to give my staff ample time to do that. Now what does that mean exactly? I would come back to the next meeting and say just from a starting point, let's push it up a month and let's see where the meetings land. Alright, that would be the Board meetings and then the budget committee meetings subsequently thereafter. They were looking to do a lot of the general business in October, right?

Selectman Vurgaropoulos: They would like to have our initial presentation ready for October 5th.

Roy Sorenson: Yeah, so that's going to push everything up, alright? Can we do that? I don't see why we couldn't, it's really up to this Board and how you want to stage your meetings and move forward and, I think just a sequence of how we do it. Now last year was my first year, I have some ideas on how I might do it, I was kind of, it's a failing out process for me last year. I think as we present we get into it and what is your approach going to be? Are we going to get into the detail right there that night? A lot of the items that I would handle unilaterally I'm going to stage just in one night itself, because they're kind of staggered, and I just followed past precedent on that. So, I'm going to change that. So, however you might want to do this, I can come back with some proposals, but if you want to talk tonight and set some directive, that's your purview. That's my last slide.

Chairman Dumont: Thank you Mr. Sorenson. Well since you ended on that note, I think that's a perfect one to start on is the budget schedule, I'm in favor of pushing it up. I will say, and I want to make sure everyone's aware, that obviously that's going to cause more work and some more stressful deadlines for finance especially, as well as the staff. I'm going to heed to Mr. Sorenson to have him look into that and see if we can do that. But I think that we as a Board, as well as the budget committee and the town, will probably benefit from that getting bumped up a little bit. So, where's everybody at?

Selectman Jakoby: I would agree with that.

Selectman Guessferd: I'm okay with it, yeah.

Selectman Vurgaropoulos: I agree with it. Like, I would be interested to see that, actually. Like Shawn Jasper talked about the historical nature of it. It used to be kind of where the request... I wouldn't mind seeing that historical data, but it's not pertinent to me making decisions. But I think we can support it.

Chairman Dumont: I would also be curious to see how that has evolved over the years, but things change constantly, so it wouldn't surprise me. Alright, so we have consensus. We'll have Mr. Sorenson bring back the proposed schedule, shooting for about a month earlier than what we were at last year?

Selectman Jakoby: Yes.

Chairman Dumont: So, you have the directive for that. A couple things, I've been talking about this a lot with Mr. Sorenson, and I'm not looking for really an action or an answer from anybody here tonight, unless they want to give me one, but I really think we need to look at where we want to be at and what's the actual goal. There was

a significant amount of costs, as Mr. Sorenson just showed, that was added into the budget from last year, whether they be out-of-budget requests or warrant articles that was approved by the voters. Now, you knew where I was at last year about trying to run a more lean budget, and I'm going to be vocal that I think that should be the goal this year. There's a lot of expenses, whether it be diesel or gas, that Mr. Sorenson brought up that need to be taken into account. The fire contract, that is going to be a big one, and we don't know what that number is just yet, so we need to just keep that in mind, and we need some room for that. Obviously, we want to make sure that the taxpayers get a good deal, but that we're also taking care of the employees, so there's a lot of balancing there. And if we start adding everything in too early, we won't be able to do what's best for both later on. The other part of that is staffing. I would be a firm no across the board, and I'll be one with everybody. I don't think we should be adding new positions. I didn't think that we should last year. I don't think that we should this year, with one exception. One that I have come around to, one position that I could have some buy-in depending on the department and what the actual budget looks like, would be possibly the part-time prosecutor for the police station. But those are kind of my general thoughts. I don't know where everybody's at, if they're prepared to speak to it, but I've been talking quite a bit about this with Mr. Sorenson. I wanted to give you my thoughts and see where you guys were at.

Selectman Guessferd: Yeah, a couple thoughts. Number one, Mr. Sorenson, you said something about the out-of-budget requests. I don't think we limit that. If these are things they need, they're not going to put them in the budget. I'm just talking about their asks, you know. Like last year, we were very judicious in what we approved, but I want to see what they think they need. I think it's important for us to understand that they need to be judicious about bringing these things to us, but if they absolutely need something, I want to see it, and I don't want them to feel like they're limited by that. That's one point I want to make. When you started talking about adding staff, my concern was that position, that part-time prosecutor position, because they've got a backlog. Things are taking a lot longer, there's a lot more evidence and things that's out there, and it's going to affect the way that they prosecute these cases. So, I'm going to be supportive of that. I think we have added sufficient other staff. I can be convinced, possibly, but I'm kind of leaning on that side of it as well. As far as the budget itself is concerned, I'm not sure we should go two and a half this year. I'm not sure what that number is, but I think we recognized last year that that was needed, at least I did, and I think now we can kind of push it down a little bit. And again, we'll see what comes up. Those are my thoughts on the budget. Is there anything else? No, I think that's pretty much the things that I've been contemplating myself.

Selectman Vurgaropoulos: Thank you, sir. I agree with Selectman and Guessferd about the prosecutor, and yourself. I wanted that last year. Obviously, it didn't come to fruition. We had to make some tough choices. My worry with that is exactly all those reasons, right? Not only just the delay in prosecution, but the lack of prosecution because they're kicking out cases.

Selectman Guessferd: Plea bargains and things like that.

Selectman Vurgaropoulos: Exactly, they're pleading out, or they're just dropping the case. Criminals aren't being punished. If you break the law, you need to be punished. I'm a big proponent of that. I agree with the percentage of the overall. I don't think we need to go 2.5. I was thinking either go to a 2 or a 1.75, or we flatline and do ask, and then we see what we come up with. But I also agree with the department head ask. I want to see all those. That's the only way we're going to keep the finger on the pulse to know what their concerns are, and then we can evaluate them.

Selectman Jakoby: I'll be very interested to see what police moves forward on the attorney, but also on the sergeant, and how that might have affected not having that sergeant might have affected the OT. So, those are two things that I think about every day, that extra sergeant and the attorney, you know. Chairman Dumont and I often use the phrase zero base budgeting because we both really like that approach because we've had to do it. So, I know that last year it was important to increase the number of places to add some really valuable things to our department, which should be carrying over. So that my hope is that those requests, that what we did last year, will sustain a lot of what their needs are, would be my hope. And I think that was the hope in doing what we did last year. So, I'm really tempted to flat, to go with zero for this year and see where the out-of-budget requests fall. What's the necessity? Because, you know, as we said before, you can't really do zero base budgeting in how we do things here. But I can be convinced, you know, zero to one probably for at least the starting point.

I think any department can make a case for why that may not be doable. We listened last year some, and I want to thank some of the departments came in under what we had set because they said, nope, this is what we need. Ideally, that's what I want to hear. I want to hear, what is it that you need exactly and precisely? I want you to be, you know, one of all the departments to be, you know, fiscally responsible, which I think they are. But, you know, do we set that tight, that tight line now for them, or do we leave it with a little leeway in order for them to, depending on the department, do what they need to do? I can be swayed. And out-of-budget requests, I think, are always important. I think we made some really good decisions on out-of-budget requests last year. Therefore, again, those were increases to the overall budget, which need to be sustained in the next budget. So that's where I am. Thank you.

Chairman Dumont: Selectman Allan do you have anything to add?

Selectman Allan: I do not.

Chairman Dumont: So, I just want to follow up on a couple of points I think everybody just made. I think that we're all relatively closer than I thought we were going to be, so I'm very thankful for that.

Selectman Jakoby: I will say that they took you with us last year, so we're giving it back.

Chairman Dumont: I will say that I think that, to your point, there was a lot that was done last year. I truly believe that they can be sustained this year if we start out flat. And again, I will share the same sentiment that Selectman Jakoby said. I think that's the best way to go, is you start, here's where I'm at, here's what I can fit into that existing budget today, and then you work from there. However, I would push back on the out-of-budget requests and say that I think that a cap would be necessary because the things that we didn't get to figure in last year are going to be extremely expensive. That other part-time position, very costly. The CBA that's coming up is a huge cost. The software package that will improve every department across here is going to be a huge ask. The fire engine that Mr. Sorenson brought up, that debt service, as that is expiring and we are going to be looking into what might need to be updated over there, is not going to be a small fee. So, if we're not at least trying to stop the bleeding, I will say, these other things will get out of line. Now, I will say that I'm very confident that I think that if something was to come up, if there was an issue, I've never felt as though a department head wasn't able to talk to one of us as their liaison or this Board, and I would hope that they would continue to do so. But I think if we could set the standard of the goal ahead of time and give them something to shoot for, we would do a lot better than trying to work it back later on. And again, we don't need to make any decision here tonight. I just simply want this to be kind of the beginning because I feel as though, you know, last year felt a little rushed. The budget committee felt the same way. You know, we were all kind of going through the motions, and I think that we can do better than what we did last year or the other years prior that I was on this Board, and hopefully kind of try to work it through. The biggest thing everybody talks about, at least around me, is property taxes and housing. We can't do a whole lot about housing, but we can certainly control the property taxes on the municipal side.

Selectman Jakoby: Can you just clarify? So, when you talk about putting a cap on out-of-budget requests, are you saying for the overall budget? Okay, so setting that whole number?

Chairman Dumont: What I would envision, and I think that the best way to handle it, is if we had a number similar to how we set our increase last year and we said, Mr. Sorenson, you know, I'll use round numbers. Here's \$200,000. I need you to figure out the most important way and the best way to spend this \$200,000.

Selectman Jakoby: As an out-of-budget request?

Chairman Dumont: Instead of what we were doing last year, was we were grabbing, well, there's \$25,000 here before we heard what somebody else's spiel was two weeks later. Or there was \$100,000 over here, and we were trying to play this balancing act when there's just no proper way to do it in this type of meeting forum. I think Mr. Sorenson would be a lot more efficient if he had that little bit to say, okay, here's a number. I'll go out and find those things for you. But, you know, like I said, think about it. Sleep on it. And again, I'm one vote. It is what it is. I always respect the will of the board, but I think that this would be very important. I think that the people will really appreciate it if we could try to come to a fair compromise for everybody.

Selectman Jakoby: My follow-up question to that is, do we have... so then that would... what would help me make that decision when we have this conversation is, what were the out-of-budget requests total for the last couple of years? I don't know if we can get that.

Chairman Dumont: Before we narrowed them down?

Selectman Jakoby: Yeah.

Roy Sorenson: No, they're right here on the slide.

Selectman Jakoby: Oh, this slide? Oh, I'm sorry.

Chairman Dumont: So, the only thing to keep in mind is ...

Selectman Jakoby: They requested \$1.1 million. We ended up at \$237,000. So, you're saying we set the cap at \$500,000 so that that's the maximum request we would get, and then we can down it?

Chairman Dumont: You would go through there. The only thing I will keep in mind, and the other reason why I keep that up, is Elvis mentioned in his proposal he's going to have a warrant article for some bridge repair. That's going to be a costly number. Even though we don't add money into the budget, whether it be an out-of-budget request or an increase, there's a significant amount that gets added at the voting booth. Good, bad, or indifferent, the voters trust us, so when we're putting a warrant article out there, well, you know, it's not an out-of-budget request, it's a warrant article they're choosing. They're taking our word for it that we need that. That cost carries over every year. Those firefighters, like I added last year, it's \$1.1 million this year. Those four alone.

Selectman Jakoby: Yep.

Chairman Dumont: We can't keep doing that every single year. And trust me, I personally don't believe that the town is going to collapse if we take a breather.

Selectman Jakoby: Right.

Chairman Dumont: That's my spiel.

Selectman Jakoby: I want to put a couple of numbers out there just for people to think about. I would be really comfortable capping it at \$500,000 or less. I'm just going to put it out there. Looking at the trend and everything, and I can be convinced differently, but that's where my head is at right now.

Selectman Guessferd: I will stand where I was. I respect that. I want to see what the department has. They're going to have discussions with Mr. Sorenson, too, before that hits us. I want to understand what they want. Not what they want, but what they need.

Chairman Dumont: The only thing that I ask, regardless of whether we get a cap or not, is just to keep in mind, I keep going back to the software one. To me, that's a town-wide improvement. I don't know how many times we need that. We need to figure out a way to do that without crushing the little guy.

Selectman Guessferd: It's our job to do that. That's our job.

Chairman Dumont: Definitely. Alright.

Selectman Jakoby: When is this coming back?

Roy Sorenson: Two meetings from now.

Selectman Jakoby: The first one in July?

Roy Sorenson: Yes.

Selectman Jakoby: I just wanted to double-check, so we know that's the one that's coming back.

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Policy Sub-Committee, Personnel Policies – Administration/ Decision

Chairman Dumont: Alright. Sounds good. That finishes the regular agenda. The next step is the select liaison reports.

Roy Sorenson: Do you want to go back to old business?

Chairman Dumont: I apologize. I didn't write it at the end. We have two items from old business. First up, I believe, is the policy subcommittee. Mr. Sorenson. Look at that. I thought we were doing good on time.

Selectman Guessferd: I think we are. I don't think there's a lot more to talk about here.

Roy Sorenson: Alright. So let me just get my bearings straight. One of the things we test, or I kind of test, the group with, and I shouldn't say I, because we all agree to this, myself, Selectman Jakoby, Selectman Vurgaropulos, is to kind of go after two areas here. We're going to address finance policies, which would include, obviously, the finance director and finance staff. And then we're also, now that we have the HR Generalist, look at some personnel policies. Some need to be reshaped, recrafted, others totally recreated. I mean, we don't have them. They're nonexistent. So, this is going to be the first, we'll call them the first five of the personnel side. But there's only going to be, I believe, there's four here. And the other thing we talked about doing is, if you recall, when we named the finance policies, it began with FIN-001, 002. Okay, that was the naming convention. On the personnel side, it was a different type of naming convention, and you can kind of see the layout in the backup that the HR Generalist, Michelle Brewster, did. And we talked about renaming the personnel side to kind of match that of the finance side. So, she's put together that matrix of renaming, that's the first attachment, as well as four policies to be adopted. All right, now this is all taken on the new format that we've introduced, and we're trying to keep more consistent with what we talked about as a policy subcommittee as well. So that being said, you can see the ones before you tonight, if we're looking at just the policies themselves. We will have ADM-002, which is Administration of Employee Personnel Records, CON-005, Harassment, HRM-003, Recruitment and Hiring Process, and HRM-006, Probation Period. Okay, so what does all that stand for? Go to your cheat sheet, and you'll see the acronyms, what they stand for, and those would just be the topic areas, and you can kind of see the layout moving forward on that. There's a lot of work to do here, and there's a lot to take in. We actually worked some of this electronically, so I will be transparent. There are a little bit, we have to change some, there are some little grammar snafus in here, so if we are to accept these four tonight, including the name and convention, that might be something you add to your motion, you know, where it says should, it should be shall, things of that nature. Minor little grammar things. With that, I'll take any questions that the Board might have.

Chairman Dumont: Board members?

Selectman Guessferd: I didn't see any real concerns on the policies, the four policies. Yeah, I like the organization. I like the layout. I'm not sure I love the color, but I do like the layout. It looks very professional.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: Do you like the old seal?

Selectman Guessferd: Yeah.

Roy Sorenson: It's the Alvirne colors. What do you want, the Philadelphia Phillies red on there?

Selectman Guessferd: A nice red would be great. Maybe a blue. No, it's fine.

Roy Sorenson: Kelly green, Eagle green.

Selectman Guessferd: The Alvirne colors, you remind me of that, I guess. Yeah, that makes sense then. Okay, then I'm in.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: Doesn't take long to push you over.

Selectman Guessferd: It didn't take long. When it makes sense, okay.

Selectman Allan: I just want to say that I think this looks great, and I appreciate all the hard work you guys have put into it. This is a job that most of us did not want, and you guys took it on, and it really does look phenomenal. You guys did a wonderful job, so thank you for doing that.

Selectman Guessferd: For continuing to do that?

Selectman Jakoby made a motion, seconded by Selectman Allan, for the Board of Selectmen to hereby adopt the updated policy naming and numbering structure for the town's personnel policies as recommended by the Policy Subcommittee. Motion carried, 5-0.

Selectman Jakoby made a motion, seconded by Selectman Vurgaropulos, for the Board of Selectmen to hereby adopt the following policies upon this second reading. ADM-002, Administration of Employee Personnel Records, CON-005, Harassment, HRM-003, Recruitment and Hiring Process, and HRM-006, Probation Period, as recommended by the Policy Subcommittee. Motion carried, 5-0.

B. Policy Sub-Committee, Purchasing and Contracts – Administration/Decision

Chairman Dumont: Next up is the Policy Subcommittee, Purchasing and Contracts.

Roy Sorenson: We separated this one because this is actually a unique one because it's more finance-based but it's also a municipal code as well. So, I'm actually going to pull this one up here. And so, you were looking for Philadelphia Affiliates Red, you're going to find it in this document.

Selectman Guessferd: I did see it in there, I was thrilled.

Roy Sorenson: I don't need a decision from the Board on this one tonight because there's a lot of red lining in here. So, I think it's best if we table this. And I think the Policy Subcommittee is fine with my statement because we have made um, I don't want to call it aggressive, but we have made a lot of changes here. And I think it's, I want to give the other Board members time to take a look at it.

Selectman Guessferd: I actually did look at it a bit today. I'd like to get a chance to look at it some more because I think I might recommend a couple more edits as kind of a contracts guy myself.

Roy Sorenson: Yep. So certainly, open for you to do that. We did create a new matrix too. So, keep an eye on the matrix. Now the matrix doesn't only miss will code. This is obviously, just stays internally. It is identified in the verbiage of the um, of the uh, but it does change some of the limits.

Selectman Guessferd: overall it looks pretty good. I like the structure, you know, too.

Selectman Jakoby: Was this an assertive revision?

Selectman Vurgaropulos: Yeah.

Roy Sorenson: It's tough to get through some of these sometimes when you get to the first two pages and it's all redlined. You're like, alright, I can't. But I think, I think it makes sense what we did as a group to take a look at this and what we added. But certainly, open for more comments or more suggestions. You know, I think I'll just stay on it and bring it back.

Chairman Dumont: No objection by the Board?

Selectman Guessferd: None.

Chairman Dumont: Tabled. All right, now that takes care of our regular agenda.

9. SELECTMEN LIAISON REPORTS/OTHER REMARKS

Selectman Allan: We have our next Benson's Park committee meeting next week, but we were able to take care of one issue. The utility trucks in the parking lot have been moved, so we have all of that available parking on the side of the Senior Center, which is great. It took a little longer to get the wood chipper out, but everything was gone. We had a school board meeting. Heidi, Mrs. Jakoby took some of my thunder on that one. Selectman Jakoby, sorry about that. Hudson Police Department came in and spoke about the e-bikes on school property. Like she mentioned, they made an online flyer. They're actually having somebody donate to have actual flyers made so that they can pass them out to the community. They're going to start going out on their e-bikes and what they're going to do if they see kids riding around, they're going to stop, talk to those kids and they're going

to start educating them about traffic safety, the importance of wearing a helmet, what could happen if you're not wearing a helmet. I think they're going to be starting their own little bike gangs because these kids are going to see our police officers driving around town and they're going to want to follow them around.

Selectman Guessferd: Hopefully we won't have any high-speed e-bike chases.

Selectman Allan: Right. Although I will say they made a joke about how scooters is on that list that they haven't had any issues of high-speed scooters and I was driving down past Aroma Joe's the other day and this scooter went flying, like a seated scooter went flying by me. This gentleman was doing about 35 in his scooter and I said, oh, they're going to find him. So, we've got to watch out for that scooter. But that is, oh, I also got to attend Alvirne's scholarship night last night and it was just a great event. A lot of deserving students, a lot of great scholarships. They give out thousands and thousands of dollars each year from different organizations around town and different colleges that come in to support these students. So that was great to see.

Selectman Guessferd: Always a great event.

Selectman Allan: Yeah.

Selectman Jakoby: Thank you. I wanted to just do a little public service announcement. I know there's been a number of accidents and misunderstandings around e-bikes and different things in our community. Just want to remind everyone that the Hudson Police Department did put together an excellent flyer on what is an e-bike, what are the rules as far as e-bikes, e-scooters, dirt bikes, gas bikes, etc. And I'm just going to read the golden rule. The golden rule is no pedals equals not a bicycle. In New Hampshire, an e-bike must have working pedals, a motor no larger than 750 watts, and a maximum speed of 28 mph or less. If it does not meet all three requirements, it is treated as a motor vehicle and may require both a registration and a driver's license for public roads. So please be careful. It's very specific of what's allowed on our streets and what the regulations are. And then, just a reminder, there are helmet rules for different age groups and different vehicles. And the one that surprised me is e-scooters, no pedals, are treated as a motor vehicle. So, any electronic scooter is a motor vehicle which requires a license and registration. It says treated as a motor vehicle, license and registration required and not allowed on sidewalks. That one surprised me. So, I'm sure there's some surprises on this list for some other people, and I just want to raise it because I really want everyone to be safe with all the graduations, schools getting out, another holiday on Friday. So, everybody be careful out there, and please pay attention to those red lights. From the HCTV committee, Mike Johnson wanted me to let everyone know that for this meeting that they have a small new feature on their streaming website. Videos much like YouTube can now be scrubbed through with a skip forward five seconds button and a reverse five seconds button. Viewers can also do faster or slower video playback depending on what they want when watching an on-demand file. So, you can try it out, but that's a new feature, and I know a lot of us appreciate that because some people can listen at double speed. So, thank you and be safe out there.

Selectman Vurgaropoulos: Thank you, sir. I don't have much either at a ZBA meeting since our last meeting, which was very interesting. We had a handful of we tabled, we deferred a couple cases and we had to handle a couple. One being for application for variance for the TR zone. Which, if you know our TR zone, which most of us do, it's like a shotgun blast. So, I'm really looking forward to this revamp that we're contracting out for. Hopefully we can clean some of this up. Because it's really like we really got to get better definition because we really ask all over the place. So, if we can clean that up, I think it'll make zoning and planning job a little bit easier. So that's all I have for now.

Selectman Guessferd: Selectman Guessferd: All right. Um, I don't have a ton. Um, let's see. Library meeting, we haven't had any since the last meeting. So, we do have one next week. Board of Trustees meeting, I think Mr. Sorenson is coming to that meeting?

Roy Sorenson: Yes.

Selectman Guessferd: So, I will see him there. In terms of planning, we have a planning board meeting tomorrow night and one of the things that we're focusing on is the rules of procedure. We'll be looking at that. So, we're all doing a little homework and coming back and going to talk about any revisions we want to make to the rules of procedure and the meeting practices. So, there'll be some discussion on that tomorrow night. If you tune in, it

should be riveting. And then the only other thing I really had was for Rec was really the summer registrations. The summer registration program has been great. A lot of people signing up. But you know, as all good things do, it's coming to an end. The sign up is, the deadline is this Sunday, the 14th of June. So, if you haven't signed up, please take the next few days to get your sign up. You can do it online. Sign up your children. They'll have a great time. Lots of great field trips. Great staff. Everything is a really well-run program. So don't miss that deadline, June 14th. Other than that, I think I'm good. Thank you.

Chairman Dumont: Awesome. Thank you very much. So, I did get to attend that e-bike rollout that you spoke about the police e-bikes. That was fantastic to see what the chief had emailed us about finally coming to fruition. Did a little snippet on HCTV. If anybody wants to watch you can see him buzzing around in his lime green helmet. It was a great sight to see. The Conservation Commission, they're going to be doing a trail day June 20th in the Rangers Forest for cleanup. So, if anybody wants to go out there and give a hand, I'm sure they'd be more than happy to take the help. They also wanted to thank the Board of Selectmen for their appreciation and the support for the LCHIP application that got filed. And they're looking forward to see how that works out for the parcel of land off of Wason Road, 121R Wason Road. Not much else has gone on. I talked to you about working with Mr. Sorenson on the budget. Hopefully we'll continue to do that moving forward. And we'll be back soon enough with some more stuff.

10. REMARKS BY TOWN ADMINISTRATOR – Presentation

Roy Sorenson: Alright. So, some of this we covered. We talked about Memorial Day at length at the last meeting and just because of the timing I didn't have the chance to put that together, but I was up in Manchester and the reason I was there because of the November 25th, 2025 BOS, we donated \$200 to the Manchester Veterans Park for a grant of payment commemorating the service of Air Force Captain Ryan S. Phaneuf who was killed in action January 27th, 2020 in Ghazni Province, Afghanistan. It was a great day. You can see the Phaneuf's over here. So, they were certainly excited to be there. Here's some of the local VFW posts that we were working with for the event. And let me just see if I can pull this one up. There it is right there. And it actually sits right here. So, it's like literally right in front of the monument which is fantastic. So yeah, that worked out well. It was a great ceremony. As you know the weather cleared up and it really went through. And the Phaneuf's were certainly extremely excited to be there. They actually get to go to a dinner follow-up that week as well as part of that being part of the Hudson Contingent. I gave them the talk to Mr. Chair. I said you guys take the tickets and go to that. I got to go to the Nottingham West Elementary School and speak to the third-grade students. So last year if the Board recalls I went ... I'm trying to figure out how to work one of those videos here.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: There's the adult in the room, right?

Roy Sorenson: I went on the historical field trips. I made some connections over there which was great. And they were actually getting ready to go on historical field trips. Talking about government and things of that nature. So, they invited me back. I got to speak to all the third-grade students. It was a great day. The kids were fantastic. Some of the questions they asked were awesome too. Had a lot of fun there. I'd like to keep those relationships moving forward as well. Alright, Melendy Road Pickleball Courts. If you haven't been here and I think Selectman Jakoby talked a little bit about being able to talk faster and watch the video. Let's see them paint this court. This is put together by HCTV. They did a time stage camera. Pretty cool, huh? So, there's the group taking care of the courts. Get them lined up.

Selectman Vurgaropulos: It looks so good.

Roy Sorenson: They did. They came out fantastic.

Selectman Guessferd: It's hard to recognize it.

Roy Sorenson: So, kudos to them. They did a fantastic job. They look great. If you get a chance, get up there and take a look. Hudson Police. Just some of their stats. This is out on their Facebook as well. Calls for service. Still extremely busy. You can see the break up a little between community calls, enforcement activity, and reports taken. Their youth academy is coming up. July 6th to 10th. I think the registration is winding down for that. But that's another great event that they put on every year. So, we'll have more detail on those once those are

complete. E-bike release. I think two, three, four of us have all talked about it, so I'll talk about it as well. Here's the Chief of Police on his e-bike with the green helmet, driving around. It was a great day. Here's one of the flyers. I don't know if this is the final flyer, but I think this is some of the stuff we were talking about. And they'll put that up as well. Very informative. One of the e-bikes as we know is donated by Janie Freedom, who's in Hudson. She was there as well to commemorate the event. It was a great day. I was pretty impressed by the bikes themselves and how they're outfitted and what they can do. It's actually pretty amazing. And these tires are just as meaty as they look. So, it's good for them. Kudos to them. It's another asset to have as part of their policing within the community. If you haven't gone by Gloria Ave, there's a big project over there DPW's doing, a drain repair. And they're doing manholes, they're doing brand new drain and everything else and laying those out. Director Twardosky sent me some of these photos of the guys working and fixing the drainage in that area. It's right around the corner. And they'll pave, obviously, all that when they're done. So fantastic job to be doing in-house. This is what I call work of value for these guys. Instead of contracting it out, they get to do it. And it means a lot to them. They do a good job at it as well. Selectman Jakoby's familiar with this, so we'll start planting the seeds as we go. Our RFQ 2026-02 Working Group. We've had three meetings. This is for the financial software. We've done a lot of work on creating the document. We're still drafting and making revisions to the document. Once that's ready to go, we'll bring that back here to the Board. We're going to put it out to the public and then the process begins. We'll take our qualifications packages in. We'll grade them. All of this is going to culminate with a large project to be asked in time for the FY28 budget. And we'll have these things scored and everything else. It's a pretty intense process. The group's been great contributing to it and putting their ideas in there and correcting things and things along that line. Because don't forget, a lot of this is technically related, right? You'll see these big... Technical specifications in layman's terms are two different things. We have some discipline or expertise in the group which is great and that kind of delineates what we need in there. Since I did go over to the Nottingham School, just a little bit of a history snippet. The town was Nottingham West until 1830. This comes from, remember, Hudson, New Hampshire when it's a great website. Ruth Parker and her group. A lot of articles up there. Did you know that Hudson, I don't know how long it was, but for a moment it was going to be called Auburn. Which is pretty amazing. And then it became Hudson. We're celebrating the 250 this year for the country. But if you look at it, we get to celebrate numerous birthdays given all the different towns we were. So, it's pretty interesting. But it is. It's a storied history. And it goes between state lines and things of that nature. That's my history snippet today. And the kids talked about this as well. This is some of the things they coveted in class as part of the history lessons. One last thing. I think it's next Friday. It's Juneteenth, I believe. Not this coming Friday, but the one after. Town Hall will be closed. So just keep that in mind. Other than that, I think that's all I have. Alright. Thank you very much, Ms. Cook.

Chairman Dumont: Do you have anything for us?

11. REMARKS BY SCHOOL BOARD

Heather Cook: Sure. How about our favorite topic today? E-bikes. I think it's achieved a permanent resident status. As we talked about, Hudson PD presented e-bike safety. Interesting facts that is probably worth everyone reviewing. But from a school board perspective here, we're still going over how it relates to safety and keeping our fields intact. So that is still an ongoing topic of discussion. The board approved a budget transition to replace the AHS soft field fence and purchased replacement football equipment.

Selectman Guessferd: I love that idea.

Heather Cook: Glad to hear that.

Selectman Allan: It needed it.

Selectman Guessferd: Yes, it did.

Heather Cook: The last scheduled school board meeting for our fiscal year is June 15th. So next meeting is kind of one where we're going to be tied with our spending. The board is still considering a list of expenditures including a grant that was received. The school asked, sorry, the board asked clarification. So, we'll report a report in the next meeting here. And then lastly, next week is Thursday, June 11th. So, congratulations to all our seniors. And last day of school is next Tuesday, June 16th.

12. ENTERING NONPUBLIC

Chairman Dumont: Perfect. Thank you very much. Paperwork in order here. All right. We do have a couple things left to handle in non-public. At this time, I think it would be appropriate to re-enter back into non-public. So, I will entertain a motion for the dismissal for a motion of compensation of any public employee or discipline of such employee or investigation of any charge against him or her unless fully affected. One, has the right to a meeting. Two, requests the meeting be open in which case the request will be granted. The meeting of any person as a public employee matters which if discussed in public would likely adversely affect the reputation of any person other than a member of the public body itself. Unless such person requests an open meeting, this exemption shall extend to any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a fee, fine, or other levy if based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant.

Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Allan, to re-enter into non-public session. Motion carried 5-0. This was a roll call vote.

Chairman Dumont: Could you please call the roll?

Lorrie Weissgarber: Selectman Vurgaropulos?

Selectman Vurgaropulos: Aye.

Lorrie Weissgarber: Selectman Allan?

Selectman Allan: Aye.

Lorrie Weissgarber: Selectman Jakoby?

Selectman Jakoby: Aye.

Lorrie Weissgarber: Selectman Guessferd?

Selectman Guessferd: Aye.

Lorrie Weissgarber: Chairman Dumont?

Chairman Dumont: Aye. We are now in non-public at 9:28 p.m.

13. MOTIONS MADE IN NONPUBLIC

Chairman Dumont: We are back in public at 10:02 p.m. We will read the motions made during our non-public sessions. Mr. Sorenson.

Selectman Vurgaropulos made a motion, seconded by Selectman Allan, to approve the hiring of Jeffrey Donniss for the position of full-time police officer with a starting salary of \$39.71 (step five), all in accordance with the HPEA contract, as recommended by the Police Chief. Motion carried, 4-0-1. Selectman Guessferd abstained.

Selectman Jakoby made a motion, seconded by Selectman Vurgaropulos, to approve the hiring of Ryan Kelly for the position of full-time police officer with a starting salary of \$32.36 (start), all in accordance with the HPEA contract, as recommended by the Police Chief. Motion carried, 4-0-1. Selectman Guessferd abstained.

Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Allan, to seal the Board of Selectmen non-public session minutes for Item 3 of the June 9, 2026, meeting per RSA 91-A:3 II (a). Motion carried, 5-0.

Selectman Allan made a motion, seconded by Selectman Vurgaropulos, to seal the Board of Selectmen non-public session minutes for Item 4 of the June 9, 2026, meeting per RSA 91-A:3 II (c). Motion carried, 5-0.

Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Jakoby, to seal the Board of Selectmen non-public session minutes for Item 5 of the June 9, 2026, meeting per RSA 91-A:3 II (c). Motion carried, 5-0.

Selectman Allan made a motion, seconded by Selectman Vurgaropulos, for the Board of Selectmen to hereby authorize the Town Administrator to enter into a contract with the law firm Drummond Woodsum for labor counsel professional services, for the terms as specified in their proposal for RFP 2026-01, the period of July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2028. Motion carried, 5-0.

Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Jakoby, to place the Town Administrators annual performance review on file as prescribed by the Board of Selectmen bylaws. Motion carried, 5-0.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Selectman Guessferd made a motion, seconded by Selectman Allan, to adjourn at 10:03 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